

THE ST. LANDRY CLARION

"Here Shall the Press the People's Rights Maintain, Unawed by Influence and Unbribed by Gain."

VOLUME XXX—NO. 26.

OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA, SATURDAY, MARCH, 13, 1920.

ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

Thistlethwaites to Sink Well for Oil Near Washington, La.

Forfeit Posted by Driller in Washington State Bank

GEOLOGISTS SAY PROSPECTS GOOD

Well be Third Sunk in St. Landry Parish in Past Fifteen Years—Other Wells Abandoned Long Ago

Pipe and other material to drill an oil well on the Thistlethwaite property north of Washington, is being received this week and actual work on the well is guaranteed by a forfeit of \$10,000 placed on deposit in the Washington State Bank by the driller who has the contract.

The Thistlethwaite interests are drilling on the advice of a competent geologist, who surveyed their land for oil indications and made an optimistic report of the prospects. There is no element of wild-catting in this project. The Thistlethwaite are conservative and have no stock to float or unload on gullible buyers. They are investing their own money in a proposition that they believe will net them handsome returns. Their effort will, in a certain sense, determine whether or not there is oil in paying quantities in the immediate neighborhood of the place where they are drilling.

Reports by geologists have been made on several tracts of land in this parish in the past few months. One commented very favorably on the surface indications on Mr. E. M. Boagni's Belmont plantation; saying that the ridge of hills that runs through this land is the same upheaval that begins in the North Louisiana oil field and ends in the Anse-la-Butte field. On this place at the eastern end one may push a stick in the ground during a wet spell and by holding a match to the hole a flame will spring up 12 or 15 inches high. Last week several negroes were drilling a well for water and at about 20 feet deep a cloud of vapor came from the hole. The negroes ran and were unable to say whether this vapor had the smell of gas or not.

There have been two wells put down for oil in this parish within the past fifteen years—one on the Coteau east of Opelousas and the other in Plaisance Prairie—both were abandoned without further exploration in either section.

The well that supplies water to Opelousas at times becomes impregnated strongly with crude oil and there is no doubt but there is either an oil pocket or vein close to this well. The well, compared to an oil well, is shallow, being less than five hundred feet deep.

GIRL BABY AT THE "BUD" HAAS HOME

A girl baby was born to Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Haas Thursday morning. Mother and child are doing well.

Mr. and Mrs. Haas have been married sixteen years and this is their first baby. "Bud's" friends report that he has bought the young lady everything from a flivver down to a rattle so that his first-born will not lack amusement or comfort.

Arnaudville Home Suffers

Arnaudville, La., March 10.—Less than one month ago the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Percy Richard of this town was one of health and happiness; today only one member of the family is left. February 19 last, Mr. Richard died of appendicitis after a short illness; on the 5th inst., John Dejean brother of Mrs. Richard, fell a victim to pneumonia; today Mrs. Richard died of the same disease. The remaining member of the household, Miss Zulu Speyrer, niece of Mrs. Richard, is ill, suffering from the ravages of influenza and pneumonia.

WILL OPEN NEW BILLIARD PARLOR

C. R. Brown, who hails from Texas has leased and is remodeling the store room lately occupied by Jos. Firnberg in the Saizan building and will install an up-to-date pool and billiard parlor.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Dominique Cheramoute and Miss Francis Conella.
Paquiel Forte and Miss Francis Notre.
William Kellar and Miss Winnie Reddell.
John M. Fontenot and Miss Margaret E. Solleau.

LOUISIANA KNIGHTS CHOOSE OPELOUSAS

CONVENTION WILL OPEN MAY 9, OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS OF ORDER DECIDE

The state convention of the Knights of Columbus will be held in Opelousas May 9 and 10, John X. Wegmann, state deputy of the Knights of Columbus, announced Wednesday after a meeting of the state officers and district deputies in Lafayette Sunday.

The Knights of Columbus have a membership of 7000 in the state, an increase of nearly 2500 over last year according to Mr. Wegmann. At the meeting in Lafayette Sunday, all deputies reported progress satisfactory.

