

Clanton – A Walk Around Town – 1932 CCN
By Derric Scott

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By Derric Scott

During February, March, and April of 1932 someone at the Chilton County News (likely the editor Billy Smith) walked around town and recorded some of his thoughts in the column "'ROUND TOWN" by Doug.' Here is the path he took and his words.

He started at the intersection of 2nd Avenue North (Main Street) and 7th Street (US31) on the southwest corner.

February 11 – went west on 2nd Ave N from US 31, on the south side, to the railroad.

February 18 – went from the railroad back to the US31 corner on the north side.

February 25 – went on 2nd Ave N from US31 toward the courthouse on the north side.

March 3 – continued to the courthouse and started back west on the south side of 2nd Ave N.

March 10 – continued west on the south side of 2nd Ave N down to "Upchurch Drug Store."

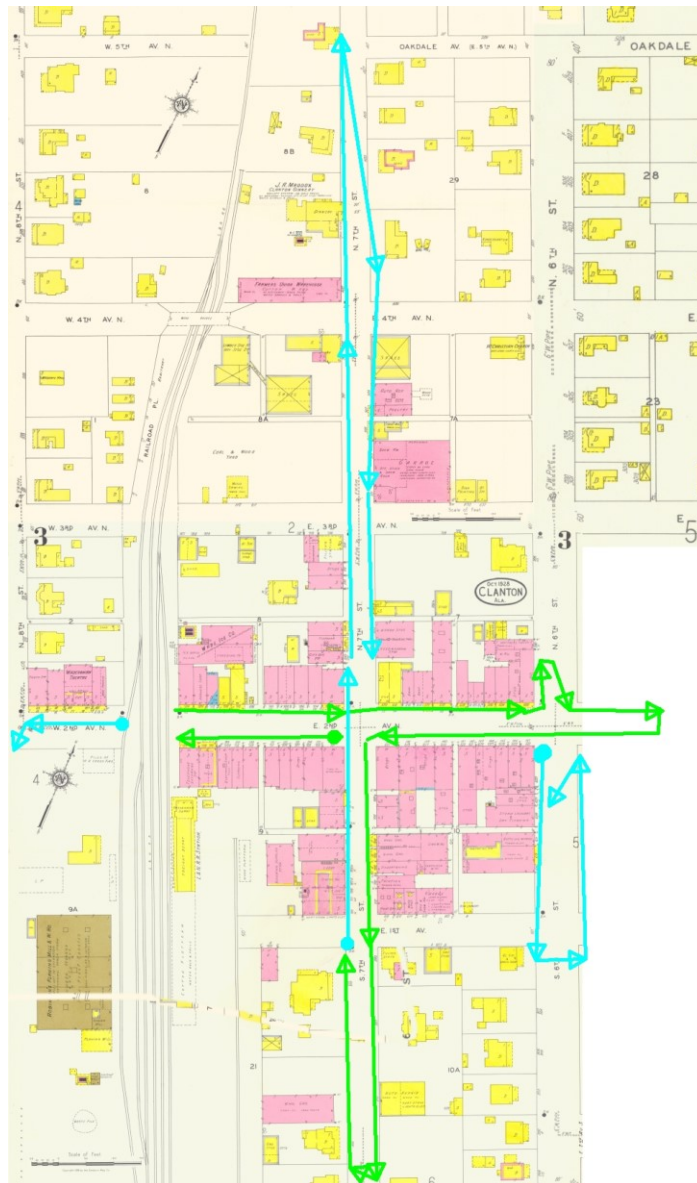
March 17 – went south on US31 on the east side as far as Jackson Ave. and started back north on the west side.

March 24 – continued north on the west side of US31 past Exchange hotel up to 4th Ave N.

March 31 – from Ellis Service Station on US31 north, went south on the east side to the 2nd Ave N intersection.

April 7 – went south on 6th St on the west side from 2nd Ave N to just past 1st Ave and back north to 2nd Ave N.

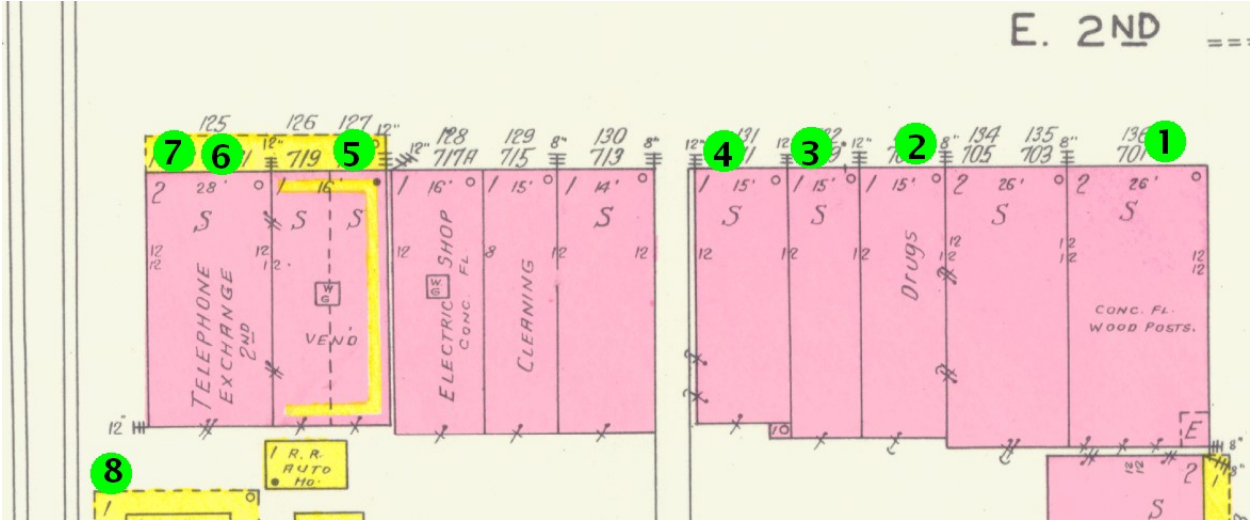
April 14 – wrap-up on the north side of 2nd Ave N on the west side of the railroad and the Wilson Hotel.



1928 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of Clanton showing the overall route of the walk.

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February 11, 1932:

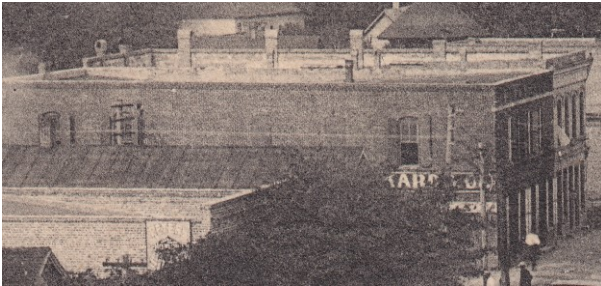


1928 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map showing path of his walk down 2nd Avenue North, February 11, 1932.

1

We'll start over at the corner of Farmers Hardware Store. There's Renfro Jones and Lester Jones and Amon Jones and E. M. Jones. All Joneses, as it was and will be. Renfro hasn't very many bad habits, except maybe he gets up too early in the mornings, and if anybody says fish or hunt, he is all set. Lester, on the contrary. It's hard to tell about him. He don't talk enough for a person to talk about him. Maybe that's good policy though. And Amon, well, he's the youngest in the hardware store there, and we'll see and hear more from him when the others have retired and he takes the business. Mr. E. M. Jones—you'll find him at the Farmers Hardware too, or down at South Clanton.

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Was Pinckard's Hardware in early days,



later other Hardware stores, Lorches, etc.

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2

Next we would stop at Broadhead's, but they have moved across the street. Then comes the A & P Store, with G. Cleve Armstrong, Mack Wyatt, Joe VanDerveer and Earl Gray. The last two just now and then. Mr. G. Cleve wouldn't look natural unless he was surrounded by groceries, and I bet he dreams about groceries at night in his sleep. Mack Wyatt used to be connected with gasoline, but now he has got to where he even looks in place in the A & P Store. Joe and Earl are there sometime. Joe has trouble with his P. A., and just can't help it. It's really no trouble to him, because he just looks that way and the young ladies notice it without any effort on his part. Earl, ole boy, it won't be long for you either, I don't suppose.

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A&B moved around a lot (see Broadhead's to the left),



later Bell Hardware, etc.

