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TATER' MEN GET BUSY PREPARING FOR GREAT CROP

Stelly and Sibille Depart for West Looking Over Markets

EXPECT TO HANDLE FIRST CAR IN JULY

Big Curing Plant Ready to Handle the Biggest Crop Grown in Parish

Simon Stelly and John Sibille left Sunday for a tour through the west, taking a birdseye and first-hand view of the markets calling for sweet potatoes. While on this trip they will make arrangements with brokers to handle the crop of this parish which they expect to handle through their up-to-the-minute curing plant recently constructed in Opelousas.

Both Messrs. Sibille and Stelly have been busy the past few months getting the plant erected and ready for use. They have not spared expense preparing for the immense crop that St. Landry farmers will produce this year, and when the sweets begin to roll in the producers will find Simon Stelly and John Sibille ready for their reception and with a place to store and cure their potatoes and afterwards ship them to markets ready to absorb them.

Before leaving, Mr. Stelly stated that the crop this year would be the largest ever grown in St. Landry and that his firm expected to handle the first carload early in July—quite the earliest ever known in this section.

They stated that they would leave nothing undone to satisfy their farmer patrons as to storage, curing and sale at the best possible prices obtainable. They are keeping posted as to markets and prices and as they have stated before they are of the opinion that the great state of Texas offers the best markets for the Louisiana potatoes and as there is some advantage in the matter of nearness to this producing center, and the further advantage as to lower freight rates, all potatoes grown in St. Landry should find a ready sale in our neighboring commonwealth without a search for possible and maybe fickle markets far removed from this territory.

Some months ago, in discussing the sweet potato situation as it exists locally, Mr. Stelly and Mr. Sibille strongly urged the farmers of this parish to plant heavily of this important crop. Their advice has no doubt been followed by a large element of farmers and as the season in many respects has been an ideal one the yield will be quite large indeed and bring large financial returns to the farmers at a time of year when ready cash is scarce and in great demand.

Messrs. Stelly and Sibille stated in the former interview that they would only handle the famous Porto Ricans and advised their farmer friends to plant no other variety. The Porto Ricans have gained a remarkable reputation all over the south and west in a remarkably short time and today they threaten to displace all other varieties grown in the south for market or home consumption. Those farmers who have been planting this variety several years and are therefore familiar with all their characteristics state that they are very prolific, keep well and as to eating qualities are absolutely beyond comparison in a class by themselves. Besides, they are very early and if planted in April are ready for marketing the middle of July, particularly if the season be propitious.

PARISH UNION MEETING SOON

FARMERS BODY TO CONVENE AT PRAIRIE RONDE ON SATURDAY, JULY 23

Hon. R. Lee Mills, member of the police jury and president of the parish farmers' union, informs us that the parish meeting of the union will be held at the schoolhouse in Prairie Ronde on next Saturday week, July 23, at which time the organization will be addressed by the president of the state organization, J. N. McCollister. Besides the regular routine, the social feature of the meeting will consist of a basket picnic and other forms of amusement. The general public is cordially invited to attend.

Mr. Mills also informs us that his state meeting of the farmers' union will be held in Baton Rouge, starting on Tuesday, July 26.

LIGHT PLANT IS IN SPLENDID FIX

ENGINEER MILLER HAS EVERYTHING CLEANED UP AND MACHINERY RUNNING FINE

Chief Engineer Miller, who has been acting superintendent of the city light and water plant, is to be commended on the manner in which he has handled the outfit. Mr. Miller is one of those quiet and unassuming genuses who has little to say but believes in action and he follows that program to the letter and then says nothing.

The plant from a condition of riotous disorder that was attendant to the enlarging of the building and the installing of new machinery has been whipped into shape and everything is kept in neat condition and the machinery—the five big engines, generators, pumps, etc., are looking as spick and span as if they had just dropped from the bandbox.

