

# The Opelousas Courier

OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA

Save your congratulations for the Fourth of July.

Several other things besides college football need reforming.

Will California attempt to put salt on the tail of the comet?

Whatever the fashion notes may say, this is no time for low shoes.

Why is a cold usually "awful" and why is cold so often "bitter"?

Mars may be wondering if the earth has suddenly turned into a snowball.

If we were all coal barons we should not fret about the stationary cold wave.

Minister Wu expects to live 200 years. By that time he may be able to get all his questions answered.

As to the question of the charm of whiskers, that depends somewhat upon their style of landscape gardening.

Fame and fortune await the genius who will construct a furnace that will always produce the right quantity of heat.

If the peddlers of this city are not allowed to cry their wares they will have to keep silent in about 67 languages.

We venture to suggest that the tail of the approaching comet is composed of icicles. If not, it will be if it comes too close.

The demand for diamonds has recently increased very largely, which may in part account for the terrible cost of living.

A gentleman up in Maine has won fame by eating 54 eggs. This ought to get him a good rating with the commercial agencies.

When a farmer sells his hogs at nearly nine cents a pound he refrains from joining in the howl about the high cost of living.

A fatal duel was lately fought in Paris. If this is a precedent, dueling will take rank with football as a highly dangerous sport.

The state of Maine shows an increase in a total valuation of nearly \$10,000,000, and even now the Maine girls are not counted in.

To the honest and hard-working hen it should be a relief to see the cold-storage houses held accountable for the high price of eggs.

The fall of Hallowell in May, according to a professor. Save your money for the excursions.

Unearned increments come alike to the just and the unjust. A church in New York recently sold a site for \$600,000 that cost but \$45,000.

One objection to cutting down the number of fire insurance companies is that it would reduce the great public's annual supply of blotters.

They are going to install an ice-making plant at the treasury department in Washington, but they will not add its product to the national coinage.

The smoke of Pittsburg is interfering with the throats of grand opera singers. It is just the right retributive puff of pill for the Smoky City to swallow.

New Yorkers spent a million crossing the line between 1909 and 1910. No one talking, those gay New Yorkers won't be denied their little "time" now and then.

Now it is charged that the bubonic plague is spread by fleas brought over the ocean by rats. This is enough to make the health authorities and the general public hopping mad.

The board of education in New York has barred football from the city public schools. The step seems a timely one, says Baltimore American. A game at all times dangerous is not apt to have its perils minimized in the over-enthusiastic zeal of schoolboys. What the youth of the country need to be taught is moderation in all things, and in this sport, as in the speed mania, moderation seems to be next to a physical impossibility.

The annual statistics of fatal casualties in the New England big game hunting season, showing more deaths than the football season, cause some of the football advocates to draw false deductions as to the lack of necessity for reforming football. Every one will agree that the shooting of human beings in hunting should be stopped. However, there is the somewhat important distinction that the killing of the hunters is not made a public show for thousands at a fixed price of admission.

Not in a beautiful way, but merely as stating an interesting fact, New York city takes occasion to mention that it consumed 500,000 quarts of champagne on New Year's eve.

One of the scientists thinks he has discovered the cause of the aurora borealis, but nobody has as yet found out why certain people continue to believe that a winter which brings epidemics of disease, coal failures and railway wrecks and causes travelers to suffer miserably in snowdrifts is healthful.

## ALL OVER LOUISIANA

### BOYS' CORN CLUBS HOLD SUCCESSFUL CONVENTION.

Flattering Inducements Held Out to Youths Who Engage in Crop Contest.

Lafayette.—Superintendent Wright and his assistants are being congratulated over the success of the convention of boys' corn clubs of the parish here February 3, one of the most successful meetings of the kind ever held in the state. There are at present some thirty corn clubs, with nearly 300 members enrolled, constituting the largest organization of this nature in Louisiana. Flattering inducements are held out and the authorities of the parish and towns will supplement the liberal cash prizes already secured by special appropriations to aid the movement.