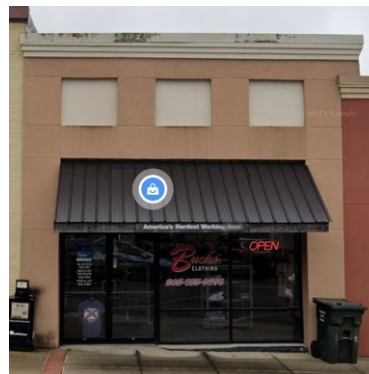
3

Next stop, Gray's Barber Shop. Well, in there we find a whole flock of nice looking fellows. There's Newt Gray, Jesse Jones, Carl Bean, Joe Mims and Claudy Wyatt, and the place is neat and clean enough to please the particular, saying nothing of the service one gets there. Oh yes, there's the shine boy too. He's part of the establishment, maybe a fixture.

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Barber Shop was next door to "Bell Hardware" a long time,



today Bucks's clothing.

4

All out for Evansville. Bob and Julian are welcoming us at their fruit and plant stand, where you see on the left an array of delicious fruits and attractive plants for the garden. You'll always find one of these Evans fellows on the job there, and maybe they ought to have them a sign painted with the words, "Hello"—"Good Morning — or Good Evening" so as to save them in speaking to so many people on the way to the post office.



A longtime Evans family store, here used as Mrs. Ranson's book store, today part of Bucks's clothing.

5

Further on the left you see the United States Post Office of Clanton, owned by Uncle Sam, and operated by W. M. Bean, Jack Bean and Sutley. By the way, I don't know Sutley's first name, but that's all right, everybody knows these fellows anyway. If they don't they should. W. M. Bean, the postmaster, just is supposed to be there, and Jack and Sutley are becoming fixtures too. All these fellows know their business and give service in elite style.



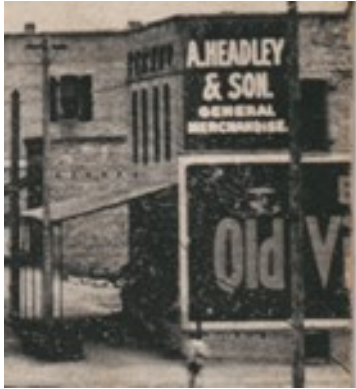
Post Office moved a lot, here was near the RR,

today part of Chilton Feed.

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6

Now I'm stumped. The next building is occupied by a Mr. Edgar. Well, I see right now I've got to go there and meet that man. Just never thought of it until now. Anyway, it is a nice sort of place with fruits and candies, drinks, etc., for sale. There's Mrs. Edgar there, too. Both these people are all right, and I'm going to get acquainted with them.



A. Headley's building by the RR has been many things,



today part of Chilton Feed.

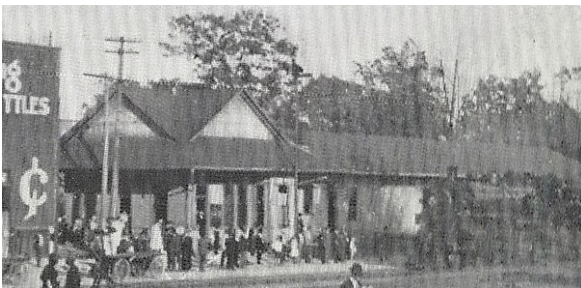
7

Upstairs in that same building, comes the offices of the Southern Bell Telephone & Telegraph Company. My, that's a long name. Up there are several young ladies, only one married and she's the one who calls you up and tells you that you haven't paid your telephone bill—when you really haven't, sure enough. Then sometimes she's just "one of the girls" who so pleasantly say, "Number please." I like the tone of the voices from that office, and there's one who almost makes me forget what number I do want, when she says, "Number please."

Same building as above, at this time the telephone exchange was upstairs.

8

Now, on the extreme left is the Louisville & Nashville depot, where we find a man who has been there, serving faithfully for years—one and only, Mr. Joseph A. Hester, the agent. Then another one, Mr. Mallie L. White, the man who talks over that long-armed telephone to other places and the fellow who now sends and receives telegrams for Clanton. Then there's Jim Rasberry, and some others I'm not exactly acquainted with. Unless we might add about Joe W. Franklin, the man who has hauled freight in Clanton since I was knee-high to a grasshopper, or something. All good obliging fellows, and substantial. And by jove, there's Henry T. Pipes standing out there with his pipe in his mouth. He's the fellow who has to get out and see about the tracks and other railroad property, regardless of weather. Mr. Pipes has been there for a long time, too, and the place wouldn't look just right without him. Curry Thomas was there, but he's down at Wetumpka now.



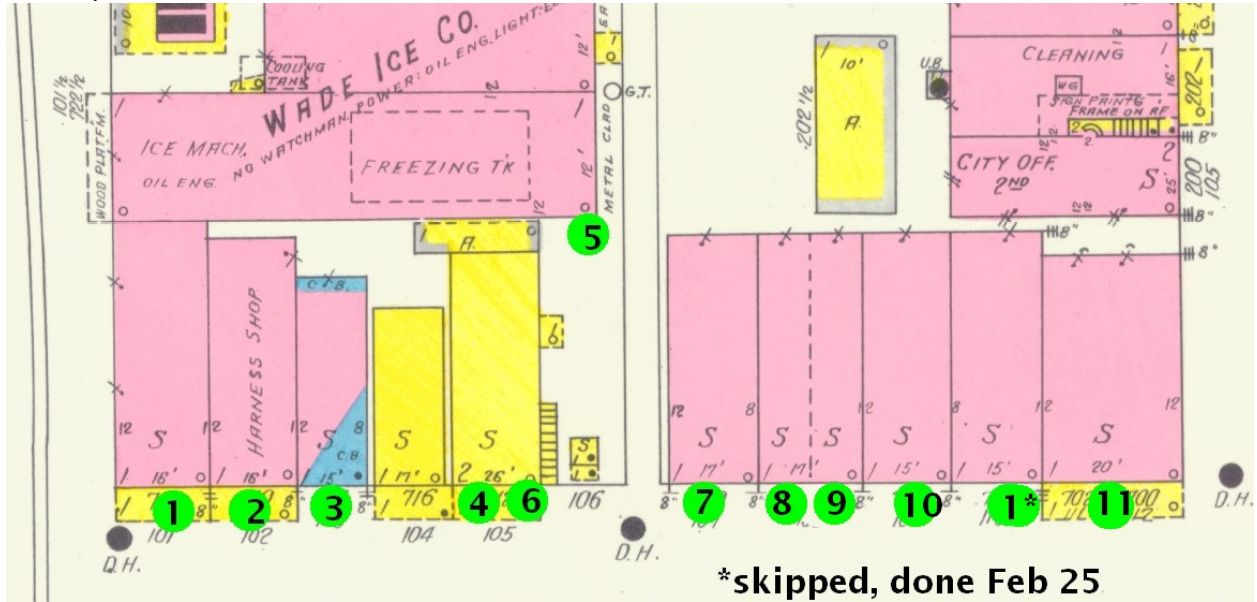
1907 built train station,



today a warehouse for Chilton Feed.

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February 18, 1932:



1928 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map showing path of his walk up 2nd Avenue North, February 18, 1932.

Now, on the extreme left is the Louisville & Nashville depot, where we find a man who has been there, serving faithfully for years—one and only, Mr. Joseph A. Hester, the agent. Then another one, Mr. Mallie L. White, the man who talks over that long-armed telephone to other places and the fellow who now sends and receives telegrams for Clanton. Then there's Jim Rasberry, and some others I'm not exactly acquainted with. Unless we might add about Joe W. Franklin, the man who has hauled freight in Clanton since I was knee-high to a grasshopper, or something. All good obliging fellows, and substantial. And by joye, there's Henry T. Pipes standing out there with his pipe in his mouth. He's the fellow who has to get out and see about the tracks and other railroad property, regardless of weather. Mr. Pipes has been there for a long time, too, and the place wouldn't look just right without him. Curry Thomas was there, but he's down at Wetumpka now.

1

Next you see the Alabama Harness & Shoe Shop where Jesse Teel holds forth, and with his ever active pleasing and interesting conversation, he is busy fixing shoes, making harness, repairing auto tops, or something. I'm not acquainted very well with Jesse's helpers.

2

M. B. Arant, known to his intimate friends as Bill, is the man you see busy over the desk in the next building. He's the watch and clock doctor of that end of town, and has been located there for sometime, lifting faces on clocks and watches, straightening their hands and putting the mechanism in good condition. And too, in the same building you will find a lot of good looking shoes, all arrayed on stands on display. This is the stock and show room of L. Crutcher Ross, one of the salesmen for a well known shoe manufacturer, and he lives here too, has a nice family and a good business.