Mr. Miller and his subordinates believe there is no real reason why an electric plant should not be kept in perfect order and clean at all times, and they are pursuing that idea by putting it into effect at the Opelousas plant. They wisely and rightfully think that there is no excuse for the plant to be dirty and greasy and a place of druggery rather than one of employment for the many who attend to the machinery and furnish water and lights for the patrons. Believing this they have not hesitated to put forth some herculean efforts in bringing the present order out of the past few months' chaos and as a natural result the plant is in perhaps better physical and mechanical condition than ever before known since its establishment.

WOMEN WELCOME IN TARIFF FIGHT

MRS. A. A. ANDING OF THIS CITY AND J. P. BARNETT WERE DELEGATES

The Times-Picayune of last Sunday contained the following story of the meeting in New Orleans on July 6 of the woman's division of the Southern Tariff association, to which meeting Mrs. Allen A. Anding and J. P. Barnett of this city were delegates:

"The Woman's Division of the Southern Tariff Association and the New Orleans Federation of Clubs were well represented at the Southern Tariff Conference in New Orleans last week. That women are being welcomed to an active part in the movement for protective tariff measures for the South was manifested by the appointment at the conference of Mrs. A. A. Anding and J. P. Barnett as delegates to the tariff clubs among the farmers.

"In other words," Mrs. Anding said after the conference, "I am taking home the tariff question to the farmers themselves."

"Mrs. Anding maintains the tariff question should not be made a partisan political issue. The economic good of the entire south is at stake, she maintains, and party lines should be wiped out.

"Mrs. J. N. Burguiere, formerly of St. Mary parish and now of New Orleans, also stressed the need of a protective tariff for the south.

"Although free trade would help stricken Europe," Mrs. Burguiere stated, "we must give first consideration to our own. Our farmers and manufacturers must be encouraged to produce."

Mrs. Nixon, secretary of the Woman's division of the southern tariff association, made a short address to the congress.

Some of the delegates present were Mrs. Charis F. Buck, Jr., vice-chairman of the Woman's Division of the Southern Tariff Association; Mrs. R. Nixon, secretary; Mrs. F. D. Wilcox, Mrs. J. N. Burguiere, Mrs. J. B. Syme, Mrs. C. J. Rogers, Mrs. Marie Shibley, Miss Sadie Burkenroad, Mrs. Lawrence Blum, Mrs. E. R. Page, Mrs. L. A. Scherck, Mrs. A. A. Anding, Miss Whitehead and Mrs. L. M. Williams.

Mrs. Anding has been very active in supporting all measures attending to the betterment of the human race, especially those residing in the south and particularly to Louisianians and Opelousians. She is taking a leading place in the ranks of the Louisiana and southern women who are battling for the right at all times.

POLICE JURY, CITY COUNCIL SELECT THEIR OFFICIAL PAPER

The St. Landry police jury and the Opelousas city council Tuesday last week elected John W. Lewis parish and city printer and Mr. Lewis designated the St. Landry Clarion as official journal of the parish and city.

4TH WARD JUROR SAYS ROAD BOARD NOT TOTTING FAIR

Providing Funds For Construction of Several West Highways

OPELOUSAS-PORT BR. HIGHY. UNCONSIDERED

Mr. Brown Asks Business People to Take Matter Up With Board

Monday Mr. W. F. Brown, member of the police jury from the fourth ward, issued the subpoenaed open letter relative to the action of the board of commissioners of the eleventh road district of St. Landry.