Nine hundred pounds of fine seed corn will be used by the boys in planting one acre each. Premiums of \$150 in gold are offered, in addition to three trips to the state fair and corn raisers' exhibit at Shreveport. A meeting of the Lafayette Corn Growers' Association will follow the boys' meeting. The opening address to the boys was delivered by Charles O. Mouton. The following topics were discussed: "Preparation and Fertilization of Land," United States Demonstration Agent A. A. Morrow; "Explanation of Rules as to Amount of Land to Be Cultivated, Records to Be Kept, Manner of Ascertaining Yield," Superintendent E. L. Wright; "Cultivation of the Crop and of Selecting Seed for Next Year," V. L. Manner of Selecting Seed for Next Year," V. L. Roy.

The program closed with an address by State Superintendent of Education T. H. Harris and distribution of seed by Mr. Wright.

### New Directory of Capital City.

Baton Rouge.—Arrangements are being made for the getting out of a 1910 directory of the city of Baton Rouge. The Louisiana Directory Company has been organized for this purpose, with Louis P. Head president, M. B. Pittman vice president, Joe Snyder secretary and treasurer. It is proposed to issue the directory about the last of March. This will be the first directory that has been gotten out for four years. One was issued in 1906 and another was published in 1908, showing Baton Rouge to have a population of 27,000, but owing to the difficulties which the promoters had the directory was not generally circulated, and in reality it has been four years since this city has had a directory.

### Good Report on Gas Supply.

Shreveport.—J. Z. Gaston, Walker Ellis and Adolph Boldt, the committee sent here by the business interests of Houston to investigate the resources of the Caddo gas field, with a view of having Galveston, Beaumont, Houston and other Texas coast points supplied with gas, returned from Mooringsport and Abbeville, La., with data that will prompt them to the building of a pipe line from the Caddo field. Their investigation showed that there are twenty-five gas wells, with a capacity of over 15,000,000 cubic feet each, totaling 960,000,000 cubic feet daily, in the local field.

### Principal and Teachers Begin.

Breaux Ridge.—This community is again facing a serious school matter, and one which is causing a great deal of comment, though student reasons of why and wherefore are not obtainable. The high school recently occupied was vacated in a single day, when the principal, Professor A. M. Whipple of Baton Rouge, and six assistants have resigned and gone to their various homes. The assistants were Miss Fannie Terrell of New Iberia; Miss Isabelle Stewart of Breaux Bridge; Miss Alice Allen of Tennessee; Miss A. Fagan of Alabama; Miss Winifred Fullerton of Michigan and Miss B. Lathan of Tennessee.

### Irrigation Plant Destroyed.

Jennings.—Fire destroyed the plant of the Riverside Irrigation Company. The buildings were a warehouse, 51x170; another 40x170, mill, 40x24; four stores and the pumping plant, with all the machinery, except the pumps. Six hundred sacks of seed rice were also consumed. The attention of two workmen was called to a fire as hour before, which they put out. It is thought that sparks lodged in dry rubbish under the warehouse. The plant is located about six miles from Jennings, in Acadia parish. The estimated loss is \$40,000.

### Oil Well Takes Best.

Shreveport.—Owners of one of the largest producing oil wells in the field surrounding Shreveport were nonplussed at the sudden cessation of the well's flow a few days ago. Three days later the flow again started, with an estimated capacity of 3,000 barrels daily.

### Archbishop Blank has approved plans for the erection of a \$50,000 church at Lafayette.

Wildwood Plantation Sold.

Napoleonville.—The Wildwood plantation of William Heasley was sold to Clarence Barton, Sr. and William Bergeron for \$85,000. Mr. Bergeron, who has been manager of the Little Texas plantation, will manage Wildwood.

### Truckers Will Plant Potatoes.

Zachary.—The Zachary truck growers are busy preparing to plant two car loads of potatoes, which have arrived from Princeton, Minn. Four car loads in all will be planted, in addition to other truck.

### Artesian Wells at Amite City.

Amite City.—The third artesian well for Amite City within the past three months was brought in at the courthouse, with a four-inch flow and a pressure sufficient to throw the water 100 feet high.