3

4

Now, here we are at the store of Tom Kemp. Ever hear that name before? Sure you have, because Tom Kemp is known far and wide. One doesn't hear much from Tom, nor about him, but he's one of the best merchants in town. Does a general merchandise business with a good stock of goods. Yes, Tom Kemp is a good merchant. He has with him his son, of well-groomed appearance and bears the nickname of "Dick." Really his name is Richard, but don't many folks know that. Kind of a quiet chap, goes about his business and the ladies find him a treat to the eyes. Then Miss Maggie Rollins, is there. She does hemstitching and sewing, adding to the attractiveness of the store.

5

Now, around to the extreme left is the Wade Ice Company, where Jim Wade holds forth, with his father, John Q. Wade. They have been here for a long time. Jim was raised in Clanton, now he is a big ice and coal man, following the business chosen by his father and making a success. They also operate ice plants in other places. And there are several connected with this concern as ice deliverers, and other helpers.

6

I was about to pass up the second story of the Tom Kemp building. Up there will be found Dr. E. G. Hyman, dentist. Dr. Hyman is well known about these parts too, and has been here for several years.

* * *

7

Now we stop for a moment to look into the meat market and grocery store known as Broadhead's. In there we see J. Durwood Broadhead, the head knocker, as it were. Associated with him is his brother, Grady D. Broadhead, who is also a member of the city council. Both are splendid fellows and have a nice place of business. Then we also see a dark-haired young fellow in there. He is Arthur Broadhead, son of J. D., and occupies a place of responsibility in the business. Of course you will see the delivery boys around now and then.

8

Next stop is the office of the Alabama Power Company. Here we find T. Leonard Williams. That man has been monkeying with electricity ever since I've known him, and when I think of him, I just naturally think of electricity. Mr. Williams is the local manager of the power company, and is a most obliging fellow. With him in the office is his charming daughter, Miss Gladys Williams. She also knows her volts, kilowatts and things, and you can depend on being greeted with a smile from her when you enter that office, which is a neat, well kept place. And then there are the other members of the power company force, who help Mr. Williams keep the service of the company up to its high standard at all times.

9

Now we come to the Southern Seed & Plant Company, owned and operated by Evan Parrish, and Mrs. Parrish. There you see a display of nice fruits, and a large assortment of seeds of all kinds. It is truly a seed store, and a fellow wouldn't have much trouble finding the kind of seeds he was looking for. Mr. Parrish just moved to this new place not so long ago, and now has a better place to serve his customers.

10

Another Broadhead's Store. This time the firm of J. R. Broadhead & Son, composed of J. R. Broadhead and Mack G. Broadhead, and an old reliable dry goods business in Clanton. They were in business across the street for a number of years, and just recently moved. Now they have a newer building and are no doubt better situated. Mr. J. R. Broadhead has been a merchant in Clanton since I was knee high to a grasshopper or something, and Mack has been there too. They are really dry goods merchants, and their names are known throughout the county for their fair dealing.

11

Here we are for another pause while we look into one of the oldest firms in Clanton, on the corner. None other than The Fair Store, with W. H. Sartor at the helm, steering the business on. There isn't much use in telling about Mr. Sartor, he is known all over this neck o' the woods, as he has been one of the reliable merchants of Clanton for a long, long time. This store carries a full line of ladies and children's ready-to-wear and some not ready to wear. Associated with Mr. Sartor and as competent salesladies are Miss Ruth Hand and Miss Alma Gentry, both attractive and pleasant young ladies to deal with. Then there is Miss Callie Watts, who occupies a space in the building with a hat and dress shoppe. However, it is known that Miss Callie is to move to larger quarters where she will have more room in which to display her line of dresses and hats. You will see an announcement of this in the paper a little later on.

* * *

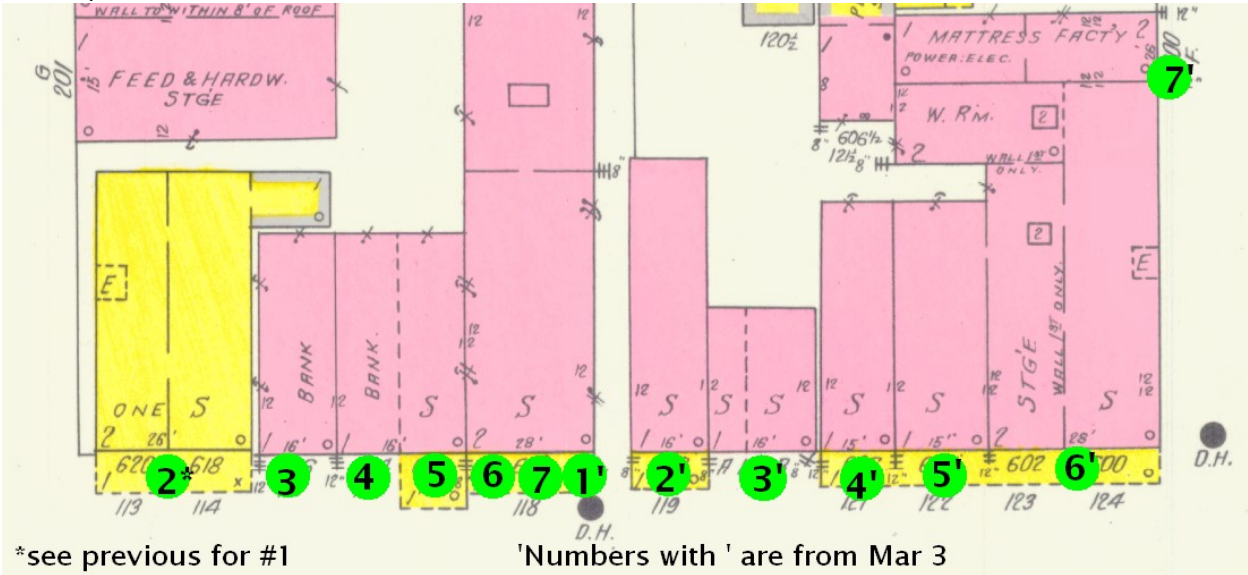
1*

Before I go one step more on my tour round town, I must step back on the block I was on last week, and ask Mr. Brand to accept my apologies. I just actually left the Spigener Funeral Home out last week, and of all places, it had to be a new business in Clanton that I would leave out. Don't know whether it makes much difference to them or not, but I say I regret it.

* * *

The Spigener Funeral Home, down next door to The Fair Store. You can see the attractive signs on the windows, and a peek inside shows you a neatly kept reception room. Mr. E. J. Brand is manager of this concern, and he's the man you see driving that pretty purple ambulance and funeral coach. Mr. Brand has with him, Mr. John Jarrett, who looks after things about over the country. I don't know him personally but I know he's there just the same. Mr. Brand makes his home in Clanton and is the kind of fellow you would just naturally like anyway.

February 25, 1932, March 3, 1932:



*see previous for #1

'Numbers with ' are from Mar 3

2

Now we are on our way into the next block, where we come to the firm of Mullins & Moore, with J. Renfro Mullins and J. Watts Moore, at the helm, and a big general merchandise store there. Also we find W.I. Mullins, one of the old timers of this county. Then there is Charlie Rasberry who looks after customers, and Miss Rubye Branch, who has charge of the ladies wearing apparel side. Then now and then we will find John Mullins busy at sometime in there. A real busy place and a regular farmers' store. In fact they are known as "The Farmers' Friends."

3

Next door we come to the Peoples Savings Bank, with Frank J. Callen holding to the pilot wheel, as president. This bank has been in business in Clanton for thirty years, safe and sound. Mr. Callen has next in line H. Grady Heflin, as cashier and he's also a city councilman. Then comes Louie Smith as assistant cashier, with Miss Delilah Kelly as bookkeeper. You don't hear much from these fellows, but they are there with the goods just the same.

4

Now here is the First National Bank next door to the one above. Dr. Earl Upchurch is president but he don't stay there as he has other business interests. So we find John C. Page at the throttle as cashier and head knocker of this institution. Mr. Page has as his assistant cashier C. Otto Jones, a likable fellow. Then there is Earl C. Parrish who gives service at one of the windows, and F.L. Harris, the fellow who operates those counting, adding and subtracting machines in the bank. All fine fellows and know their business to a T.

5

Now the man you see next door is Hugh Jones, one of Clanton's long-time merchants, and now has a nice little store handling different things, and one of the mainest things is that pop corn machine out front. That's where that wonderful odor comes from when he's popping fresh pop corn. A sack of that corn is really good, if you ask me. Let's all stop and get one while we are here.