He points out that the board is laying plans to construct two sub-roads west from Opelousas-Sunset link of the Pershing highway; that plans are being laid to build another road along Courtableau from Washington; Grand Prairie road is being built to the Evangeline parish line; that the reconstruction of the Opelousas-Port Barre highway is not even contemplated and in this connection the board simply states that if there are enough funds left after the completion of its program it will then take up the matter of reconstruction of this last named road. To this Mr. Brown protests and his protest is voiced in the following communication addressed to the people:

Opelousas, La., July 7, 1921
To the Taxpayers and Business People of Opelousas:

I have heard considerable discussion of late regarding the building of the Port Barre road. I understand from the commissioners of the eleventh road district, which is composed of the first ward and part of the fifth ward, that they are unable to use the funds on hand for repairing roads, that they would have to build outright. If you remember this road district voted to issue \$500,000 worth of bonds, which were sold more than one year ago and the money deposited in bank. The taxpayers of the district, and especially those of Opelousas, where the largest vote and largest amount of money is paid, I feel sure, were under the impression that what is known as the Pershing highway would be constructed and at least one road east and one west from Opelousas would be built.

If I am correctly informed, the fifth ward and the second ward did not have sufficient money to build their part of the Pershing highway. Therefore, \$100,000 of this fund was set aside to supplement this work. In addition to that, we afterwards formed what is known as the fourteenth road district, which includes a part of the fifth ward, the first and part of the second, and voted to issue \$300,000 worth of bonds to be sure of having enough money to build the Pershing highway.

Up to date we have been promised state and federal aid for the Pershing highway through St. Landry to the Lafayette line, and also for the road from Opelousas through Plaisance to Debailion bridge, leading to Ville Platte. But the work on these two highways has been delayed on account of the state and federal aid money not being available.

The only roads that the eleventh district have under construction up to now is about eight miles from Washington through Grand Prairie to the Evangeline line, this being entirely in the fifth ward; and another road, from Mr. I. H. Cain's place up to Mr. Joe Devillier's connection with the Port Barre road, a distance of some four miles. I understand they have surveyed one road from Opelousas out by Mr. Joe Boagni's, known as the West Bellevue road, and two other roads, one running from Dr. Daly's west to the sixth ward line, the third from Shuteston west to the ward line or near Mr. Lee Mill's farm.

I also heard that the board contemplates building a road from what is known as the Mel Durio place, west of Opelousas, through Prairie Ronde to the parish line, and perhaps one from Washington down the Courtableau to the road district line, and should there be sufficient money left, they would build the Port Barre road.

Some of the commissioners have stated to us that it was their conviction and belief that the people who have not enjoyed the use of gravel roads in their neighborhoods in the past should be served first, before the main roads that have been graveled should be rebuilt. Of course they do not contend to apply this to the road through Opelousas to Sunset. To this extent we fully agreed with the board but as far as the general public is concerned and the taxpayers, it doesn't seem fair and equitable to me that

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OVERCOME OBSTACLE AND RESUME DRILLING WORK

Drillers at the Pine Prairie oil well, according to Mr. C. P. Dunbar of Opelousas who is temporarily located there, have saved the well after abandonment of the hole looked probable owing to the loss of a bit in the bottom of the hole. The operators managed to sidetrack the obstruction and thus saved the well. The pipe is being sunk as rapidly as possible and Mr. Dunbar states that the rig and lumber for derrick for another test well is on the ground but nothing has been given out when active work will begin on it.

Alfred Vidrine, efficient city mail carrier, departed the first of the week on his vacation to be spent in Cameron parish. During his absence his place on the city carrier force will be filled by the substitute carrier, Leo J. Mizel.

SUSPENDS JORDAN PENDING TRIAL ON THURSDAY THE 21ST

Adjourned Meeting of City Council, Friday Night, Takes Action

BIG FIGHT PROMISED WHEN UNLIMBERS

Charges Allege Leaving City Without Permission of Executive

The Jordan matter is in the limelight again, and a healthy row of no mean proportions is in sight before "finis" is written under the case.

At the meeting of the board, Tuesday night of last week, charges against the superintendent were preferred by the mayor and the discussion that arose was heated and poignant, much to the edification of the large audience of spectators gathered without the rail when the board of aldermen took up the discussion of the much wrangled over position of superintendent of the electric light and water plant. The city attorney was asked for an opinion and he stated he would furnish the board with a written one at a later date but would not attempt to give an opinion on such a weighty question without first investigating the law bearing on the subject.

