

# THE ST. LANDRY CLARION

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

VOLUME XXXI—NO. 43.

OPELOUSAS, LA., SATURDAY, AUGUST 20, 1921

TWO DOLLARS PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

## DAILY SHOWERS AND HEAVY RAINS IN MANY SECTIONS

Other Localities Report Shortage of Precipitation Now

## COTTON DAMAGED BY GREAT MOISTURE

Rice Harvest Held up Because of Too Much Wet Weather

Many localities of the parish report too much rain for the crops while in a few scattered places the farmers report that they need rain for cane and other field crops. In Opelousas heavy rains and light showers have been of daily occurrence and the same report comes from the section around Lewisburg and Church Point. Down on the Bayou Teche, in the vicinity of Leonville and Arnaudville, as well as around Port Barre, it is said that there is instant need of moisture. The rains that visit Opelousas rarely extend east over a mile or two. South of this city, as far as Lafayette and Crowley, there has been too much rain and as a result of the precipitation work in the fields has been held up considerably.

Cotton has been deteriorating rapidly and picking would have been well under way if the rains would cease. One farmer living near Opelousas informed a newspaper man this week that he had quite a lot of cotton open but on account of the showers he had found it impossible to make a start with picking. From five to ten bolls to the stalk were open and ready for the pickers, he stated, and he expressed himself as being anxious to get a start saving the staple as soon as the weather conditions changed.

Several rice farmers said this week that the harvest had been interfered with by the rains, and that unless there was some decided change very shortly the movement of grain to market would be held up for some time. The grain itself might be slightly damaged by the moisture and unless the shocks of that already cut were properly constructed there was some danger of the grain getting overheated and mouldy. Dirt roads have been badly cut by traffic during the rainy weather and in some places they are high impassable, according to reports reaching us this week. A taxi driver stated Wednesday that the old gravel road leading from Opelousas to Washington was in bad shape and getting worse after each rain. The gravel, he said, was only perceptible in spots the other spots having had the gravel completely washed out.

## OPELOUSAS LOST SUNDAY'S GAME

PATTERSON TEAM WON, SCORE FIVE TO ONE—MANY FANS WITNESSED CONTEST

Opelousas' ball team again was defeated by Patterson Sunday on the latter's home grounds, the score standing 5 to 1. It was a good game though the grounds were extremely wet and there was an absence of fast, snappy playing on the part of both teams. Millionaire Williams, who owns the Patterson team, has gotten together a strong aggregation of players that evidently are in the championship class. Including Sunday's game there were five contests between the two teams, two here and three at Patterson, Opelousas' winning but one, the first one played in this city with that club.

Quite a large number of local fans again motored to the St. Mary lumber town to witness the game and though the home boys lost, all the visitors from Opelousas felt very well satisfied with their trip and the outing. The local team had been guaranteed two hundred dollars by the Patterson fans and according to many who were present it required the entire gate receipts to pay this guarantee. Owner Williams, however, plays the game of the sport that is in it and does it regardless of expense as he is financially able to carry the load.

W. M. Knight popular traveling representative of the firm of E. C. Palmer & company, New Orleans, was shaking hands with patrons in Opelousas Friday of last week. Mrs. A. L. Andrus and children are visiting relatives in Alexandria this week during Mr. Andrus' absence at Coopers Wells.

## SHUT OFF CURRENT WHILE FIXING NEW SWITCHBOARD

The power house shut off the electric current for several hours last Tuesday afternoon while expert electricians arranged the permanent new switchboard installed when the new plant was put in.

The plant is now in first class condition and giving constant service without any interruption, except in rare instances like the one of Tuesday and that was absolutely necessary in order to attend to the switchboard.

## 'Shiners and Leggers To Have Hard Sledding According to Sheriff

Official Offers Reward for Evidence of Liquor Still and Also for Bootleggers

In this issue of the Clarion we print over the signature of Sheriff Charles Thibodeaux, in which the officer offers a reward for evidence against moonshiners and bootleggers. He will pay twenty-five dollars for sufficient evidence leading to the conviction of a liquor still or a moonshiner who is operating such still; ten dollars for evidence leading to the arrest of any bootlegger selling whiskey.

The sheriff says he is after them hot and heavy and doesn't propose to let up in his war against that class of lawbreakers. He has been especially active the last two weeks and has landed quite a number of moonshiners and bootlegger with sufficient evidence in possession for conviction, when that class face Judge Jack's court when it convenes here.