### Boutonnieres for Editors.

Baton Rouge.—The members of the committees having in charge the program for the entertainment of the National Editorial Association here February 9 have decided upon a program which will also be a souvenir of the occasion. It was at first intended to have some sort of button emblematic of Baton Rouge and the board of trade, but the short space intervening before the arrival of the editors made the idea unfeasible. So the members of the committee have decided to recommend a neat little program, with such terse information as is possible to get on it, and also a ribbon badge of old gold and purple, suitably worded and attached to a japonica, to act as boutonnieres. The flower is unknown in the north and east, and as it is not affected easily, will preserve for several days, probably until the party has reached the northern states.

### Floating Ice in River.

Baton Rouge.—For the first time in four years immense blocks of ice were seen floating down the Mississippi river past this place, and if the predictions of the river men are correct the mass of floating ice will increase for the next several days, and perhaps for a week. About four years ago the ice came down the river in such large blocks and in such numbers that it delayed river traffic, and it was found necessary to tie up the ferry for a couple of days. This time the ice is not seriously interfering with traffic, although it may increase in volume to such an extent that it would become dangerous. The ice is the first of that which three weeks ago played havoc in Kentucky, Ohio and above St. Louis.

### Leaves Dance and Shoots Herself.

Springville.—Miss Doris Vicknair, 17-year-old daughter of Prosper Vicknair, member of the police jury from the Fifth Ward, attempted suicide at the home of her father on Bear island, at the lower end of the parish. The Vicknair family attended a dance at the home of a neighbor, and while the dance was in progress, and unnoticed by any of her family or friends, Miss Vicknair left and went to her home, where she secured her father's pistol. Placing the muzzle to her breast, she fired. At last reports Miss Vicknair was alive, and the attending physician gave the family hopes of her recovery, though advised her removal to New Orleans for treatment.

### State School Superintendent Active.

Baton Rouge.—T. H. Harris, state superintendent of education, has returned to the city from a tour of the northern part of the state and a visit to Iberville in the interest of the public schools. In Concordia parish Mr. Harris conferred with the school authorities, looking to the establishment of an agricultural high school. He found the school conditions satisfactory in Concordia. In Iberville Mr. Harris made an address at the school district of Praquemine in making an effort to vote in order to erect a new school building in that town.

### Another Oil Well revisited.

Lafayette.—Reports from Anse la Butte are that Herbert well No. 1, on the Begnaud tract, was cleaned out by Manager Ed Rawson and showed up 200 barrels of oil per day. The well was brought in several months ago, yielding about 500 barrels per day, but this capacity was reduced gradually to thirty or forty barrels. This well is exceptional in the purity of oil, no salt water as yet having appeared. Active operations in several quarters of the field have begun, and the prospects are most encouraging, according to reports of oil men.

### Big Rice Purchases.

Crowley.—Frank A. Godchaux of Abbeville, whose heavy purchases of rice in large lots have attracted wide attention this season, has purchased from John P. Burgin a lot of 12,600 sacks of Japan at \$2.35 a barrel all round. Mr. Godchaux has made this season two single purchases of 20,000 sacks, both from the Louisiana Irrigation and Mill Company.

### Deer are plentiful near Morgan City this season.

Parties from Morgan City, Lafayette and New Iberia have recently been on successful hunts.

### A general meeting of the rice growers of East Carroll parish, has been called by the police jury for February 2 to devise ways and means to prevent damage to public roads and the destruction of fish by irrigation work.

The Louisiana Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals recently held its annual meeting in New Orleans.

Judge O'Neil charged the special grand jury at Franklin to investigate the report that certain social clubs in St. Mary parish are a subterfuge to evade the Gay-Shattuck law and violate the Sunday law.

Woman's suffrage will be the subject of the annual debate between Louisiana State University and Texas University at Austin April 15.

Forty-seven guns were stolen from a hardware store at Monroe. The thief ought to be able to put up a good defense.

W. A. Skinner, 52 years old, the father of thirteen children, suicided by shooting in a saloon at Monroe, where he was employed as bartender.