Legal representatives of Mr. Jordan were on hand in full force, and their several speeches before the board was full notice that they did not propose to go to sleep at the post and let their client's cause go begging for want of a champion.

The discussion waxed hot at times as question and answer were flashed back and forth between the participants in the wordy fray. It cooled down, however, and with maturer judgment the council finally agreed to defer action until later, and to that end the meeting adjourned to convene last Friday night and resume the question of "what to do with Jordan."

Friday night but three of the aldermen were present. Mr. Clark's death created a vacancy in the fourth ward, and Alderman Daniel of the second ward was not on hand, hence the aldermen sat at large. Mr. Mouret, from the first ward, Mr. Dejean, and from the third ward, Mr. Stelly, with the mayor, represented the city administration.

Owing to inability the newspaper reporter was not on hand, so what information that is published came second hand. It is stated that there was an "executive" session of the board behind closed doors and when the aldermen resumed the open meeting everything about the municipal machinery ran as smoothly as the works of a well-made clock.

The opinion of the city attorney was handed in and duly considered, and then board got down to cases and to summarize its actions one has but to state that the trial of Mr. Jordan was fixed for Thursday, July 21, and pending that trial he stands suspended from office as superintendent of the power plant.

Interviewed Saturday morning Mr. Jordan stated that the action of the board did not surprise him in the least, but he expressed a full intention of fighting the matter out of the end, court procedure and all, and that until the supreme court of the state rules him out he will not rest on his oars.

Forecasting, foreshadowing and prophecying on future results of this tangle would be very much like gambling with fate. The public will have to await the outcome in order to satisfy their curiosity.

GRIM DEATH CALLS AND JOHN W. CLARK TAKES SILENT TRIP

Fourth Ward Alderman Attends Meeting and Dies That Night

MYSTERIOUS DEMISE IS CAUSE OF CONJECTURE

Dead Many Hours When Discovered in Bathroom Wednesday

Tuesday night of last week John W. Clark, alderman from the fourth city ward and prominent jeweler and fraternal order member, passed into the silent shades of death, mysteriously and without a helping hand in nature's fight against the gripping fingers of the Grim Reaper. His passing is a mystery unsolved and human curiosity has been stirred to its very depths as to the direct or indirect cause of his untimely end.

Mr. Clark attended the regular meeting of the board of aldermen Tuesday night, being the last member to show up for the proceedings. He had closed his store at the usual hour of 6 o'clock, repaired home, partaken of supper and then returned to town where he was due for the council meeting scheduled for 7:30 p. m.

When he entered the city hall several noted that he had a drawn and haggard look about his face, and his unusual quietness and failure to take much part in the proceedings, coupled with the fact that he made frequent trips to the ice water cooler was noted by a number of his close friends who little dreamed at the time that within a few short hours his lifeless body would be all that would remind his friends that he had lived.

Following the meeting of the council he went to the Candy Kitchen on Landry street, in company with a friend, where he partook of some soft drink, the fever that was evidently consuming his interior anatomy seeming to call incessantly for something cooling. He returned home between 10:30 and 11 o'clock, and that was the last seen of him alive.

Wednesday it was noted that his place of business was not open as usual but no one thought anything strange of the occurrence. One of his neighbors, Mr. Butler, who resides next door to the Clark home on South Union street, noted his absence from the jewelry store and inquired of Mrs. Clark where her husband was. This query was made several times during the day and finally she told Mr. Butler "if you want him you'll find him in the bathroom."

Mr. Butler proceeded to the bathroom and found the lifeless body, clad only in night clothes, jammed between wall and bathtub. The discovery was made at 4 o'clock in the evening of Wednesday, and from the condition of the body it was estimated that he had been dead anywhere from twelve to fourteen or fifteen hours, having passed away during the night before around the midnight hour.