## RESUME WORK ON TEST OIL WELL AT PINE PRAIRIE

Due to a breakdown of some of the machinery work has been suspended on the test well at Pine Prairie for about fifteen days. New parts were ordered and pending their arrival the drillers were forced to cease work. The Clarion was informed Friday morning, however, that the new parts had been received and work would be resumed without further delay. At last report the well was down some twenty-six hundred feet and one oil sand had already been penetrated.

## QUITS POSTOFFICE ACCOUNT OF HEALTH

J. P. TROSCLAIR, AFTER SEVEN YEARS SERVICE, WILL ENGAGE IN COTTON BUYING AGAIN

Joseph P. Troscclair, for the past seven years postmaster of Opelousas having been appointed by President Wilson during his first term as chief executive, has tendered his resignation effective September 1 next, following which date he will engage again in the cotton business. Mr. Troscclair has signed up a contract with Armand Dejean, Opelousas cotton buyer, at a very lucrative salary, and it is understood that the contract runs over a period of several years. Mr. Troscclair had two years of his second term yet to serve, but acting on the advice of his physician he was compelled to retire from the office because of the confinement of such employment. His health has been falling somewhat and the physician advised that he secure employment that would take him in the open air a large part of the time.

The retiring postmaster has given universal satisfaction to the patrons of the office and many regrets have been expressed because of his determination to quit the government employment. He was appointed on the recommendation of Congressman Lazaro, during the latter's first term as a representative from the seventh district of Louisiana.

Mr. Troscclair has had more than a quarter of a century's experience in the cotton business and is ranked as being one of the best posted men in that line in the state. Notwithstanding the fact that he has been out of the harness so long, he feels confident that he will "brush-up" in a few days and take his place in the old line once again—right side up with care and ready at all times to bid for the producer's cotton. His many friends wish him a full measure of success in his new-old field and hope he will experience a return of his old-time health and vigor.

The vacancy, it is stated, will be filled by competitive examination held under civil service rules.

Mrs. F. Brown, accompanied by little Alice Garland, have returned from Port Arthur, Texas, after several weeks stay.

## PAT AND JOHN HIKE TO RIVER

ATTORNEY AND FARMER GONE FOR TWO WEEKS VACATION ON CALCASIEU RIVER

After many days of anxious waiting for the rains to stop; after extensive preparations in the way of equipment, the new light six Studebaker touring car of Attorney Peyton Sandoz and the ancient flivver of John Dufillo, both cars loaded to the guards and groaning with misery under the weight, departed at 4 o'clock Thursday morning for the Calcasieu river near Oberlin. The party consisted of Pat and his two boys, John, his eldest son, George, and two younger boys, and Mose, the famous negro cook, who will be chef de cuisine while the party spends their vacation.

Fishing and bathing in the clear, sparkling, cool waters of the river will be the principal part of the program, and they went well prepared, especially in the matter of bathing suits. Pat having purchased a new equipment, each one of the suits, especially his own, being of the very latest design and woven with cloth dyed in the gaudiest colors of the rainbow, and when he "flops" in the icy waters the fish, big and small, are either going to leave that portion of the river, or if they are real ravenous (as trout sometimes are) they are going to swarm on him with full and criminal intent to eat him alive.

Pat tried to bribe Joe Ducharme and get the loan of the latter's phonograph but Joe beat him to it. What in the world he wanted a music machine for, he refused to say; but the impression was that he wished to either drown the nocturnal sounds or charm the big owls and small, the crickets, katydids, grasshoppers, snakes, redbug and ticks. Anyway, he had some idea floating around in his mind when he made the request, but refused absolutely to divulge it.

Everybody is pitying the poor fish for what the crowd don't catch they expect to scare to death, and that means the river will be a poor place after the vacation has come to an end.

Dad Larcade wanted to go, as has been his custom the past couple of years but his health would not permit, but he is bemoaning his sad fate and hopes to be luckier next year.

Pat, John et al. hope to return right side up with care about the first Monday in September, hale and hearty and well decorated with a beautiful tanned complexion and ready and willing to jump into the swim of fall and winter affairs.

## LAND MARK DISAPPEARS FROM LANDRY STREET

The old livery barn that has stood on Landry street next to the federal building for many years, is now a thing of the past, workmen having practically completed the job of demolishing it this week. The lumber, all of its first-class red cypress, is in almost a perfect state of preservation and good for many years of service yet.