* * *

6

Here we are at the Robinson Department Store now. Headed by Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Robinson, and carrying a line of dry goods. This store has it's slogan "Style Headquarters For Clanton". We find Mrs. Robinson talking shop, and about the bargains they have, while Gaston Robinson and Mrs. Gaston Robinson are there to serve customers also.

7

We can't pass by without making a little detour upstairs in this building, where we find the law office of Hon. J. B. Atkinson, former mayor of Clanton, member of the State Democratic Executive Committee, Masonic Districe Lecturer, and other things I can't remember. He's the fellow you see using that Dictaphone machine in dictating letters in his law practice, surrounded by all those law books. Oh yes, you want to know who the young lady in the foreground is. That is Miss Evelyn Atkinson, who is her uncle's efficient secretary. That thing by her chair that looks like an Edison phonograph, is a part of the dictaphone system used in that office, and it's the cat's meow, if you ask me.

1'

Still upstairs we find the office of Dr. J. P. Crumpton, dentist, who has as his assistant Miss Courtney, the little lady in white uniform. Then there is the office of Justice of the Peace T. W. Bryan, where court is held sometime. Mr. Bryan has with him as his secretary, his niece Miss Edna Bryan, who recently came here from Rhine, Ga.

* * *

2'

Now we will get back down on the street and take a look into the office of the Farm Bureau and office of the County Agent, who is C. E. Stapp, the tall fellow you see there. The attractive young lady who is so busy over at the desk is Miss Zora Guy, secretary in the Farm Bureau's office, bookkeeper, and what have you. She has been in that office for a number of years and knows that business. Then there is J. D. Collins, who looks after the selling of feed, seed and the testing of cream shipments. All done under the efficient of Cohen E. Stapp, the county agent, and a blamed fine fellow.

3'

The next door is where watches, clocks, guns, etc., are doctored by Mr. L. D. Popwell, who has been in that line of business in Clanton ever since I can remember, and he's still going strong at it. Mr. Popwell is his own secretary and assistant.

* * *

4'

All the noise you hear now is in the next building where I. D. Armstrong operates the Clanton Shoe Shop, resoling and repairing shoes in general. A nice appearing shoe shop with competent assistants. I don't know the names of the fellows Mr. Armstrong has helping him, but they know their work all right.

5'

We will now stop and chat awhile with the firm known as Wingard Brothers, where D. A. Wingard and W. W. Wingard hold forth, with D. A. Wingard at the helm. Here we also find Mrs. Wingard, who is handy at hem-stitching and sewing. This is a general merchandise store.

* * *

6'

Now we have arrived at the end of our tour, almost. This big building is occupied by the Clanton Building Supply Company, with Dewey Rockett and his father J. T. Rockett as overseers, with a large stock of hardware, furniture and other things. In there you also see Chester Mims, the fleshy fellow over behind the counter. Then there is Luther Teel, who also knows the hardware business. On the side where the little trinkets are is Mrs. Roberta Childress. And there are always some plumbers and carpenters around there too.

7'

Just around the corner we find the Clanton Mattress Factory, with Frank Foshee as boss and his son Phillip, where mattresses and pillows are made, rebuilt, etc. Then upstairs are the Law offices of Hon. Raymond C. Smith, young attorney of Clanton. Mr. Smith's efficient secretary is Miss Melna Dial, the young lady you see in the first office there.

* * * * *

March 3, 1932, continued:



8'

Now we've come to the place where a lot can be said. The stately courthouse of Chilton County. We'll try to make it as brief as possible, as we must get on with our journey. On the left as you go in you see the room of the Commissioners Court, while on the right is the office of the Circuit Clerk, with J. Z. Mims at the desk, and Mrs. Mims as his assistant.

9'

Next on the left is the office of the Judge of Probate with L. H. Reynolds at the desk, having as his assistants Mrs. Odis Miller and Mrs. David Arant. On the right next is the office of the Tax Assessor with Akins Collins at the steering wheel and running nicely. He has as his assistant Mrs. Walter Robinson. Next on the right is the office of W. G. Culp, Tax Collector, and with Miss Cleo Broadhead as office assistant. Then comes the office of the "Law", meaning none other than the Sheriff's office, with W. H. Gillespie as boss of the outfit. Deputies are James Gillespie, Louis Gillespie and Delbert Norris, all husky, well trained and ready men. Sometimes Loss Robinson can be found there.

10'

The next office you see on the right is that of W. D. Spigener, Register in Chancery. Mr. Spigener operates his end of the business alone, and very efficiently. Then comes the office of M. D. Foshee, who operates an abstract business. Upstairs we find the tidy office of Mrs. Gertrude Calloway, Treasurer of Chilton County, who also operates her part of the place, alone.

11'

We might walk up to the building of the Educational system, which is next to the courthouse, and there we see Buford Lawrence, at the helm of this boat, as superintendent. Mr. Lawrence has as his competent assistant Mrs. Marion Smith. We also find Miss Madge Scarborough up there as Elementary Supervisor, and Mrs. C. E. Stapp, as attendance officer.

12'

I see right now that this column will not be able to get down to the corner of Upchurch's this week, but we'll just take you as far as we can, so across the street from the courthouse we will go. There is the Woco-Pep station. Here we find the office and warehouse of R. J. Sumner, wholesale distributor of Woco-Pep. With him is "Doodle" Gore, Bill White, and E. L. Powell, who run the big trucks. In the same building is the service station, operated by one Mr. G. M. (Mon) Wyatt, who knows that business. Then there is Reuben Wyatt and Guthrie Johnson, who help Mr. Wyatt in this business.

13'

Next stop on the corner is M. A. Gore's feed store, where there is a lot of flour, seed, feed and other things. Mr. Gore has been in business on that corner for a long time. This building has an upstairs to it, but we will go up there when we are on the other side of this block.

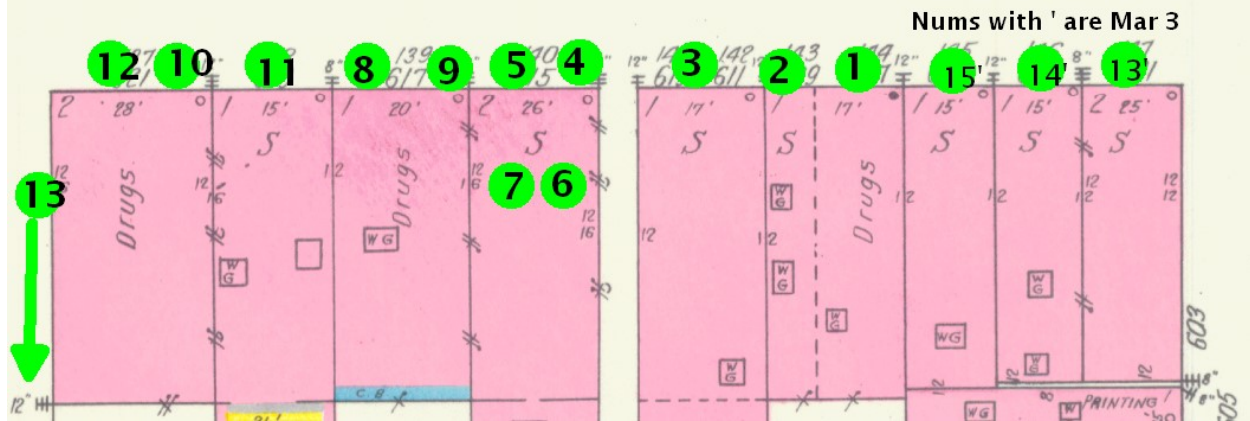
14'

Right next door is the grocery department of the Clanton Cash Store, with O. D. DeLoach as chief of the tribe, having as others with him, Eli Moates and Jack Mims. Eli runs the meat market end, while the others sell groceries.

15'

Now here we are at the Dry Goods department of the Clanton Cash Store where we find none other than Jesse Baker as high mogul. Mr. Baker has been in business here a long time, and has Mrs. Lonza Robinson as one of his efficient clerks in this place.

March 10, 1932:



1

Here we are at a drug store, the Calloway Drug Co., where Joe N. Calloway holds forth as the big cheese, with his brother as, second big cheese. Here you will note a very neat little drug store, with all the trimmings. Both the Mr. Calloways are really drug store men, and know their business.

2

You will now note the barber shop next door, where we find Ed Wagoner, "Red Wagoner, G. Cleve Headley, Joe Ben Downs as barbers and good ones too. This is an old line of barbers and enjoy a good business. Yep, there's the shine boy there too. He's sitting back there against the wall.