The alarm was given and with all haste due attention was given the remains and a hurried but thorough investigation of any and all causes that might have brought on death so suddenly and without warning. The body was badly bruised about the head and ants in large numbers swarmed over the entire anatomy. Whether the bruises were brought about by the dying man falling between tub and wall and injuring himself in the convulsions, is difficult to say. A coroner's jury was empaneled and an investigation held under Dr. Littell, the coroner, the verdict being that death was brought on by heart failure. An autopsy was also held and the internal organs removed for chemical analysis. Whether this analysis has shown anything strange or not has not been given out.

Mrs. Clark has been suffering from mental derangement for many years and only recently was brought home from an asylum where she had spent many months. Apparently she was either thoroughly well or on the way to full recovery. Mr. Clark was devotedly interested in her condition and welfare and to that end did not hesitate to spend his substance in having her mental affliction treated by the best specialists in the land.

John Clark was a native of Mississippi, and the date of his death was almost 42 years of his age. He had resided in and around Opelousas from early boyhood. He has an older brother, Roland W. Clark, who resides at Palmetto. His aged father, who once resided here, is now a citizen of Mississippi, having returned there many years ago. Mrs. Clark was a

TWO CANDIDATES FOR CLERK PLACE

VACANCY IN CITY COUNCIL TO BE FILLED BY APPOINTMENT MADE BY GOVERNOR

Two candidates, C. Percy Dunbar for the position in the city council and Walter Sanders, are applicants from the fourth ward made vacant by the death of John W. Clark. Both candidates have gotten busy and are securing signatures to their petitions to the governor asking for the appointment as alderman of the fourth ward of this city.

Mr. Dunbar was alderman from that ward before and was defeated by Mr. Clark in the last municipal primary. He has had considerable experience as an alderman and his friends are backing his candidacy to the limit.

Mr. Sanders is practically a lifelong resident of the ward and is accounted one of the sterling young men of this city. While he has had no experience whatever in the capacity of officeholder still his friends insist that if he secures the appointment he will demonstrate that he is capable of holding down the job in a first-class manner.

The filling of the vacancy is up to the governor as the unexpired portion of the term is for less than one year and under the law where a vacancy is for less than one year of an unexpired term the governor makes the selection, thus saving the people the expense of holding an election.

It was stated that Lawrence B. Sandoz, young attorney of the local bar, would also be an applicant for the appointment but this is denied and as matters now stand only Messrs. Dunbar and Sanders will have their hats in the ring for the position.

R. Lee Wilson, prominent farmer of lower Bellevue, transacted business in Opelousas Monday forenoon.

S. A. Gournay of Eunice, former member of the police jury from the sixth ward and prominent automobile dealer in his town was a business visitor to Opelousas on Monday.

After spending the week-end in Opelousas, Henry Clements, rice buyer, returned to Eunice Saturday night to resume his work.

John M. Duffilo and several of his children spent a few days on the Calcasieu river near Oberlin, last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Daly and baby of Beaumont, Texas are visiting his parents, Dr. and Mrs. Lawrence Daly, in Lower Bellevue.

L. D. Guldry of Church Point spent several days in Opelousas last week attending to some business affairs.

Mrs. George T. Edwards, formerly of Opelousas now of Wainfield, La., accompanied by her little daughter Eleanor are visiting her parents, Dr. and Mrs. A. J. Berclier, on South Court street.

Archie Dunbar and Mr. Spitzer motored to Lafayette on a business trip last Friday.

After spending several days in this city, Mrs. Sam Well departed Friday for Eunice and from there returned to home in New Orleans.

Mrs. Mattye S. Boagni spent several days in Baton Rouge last week where she was the guest of friends.

Frankie Dietlein and Jeff Hawkins who went to Jersey City to witness the big fight between Dempsey and Carpentier, have returned home.

Mrs. Jonas Roos spent a day or two in New Orleans last week where she was called by the illness and death of her sister.

Frank Hadley of Houston, Texas, employe of the Gulf Coast Lines, was here last week as a witness in a damage case against the railroad in the sixteenth judicial district court.