Well No. 4 of the Trees Company in the Caddo field developed a capacity of 2,880 barrels of oil daily after being idle for some time.

William Ward, deaf and dumb, is in jail at Lake Charles, suspected of complicity in several postoffice robberies.

## NEWS AS IT HAPPENS

NATIONAL, STATE, FOREIGN, OF INTEREST TO READERS.

### THE WHOLE WEEK'S DOINGS

Short Mention of Interesting Happenings From Day to Day Throughout the World.

#### WASHINGTON.

The senate committee on Indian affairs has reported favorably Senator Owen's bill for stricter prohibition for the sale of liquor on Indian reservations. The bill gives authority to seize and destroy any liquor which the federal authorities believe may be intended to be offered to Indians, and prohibits the bringing of liquor within a specified distance of any Indian lands.

Senator Owen introduced a bill to cancel and annul the balance of deferred payments due from settlers who purchased lands in the so-called "wood reserve," attached to the Fort Sill military reservation, provided that the moneys already paid by the settlers shall be deemed payment in full for said lands.

Senator Dick has introduced a bill to authorize the transfer from the freedmen roll to the roll of citizens by blood of the Choctaw and Chickashaw nations of persons of Choctaw and Chickashaw blood on the side of either parent. This is an attempt to reopen the rolls, as came up in the Fleming suit, and recently rejected by the supreme court.

Senator Gore has introduced a bill to direct the secretary of the interior to vacate the north half of section 3, township 4 north, range 4 west, which has been reserved for a township site in the common lands of the Kiowa, Comanche and Apache Indians. The bill also provides for reimbursing the twenty-nine purchasers of the tract.

The rivers and harbors bill will not be made up this week nor will it report before possibly the middle of February, as the committee has set a hearing for as late as Feb. 3.

The department of the interior is trying to determine whether the state of Texas or federal government owns an island of about 10,000 acres which lies in the Sabine river near Orange, Texas. The exact location of the island is west of townships 8 and 10, range 13 west of Louisiana. The island is claimed by the state of Louisiana, which seeks to patent it as swamp and overflow land, and by Branch T. Masterson of Galveston as grantee of the state of Texas.

The interstate commerce commission Wednesday promulgated an order warning interstate carriers that hereafter they would be prosecuted criminally for any instance of unreasonable delay in the entry of a date on bills of lading.

The senate has passed the bill for a railway bridge across the Rio Grande at Laredo, and has also agreed to the house amendment to the bill for a railway bridge across the Red River near Sherman. Both measures are now awaiting the president's signature to become laws.

#### DOMESTIC.

The all-important cotton rate hearing is set for next week, the exact date being Tuesday, Feb. 8, at Austin. It was originally set for September, and was postponed because of the poor showing made by the railroads in their earning accounts.

Bryan suffered another serious fire Sunday morning, resulting in an estimated loss of \$22,500. The fire originated in the confectionery store of Martin & Lock and the two-story building was entirely consumed.

The local rice market at Crowley, La., continues to show signs of increasing strength, both in rough and clean. The demand for clean is brisk and at good prices.

Nearly every woman in Cherry, Ill., is drawing her heart strings tight to undergo the ordeal of exhumation that is expected this week, following the promised unearthing of the St. Paul mine, in which more than 600 coal miners have lain entombed since May 13, when fire caused the death of some 350 men.

The weather bureau at Washington states that the present barometer conditions indicate moderate temperatures generally over the country, with the close of the winter cold wave is looked for from the northwest, which will advance to the Atlantic coast. Storms reaching the Atlantic seaboard about the middle and the close of the present week will be attended by sharp fluctuations in temperature from the lake region and Ohio valley over the Middle Atlantic and New England states and precipitation generally east of the Mississippi.

In the official report of the Illinois state food commissioner, made public Saturday, State Inspector Hoey declares that horses are being slaughtered by the wholesale in Chicago and the meat is being sold and distributed for human consumption.