I owe Mr. Dewey Eubanks an apology. When we were touring up at the barber shop next to Calloway Drug Company last week, I guess Dewey was not in as we missed him. Anyway, he is one of the fine barbers up at that shop, and has been there for several years. I call your attention to this, so's you see that shop has more barbers than I gave it credit for, and good ones too.

3

This big store is our next stop. We will go in here for a visit, where we are greeted by Reddie Taylor, the manager of the Chicago Sales Company, carrying a large stock of dry goods. We also will meet Miss Etta Baker, Miss Kate Aldridge, and Mrs. L. H. Williams, the latter having charge of the millinery department, while the others cater to the ladies mostly. We also get acquainted with W. A. Kemp, who stays on the side to take care of the men's apparel.

4

Another big dry goods store is our next place to visit. The Leader, a store known far and wide over this section. Here we find the one and only, Mr. Maurice Lande, boss, chief, big cheese and high mogul of this big store, who greets us with a pleasant smile and a welcome hand, and who will tell us of the large stock of dry goods they carry here. Then we will meet Mrs. Lande, who is right up to date on her knowledge of dry goods, and now we have the pleasure of meeting Mrs. Anna Jones, known to people as a real saleslady. Mrs. Jones has been with The Leader for a number of years, and we are invited back again.

5

Now this building we are in has an upstairs, where we will go and we find the law offices of Lawrence F. Gerald, one of Clanton's prominent attorneys. As we go in we are pleasantly greeted by Mrs. Agnes McNair, efficient secretary to the attorney, and we are escorted into his office, where we get the once-over and enjoy a nice chat with Mr. Gerald.

6

Across the hall we find the law offices of Percy M. Pitts, member of the Legislature of Alabama, and a well known attorney. We note the mounted deer head on the wall, and ask about that. We learn that Mr. Pitts shot that deer himself recently. We note the neat appearance of his offices.

7

Now we will go to the offices of Dr. J. E. Gowan, dentist, where we find a very neat place and up-to-date equipment. I suppose that is what you call those things. Dr. Gowan has been in Clanton as a dentist for a long time.

8

And so, we resume our tour round town this week, stopping at Alred Drug Company, The Home of Quality. Here we find some real characters in Clanton, with J. Hance Alred as boss of the outfit, and sole owner of his name, as it were. Mr. Alred has recently become a full-bred registered pharmacist, and now will give personal attention to prescriptions. With him we see the one, Mr. Albert Davis, soda-skeet, clerk, car-hopper, and what have you. Then there is the one and only Robert "Bob" Alred, also with the same official capacity as Albert. Both these likable fellows have been with Alred's for some time.

9

Whoa, we walked right past one of Clanton's nicest little offices. Up next to Alred's, is the office of Dr. Napoleon S. Johnson, physician of note in this neck o' the woods. We will stop in for a moment and see the doctor, and then we will meet Miss Dewey Branch, efficient assistant to Dr. Johnson, and compliment her on the neatness of the office.

10

While we are talking here, we will just say something about the office of Dr. Arthur Johnson, way up on the end of the street, where Miss Alma Allen is the efficient assistant to this well known eye, ears, nose and throat specialist.

11

Now we will visit the V. J. Elmore 5c and dime store, one of a chain of many over the state, and headquarters of them all, where orders are issued, and so forth. We will meet Mr. Virgil J. Elmore, who is founder, owner, and operator of these well known five and ten cent stores. A fine sort of fellow, he is. Then in his office as secretary we are getting acquainted with Miss Marine Harris. Then we will find Bill Inzer, who acts as something of assistant manager, or something. Now the attractive young ladies who are always ready with a smile to serve you at the counters. These are Miss Annie Mae Foshee, Miss Ruth Prince and Miss Glennie Mims. One of the best places of business in town—well arranged, and kept.

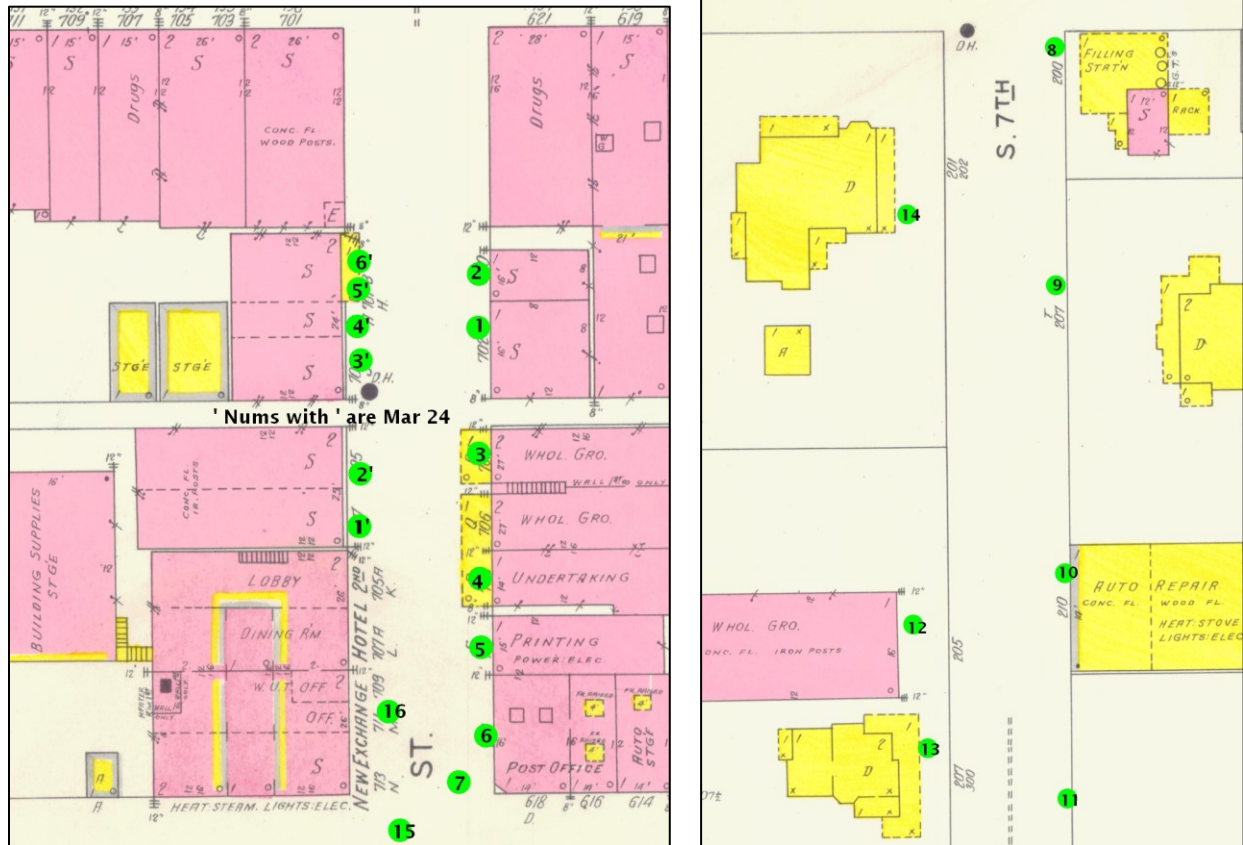
12

We will tarry for awhile, at the well known Upchurch Drug Company, on the corner—the business corner in town. In this large and complete drug store, we find Dr. Earl E. Upchurch at the head of the business. Then we meet William H. L. Smith, the head-knocker under Dr. Upchurch. With these are Emmett "Happy" Conaway, Eunice "Sunshine" Chism, and now and then we see Leroy "Pee-Wee" Martin up there. These fellows are all the kind that you like to have serve you in a place of business, and with all the advertising Upchurch Drug Company does, I think they ought to do more newspaper advertising locally.

13

The bright red front of the Hill Grocery Store is beckoning us with a smile, and as we walk in we are greeted pleasantly by the manager, Mr. J. W. McEathern, who is anxious that we be pleased. And to back up Mr. Mc's pleasant greeting is Ernest Arant, another real groceryman, who under the manager's training is up on his business. Mr. McEathern has been manager of this store for sometime, and we are pleased to find that he is pleased with business here, and we note the orderliness of his store, and the displays of his stocks. On Saturday's we find extra clerks there to aid in serving the people.

March 17, 1932, March 24, 1932:



1,2

And away we go on our tour round town this week. Last week we paused at Hill's Grocery Store for a visit. And while there it occurred to me that we were next door to where Ben Margolis had his Sample Shoe Store. Ben moved right in the middle of our tour and we missed visiting him. He's up on main street now.