This building was erected in the early '80's following the destruction by fire of a similar building that stood on the lot. The old stable was run by the late J. Sam Perkins, during the palmy days when the late Austin LaCombe operated the famous hotel facing the parish court house. Sam Perkins and Austin LaCombe were a pair well matched, each a genius in his particular sphere, and their circle of acquaintances among the traveling men that "made" Opelousas then was a wide one. It was in the 'days before the automobile and drummers were forced to cover this vast territory in horse-drawn vehicles and Sam Perkins furnished the vehicles and drivers and while they rested in Opelousas Austin LaCombe furnished the glorious meals that made his hotel the most famous place in Louisiana.

The ancient hostelry and the almost equally ancient livery stable, as well as their proprietors, are now things of memory among the old residents, while there is yet a gray-headed traveler who sighs as he thinks of Mine Host LaCombe and the wonderful meals he placed before his guests. One by one the old landmarks disappear, buildings, and men, and while there are still a number of both left in this city, the thin line grows thinner each passing year.

Misses Rosalie Roos and Rosa Hubbard of this city attended the feature dance given by the Lafayette Elks last Friday night.

Miss Celestine Laverne is spending some time at the home of R. L. Garland.

## \$25.00 REWARD!

The undersigned will pay \$25.00 reward for any party furnishing evidence of the possession and operation of an illicit still. Also a reward of \$10 to any party furnishing evidence leading to the arrest of a bootlegger.

CHARLES THIBODEAUX,

Sheriff St. Landry Parish.

## FIRST PUBLICATION DELINQUENT LIST OF PARISH TAXPAYERS

Due to Tight Financial Condition List is Largest on Record

## SALE TAKES PLACE ON SATURDAY, SEPT. 24.

Property Owners Can Pay Any Time in Six Weeks And Stop Sale

The Clarion today begins the publication of delinquent tax list of St. Landry parish for the year of 1920. It covers some fifteen newspaper columns and is set in very small type. The list is perhaps the largest ever known in this parish and is accounted for by the fact that owing to the depression of business and the scarcity of money many property owners found it absolutely impossible to settle their score with the tax collector, hence their property is to be offered for sale by that official on Saturday, September 24, unless the taxpayers come forward at any time within the coming six weeks and settle up in full, including all costs incurred.

They have this privilege and many generally take advantage of it by paying and getting the sal removed from the list that will be offered for sale. In fact, some few have already done this and the list as handed in by the tax collector's office was slightly changed when certain parties paid up and their names, already set in type, were taken from the long list.

Undoubtedly there are a number of double assessments in the list. In fact, in reading the "galley proof" we believe we detected several. This is an evil that has always been with us and perhaps will continue. There apparently is no known method of eliminating the double assessment. Nothing so far tried has proven conclusively effective. Of course these double assessments do little real harm except to annoy the assessor and the tax collector and embarrass some former owner of a piece of property which he has disposed of.

Some time ago Assessor Fontenot called attention to what he thought would prove an excellent method of minimizing if not altogether disposing of the evil. Mr. Fontenot stated that the legislature should pass a law requiring all notaries public to notify the assessor when a piece of real estate was transferred, giving the name of the vendor as well as the vendee thus placing in the hands of the assessor the means of changing the property on the tax rolls, assessing it to the new owner and removing it from the assessment of the old owner.

So many taxpayers fail to render an assessment of their property and the assessor takes it from the old roll for the current assessment. Perhaps, in the meantime the taxpayer sells a portion of his holdings and the new owner has such property assessed to himself and pays taxes on it. The same property, assessed also in the name of the old owner, is delinquent for taxes and is offered for sale by the sheriff. Of course it is no sale and all parties to the transaction get left, even the printer, who loses his pay for the publication thereof.

This could be obviated in great measure if not altogether if Assessor Fontenot's scheme was put into practice by the legislative act, and it would impose no hardship on anyone and would result in getting rid of the evil that has confronted the parish governments for years past.

Miss Lena Loeb and Miss Nathalie Haas were visitors to Lafayette this week-end.

Miss Ollie Durio of Lafayette spent the last week-end in Opelousas as the guest of relatives.

Mrs. A. A. Anding of this city went to Lafayette last Friday, spending a couple of days with friends in that city.

## OPELOUSAS MAYOR FAVORS PROJECT

ISSUES CIRCULAR LETTER TO OFFICIALS OF SISTER TOWNS TO MEET HERE SEPT. 5

Mayor Loeb is taking deep interest in the proposed east-and-west highway across the state, from the Mississippi River at Baton Rouge, through Opelousas and on to the Sabine river at a point west of DeQuincy. The road from Opelousas east to Port Barre, which has been stirring up considerable local interest of late will be a link of that proposed highway, hence the proponents of the idea of reconstructing it are especially anxious that work start thereon at once in order that when the legislature convenes on September 6 we can lay our cards on the table before the state law-making body when it reaches that part of the legislative program touching on a system of highways for the state.