Paul Redeska, who recently resigned as a deputy commissioner of public works; Michael H. McGowan, a wealthy contractor who has many big city contracts, and nine other men who are city officials or employees of McGowan, of Chicago, were indicted by the county grand jury this week. The men are charged with a conspiracy to defraud the city of \$254,000 according to the true bill.

Civil service examinations for rural letter carriers will be held at Buda, Hayes county; Roby, Fisher county, and Rogers, Bell county, on Feb. 26.

Albert T. Patrick, who has been a prisoner for nearly ten years, and who is now serving a life sentence in Sing Sing prison for the murder of William Marsh Rice, was Saturday formally disbarred as a practicing lawyer by the appellate division of the Supreme Court.

Three heirs of Mrs. Guinness, once owner of the "murder farm" near La Porte, Ind., are to receive more than \$3,000 from her estate, according to the final report of the executor, Wesley Fogle. They are Mrs. Brynhilde Larsen of Chicago and Peter Paulsen Moen and Peter Paulsen Storseth of Norway.

Hugh Cannon, who wrote "Goo-Goo Eyes," "Ain't That a Shame," "Billy Bailey," and other classics of ragtime, was sent to the poorhouse at Detroit, Mich., Friday, at the age of 36. Drink and drugs put him there.

The Uncle Sam Oil Company, having pipe lines through Kansas and into Tulsa, will apply for permission to build a line from Tulsa through Oklahoma to Red River, a distance of 157 miles, and from that point it is to extend to tidewater, probably at Texas City.

A New Orleans buyer has just completed the purchase of \$1,500 worth of skins in Cameron parish, the largest consignment ever shipped from there at one time. Skins embrace mink, coon and muskrat.

Amateurs and professionals divided honors on Wednesday at the Sunny South Handicap in Houston. Lewis, an amateur, broke 100 targets without a miss, but when the total score was figured it was found that Mr. Forsgaard, one of the professional shooters, had led the procession with 196 broken targets out of a possible 200.

Beaumont has entered upon a campaign of city building with a start of \$100,000 to invest in new enterprises.

United States District Judge C. H. Hanford decided Wednesday that title to 1,024 acres of valuable coal lands in Lewis county, Washington, claimed by P. C. Richardson and several members of the R. S. Wilson family, all of Seattle, should revert to the government. This is the land referred to by L. R. Glavis in his testimony before the Ballinger-Pinchot committee.

Following closely upon the absorption of the Consolidated Copper Company by the Utah Copper Company, it was announced in New York Wednesday that directors of the Anaconda Copper Mining Company had launched plans for the acquisition of the properties at Butte, Mont., and increasing Anaconda's capital from \$30,000,000 to \$150,000,000.

A meteorite, supposed to have been a part of the new comet which is now attracting so much attention in the astronomical world, fell in Broad River at South Norfolk, and created no little excitement. The noise and light brought the entire community out and they rushed for the chapel, thinking that the end of the earth had come.

Rear Admiral Robley D. Evans, U. S. N., retired, who commanded the battleships on the first part of their cruise around the world, was Wednesday detached from active duty.

#### FOREIGN.

The French cruiser Chateau Renault ran aground near Arzillo, about twenty miles southwest of Cape Spartel, Saturday. Other warships were unable to approach the vessel on account of the hurricane and high seas. The position of the Chateau Renault is critical and it is feared the cruiser will be lost.

That the shipping industry is at last shaking itself free from the mantle of depression which has enveloped it for so long and that a period of activity is assured in the near future, is apparent by an unusually interesting crop of inquiries for new mercantile tonnage which is at present engaging the attention of shipbuilders in London, England.

After various conferences with the political leaders at Athens King George has consented to the convocation of the National Assembly and has chartered M. Dragomiris with the formation of a cabinet.

The fall of the Seine in France has on Feb. 12 reached 12 inches, and at this rate would require a fortnight to reach its normal level. Fortunately tidings from the flooded sections above Paris give hope of a more rapid subsidence.

It was officially stated in Paris Friday that the River Seine was stationary and that its tributaries continued to fall.

