

LYNN COUNTY NEWS

Volume XIII

Tahoka, Lynn County, Texas, Friday, January 19, 1916

Number 21



Just a word in passing About OUR NEW LINE of Dress Shirts

We Have Just Received a **BIG SHIPMENT** of New, Nobby Dress Shirts in Broad Stripes and Guaranteed Fast Colors. These shirts were booked at prices prevailing last summer when cotton was considerably cheaper than now, and so we are in position to give you an exceedingly good shirt and at the right price. We do not handle a job shirt--which can always be bought at a price, but these are the genuine Ferguson-McKinney make and dressers of taste, understand that this implies Quality-Fit-Workmanship and absolutely Fast Dyes. Get the best, you are entitled to it.

KNIGHT & BRASHEAR

Grading Main Street

Graders have commenced work on Main street and will put it in first class condition along the entire length of the street. In the business section, this street has been filled in with dirt taken from excavations for various buildings that have been built along the street during the year.

The residence section of the street commencing at the Hotel St. Clair is the part that is now being worked. North Tahoka is fast building up with substantial residences of the better type, and the putting of this street in first class shape is only in keeping with the other various improvements in progress in this addition to the original town.

L. Simpson of Plains, Texas, was a business visitor this, and paid a call to the News office. Mr. Simpson is connected with the land interest in Yoakum county, and runs a job shop there.

Money is made by ad reading. Read the ads in this issue.

Notice of Lease

I have leased the Busy Bee Cafe to Hemmett & McFarland for a period of ninety days and wish to thank my friends and patrons for past business and ask a continuance of same with my successors. You will receive the same excellent service and courteous treatment.

C. A. Heam, Prop.

22-24

Dr. Gentry Returns From Holiday Vacation

Dr. D. O. Gentry, Optometrist, will return Saturday from an extended vacation, and will remain at his office with Dr. J. H. McCoy, in the J. S. Wells Bldg., several days. Any one troubled with their eyes could not do better than call on Dr. Gentry and have their eyes examined.

We are indeed glad to have Judge Moore to locate among us, and we wish to call attention to his card in the Professional Columns of the News.

One of J. H. Edwards little boys is suffering from pneumonia this week. We hope the little fellow will soon recover.

The Twitchell Surveying Crew, pulled up stakes and moved to Terry county Thursday.

Insurance on County School Houses, and all other property written by Crie & Ramsey, lowest rates and terms allowed by law. 22-tf.

The Dayton Show a spiritualistic performance, occupied the boards at the Star Theatre Tuesday night, and played to one of the largest audiences that has ever attended this popular play house. The show was a very mediocre exhibition.

SEE US for a Singer Sewing, liberal terms, and old machines taken as part payment.

Barnes Drug Co., Tahoka, Tex. 22-tf

TWO PAIR TO DRAW TO

C. H. Besley and M. Jordan colored and their wives, have moved onto the B. E. Fuller place, this side of Wilson, and will put in a crop there this year. They were formerly employed by Mr. Fuller's brother of Grantfield, Okla., Besley and Jordan called at the News office and secured a copy of the News, and expressed their intention of becoming regular readers. They bear the distinction of being the only negro farmers in the county

Read the News.

Doubles Money On Land In Less Than Year

Jess Murrah called on the News Saturday to have his paper changed from Wilson to Tahoka. Jess told us he had moved to his own land on the north edge of the T-Bar pasture and was making Tahoka his trading point now. Jess bought this land last August giving \$12.50 an acre and has refused \$20.00 for it in the past few days. Men in the real estate game have asked him to list it with them at \$25.00 but Jess says he bought it for a home and intends to keep it. He has put up a house and made other improvements recently. He has also rented thirty acres of old land on the Ousley place for cotton.

Last year on thirty acres Jess made thirteen 500 pound bales and sold the entire crop for above seventeen cents. This crop was hailed out twice, and Jess said that if there had been enough rain with either hail to replant he would have plowed the cotton up.

W. W. Anderson, of Bradner Ohio, called on the News Saturday, and gave us a copy of the Bradner Bugle to look over. Mr. Anderson has been a subscriber to the News for many years and we are always glad to have a call from him.

State Surveyer Making Corners Terry Sections

Mr. Twitchell, a state surveyer, is making his headquarters in Tahoka, while surveying the sections in Terry county and placing a steel marker at each section corner.

A couple or more weeks ago a couple of tents were pitched north of the King Livery Barn, and a large quantity of staker, such as are used in running surveyors lines were piled in front of one of the tents. Beside the other tent several hundred feet of inch and a quarter pipe were unloaded. Quite a bit of curiosity has been manifested as to just what was the object of these maneuvers, rumors of a railroad surveying crew working out of Tahoka west began to float around.

A reporter of the News called on the tent and was given the above information.

If the work of this surveyor will stabilize the land lines of Terry county, it is indeed a move in the right direction.

Roberts-Swofford

Mr. Van Swofford and Miss Viola Roberts drove to the Baptist parsonage Tuesday evening about six o'clock and were married by Bro. Durham.

Mr. and Mrs. Swofford are popular young people of Tahoka, and the News takes pleasure in joining their many friends in wishing them a long and happy life.

Mr. Simpson, of Ballinger, Texas, is building a house in North Tahoka. Mr. Simpson is a farmer, and says as soon as he gets his house ready to live in and gets a little time to look around, he intends to buy a piece of Lynn county dirt and put it in to cultivation.

Armenian Relief Fund

The following subscriptions have been received by Judge C. H. Cain to be forwarded by him to the associations headquarters in New York:

Mrs. J. V. Dyer.....	\$2.00
Miss Willie Slover.....	2.50
Rev. R. F. Dunn.....	2.00
Mrs. C. H. Caid.....	2.00
Total.....	8.50

The Armenians have been neglected by the various associations organized for the relief of the war stricken countries, and are one of the most deserving people of the war theatres, according to advices sent out from officers of the Armenian Relief Fund Ass'n.