3

We perambulate on down to the two-story building, where Dr. Joe E. Edgar has his dental offices. Dr. Edgar is rated as one of the best dentists in this section, and he has some very neat offices upstairs.

4

Now we will stop at the funeral parlor of J. Mell Martin & Sons. The sons are Samuel, Leroy and James Carl. This is the first real funeral parlor established in Clanton, giving excellent service, both on funeral arrangements and ambulance service with two modern coaches. Mr. Martin has been in this business in Clanton for a number of years. The nice little building has just been "done over" inside and is really a nice place. Samuel Martin sticks around there practically all the time and knows his business almost as well as his father does. That's paying them both a compliment. We find that Mr. Martin is a very congenial fellow and is really a booster for Clanton and Chilton County.

5

Now—here's where I'm stumped. I don't know whether to say something nice about the fellows in the next place of business or to say what I think of them. As you see the place is none other than the building of C. G. N., the Chilton County News. Anyway, we'll go in and meet the boys. Outside of the editor, we find Vernie Teel, associate editor of the News and The Rockford Chronicle. John M. VanDerveer, Jr., assistant associate and one of the chief moguls on the two papers also. Then we see Bonnie Hand, the assistant to the assistant associate, to the associate. Now ain't that some handle. Three newspapers are published in this plant each week, one for Chilton County, one for Coosa County and one for Elmore County.

6,7

Now the next building is vacant, and so we stop for a short call at Dief's Cafe, a neat little eating place, and while here we will just get a cuppa cawfee, or something and are pleasantly served by Mrs. Glenn W. Moore, and Miss Leora Mims, who serve the food from the kitchen, where it is prepared by excellent cooks. Mr. L. E. Diefenderfer, widely known man of Clanton, is the proprietor of this place. We'll meet him down next door.

8

Now we cross the street and visit the well known Dief's Service Station, and meet Mr. Dief, who really believes in service, pronto. We also get acquainted with the three fellows who help make Dief's one of the most popular places in town. These are Wilbur Scarborough, J. E. Easterling and Herschel Gore, all have become fixtures at this place, where Pan-Am products, and Goodyear tires are sold. This place, ladies and gentlemen, has been in business here for approximately six years and has never closed its doors. That's some record.

9

The large house you see, as we pass on down this street is where Mrs. J. C. Jones resides.

10

Now we come to the Two-One Service Station, where Bill Lanier is the chief mogul. This is one of the newest service stations in Clanton, and is one of the most attractive. Mr. Lanier, we find is a pleasant sort of fellow, and we stop to chat a while with him. Rufus White is also here, and gives filling station service as well as mechanical service if any of their customers desire it.

11

We will saunter on down to the end of this street, where we are pleasantly greeted by Mrs. Mary Martin, operator of another of Clanton's popular filling stations. Mrs. Martin has with her a very likable young fellow, D. C. Melton, who looks after the business for her. They handle Woco-Pep products and we are invited to visit them again.

12

Now folks we'll cross the street where the Taylor Wholesale Grocery Company is located in the large building you see. This is the only real large wholesale grocery business in the county and one of the most efficient and complete grocery houses in the state. There we find Roland Taylor, Tom Taylor and Jimmy Taylor, who have several others there with them to help them move the business along.

13

The big house next door is where Mayor and Mrs. J. Lee Smith reside.

14

We will walk on back up this side of the street, and the large home you see there is the home of Dr. and Mrs. J. P. Hayes, Jack and Alec Hayes.

15

And we come to the ground floor office of Dr. Hayes, one of Clanton's prominent and well known citizens, who owns quite a bit of property here. Now we might call your attention to the warehouse of the Coca-Cola Bottling Company, which is in charge of Willie Jones, the Coca-Cola man of Clanton.

16

Now this big building here, as you see, is the New Exchange Hotel, where Mr. M. R. Orr is the mistress and a very capable and likable one too. Mrs. Orr has with her, her daughter, Miss Madelyn Orr, one of Clanton's popular young ladies. The New Exchange Hotel is considered one of the best between Birmingham and Montgomery and enjoys a fine business. Its meals are widely known among the traveling people.

1',2'

All set for the continuance of our tour round town again this week, and we have rested a bit at the Exchange Hotel, and invited back again. Now we will walk upstairs in the Hayes Building, where Clanton's only beauty salon is located, the DeMabel's Beauty Shoppe, operated by Miss Mabel Howard, who really knows her p's and q's along that line. We say howdy to Miss Howard and she introduces us to Mrs. Ena Olsen who operates Ena's Smart Shoppe, where we are shown a pretty display of ladies dresses and novelties.

3'

Now the next stop is the attractive little store where the Watt's Hat Shoppe is located. This is not a new business for Clanton, but it is in a new location and a very attractive one too. This place is operated by Miss Callie Watts, who has as her assistant Miss Vivian Gray, and they certainly have some pretty things for the ladies there too.

* * *

4'

These fellows you see next door, in the Exchange Barber Shop are jim-dandies. We'll stop and meet them. They are Dick Bean, Walter Sanford and George Wyatt, and all good barbers. It's a nice place to go, and service is just sticking out around them. The colored shine boy is named Claud and he steps on it when it comes to service too.

5'

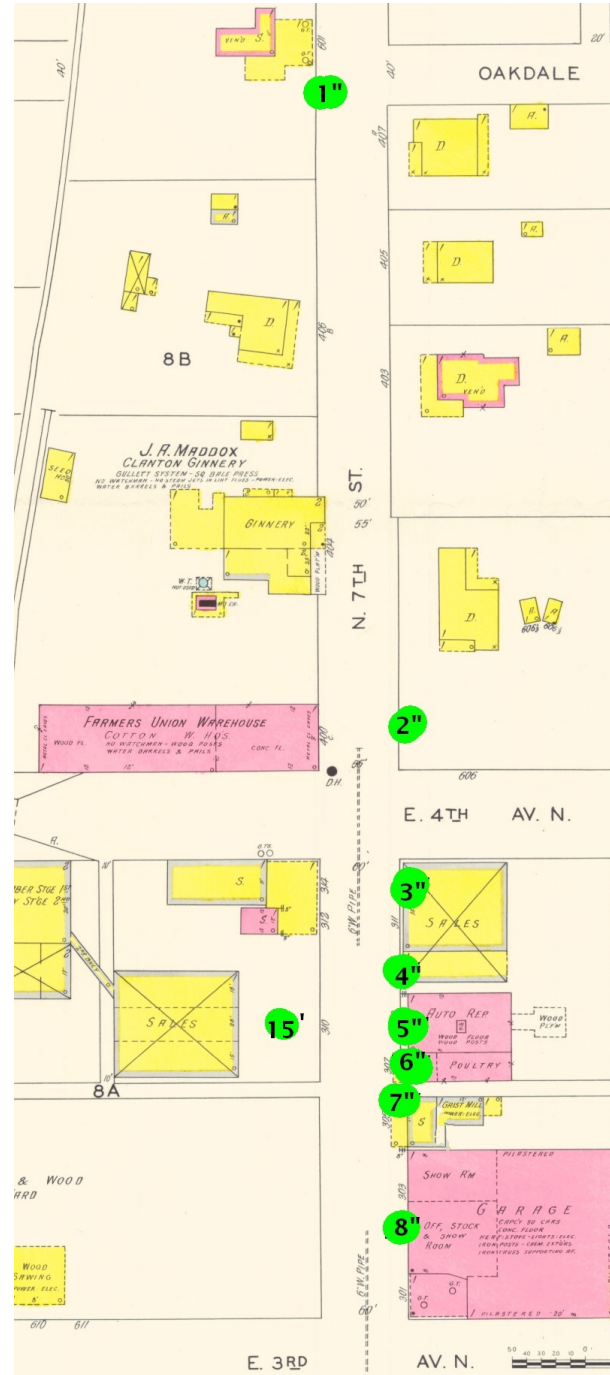
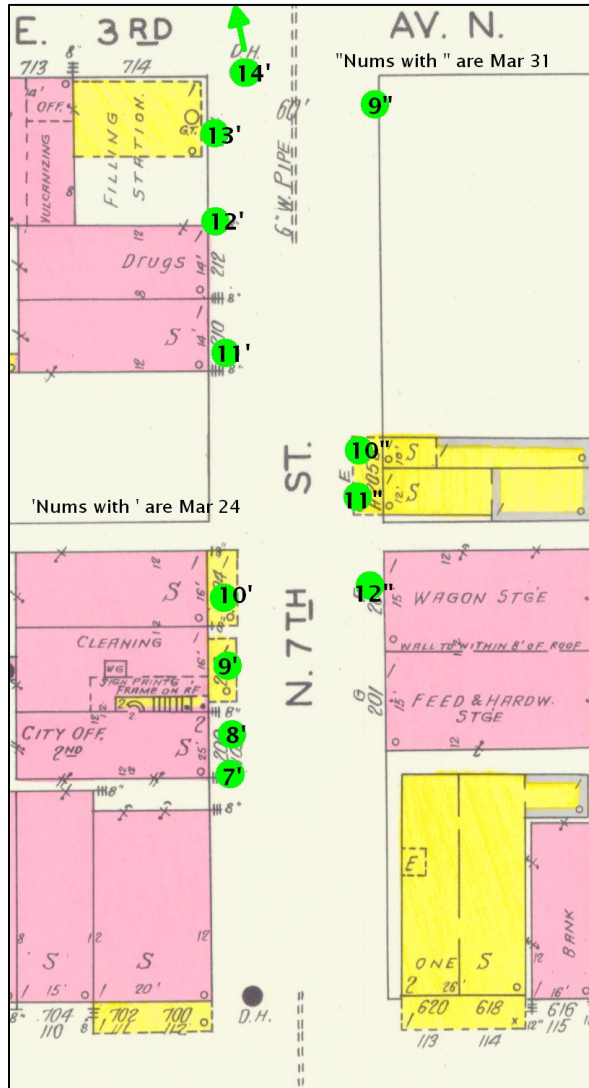
It's about lunch time, so we might just as well stop next door and eat a bit of something, and that something is going to be good food too, because this is Matt's Lunch Shoppe, where Matt Ware and Mrs. Matt Ware look after the cooking personally. We are pleasantly greeted and served by Miss Pauline Davis, a splendid waitress, and Miss Chloe Nivens, who has been assisting there for several days.