Mayor Loeb, under date of August 15, has issued the following circular letter, addressed to the mayors of cities, towns and villages throughout this part of the state, asking them to meet here on Monday, September 5, for the purpose of conferring on the feasibility of building this highway. The meeting is expected to be well attended and a great amount of enthusiasm thereby. The mayor's letter follows:

"As mayor of Opelousas and in behalf of the people of this city and surrounding country, I invite you to have your town or city send one or more representatives to a conference to be held in Opelousas on Monday, September 5, at 10 o'clock, a. m., for the purpose of forming an organization to promote the building of a highway through the state from east to west, say from Covington, Hammond, Denham Springs, Baton Rouge, over Jefferson highway to Lavonia, Lottie, Elbert City, Krotz Springs, Port Barre, Opelousas, Lawtell, Eunice, Basile, Elton, Kinder, Reeves, DeQuincy.

"A road as above outlined would be the shortest feasible route to the state capital for all of southwest Louisiana, as a road cannot be built across the Atchafalaya basin south of this except at Morgan City, about one hundred miles distant. This road would also serve the Florida parishes as a main road to connect them with all the north and south great highways built or contemplated.

"We understand the state highway department and perhaps the next legislature will settle on a definite road building plan for the state and no doubt would heartily co-operate to perfect our plans if presented properly."

## COURT SQUARE FOUNTAINS IN WORKING ORDER AGAIN

After being out of commission for many moons, the two fountains on the court square are again in running order, due to the action of the police jury who ordered that the fountains be repaired. Dave Hollier, local plumber, had the contract, and he very promptly got to work and with a few helpers fixed them up in a jiffy. The old inlet and outlet pipes were removed and new piping of large diameter were substituted, the basins drained of water and given a thorough cleaning and the iron parts painted a fire red. They are working first class now and are again a real ornament to the square.

## LOCAL OPTOMETRIST WILL TAKE SPECIAL COURSE

Lorenzo H. Mornhinveg, junior member of the firm of R. Mornhinveg & Son, Main street jewelers, announces that on Monday, September 5, he will depart for Kansas City, Mo., where he will be for two weeks following that date, taking a special course in optometry, and on his return home he expects to be better prepared than ever to attend to the needs and requirements of his patrons who are in need of scientific examination for eye troubles and the fitting of lenses that will suit them.

## SHOWS PROGRESS IN BETTER CATTLE

ARNAUVILLE MAN INVESTS MONEY TO SHOW FAITH IN WELL-BRED MILK COWS

The "better sire-better stock" movement has been given a much needed boost in the parish of St. Landry. Mr. Chas. J. Guidroz, an enterprising planter of the Arnaudville section, announces the arrival of Gamboge's Noble Majesty, a young Jersey sire of exceptionally good type and breeding. This should be good news to all owners and lovers of good dairy stock—the crying need of our parish.

As a very general rule, our milkstock is still in the scrub class, and the only possible way to get out of this class is to get rid of the scrub sire and import pure-blooded stock. Some improvements have been made by a few of our more progressive people, but it still remains a deplorable fact that in this respect we are sadly in arrears.

Milk is a staple article of food, and an absolutely necessary food where there are children; and for wholesome milk we must have healthy, well-bred cattle, and for rich, creamy, nutritious milk there is only one source—The Jersey Cow. She has been proven the most efficient dairy animal; she is the farmer's cow and the city-man's cow; if given a chance, she will produce much more than weight in rich milk every month, and do it twelve times a year. She is an investment that pays dividends in health and happiness.

Gamboge's Noble Majesty is royally bred; he is a line-bred Majesty, the blood that produces and re-produces he is an outstanding individual—bred; he is a line-bred Majesty, the and utility. He should do a world of good for his community, which of late has shown much interest in the pure-bred Jersey and promises much for the future.

## DEJEAN BUYS THE FIRST NEW BALE

OPELOUSAS COTTON MAN PURCHASES FIRST OF CROP GINNED IN THIS TERRITORY

Armand L. Dejean, prominent cotton buyer of this city, operating over a large territory, stated that his house had purchased the first bale of 1921 cotton grown and ginned in this territory, the sale of the new cotton taking place Thursday at Church Point, where it was ginned on the Daigle gin, the producing farmer being Simon Guidry. The bale weighed 440 pounds and was sold for about eleven cents per pound.

An effort was made to secure a premium for the farmer but that was found impossible as the bale was not the first produced in the state, though it was the first in this part of the state.