The convention this year Mr. Wegmann said, will have many interesting features. Peter Collins, of Boston, Mass., who has a nation reputation as a lecturer on Socialism and Bolshevism, will deliver a lecture Monday night May 10.

The convention will be opened Sunday morning by a Pontifical high mass said by the Very Rev. Jules B. Jeanmard, Bishop of Lafayette, state chaplain of the Knights of Columbus. The business session of the convention will be started at 4 p. m. Sunday at the Knights of Columbus Hall. A banquet for the delegates and visitors will be given by the Opelousas council, Sunday night. A dance for the delegates visiting Knights and ladies will end the convention.

DOUBLE GALA BILL AT PRINCESS, MARCH 20

WILL OFFER THAT DAY "DAUGHTER OF TWO WORLDS" AND "A TWILIGHT BABY"

The patrons of the Princess theatre will be treated a double gala bill Saturday, March 20, when Norma Talmadge in "A Daughter of Two Worlds" and a Lehman's comedy entitled "A Twilight Baby," will be offered to its patrons. These are first run productions and the advance notices assure a very interesting entertainment to Opelousas film fans.

The Princess management has also booked for two days, Tuesday and Wednesday, March 23 and 24, the great film production, "Salome," with Theda Bara.

STOCK OF GOODS BRINGS SMALL SUM

CREDITORS REALIZE ONLY \$1,000 ON STOCK OF DEFUNCT NEW YORK STORE

The stock of the New York store, in the Veazie building on Landry street, was sold Monday at public auction by the Fitzpatrick-Till Auction Co., of New Orleans, for the benefit of the creditors of Mrs. Dora Koppel. The auction firm made the highest bid, that of \$1,000.

The stock of Mrs. Koppel was late turned over to her creditors and it is said that the establishment had liabilities amounting to \$16,000 and assets of \$3600.

Grain on Louisiana Farms

Mr. Lionel L. James, Louisiana Field Agent of the Bureau of Crop Estimates, U. S. Department of Agriculture, has issued the following figures with reference to the quality of grain on farms March 1, 1920, per cent of corn crop merchantable, and per cent age of the grain crops shipped out of the county where grown, both in Louisiana and the United States.

LOUISIANA		UNITED STATES	
Corn	9,712,500 bu	8,640,000 bu.	181,500 bu
Oats	1,092,095 bu	855,269,000 bu.	165,539,000 bu
Wheat	422,815,000 bu	590,251,000 bu.	38,010,000 bu
Barley	38,010,000 bu	81,746,000 bu.	76.0 per cent
Corn, percentage of crop merchantable	76.0 per cent	70.0 per cent	82.4 per cent
U. S.	86.8 per cent	82.4 per cent	

Estimated of the percentage of the crops which is shipped out of county where grown are as follows (10-year average):

LOUISIANA		UNITED STATES	
Corn	9 per cent.	Oats	6 per cent.
Wheat	57.7 per cent.	Oats	19.9 per cent.
Oats	29.7 per cent.	Wheat	57.7 per cent.
Barley	47.2 per cent.	Barley	47.2 per cent.

TEXAS COTTONSEED BARRED IN LOUISIANA

Baton Rouge, La.—The Louisiana department of agriculture has declared quarantine against the entire state of Texas on cottonseed, cottonseed meal and hulls, as a precaution against the spread of the pink boll worm recently discovered in Cameron parish, La.

DEDICATE NEYLAND MEMORIAL FOUNTAIN

Washington Honors Son Who Died on French Battlefield

SPEAKER EULOGIZE THE LIFE OF HERO

Boyhood Friends and Companions Honor the Memory of the Young Man Who Died Leading His Company

Clarion Correspondence.

Washington, La., March 11.—There was held in Washington on Sunday, March 7, one of the most impressive services we have ever witnessed. On that day the fountain on the High School campus erected in memory of Lieut. L. J. Neyland who was killed in action on the battlefields of France on November 10, 1918 was dedicated.