6'

Now for a stop upstairs in this building where the offices of Dr. T. J. Marcus are located. Dr. Marcus is one of Clanton's prominent physicians and is a splendid fellow to have for a friend. We also meet up with John M. VanDerveer, Sr., one of the prominent insurance men of the state, and then we see Victor Heard, attorney.

* * *

March 24, 1932, March 31, 1932:



Now folks, we are back where we started, so we will just move on up, across the street by The Fair Store, and go upstairs where the offices of Grover Cleveland Walker, attorney are located, and we are pleasantly greeted by Miss Vera Jones, secretary to Mr. Walker. We will enjoy a nice chat with Col. Walker before continuing on our tour.

8'

Here we are hailed by Webb Parrish and George Tippet, barbers at the Dixie Barber Shop, one of the neat little shops of Clanton, and one that enjoys a fine business. You'll like these fellows.

9'

Now let us stop a minute next door at the Popwell Pressing Shop, where Robert Popwell is the head-knocker, and we are invited in by Mrs. Popwell, a lady liked by all who know her. Mr. Popwell has his son, Irby Popwell as his assistant in operating this growing business.

10'

Here we are at Marvin Carter's place, where he sells and repairs radios. It's known as Carter's Radio Shop. This place of business has recently moved to this location, and with the young Carters in the business with him, Mr. Carter has a nice radio place.

11'

Now we will visit one of the most popular eating places between Birmingham and Montgomery, and one of the finest. This is the Dixie Cafe, operated by Leonard Easterling, with Mrs. Mattie Williams as partner. Mr. Easterling is a good cafe and business man, while Mrs. Williams is a splendid dietitian, and looks after the preparing of the food. They have associated with them Miss Dessie Robinson, Miss Matlye Glass and Dewey Robinson.

12'

Now the next place is where the busses stop every day. This is Jones' Place, operating a soda fountain, lunch stand, newsstand and other items, with S. A. Jones as manager, who is ably assisted by his charming wife, and his brothers. This is a popular place and enjoys a good business.

13'

So on we go, and stop a minute to see Fate Maddox at his garage next door. Fate is a good mechanic, and knows his automobiles.

14'

This is the most recent addition to Clanton's corps of filling stations, and is the Shell Place, with Leon Mullins, the tall fellow you see over there busy giving service to his customers. And there's Clay Marcus also.

15'

Next stop is the Maddox Filling Station, on the corner of the Selma highway and the Birmingham-Montgomery highway. This station dispenses the Gulf products, and is operated by A. D. Maddox, a splendid sort of fellow, and we are welcomed to his place of business. In connection with this place is the Maddox Dance Hall, a popular place, operated by J. A. Maddox. Dancing lessons are given here, and the dances held in Clanton are also given in this hall.

1"

We will continue on our tour round town from where we left off last week. And that will take us to the filling station operated by John T. Ellis, and his son, Earl, on top of the hill, leaving Clanton on the north side of town. This filling station is quite popular with tourists, as they have found that Mr. Ellis and his son give excellent service.

2"

We are kind of up in the residential section of Clanton, so will just have to pass up these homes and get back to the Billingsley Service Station, where Texaco products are handled, and where we see that tall fellow, Curtis Billingsley doing a nice business, at a very attractive filling station, where things are done in a modern way.

3"

After this visit now, folks, we step across the street to another filling station, the Sinclair Service Station, and find W. W. "Preacher" Bishop all "het up" waiting on customers, and there's W. E. Miller over there putting air in a tire, or something. This is another nice little station. And here comes Kin Vnson driving up in the Sinclair truck, he's the wholesale distributor.

4"

Well, we bid them good morning, and stop at Bates Auto Shop, where H. M. Bates is sitting in the back at his desk. He refers us to Ensley Culpepper who works on automobiles, getting batteries all fixed, and then this fellow who just came in is Mack Parrish, who works here also.

* * *

5"

Here we are at Bill's Garage. This place has been in business in Clanton for a number of years, under the management of W. F. Fiquette, who is more familiarly known to people as "Bill." We also meet Mrs. Fiquette, a charming lady who looks after the office and we find her a very pleasant talker. Now we will see the mechanics, and they are Euell Woodyard, and Delbert Brand. Euell is a good mechanic and Brand knows his automobiles, too.

6"

Here we are folks, at J. L. Ruffin's feed store, where chickens are bought and sold, and where the majority of people buy chicken feed. The young fellow with the glasses on and who is in charge, is Clyde Mims, and knows his chicken feed. Here comes the big boss now, Mr. Ruffin, who is well known over the county and has certainly built up a good business.

* * *

7"

Now, let's stop and chat a minute with Mr. Plier, who is known far and wide as "Uncle Charley". He operates this grist mill here and is certainly an interesting fellow to talk to.

* * *

8"

This big building, as you see is the Ford Building, known as Clanton Motors. We are greeted by Julius "Rip" Burnett, the assistant to the manager, who is T. J. "Tom" Littlejohn. These fellows, you will note are anxious to have us look through their plant and will show us through personally. We get acquainted with Arthur Burnett, the pleasant young fellow outside, and then here is Luther Culpepper in the parts department, and Grady Bates who looks after customers as they drive in. Odis "Sleepy" Miller is that fellow over there who is so calmly going about his work on cars, and then there's Hardy Hurt, one of the best mechanics in this section, and a fellow who knows his Fords. This is Monroe Benson, another good mechanic, and the young fellow is Curtis Hurt, who helps up here at times. Then that is "Slim" over there, the tall colored fellow who tinkers about the place. The salesmen have just come in and we find they are "Sie" Foshee and Joe Higgins, two of the cracker jack salesmen of the county. I believe we have met all the people with this Ford place, so we'll move on across the street.

* * *

9"

This is the Standard Oil Station, and is operated by two fellows, brothers, who are the best of pals, and good business fellows. They are Durwood Teel and J. L. Teel, and when it comes to service, they are just broke out with that. They are well known to many tourists, who have stopped at this nice little station for automobile service. They are known for their ability on washing and polishing cars, also.

* * *

10"

We will visit a minute with Mrs. Nelson, who operates this nice little cafe here. We find Mrs. Nelson a very charming lady, and we meet her daughter, Miss Maxine Nelson. This little cafe is popular among the country folk who come in to Clanton and its plate lunches go a long way in creating this popularity, too.

* * *

11"

Next place is the office of C. Reese Mullins, one of the oldest insurance places in Clanton. That is Mr. Mullins sitting back there at the desk, and we are pleasantly greeted by his son, Reese, also.