A second bale was also ginned at Church Point, at the Barousse gin. The two bales were ginned only a half hour apart. Armand L. Dejean bought this second bale also. Both bales classed middling.

With the hot weather that set in the middle of the week cotton will pop open very rapidly and the farmers have a plentiful supply of labor for the picking of the crop. Ginners are ready to handle the staple as fast as it arrives from the farms.

## DRY LAW VIOLATORS ARE GRABBED ALMOST DAILY

The sheriff, Mr. Thibodeaux, has been very active the past week or so in waging relentless war on the bootleggers and moonshiners of St. Landry. The report of his activities and the results thereof of the first spasm of his raid was published last week. This week he has a number more scalps tied to his official belt as a result of raids throughout the country.

Saturday night he grabbed two in the Notleyville section, a white man named Victor David and a negro, Sam King. Following this he caught two more white men in the same neighborhood, C. C. Devilliers and Numa Durio. Then, on Monday, Francois Laverne was "pulled" in Coulee Croche on the charge of violating the federal law.

The sheriff says he isn't going to let up until he has landed all the makers and sellers of contraband liquor behind the bars, or runs them entirely out of St. Landry. It is "war to the knife and knife to the hilt" it might be inferred from the tenor of the official's talk and his actions in the premises cause one to believe that he is going to carry it through to the bitter end, no matter how far removed the end may be.

## PATTERSONIANS ARE STILL TOO STRONG FOR LOCALS PLAYERS

Visitors Clean up Opelousas in Both Contests This Week

## WILLIAMS' BUNCH IS HARD ONE TO CURRY

Tighten Up Ranks in Last Innings as Their Opponents Begin to Weaken

In all probability there will be no more games this season between Opelousas' team and Millionaire Williams' aggregation known as the Patterson Greys. The owner of this last named club has never pinched for the want of financial means to carry his sporting hobby to a successful conclusion, and he never hesitates to spend money, and lots of it, in getting the best material to make his pet team the best semi-professional team in the state.

The Pattersonians, victorious in six games out of seven, still are honest enough to say that Opelousas has one of the best teams in the state and ranks up pretty close with their own. They express great pleasure in playing with the Opelousians for they know they have to exert themselves and all their skill in order to win, and the winning is not always easy, for the Greys have to tighten up in the final innings of each game in order to put across the winning streak.

Wednesday and Thursday the Patterson bunch came to Opelousas and played two games, one that day, the second on Thursday. They were victorious in both, but up to the seventh inning of Wednesday's game it appeared as if the Opelousas bunch had Patterson's goat, for the locals had scored four runs to the visitors' none and it looked as if the home boys had what is vulgarly known as a "mortal cinch" to win and perhaps shut out the visitors. But after many secret confabs and deep whisperings the Patterson outfit saw that something strenuous had to be done in order to save the day, otherwise they were lost.

So, following this plan, they got busy and in the eighth inning they tied the score and won in the tenth, the final score standing 6 to 4 in favor of Patterson.

Olivier pitched for Opelousas Wednesday and the rotors and fans say he made a wonderful showing against the greater odds of the Patterson ex-leaguers. He is an up-and-coming player and many of his friends and admirers predict that he will yet be in big league baseball.

Thursday's game was also a good contest, even though the visitors won by the score of 8 to 4. Cavet was in the box for the locals and he displayed wonderful prowess as a twirler.

The fans and rotors turned out in large numbers for both games, and the gate receipts were exceptionally heavy, so much so in fact that the visiting Pattersonians said that Opelousas is one of the very best "ball towns" in this part of the state. The business houses closed their doors Wednesday afternoon, thus allowing their proprietors and employes to attend the game.

## NEYLAND FUNERAL HELD ON SUNDAY

REMAINS OF LIEUTENANT KILLED LAST DAYS OF WAR SENT FROM FRANCE

The remains of Lieutenant Jasper Neyland of Washington, killed in action on the battlefields of France just before the signing of the armistice, were received at his home last Sunday afternoon and interred with simple but impressive ceremonies in Cedar Hill cemetery of his home town.

Lieutenant Neyland entered the service of the government early in the war and won a commission soon thereafter. He made the supreme sacrifice just as the last gun was about to be fired. Along with thousands of other brave Americans he was buried beneath the sod of France and for almost three years he slept in peace "where the poppies blow between the crosses row on row."

Today all that is mortal of the St. Landry hero sleeps beneath the sod of the town where he was born and reared, and on the lawn of the Washington high school where he received his education stands a memorial fountain dedicated to his memory.