General Tigerino is invading Nicaragua from San Salvador, via the Gulf of Fonseca, with 500 men. President Madriz has rushed the Nicaraguan gunboat Angela from Corinto to intercept the invaders. President Figueroa of Salvador is aiding the revolutionists.

The British torpedo boat destroyer Eden broke from her moorings at Dover, England, during a gale in the channel and was driven ashore.

Officials of the National Railways of Mexico Friday notified the joint committee of American conductors and engineers that the demands they have made will not be granted, and stated that this was the final word. The action came as a surprise to the public, as it was understood that an agreement would probably be reached.

The religious conflicts at Bokhara between the Sunnites and Shias, which have been going on for several days, were renewed in St. Petersburg Tuesday. The massacre of Persians can force is supposed to number 2,000.

## TRIED REMEDY FOR THE GRIP.



### A Nation of Bridge Builders.

The United States is notably in advance of all other nations in the science and practice of bridge building. The increasing demands of commerce justified longer and longer spans, the weight of locomotives and trains doubled and trebled, the single bridge members increased to one hundred feet in length and one hundred tons weight, wonderful steam, hydraulic, pneumatic and electric machine tools were made to fashion them with, and costly special shops were built in this country and operated by thousands of men. The methods and facilities of erection have kept pace with these developments. Enormous derricks, traveling towers and steel rope tackles operated eight at a time by a single steam or electric hoisting engine, with many other costly special appliances, have been provided for assembling the great members quickly, cheaply and safely into the finished span. America stands to-day far in advance of all the world in the daring designs, high quality and economical and rapid construction of many great bridges.—F. W. Skinner in Harper's Weekly.

### A Model Man.

Periodically there are published the names of celebrities who were famous before they were 35. But genius is exceptional. The great mass of people might enjoy the facts about some desirable model whom they may hope to equal some time if they live and learn. For their consideration, therefore, we here set down the achievements of a certain man. At 20 our hero had learned to bathe properly and to sleep with the window open; at 25 he had loved a wholesome girl and married her; at 35 he had mastered his temper and learned to reserve judgment; at 45 his children were proud of him; at 60 he had achieved kindness, moderation and the respect of his neighbors.—Collier's Weekly.

### Maligning Mother.

Mrs. Brennan's ten children had gathered at the old home for the first time in years. She surveyed the group proudly. From Capt. Tom of 35 to Mary of 11, she believed they were equally dear to her.

"Mother loves all of us," said little Mary, meditatively, "but she loves Tom best because he's oldest."

Mrs. Brennan protested that she cared for all alike, then appealed to her second son.

"Dick, you grew up with Tom, and can judge better than Mary. Did I ever treat him better than you?"

"Only in one way, mother," said the big fellow, a twinkle in his eye. "On cold nights you used to come in and pull the covers off me onto Tom."

### Youth's Companion.

These two items appeared in the same column of a local paper: "Lillie Sutton of Ocean Springs, Miss., an orphan, who had the care of an invalid brother, was arrested for stealing five eggs and a half pound of butter, and was sent to prison for a term of seven years."

"William Kewelich of Baltimore, a chauffeur, who ran down and killed Albert Pries, a little boy, in Buffalo, last July, pleaded guilty to the charge of manslaughter in the second degree, and was placed on probation for ten days upon the condition that he would within that time pay to the boy's father \$1,000."—New York Tribune.

### Permanently Cured.

Dr. David Starr Jordan, discussing at a dinner in Washington certain rulings of the International fisheries commission, said:

"The fish there get no chance. They have as hard a time of it as the whites in the interior of China."

"A Chinese druggist said to his clerk: 'Did I see a foreign devil come out of here as I came down the street?'"

"Yes, sir," the clerk answered. "He wanted a permanent cure for headache, and I sold him a bottle of rat poison."

### The Natural Question.

Follower of Events—A Harvard professor favors a revision of the ten commandments.

Ultimate Consumer—Gee whiz! Upward or downward?

If men would stand up for their religion like they do for their politics, how soon the lion and the lamb would lie down together.

Love does not spring up and grow great and become perfect all at once, but requires time and nourishment of thought.—Dante.