Dr. and Mrs. Ed. Berclier and children of Rayne were here the last week end as guests of the Berclier and Pavy families.

Miss Richard and a native of Upper Waxia where members of her immediate family still reside. The couple were childless.

John Clark was one of the sterling citizens of this city and parish and while he was emphatic in his views his friends always knew that whether he was right or wrong he was conscientious about all things, and, above all, strictly honest and unswerving in that rugged honesty. There is not a blot on his memory and his large circle of friends and acquaintances will always think of him in that light.

The funeral was held from the Methodist church on Thursday morning with interment in the public cemetery. The Masons, Elks, Columbian Woodmen, Woodmen of the World and fire company participated in the obsequies at the grave. He was an enthusiastic member of all these organizations and in each he was looked on as one of the best and most consistent members.

CITY DADS SHOULD GET BUSY; GROLEE STREET CALLS 'EM

Residence Thoroughfare East of Main Presents Gruesome Sight

EVERY HEAVY RAIN TAKES ITS BIG TOLL

Big Undertaking But Long-er It is Delayed More It Will Cost

East Grolee street, from Main to the corporate limits is one of the prettiest residence sections of the city. There are a number of nice and up-to-date residences, many of which were built the last year or two. It is a street that is traveled much as country people residing at Camp Hamilton and the Little Teche and points beyond get into the city through that street, and this heavy traffic coupled with the fact that there is a tremendous wash of flood water down the street every big rain is continually damaging the thoroughfare.

At the present time the street, from Main east, runs by steps, each block representing one of these huge steps. At the corner of Union the wash of water has simply made the street look like a wide canal, the small gutters being totally inadequate to take off the water. The next block, where Walnut crosses, is even worse, and so it goes down the full course of the street. Each heavy rain but accentuates the bad condition of the street. Unless some immediate steps are taken by the city administration the thoroughfare will be little better than a huge drainage canal in the course of a few years—the way the soil is being washed away the time of such a metamorphosis won't be that far off.

It will require quite an engineering feat to repair the damage already done, and to the unskilled eye it looks as if the best remedy is to raise the grade to its former height. In order to do that countless wagonloads of dirt will have to be hauled for the narrow width of the street, coupled with its badly washed condition, will not permit of simply grading the ditches out and piling the small amount of soil in the center of the thoroughfare. Thousands of tons of soil have been washed from the street and have gone down the drainage creek running near the Wallor residence at the eastern corporate limits. Thousands of tons more are due to go the same way unless steps are taken to stop the washing and establish a system of drainage which will take care of the surplus water without erosion to the street.

After the grade is raised by the addition of dirt the next best thing to do is to hard-surface the street with gravel or some other paving material. In addition, if graveling is impossible at this time, concrete gutters should be provided in order to accommodate the water that drains down the street at the present time.

There are several other streets in the city that need similar drastic attention. For instance, two blocks of South Court, from Vine to Cherry, are badly in need of grade raising by the addition of soil hauled there and spread out. Then there is at least one block on North Market street, from North street to Grolee, that is a veritable basin on top of a ridge and the only way to get it tamed up is by hauling dirt and raising the grade so that the surplus water can get away and not remain in the gutters to dry up by evaporation. North street running west from Market is also in a badly washed condition, and while it is not traveled much still it is an important street and should get its share of attention.

We believe there is still a goodly sum of the paving and drainage fund, left in the city treasury and some of that fund should be used to place these streets in first-class condition. To delay matters any longer means that when the work is finally taken up it will cost more than it will now for the damage will be much greater than that it is now, and everyone knows that it is bad enough as it is.

Repair Grolee Street Home
Messrs. J. Austin Perkins and Robert Perkins, owners of the old Wilkins property on East Grolee street, are preparing to have the entire property renovated and the home remodelled into a modern home. They purchased the place at the sale of the Robert B. Wilkins estate some time ago. It is desirably located and not far from the business section of the city.