The alumni of the Washington High School furthered this movement to thus honor this hero who was the high school's youngest graduate.

The following program was carried out:

1. Invocation—Rev. Father Jansen.
2. Star Spangled Banner—High School pupils.
3. Address—Prof. P. E. Wilson.
4. This address eulogized Lieutenant Neyland and the cause for which he was willing to sleep in Flanders' fields.
5. Vocal Selection—"Face to Face"—Mrs. Will Stewart.
6. Address—Mr. Alex Swords. Mr. Swords in his address used the fountain erected, as a symbol of Lieutenant Neyland's life and sacrifice, from which we might all draw the fluid of courage and strength.
7. Chorus—"The Vacant Chair"—Members of American Legion of Honor.
8. Address—Life of Lieutenant Neyland—Mr. A. W. Bittle who had known the young man from babyhood, spoke most beautifully of the young man's many worth characteristics. There was scarcely a dry eye there as he begged all of us to "carry on" as our brave young friend had started.
9. Song—"Tenting on the Old Camp Ground"—High School Pupils.
10. Recitation—"He Was Not Afraid to Die"—Miss Brunete Klaus.
11. Mr. Maning Wartelle a boyhood friend of the deceased Lieutenant then unveiled the fountain, while the High School pupils sang "Onward Christian Soldiers."

The weather which had been threatening all day cleared beautiful for the afternoon, although it still remained very cold. In spite of this there was an extremely large audience, whose silence throughout the services was indeed a tribute of deepest respect.

This fountain is a beautiful memorial, joining service with beauty. A memorial truly justified for as one of the speakers said: "Greater love hath no man than this: that he lay down his life for a friend."

Will Stage Benefit Elks Relief Fund

The local Elks lodge will show the picture "Way Back" at the Princess theatre Wednesday, April 7. The proceeds of this entertainment will go to the Elks' war relief fund for disabled soldiers, sailors and marines.

Church Notice

There will be divine services and holy communion at the Episcopal Church, Sunday, March 13, at 11 a. m., conducted by the Rev. Mr. Doswell.

ANOTHER OIL REFINERY LOOMS UP AT CAPITAL

Baton Rouge, La., March 11.—The report that another oil refinery would be built here seems to be confirmed by a lease of 414 acres of land four miles north of Baton Rouge to the Constantine oil interests of Tulsa, Oklahoma. The property belongs to the Riverview Farms Co., J. W. Darling, president and is with the option of buying for \$27,000.

BURGESS MANAGER OF POWER PLANT

H. R. BODEMULLER UNABLE TO ACCEPT POSITION ACCOUNT OTHER BUSINESS

At a special meeting of the town council held Wednesday a letter was read from H. R. Bodemuller, who was elected superintendent of the municipal power plant recently, stating that he would be unable to accept the position. The name of W. E. Burgess was placed before the council and he was elected to the position at a salary of \$200 per month, his term of office to expire with the present council.

Mr. Bodemuller's Letter

Lafayette, La., March 8, 1920.
Hon. Mayor and Council,
Opelousas, La.

Gentlemen:—At a meeting of the directors of the Lafayette Electric Co., Inc. it was decided not to release me from my position as secretary-treasurer of the company until the termination of the fiscal year, July 19.

In view of their action it will be impossible to assume the duties of superintendent of the city plant.

Thanking you for your favorable action on my application and regretting the action which is forced upon me, I am,

Very truly yours,
H. R. BODEMULLER.

BRO. MEAZA DIES AT GRAND COTEAU

HAD BEEN CONNECTED WITH ST. CHARLES COLLEGE FOR SIX YEARS

Clarion Correspondence:
Grand Coteau, La., March 11.—Brother Innocent Meaza, S. J., a Jesuit at St. Charles College died there Sunday afternoon. He was born in Spain 53 years ago, and was stationed at the local college for the past six years. The funeral services were held at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church Monday, Rev. E. A. Diebold, S. J., president of the college officiated and was assisted by the priests and scholastics. Interment was made in the Jesuit cemetery.