C. C. Blanks of Lamesa, spent Sunday in Tahoka.

Thomas Bros. Begin Two Brick Store Rooms

A crew of men began the excavation for the foundation for a couple of brick store rooms to be erected by Thomas Bros. on the northwest corner of their block. These buildings will be 16x46, facing on Sweet street.

The building next to the Sanitary Meat Market will be occupied by H. C. Crie & Co., as a publishing and printing office. The corner building has not been contracted for.

Dick Crie who has been working in the Hesperian office at Floydada for the past three weeks, received word by some one who arrived in Floydada about four o'clock Tuesday that his mother was sick in bed and not expected to live, so he secured a seat in the auto of a Mr. Dane who was coming to see his sister of this place who is very sick with pneumonia and they arrived in Tahoka at 3 o'clock on Wednesday morning, where Dick was overjoyed to find that his mother was in good health.

Open Law Office

The Hon. J. A. Moore, a native Tennessean, recently moved to Tahoka from west Tennessee, and has opened a law office in the Guaranty State Bank Bldg. Judge Moore has had nine years experience in the practice of law, and comes well recommended by the Judges of the courts in which he has practiced.

County Court with Judge Cain on the bench held a night session Tuesday night on case of J. H. King vs. E. D. Nieman, a suit for breach of sale contract. It would seem from the terms of the contract that defendant was to furnish an abstract and in case of error was to have a reasonable time in which to perfect title. The sale was made some time in July past and some errors in the title had not been corrected and Judge Cain rendered a judgment in favor of the plaintiff for \$500. Notice of application for a new trial was given.

Jess said he reckoned he would stay here, being as he been here eleven years--long enough to starve to death. He showed no symptoms of emancipated condition, and we reckon he will manage to live until garden truck comes into season.

C. Graves a prominent young attorney of Brownfield, was a caller at the News office Saturday. Mr. Graves is a friend of R. C. Davidson of Higginbotham-Harris Lbr. Co.



MOST CANDY MADE SINCE THE WORLD BEGAN IS PUT IN THE SHADE BY THIS CANDYMAN. HIS BUSINESS HE KNOWS, AS HIS CANDIES SHOWS.

NATURE NEEDS A HELPING HAND TO CURE AN ACHE OR PAIN; ASSISTED BY THE PUREST DRUGS SHE'LL MAKE YOU WELL AGAIN.

Try Us

For TOILET ARTICLES, Nadine and Sweet Sixteen Face Powders, Violet Nutri and Penular Vanishing Creams, Cold Creams, Soaps, Hair Tonics, Shampoo Creams and Dental Creams.

Your Choicest Odors in Perfumes.

In Fact, Everything You Want; Our Line Is Complete.

Barnes Drug Co.

Messrs D. C. Gibson, and E. L. Sorrells will build attractive residences in North Tahoka the very near future. Their new homes will be located in the same block as that in which C. C. Coker began his new home this week.

Mr. Adams, senior member in the firm Adams Hardware Co., has purchased lots in North Tahoka, east of the A. D. Shook place, and is improving them. He will build a handsome residence on these lots in the near future.

An expert sign painter has been in Tahoka the past few weeks, and among the business houses that have had signs painted we have noticed, "The Alcove Confectionery," "Adams Hardware Co" and the "Star Theatre"

Highest market price paid for your butter and eggs. Meeks Cash Store. 22-1t.

Money is made by ad reading.

Whether it snows or whether it blows; the season comes and the season goes; the crows get sick and the farmers get blue; the storekeepers kick and the lawyers sue; the preachers preach and the sinners sin, and cares beset the souls of men. But thru it all the painter prints; he saves and saves and stints and stints; the winds may rave and the floods may roll, and doughnuts baked from pole to pole, but the man he prints and prints; he saves and saves, and stints and stints. Happy, happy, printer man, he does the best he can--sticking type or twisting press, he trusts to luck and does his best.

The Law requires the Prairie Dogs to be killed by August 23rd, 1917. If you have the dogs, we have the poison. Let's deal, We solicit your business in anything in our line.

Barnes Drug Co., Tahoka.

22-tf

Protection To the Public at Every Stage

- ☛ The assurance of a uniform price to every purchaser-- Making it possible for the inexperienced to buy with the facility of an expert.
- ☛ Itemized ticket given with each purchase.
- ☛ Always ready and glad to make correction of any error.
- ☛ Handling material of the right kind and price for the erection of the cheapest wind-break or the most modern mansion.
- ☛ This is the policy of the new yard and upon which we are working to build success.

Gibson-Sorrells Lbr. Co.

One and a half Blocks of Guaranty Bank, Tahoka

Run No Chances

NEW YEAR'S



RESOLUTIONS

Jno. C. Woodall & Co.

Insurance of All Kinds.

Thomas Bldg.

Tahoka, Texas.

this coming year. Make up your mind at once to have a

Policy of Insurance

on your property, household goods, stock, store and factory. We write up fire risks on all lines mentioned above, and will cheerfully furnish any further information desired.

Lynn County News

Published Every Friday by
H. C. Crie & Company

J. Crie.....Editor and Manager

One Year [strictly in advance] \$1.50
Advertising rates on application

Entered as second class matter, July 10, 1906, at
the postoffice at Tahoka, Texas, under the act of
Congress of March 3rd, 1879.

Four Issues Counted a Month

Advantages Of Buying
Advertised Goods

Merchandise that is advertised moves much faster than that which is not, and therefore the stock is kept new and up-to-date. There are no shopworn, slow sellers to be disposed of in the store that keeps the advertising columns at work selling goods.

And you can always depend upon the quality of advertised articles. The merchant's reputation is back of his merchandise and he cannot jeopardize it by misrepresenting his goods even the least bit.