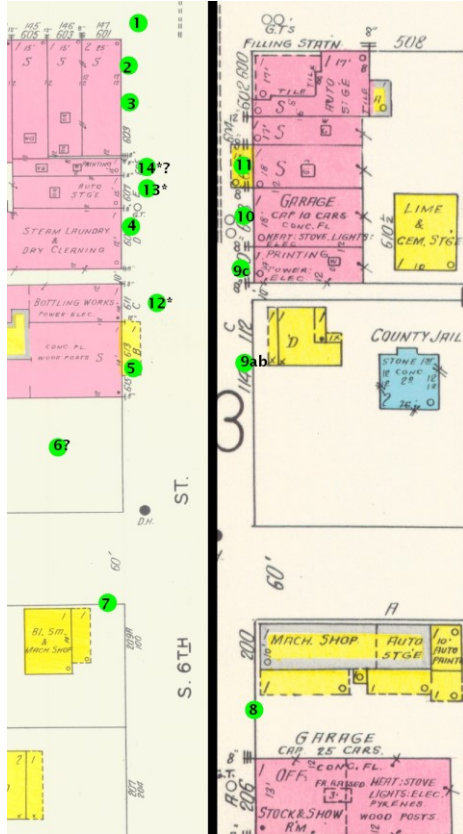
* * *

12"

Howdy there, Mr. Turner. Here we are folks at the agency of International Harvester machinery, and this Mr. James O. Turner is the big cheese here, and knows his farm machinery. Mr. Turner is a most interesting fellow to talk too.

* * *

April 7, 1932:



1

We stopped last week at James O. Turner's place, and now, we will just tarry for a minute at the lunch stand of Mr. Esco, where you can get a good sandwich at a low price, and this is a popular place with young fellows too.

* * *

2

Now we will have to go up to the corner of Second Avenue and Sixth Street, (do you know where that is?) Upstairs in this building on the corner we find the office of the City Clerk, Claudie H. Pipes, and we will just sit down a minute and talk with Mr. Pipes. e tells us of the way they run things. He has a neat office there too.

* * *

3

Adjoining this office, folks, we come to the law offices of Omar Reynolds and Grady Reynolds, and here we find Miss Lona Thompson, the efficient secretary to these attorneys. These offices are well arranged and neatly kept, as you will notice. There is a splendid view from two sides of this building, from these offices and no doubt you are impressed with the cordial greeting we received.

4

Now, back down stairs, and into the Clanton Laundry & Cleaning Company, where F. Leo Thompson is the head knocker. Folks, this establishment is one of the many assets to the town of Clanton, and a business that the town should be proud of, and I do not hesitate in saying that. Mr. Thompson, with his father, has spent considerable time and money to make this laundry one of the best in this section of the state, and there is hardly anything they can't do when it comes to cleaning things. Mr. Thompson, we find, is a very likable fellow, and shows us through this large plant, and how they filter their water and cleaning fluid. You see, its real modernly equipped, and the employees of this place are up on their jobs too. There is Miss Lillian Thompson, who keeps the books, and Miss Edith Mae Thompson, and Mrs. Leo Thompson, Jack Armstrong and others who make up the personnel of this well conducted business.

5

Sorry to have to rush on, but we have some territory to cover this week, and we come to the store of Holcombe & Massey, a place where you can find odds and ends of furniture, and things you never dreamed of, all at low prices. Mr. Holcombe is a very obliging fellow, and so is Mr. Frank Massey. This is where Mr. W. W. Fox had his place of business.

6

Now here we are at the only exclusive furniture store in Clanton, the Tiffin-Klinner Furniture Company, with Mr. J. B. Tiffin as manager, and a good one at that. Folks, Mr. Tiffin just recently engineered a scheme thru that will aid greatly the families in the storm areas of this section. Mr. Tiffin has several assistants here who are always anxious to serve the people when they can. You will notice the ads from this concern in the News real often.

* * *

7

Now we will stop down on the corner where we find Ed Carlton, one of Clanton's old reliable blacksmiths and mechanics. Mr. Carlton is well known throughout this section, and what he can't fix, just ain't any good anyhow. He ahs most any kind of tool to work with, an dif he hasn't he will make it.

* * *

8

Across the street there is the widely known Polk Brothers Motor Co., Inc., the Chevrolet dealers in this county. This place gets its name from W. M. Polk, Sr., and George C. Polk, two prominent business men of Clanton, and both we find are very obliging in showing us through their show rooms where new Chevrolets are displayed, and also through their repair and parts department, both equipped and arranged in the most modern way. This place always employs good mechanics, and those who have been through the proper school of instruction, and of course they have an efficient office force that is in keeping with their satisfactory manner of doing business with their customers.

* * *

9a,9b,9c

Past the jail and the sheriff's home and to The Union-Banner office, where we are pleasantly greeted by Mack Wyatt, who invites us in and takes us into the printing plant where we meet his brother, Gene Wyatt, both likable fellows. Then there is Courtland Retherford and Hubert Ellison and Chester Mims. These fellows see that The Union-Banner is fixed up each week.

10

Next door is the Calloway Garage, where we find Spurgeon Calloway, one of the best known mechanics in Clanton, and he knows his automobiles all right, too.

* * *

11,12*

Now we are at another of Clanton's cafes, operated by Mrs. Annie Huckabee, who has had several years experience in the cafe business. This is a nice little cafe and neatly kept. And so we come to a place where we have been already, and will walk around to another block, where the Nehi Bottling Company is located, near the News building, and here we run upon Mr. Horsley White, the chief Mogul of the Nehi place. Mr. White very obligingly shows us through this bottling plant and we are well impressed with the orderliness of the place.

13*

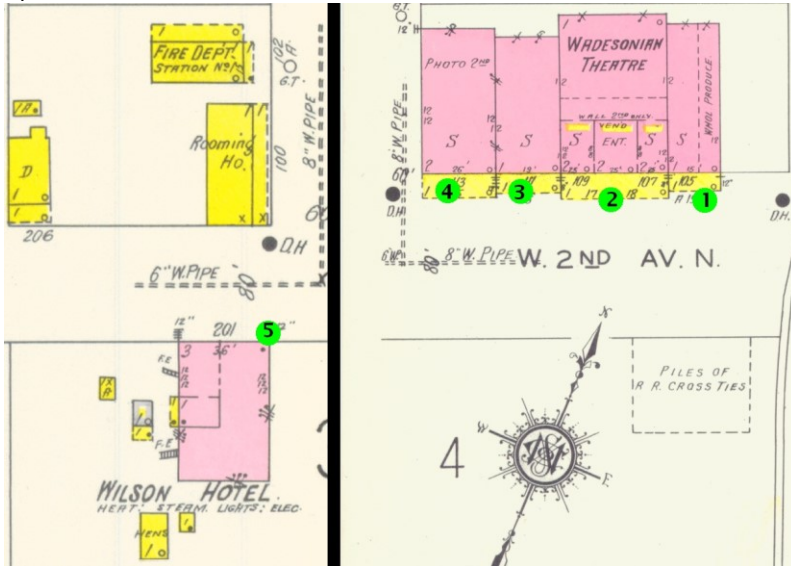
Next door is where this fellow Walker is, the one you hear so much about his ability to fix wrecked automobiles, and paint them. This is H. L. Walker, and he really has a good reputation as an automobile fixer. You no doubt have seen some of his work, and anyone who knows anything about it will tell you it's good. You should know him.

* * *

14*

And here's Joshua's pressing shop. Joshua is one of the old time colored pressing shop operators of Clanton, and ever since I can remember, he has been pressing clothes.

April 14, 1932:



1

The tour round town is almost completed. That was about the toughest job I ever undertook to handle, but I enjoyed it. We never did get over across the railroad, and over there is the store of B. L. Jones, one of Clanton's oldest merchants and I'll bet he is really well known, too.

2

Of course everybody knows that the Wadesonian Theatre is over there, where Mr. C. W. Wade, is manager. They just fixed up their "broadcasting" apparatus the other day and have new stuff in the equipment, and I'll congratulate them. It's good now. See their program in the News each week.

3

Up the street a little more is the pressing shop of J. L. Crawford, and with the help of Mrs. Crawford, they turn out some splendid work.

4

On the corner is the Mims Grocery Store, where Mr. Hayes looks after the business, and Zeb Mims is the operator.

5

The big building across the street is the New Wilson Hotel. This is one of the oldest hotels in this section, and Mr. P. D. Wilson and Mrs. Wilson have just recently "done over" the inside of the lobby and everything looks spick and span.

References

Chilton Co News:
Union Banner: