8 La. banks closed this year

Metropolitan Bank & Trust Co. of Baton Rouge was the eighth Louisiana bank to close this year. It will reopen Monday under the control of Whitney National Bank of New Orleans. The other banks that have closed, the location of their main branches, the date they closed and their new owners are:

- Republic Bank, Blanchard, Oct. 31, American Bank & Trust Co. of Monroe.
- Bossier Bank & Trust, Bossier City, June 13, First National Bank of Shreveport.
- First Progressive Bank, Metairie, Jan. 17, First Industrial Bank & Trust Co., a new subsidiary of First National Corp. of Covington.

Before this year no banks had been forced to close since 1984 when Bank of Commerce, Shreveport, June 13, Peoples Bank of Natchitoches shut its doors. Ten years ago, International City Bank of New Orleans also closed.