RESUME WORK ON CATHOLIC CHURCH

PLASTERERS WILL START ON BUILDING NEXT WEEK—NEW ALTERS TO BE INSTALLED

Announcement has been made by Father Colliard that work will be resumed on the Catholic church next week and that the building which was started by the late Father Engbernik will be finished within the next few months.

Plasterers will begin work next week and as soon as they have finished, the new alters, which have arrived, will be placed in position.

Father Colliard will begin a drive for funds to complete the church in the next six weeks. The work will cost in the neighborhood of \$28,000 and there is now available something like \$14,000.

AUCTION SALE OF HORSE AND MULES

Attention is called to the advertisement of Altere Fontenot and A. C. Mouret announcing the auction of fifty head of gentle and classy horses, mares and mules at Richard's stable in Eunice on Saturday, March 20, at 1 p. m.

The advertisement appears elsewhere in this issue of the Clarion.

WET ARE MAKING GAINS IN VERMONT

Montpelier, Vt., March 10.—Advocates of license added nearly 100 towns, dry a year ago, to the wet column in the town meetings held recently. Reports to the secretary of state from 232 out of the 248 cities and towns received up to today show that 125 towns voted "yes," 101 voted "no" two were tied on the question, and four took no vote. Last year thirty towns voted license.

The aggregate vote of the towns reporting to date shows a falling off of more than 8000 votes on the dry side, with the license supporters maintaining their numbers of a year ago. The "no," 10,956. Last year the same cities an towns gain: "Yes," 15,781; "no" vote cast this year was: "Yes" 15,538; 13,274.

St. Landry Club Members Hold Rally Last Saturday

FIVE SOLDIERS TO LEARN TRADES HERE

Thos. P. Turner, placement man for the Federal Vocational Board, with headquarters at Alexandria, was in Opelousas Tuesday for the purpose of placing wounded soldiers with Opelousas concern to learn trades. It is reported that he succeeded in placing five men with the different auto garages here.

RECEIVE PLANS OF BAPTIST CHURCH

CONSTRUCTION OF BUILDING TO COMMENCE IN THE EARLY FALL

The committee having in charge the erection of the new Baptist church on the site now occupied by the old Budd building received from the architect this week the building plans of the edifice. A member of the committee informs the Clarion that actual construction will begin in the early fall.

The committee recently disposed of the Budd building to J. A. Perkins and have entered into a contract for sale of the old church and parsonage with another party.

Newlin Naval Officer New Orleans Port

NEW OFFICER IS HUSBAND OF FORMER OPELOUSAS LADY

Washington, March 9.—Albert W. Newlin, of New Orleans, was Monday nominated by President Wilson to be naval officer of customs for customs collection district No. 20, with headquarters at New Orleans.

Mr. Newlin, whose name was sent to the senate Tuesday, is secretary of the Democratic State Central Committee of Louisiana, which position he has held for eight years, and was recently re-elected for another four-year term. He is one of the best known newspaper men in the state, having served on the staffs of the old Picayune for upwards of twenty years, and was later with the Item, and for the past several years has been on the staff of the New Orleans States. His political work on all these papers included sessions of the general assembly at Baton Rouge, where he became intimately associated with prominent men all over the state.

Mr. Newlin was closely identified with the state campaign of Justice Newton C. Blanchard in 1903-04, and during Governor Blanchard's term he was tendered the position of Secretary of Southern University, which he filled during the remainder of the Blanchard term. In 1912 he was elected secretary of the Democratic State Committee and was re-elected in 1916 and again in 1920. Governor Hall appointed him a member of the Jury Commission of Orleans parish in 1912, and he served in that capacity for over seven years, and until that body was removed by Governor Pleasant at the outset of the recent state campaign.

After graduating at Harvard University in the early nineties, Mr. Newlin located at New Orleans, edited a daily paper in Lake Charles for one year, and then returned to this city, where he has been located ever since. Mr. Newlin's family were originally North Carolinians, and he received his preparatory education at Earlham College, a Friends College at Richmond, Indiana. He married a St. Landry girl, Miss Beatrice Roos, and they enjoy the association of five children.

Mr. Newlin was named to succeed the late Judge E. G. Hunter, of Rapides, who died in this city the early part of December. Prior to that Ex-Governor J. Y. Sanders held the position four years.

Senators Edward J. Gay and Jos. E. Ransdell joined in their endorsement of Mr. Newlin, submitting the name to Secretary of the Treasury Houston a few days ago.—N. O. States.

Washington Notes

Mr. Diden Ardoin and family accompanied by Messrs. Lester and Ferdinand Quirk motored over to Washington from Eunice Sunday to attend the dedication services held there.

Among those who attended the dedication services held Sunday was Mr. Henry Walden of Alexandria. Mr. Walden was a former Lieutenant in same company with Lieutenant Neyland.

Speakers Deliver Talks On Items Connected With Their Work

PLAN FOR BIG RALLY IN MAY

Miss Boudreau Delivers Talk on Her Experiences in France—Film Shown Depicting Farm Life in Mississippi

The boys and girls of the various clubs throughout the parish met in Opelousas last Saturday for the purpose of seeing tractor demonstration, some of the poultry yards, dairies, apiaries, and stock farms around Opelousas and while Mrs. L. G. Kirk and Mr. Alfred A. Mendoza agents in charge did not accomplish all they had planned for the day the affairs as a whole was considered a great success.

Miss Gleason, district agent, addressed the meeting on the subject of club organization. Miss Boudreau, agent for Lafayette parish, told the boys and girls of her wonderful experiences while doing demonstration work in France, how the men, instead of the boys and girls, were taught how to can and preserve foodstuffs, she also told of her experience while traveling through the devastated states of that country. Mr. Abbott, state club agent, spoke about the unity that should exist in the respective community throughout the parish. Mr. Francioni, avine specialist, as usual spoke about "More hogs and better hogs." Harley Williams, poultry specialist, gave his hearers general hints on poultry work and last but not least, C. E. Davis, bee specialist, but better known as the "Honey Boy" was heard from. Mr. Davis spoke on the general care and the working of bees.

After these boys and girls had heard these very instructive talks they assembled in the old picture show building when they were shown a film on club activities in Carroll county, Mississippi.

Mrs. Kirk and Mr. Mendoza have planned another rally. A real rally, of three or four days in May and the boys and girls are already looking forward to the day when they will assemble in Opelousas again.

HOUSE ORDERS OUT FOREIGN TRADE CUT

COMMITTEE'S FALSE ECONOMY KILLED AND BUREAU WILL BE PROVIDED FOR

A humiliating reversal of the appropriations committee of the House was administered Wednesday when the House voted back into the legislative executive and judicial appropriation bill much of the appropriation asked for the extension of foreign trade. Representative Lazaro of Louisiana was one of the speakers who urged that the committee's recommendation be not followed. He said in part:

"The committee's action in this regard is false economy. Such a reduction as this will cripple this important branch of our government. It will force the abolition of the department's commercial attaches, a reduction in the number of foreign trade commissions and an abandonment of the district offices maintained at New Orleans and other leading American ports for the service of Americans interested in export and import trade. "At the very time when we are building up an American merchant marine to carry the products of our farms, forests, mines and factories to the markets of the world, this bill proposes to cripple the force that we are depending upon to furnish us with the information which is absolutely necessary as the foundation to build up our domestic and foreign business. "The committee, if it believes the American policy in this matter should be reversed, ought to come out in the open and prove itself consistent by cutting out the appropriation altogether, instead of giving the department such a pittance. If we are to do away with our national policy, it should be done in the open and not by indirection. If we are to keep it up, we should give it a sufficient amount to make it effective. Unless an amendment is adopted increasing this appropriation it will mean that the oak tree of our foreign commerce will be driven back into its acorn."