Furthermore, the dealer's newspaper announcement usually offers money-saving bargains, and every thrifty person should take advantage of such opportunities. Read the ads today.

Co-operation of money makes big business possible, co-operation of labor makes a living wage possible for the wage earner. Co-operation is the only road to community prosperity. Let each of us co-operate with each other in Tahoka in the front rank of South Plains towns. Co-operation is only attained by organization and Tahoka needs an organization to foster and encourage business enterprises to locate among us. Oh yes, we have commercial club, but about all it is noted for is the lengthy time it can hibernate without dying.

Drs. Inmon & Turrentine
Physicians and Surgeons
Office in Shook Building
Over Post Office
Tahoka, Texas

E. E. Callaway **C. B. Townes**
Res. Phone 46 Res. Phone 131
Physicians and Surgeons
Office Phone 45
Office upstairs Thomas Bros. Bldg

Dr. J. H. McCoy
Physician and Surgeon
Office at Barnes Drug Store
Office phone 135 Res. phone 108

C. H. Cain
Lawyer
Office in Guaranty Bank Bldg
Tahoka, Texas

M. M. Herring
Abstracter
Quick Service and Complete
Satisfaction Guaranteed
Tahoka, Texas

Dr. J. R. Singleton
Dentist
Permanently Located
Tahoka, Texas

P. H. Northcross **Mrs. P. H. Northcross, Mgr.**
West Texas Abstract Co.
Abstracters and Conveyancers
Fees 50 cents per page
Satisfaction Guaranteed
Office in County Clerk's Office

B. P. Maddox
Attorney-At-Law
Pr. in All The Courts
Office room 3 Guaranty Bank Bldg
Tahoka, Texas

J. A. Moore
Attorney-At-Law
Office in Guaranty State Bank
Building, Tahoka, Texas.
COLLECTIONS A SPECIALTY

GEO. J. B. WRIGHT
Tinner and Plumber at Tahoka
Hardware, Your patronage solicited.
Work reasonable as prices
of labor and material will permit
All work unconditionally guaranteed.
9-t

According to authority on the subject, if Texas is to derive much benefit from the Federal Farm Loan Banks, it will be necessary that the Legislature submit to the people an amendment to the constitution repealing the homestead clause and substituting some suitable system in its place. The Torrens system is favored by the best authorities.

Can no picture of peace be painted that will appeal to the eye of Europe or Mexico. Or are those countries simply war blind as well as war mad? Is it impossible to make them hear "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that we might not perish, but have everlasting life? Has the world substituted Greed, Gold and Power for Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Or have the latter three for some just cause we know not

Now that the dry goods store is gone, we will be put to some inconvenience when we want a spool of thread or a card of buttons. If another dry goods store ever locates in our town we hope we will realize its worth sufficiently to give it the support necessary to retain it in our commercial life.

The above is a synopsis of an editorial clipped from a recent issue of the Godley (Tex.) Herald.

The demise of this store was the direct result of mail order buying from a large nearby town, by which the citizens saved perhaps a few pennies on their purchases and by the token drove several thousand dollars capital from their town. The aftermath of the whole transaction is that they find metaphorically speaking, that they have cut off their nose to spite their face, and in their loss are suffering some little inconvenience.

In justice to the people be it said that all blame should not be charged against them—the stores stores in the larger nearby town advertised constantly and consistently in the local paper and the people knew that they could supply their wants, the local store was not a consistent advertiser and its demise followed as a matter of course.

Fisher county is to vote on \$100,000 road bonds in the near future; and Wheeler county has \$50,000 bond issue pending.

Surely their roads do not need attention any worse than Lynn county roads do. Then must we draw the conclusion that these two counties are peopled with a more progressive set of people than Lynn county?

Between now and the first of May there will appear a comet of equal magnitude to Haley's comet of 1910 according to information received by us. According to this report, astronomers have not yet plotted the course of this comet and are unable to give definite points at which it will be visible. This comet will be known as "Comet B 16".

In the event that this heavenly phenomenon appears, we may rest assured that there will be much preparation for the end of time among people who believe that the present struggle across the water is the fulfillment of the prophecy of the last war in the holy scriptures.

We ought to have a central market where the farmer can dispose of everything he produces for cash. And the market managers should devise some means of disposing of the produce without the aid of a hungry horde of middlemen. The Farmer would make more money, have less trouble, get his pay sooner, and the profits would be in circulation at home. Try it!

Don't cuss the weeds this spring. Pull 'em up instead.

H. C. CRIE S. S. RAMSEY

Crie & Ramsey.

Real Estate Brokers
Fire Insurance
Loans

Property listed with us will receive prompt and careful attention. If you want to sell or buy let us know your wants and we will do the rest.

Office 2nd story Guaranty State Bank Building.

There is more Catarrh in this section of the country than all other diseases put together, and until the last few years was supposed to be incurable. For a great many years doctors pronounced it a local disease and prescribed local remedies, and by constantly falling to cure with local treatment, pronounced it incurable. Science has proven Catarrh to be a constitutional disease, and therefore requires constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, Ohio, is the only Constitutional cure on the market. It is taken internally in doses from 10 drops to a teaspoonful. It acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. They offer one hundred dollars for any case it fails to cure. Send for circulars and testimonials.

Address: F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.
Sold by Druggists, etc.
Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

FREE PAIR OF TROUSERS!

with each suit order from TODAY until the 31st day of January.

We have a large line of samples to select from. Clothes made by the Oxford Hand Tailoring Co., one of America's leading Tailors.

Clothes guaranteed to fit and wear.

Clothes cleaned and pressed "the Hoffman Sanitary way."

Union Tailor Shop
St. Clair Bros. Props.

Mebane Cotton Seed For Sale

I am selling the Cull'd Early Mebane Improved Triumph Cotton Seed.

The seed will Arrive from Jan. 1st. to seed to Feb. 1st.

C. A. Wasson, Wilson, Texas.

E. D. DUDLEY

EXPERT
HORSESHOEING

With Tahoka Blacksmith Shop

Work Guaranteed
Special Shoes.
Charges Reasonable.

-Glober's Market-

South Side Square

Fresh and Cured
MEATS

Quality and Service
Try us Once
And You Will Again.

Deafness Cannot Be Cured

by local applications, as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional medicine. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian Tube. When this tube is inflamed, you have a rumbling sound or fullness in the ear, and when it is entirely closed, deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever; since cases out of ten are caused by Catarrh, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces.

We will give One Hundred Dollars for any case of Deafness cured by our "Catarrh Cure" if it fails to cure. Send for circulars.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, Ohio.
Sold by Druggists, etc.
Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

GEO. ALLEN
The House Reliable
Oldest and Largest PIANO
and MUSIC HOUSE in
Western Texas
Music, MUSIC TEACHER'S
Supplies, etc., etc. Catalogue
and BOOK OF OLD TIME
SONGS FREE on asking.
Established 1850. SAN ANGELO

Several New Residences Now Under Construction

C. C. Coker, with the firm of Knight & Brashear, began the erection this week of a pretty little home on Sweet street just north of Charley Brown's new residence in north Tahoka. Contractor Wallace is superintending the job.

John Hickerson began Monday the erection of a four room bungalow in east Tahoka. This new residence is on block west and across the street from the Willoughby place.

Contractor Wallace is remodeling the J. N. Thomas house in north Tahoka this week. Mr. Thomas is having several new rooms and a modern roof put to his house, among the improvements is a big fire-place, and a sun porch.

Ben King has just completed a two room house on the northeast quarter of the section joining the original town on the west. His cousin is building a large modern place on the same piece of ground.

Three Families Locate In Three Lakes Community

R. L. Parker and family, his son C. E. Parker and family, and son-in-law, J. L. Nevos, all of Aarmon Oklahoma, have bought land in the Three Lakes community and last week unloaded their immigrant car and moved onto their respective places.

Mr. Parker and son called on the News, and secured a sample copy of the paper to get the Government receipt for killing the prairie dogs. He said he was in favor of the law, and if he could not clean the dogs off his land he wanted the county to have it done.

The News takes pleasure in welcoming the new families to our county, and wish them prosperity while among us.

Edwards Bros. To Build Grain Elevator Here

We are informed this week that Edwards Bros, feed and fuel dealers, have acquired the lots belonging to the Tahoka Mill and Elevator Co., which was destroyed by fire last year, and would erect thereon a modern elevator of sufficient capacity to take care of the grain crops in Lynn county for several years. We understand that construction work will be begun in time to complete the elevator before the crop begins to move this fall Edwards Bros. also bought the engine used to drive the mill machinery. It is of sufficient horsepower for all purposes of an elevator.

Judge B. P. Maddox, lately moved here from Palo Pinto county, was appointed County Attorney at the last session of the Commission's Court, which convened the second Monday of this month.

The West Point school house about 15 miles west of Tahoka was totally destroyed by fire between ten and twelve o'clock Tuesday morning. The house was 20x00 feet in size and the loss is estimated at \$500 without insurance. The origin of the fire is unknown.

F. D. Wright, of Mexia Texas has recently moved to Tahoka and is associated with District Attorney G. E. Lockhart in his law practice. Mr. Wright is a young man of sterling character and we welcome him to our city, and congratulate the Judge in securing his services.

W. H. Fuqua, of Amarillo, is being boomed by the press of the Panhandle and South Plains for governor in 1918. Mr. Fuqua is one of the leading financial spirits of the Panhandle and if elected would give the State of Texas a progressive business administration.

This Bank

Always stands for the highest
degree of Efficiency and Safety.

Every transaction is viewed from the standpoint
of good service to our customers.
We invite your business with the assurance that
it will be efficiently handled.

The First National Bank

Tahoka, Texas

Hotel St. Clair

L. L. WILLIAMS, PROP.

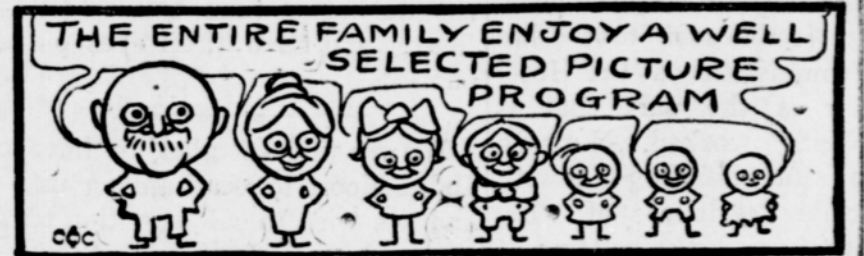
Cafe in Connection

Rates \$1.50 and \$2.00 per day

Corner of Main and Lockwood
North of Square

Tahoka,

Texas



Beginning
Monday, January 29th
We will begin showing a
60 day Program.

Our Films will come direct from Plainview, and will be newer, better class films.

The Best Show In The
Best Town On The
South Plains

THEATRE

ADMISSION 10C

Ours is the Store for your gun
and ammunition



BUY A NEW GUN:--

HUNTING IS FINE SPORT, GETS YOU OUT IN THE OPEN; MAKES YOU ALERT AND QUICK; AND IMPROVES YOUR HEALTH.

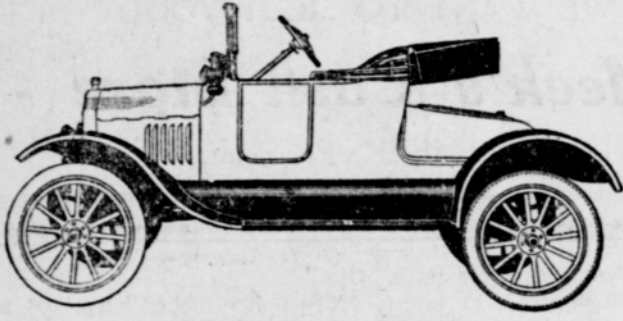
WE'VE GOT THE GUN YOU WANT.
WE'VE GOT THE AMMUNITION YOU NEED—SHELLS LOADED AS YOU WANT THEM.

WE WANT ALL OF YOUR HARDWARE TRADE. COME IN ONCE AND WE WILL GET IT FOR LIEE.

Tahoka Hdwe. Co.

Ford
THE UNIVERSAL CAR

Ford Touring Car
\$360.00 f.o.b. Detroit, Mich.



Ford Roadster
\$345.00 f.o.b. Detroit, Mich.

B. H. Robinson

Saved Girl's Life

"I want to tell you what wonderful benefit I have received from the use of Thedford's Black-Draught," writes Mrs. Sylvania Woods, of Clifton Mills, Ky.

"It certainly has no equal for a gripe, bad colds, liver and stomach troubles. I firmly believe Black-Draught saved my little girl's life. When she had the measles, they went in on her, but a good dose of Thedford's Black-Draught made them break out, and she has had no more trouble. I shall never be without

THEDFORD'S BLACK-DRAUGHT

in my home." For constipation, indigestion, headache, dizziness, malaria, chills and fever, biliousness, and all similar ailments, Thedford's Black-Draught has proved itself a safe, reliable, gentle and valuable remedy.

If you suffer from any of these complaints, try Black-Draught. It is a medicine of known merit. Seventy-five years of splendid success proves its value. Good for young and old. For sale everywhere. Price 25 cents.

The Grip of Evil

John Burton, a worker in a steel mill, suddenly inherits an English title and \$10,000. He decides he will spend his life, necessary, in an attempt to solve the question "Is Humanity in the Grip of Evil?" Each episode of this series forms a distinct story in itself depicting his experiences in his search for the truth.

TWELFTH EPISODE

Into the Pit

The Hell-Cats.

When, if ever, the biography of John Burton, tenth marquis of Castleton, is written, his adventure with the gang of notorious criminals known to the police and to newspaper reporters as the "Hell-cats" will probably bulk large in that interesting and exciting record. In the first place, it was through

their instrumentality that he had met Grace Coe, an event fraught with the utmost significance to his future life; secondly, he contrived to get himself marked down for the gang's signal vengeance, with results which nearly proved disastrous on more than one occasion.

The affair began so quietly that no one could have suspected its extraordinary outcome. One morning John was seated in his study, going through some business papers, when his valet announced that a poor woman wished to see him. Burton at once gave an emphatic refusal. He had learned long since that philanthropy, if it would be reasonably successful, must act along business lines, and all appeals for his assistance were straightway referred to a trustworthy secretary, who either investigated them in person or made inquiries through one of the many charitable associations in the city. By this means the young million-

aire was saved, at least, from downright swindling.

The servant was leaving the room when it became evident that the would-be visitor refused to be denied. She had crossed the hall and was striving to enter the study without further announcement.

Moreover, John had heard a soft, well-spoken voice saying tearfully:

"I am sure if only Mr. Burton would come and see my mother he would help her. There is no one in all this large city more deserving of assistance."

Bitter experience should have taught Burton that the more plausible the story the greater chance there was that it might be based on deceit. But he never could refuse the appeal of a woman, so, changing his mind, he bade the valet allow the applicant to enter. Yet, some degree of prudence having been forced on him by events, he no sooner saw that the new-comer was young and good-looking than he made a secret sign which warned the servant to remain within earshot.

The girl, who was very poorly dressed, and seemed to be in a state of genuine misery, told him that her name was Blanche Griffin.

"My mother has been broken down by anxiety and illness," she explained. "Father died two years ago, and my brother is in a hospital, having been seriously injured while at work in a munition factory. We have really tried hard, Mr. Burton, to keep body and soul together, but my mother absolutely refuses to have our wretched little family troubles investigated by the ladies who come around on what they term 'slum work.' It is not our fault that we have to live in the slums, and it is hard on broken-down working people that they should be classed with outcasts simply because poverty has overtaken them."

The plea was nothing new to John. He had often found the direst want among the honest and industrious poor, and one of the chief difficulties organized charity has to conquer is brought about by the false pride which refuses to make known its sufferings. He was somewhat attracted, too, by the girl's manner and appearance.

Glancing at a diary, he found he had no engagement of importance that morning. The weather was fine, and the district named by the girl was not far distant, so John decided to accompany her, and, as his car was temporarily out of commission, they went there together on foot.

Now, the valet happened to be an unusually observant man. He was well acquainted with his master's temperament, and regretted the soft-hearted impulses which seemed to lead Mr. Burton into so much trouble. He, the valet, had formed a somewhat unfavorable opinion of Blanche Griffin. Her wretched rags and ready tears did not deceive him at all. He saw that the girl was well nourished, that her hair had been tinted, and that her cheeks bore traces of make-up recently applied.

Further, when his master and the young woman crossed the avenue and turned into a side street, they were followed by a stocky, overdressed young man who seemed to have been awaiting their appearance.

At any rate, for some reason which the valet himself could hardly explain, this latest escapade of his master's rendered him uneasy. Above all else, he did not like the name of the locality given by the girl as her mother's residence. It was highly improbable that decent working-class people would live there at all.

So, deeming it best to satisfy these vague doubts, he took his hat and followed Burton and Blanche. On turning the first corner he saw them walking about two hundred yards ahead. At an intervening street corner he was surprised to find the flashily dressed man in conversation with a certain Billy Relly, whom the valet recognized as a reformed criminal now employed in settlement work by a Miss Grace Coe, only daughter of a local banker. The valet, who sympathized with rescue work, had looked in at the settlement once or twice, and had scraped up a sort of acquaintance with Relly, and he had no hesitation now in approaching him. By the time he drew near, Relly had parted from his companion and was watching the latter with anxious eyes as the man swung launtily down the street after Burton

and his companion.

"Who is that fellow, Bill?" inquired the valet.

"He is a tough known as 'Two-Gun Jake,'" said Relly. "He's one of the worst gunmen among the Hell-cats, and he has just told me that they have a ripe one in tow."

The valet instantly grew very wide awake indeed.

"What does he just mean by a 'ripe one'?" he inquired.

"I am afraid they're puttin' up some game on that young fellow who has just passed with Blanche Griffin."

"Do you know her, too?" said the valet, now thoroughly startled.

"Of course I do. She's their decoy. None of the gang comes near the settlement, or they would know that I have quit the crooked work."

"But, good heavens, man!" cried the other, "that's my master, Mr. John Burton, a millionaire, and that young woman came to our house with a yarn about a sick mother."

"Where is she taking him?" came the eager question.

The valet gave the address, and Bill, notwithstanding his new-found regeneration, swore softly under his breath.

"Why, that's the very place where the Hell-cats hang out," he muttered.

"We must follow at once," said the valet. "Suppose things go wrong. What do you think we can do for the best?"

Relly proved equal to the emergency.

"It's almost as much as my life's worth," he said, "but I'll shove right in an' try to stall them off Mr. Burton until you bring help. You've got to find a cop, an' tell him just what you have told me. There's no use in him and you coming alone. He must ring up the station house and get the reserve squad along. And, hurry! When the Hell-cats mean business they put in quick action!"

Meanwhile, John Burton was being entertained by Blanche to a moving story of hardship and distress, unalleviated by a solitary gleam of hope or happiness. Had John been wiser he might have been rendered cautious by this very fact. The poor are not unhappy. They make light of their privations; having few wants, they have equally few desires. The mere habit of living from hand to mouth entails a careless juggling with fate which is by no means indicative of wretchedness. It is almost safe to say that there is more real joy and content in many a hovel than in a king's palace.

Be that as it may, John was soon undeceived. His companion led him into a tumble-down tenement. After traversing rickety stairs and dark, evil-smelling passages he found himself in a large and very well-lighted room. His quick ears caught the click of a lock, and he turned to ask the girl why she was thus securing the door, when he became conscious that several men had entered through other doors, apparently leading to bedrooms or closets.

One glance at the nearest ruffian told Burton how outrageously he had been swindled. Without a spoken word he leaped toward the door and endeavored to open the lock, believing that if he could only gain the narrow passage he might be able to fight his way out.

To his surprise, the door opened in his face, and Two-Gun Jake entered. The gunman took in the situation in a second, and flung himself at Burton's neck. John was momentarily staggered by this unexpected assault. Before he could recover himself he was grabbed by a dozen hands and pinned against a wall.

He had never before set eyes on such a loathsome crew as the men into whose clutches he had fallen. Each face bore the impress of crime and drink. The low forehead, the wolflike jaw, the receding chin, eyes baleful with lust and avarice—these were the features common to the Hell-cats, who, indeed, must have been named by an artist in criminal nomenclature.

Two-Gun Jake relinquished his hold when his assistants were able to secure John without his help.

"So you are the wise guy who goes around flashing dollar bills for the benefit of the deserving poor?" he guffawed loudly. "Well, I guess there's no one more in need of your kind help than this yer crowd. We're goin' to trouble you, Mr. Burton, for ten thousand plunks. That's our price—not a cent less. An' make no mistake, you're goin' to pay and keep a shut mouth afterward, or we'll increase your weight with several ounces of good solid lead. Now, what's it to be? A friendly sentiment, or the other thing?"

Burton did not reply at once. He was trapped, and knew it. He looked almost compassionately at the girl who had decoyed him to this den, and she flushed violently under his piercing gaze. He noticed that a wizened old hag was now standing by Blanche Griffin's side, and apparently gloating over the success of the stratagem which brought this rich prize within the toils, but John had a fleeting impression that the girl was secretly ashamed of her share in the work. He endeavored to temporize.

"If you fellows have any common sense," he said, "you must know quite well that even a man reputedly wealthy does not carry large sums of money in his pocket. Moreover, if I send to my bank for any such amount as that which you demand, there will certainly be an investigation before it is handed over to your messenger. Now, if you will be reasonable I am willing to help you—even by purchasing my freedom if you insist on putting it that way—but I must warn you that you are simply courting disaster by asking for such a preposterous figure."

"You can chuck that here and now," broke in Jake, fiercely. "All you've got to do, mister, is to sign your check, or send for your check book if it isn't in your pocket. . . . Go through him!" he went on, with a truculent sign to the others. "Let's see how he's

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morning, and the door was open here.

A ferocious grin on the man's face showed that he meant exactly what he said. He would stop short of no vile means to enforce his demands. Of course, Burton should have yielded forthwith and trusted to the law to avenge his wrongs, but his gore rose at the notion that these ruffians should be able to plunder him with impunity, and he risked everything on a new and desperate effort to free himself.

Physically, he was a match for any three among them, but it was a foolish thing to tackle a dozen desperadoes, any one of whom might have put a summary end to the affair by knife or pistol.

Two-Gun Jake was evidently afraid that something of the sort might happen. As John went down under a combined attack he heard the leader's warning yell:

"Tie him up, the swine, but don't hurt him too much. He's worth nothin' dead."

The Vendetta.

The fight had ended and Burton was lying on the floor, helpless in the grip

of the door which had opened into the main entrance. Whichever of them thus demanded admittance, he or she was not only in a great hurry, but knew the Hell-cats' secret code, so the door was thrown open without any hesitation, and Bill Relly rushed in.

"You've got to quit, boys!" he shouted, "an' be quick about it, as the cops will have this place surrounded in just ten seconds."

Now, Relly's past record was bad enough, or good enough, according to the point of view of the hearer, that any warning from his lips should be listened to with respect. It was true he had not been seen of late in his accustomed haunts, but it was nothing new for a member of the gang to retire from society for several months, or years—for such a period, in fact, as a judge might determine—and then rejoin the circle as though time were not.

But Two-Gun Jake was not minded to let his helpers disperse without making good his threats against Burton. The man was noted for the callous brutality with which he would wreak spite on any victims who dis-

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Notice.

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County of Lynn }

In accordance with Title 44, Chapter Two, Article 2440, of the Revised Civil Statutes of the State of Texas, notice is hereby given that I will receive, until ten o'clock, a. m., on Monday the 12th day of February, 1917, sealed bids from banking corporations, associations and individual bankers desiring to be selected as the depository of the funds of Lynn County, Texas, and of the public free school funds of Lynn County, Texas, for the ensuing two years; which said bids shall state the rate of interest proposed to be paid computed upon the daily balances to the credit of said funds, and shall be accompanied by a certified check for not less than one-half of one per cent of the total amount of said funds for the preceding year; and Lynn County, by its Commissioners Court, has the right to reject any and all such bids.

Given under my hand and seal of office, at Tahoka, Texas, this 16th day of January, A. D. 1917.
{ SEAL } C. H. CAIN, County Judge,
Lynn County, Texas. 21-24

FOR SALE-1280 acres one mile west, and 220 acres three miles north of O'Donnell. Will divide in 1-4 sections, small payment down, long time on balance, 6 per cent interest. Write to J. Diddie, 613 Millers Ave., Portland, Oregon, or M. Shaw, Lamesa, Texas. 6-23

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WANTED—to buy a good second hand buggy.- See A. B. McGonigal phone 78-c. 19y

WANTED; to trade good piano for cow and calf hogs maize or anything. P. Miller. 11-tf

For Sale at a Bargain.

Gentle brood mare, in foal, guaranteed to bring mule colt. Apply to J. N. GREEN, at King's Livery Barn. 18-tf
turned their faces away from the world.

STRAYED—Bay horse branded 2 on right hip, tail knocked down, any information will be appreciated.—R. L. Parker. Tahoka. 22p

The Grip of Evil

appointed him in the matter of money. He had been known to leave for dead an unfortunate bank messenger whose wallet produced only \$80 instead of the \$80,000 which the thief had expected.

He drew a knife now, and stooped over the prostrate Burton.
"You hear?" he growled vindictively. "The cops are comin'; you've just got five seconds to decide what you mean to do, or this knife will be buried in you!"

Burton would probably have regarded the man's threat as a sheer bluff, but Bill Reilly knew better, and realized that if the young millionaire's life was to be saved he must act fearlessly, and at once. Rushing at Two-Gun Jake, he spun the man off his feet with a very effective upper-cut.

This assault, coming from such an unexpected quarter, momentarily stupefied the Hell-cats, and the men holding Burton relaxed their grip. As a result, John regained his feet, and was thus able to help Reilly in the furious struggle which now broke out, because Jake was the first to understand Reilly's strategy, and promptly called on his associates to put the traitor "out of business."

"He's only playin' for time," he yelled. "Go to it, boys, an' get both of 'em!"

The marvel was that revolvers were not used; possibly some sense of real and instant danger withheld the gang from creating more noise than was absolutely necessary. They put forth every effort, however, to overcome the two men, and Burton could only see out of the tail of his eye that his unknown rescuer was making a gallant fight against overwhelming odds.

He, too, was about to collapse again under the united attack of four or five men, when the door was burst open and a number of police in uniform appeared.

The fight stopped then and there, of course. The sole intent of every rascal among the Hell-cats now was to save his own skin, so the room emptied as though by magic except those who had been gripped by officers of the law at the first onset.

Burton noted in a dazed sort of way that the man who had taken such risk in order to help him had disappeared with the rest. This fact puzzled him. He could not understand it at all. He yet had to learn that if Reilly were seen to be in active collusion with the police his life would undoubtedly be forfeited, since the Hell-cats would strain every nerve to punish him.

Reilly's only chance of safety in the future lay in convincing his former criminal associates that he had really meant well by them in bringing a warning of police intervention, and that he had attacked Two-Gun Jake merely to put an end to a foolish and untimely argument. In order to deceive the Hell-cats he must also evade the police. In addition to this, he did not wish the police to think he had fallen from grace.

So he deliberately headed off the latter in their pursuit of the major portion of the gang, and drew them to a trap-door opening into a flat roof, a means of escape which he had often used in his unregenerate days.

It was not to be denied that something of the fearful joy which attaches itself to a daring crime pulsed once more in Reilly's veins as he fled with the hounds of the law yelping on his

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heels. He followed a familiar path. At the end of a sloping roof he knew he would find a raised balustrade which would check an otherwise inevitable descent into the street beneath. From the flat top of the cornice it was possible to spring across an alley to the roof of the nearest house, and thence climb, catlike, among a forest of chimneys to a well-remembered fire-escape.

Reilly was slightly out of condition, but his nerve was steady as ever, and he took that spectacular leap through midair with all his old confidence.

He hung back purposely until the hand of the nearest policeman was actually outstretched to clutch him. He counted altogether on the fact that the men would balk at that unnerving jump, because, such is the force of imagination, the average individual will falter at a spring high up above the ground which would not demand any display of courage or resolution if taken on terra firma.

In one respect, however, Reilly's calculations erred. He had not realized how thoroughly the patrolman called on by the valet had organized his forces to surround the building. Not only were policemen in overwhelming numbers stationed at every exit from the Hell-cats' headquarters, but vedettes occupied strategic points on every possible line of retreat. So Reilly's daring leap was noted, and the pursuit was developed by others who had not been called on to negotiate that ugly-looking chasm.

The fugitive contrived to get down his favorite fire-escape only to find the pack in full cry behind him. He ran, the policeman ran, a gathering mob trailed in behind, and so a veritable mob swarmed around the Settlement when Reilly dashed through its hospitable portal.

It was now hopelessly out of the question that he should stop and explain. He must carry through the pretense to the bitter end, because a hundred pairs of eyes would eagerly devour every phase of the capture when he was grabbed by the police, and a hundred tongues retail the astounding fact that this master criminal had gone off on the best of terms with the "cops."

Of course, he was able to gain a slight respite by reason of his knowledge of the familiar but intricate turns in the Settlement building. Thus, he dashed into the office used by Miss Grace Coe a few seconds in advance of the hue and cry.

The girl looked up with an air of surprise, since her trusted assistant was not in the habit of entering so unceremoniously.

"Don't ask me to explain now, miss," he panted brokenly. "I'll make everything clear in a minute or two. Hide me from the police! Tell them I'm not here. It's all right, miss; it is, really!"

He could say no more. The girl had to decide in an instant, but she placed implicit trust in the man, and bade him enter a closet in which she usually kept a macintosh and some spare clothing in case of bad weather.

A policeman dashed in and asked her if she had seen a man whom he described hurriedly, and who obviously could be none other than Reilly.

"No," she said, on the spur of the moment. "He is not here."

The policeman, however, was a dogged person, and not to be put off his purpose by any woman's wiles. "I'm afraid I'll have to search, miss," he said firmly, and, after a quick glance around the room, tore open the closet door.

Reilly's subterfuge was now at an end. He must either fight or yield. He might have endeavored to trip the policeman, and seek a new refuge, when any chance of success in this respect was completely spoiled by the appearance of other officers.

Grace, however, intervened. She placed her hand on the policeman's arm and said earnestly:

"I am sure this man has done nothing wrong. He is one of my most loyal helpers."

"Can't help that, miss," said the policeman gruffly. "We caught him on the job. If he's honest why did he run?"

The argument was unanswerable. Reilly was handcuffed forthwith, and would have been led away in durance vile had not Burton come in with the valet. Of course, John recognized immediately the man whose valiant intervention had saved him from serious injury if not from death itself.

"Why," he cried in amazement, "this chap is on our side. He helped me at a critical moment. If he had not fought with the utmost courage I would have had a knife between my

ribs." The police looked surprised, as they might, but Burton explained matters so lucidly and Grace Coe's tribute to Reilly's character was so convincing that they had no option but to release the prisoner.

They saw, too, that they must cite him as a witness, because his appearance in behalf of the authorities would practically condemn him to death. His testimony was not needed, since they themselves had caught the gang while actually engaged in a kidnaping outrage which might easily have eventuated in murder. So they went away, having taken full details of the affair from the tended victim, and Reilly slipped of the office soon afterwards in order to change his clothes and remove his face and hands the evidences that breathless struggle.

Burton was therefore left alone with Grace Coe, the valet having gone with the police. It was the first time the two had met, and John, himself in company of a charming young woman whose life was devoted to philanthropic effort, expounded a theory which possessed him like a nightmare.

"No matter how I strive," he said bitterly, "I can never escape from a dreadful knowledge that humanity is in the grip of Evil."

Grace was shocked and distressed by such an opinion from the lips of a man who seemed to speak with a certainty. She shook her head.

"I do not agree with you, Mr. Burton," she answered. "My experience of life leads to a directly opposite conclusion. It is nothing new to me to hear such views, however, because my own father holds that it is impossible to reform a criminal, but I am certain that this terrible verdict on mankind is both unjust and unwarranted by the facts. Why, you owe your life today to Bill Reilly, a notorious big game who has committed numerous crimes and has served several terms in the penitentiary!"

John was decidedly taken aback by the girl's vigorous defense of her protegee. He smiled, and did not reply at once. Looking around the office, with its businesslike equipment and practical air, he decided to investigate Miss Coe's theories.

"I am interested in settlement work," he said at last. "I have seen some things of it already—under different conditions—and would like to learn your methods. May I come occasionally and help you?"

Grace blushed prettily. Not every day did she receive offers of assistance from young and good-looking millionaires.

"We are always glad of the cooperation of earnest-minded people," she said simply, and John liked her all the more that she did not accept his services too readily.

Oddly enough, Grace's convictions were tested severely that very night. Infuriated by the failure of his attack on Burton, Two-Gun Jake resolved to break into the Coes' home and rifle it of money and jewels. Blanche Griffin was his tool. When he had forced a window and seen that the coast was clear he helped his confederate to enter Grace's boudoir.

The girl was actually collecting a number of valuables when she upset a vase, and was surprised by Grace, who walked in from her bedroom.

Instead of screaming for help she caught the would-be thief by the arm, spoke to her kindly, and soon brought tears to Blanche's eyes.

Jake, witnessing this scene from the garden, was so astonished by it that he neglected his own job and was grabbed by a patrolman, who straightway brought him into the lighted room.

Grace, however, was true to her principles. She denounced the policeman and literally dumfounded Jake by declaring that Blanche was her maid.

The result was that Jake was set at liberty, and Grace kept the discredited Blanche in the house as her guest. Blanche Griffin was so overcome by this treatment that she promised to reform and undertook to cut herself adrift from the Hell-cats forthwith.

Thus far, things had gone well, but the day's doings had sown the seeds of future mischief, and John Burton was destined to receive further and very bitter proof of his theory that Humanity was in the Grip of Evil, even as his meeting with Grace Coe had brought to him the realization that there was something of good in the world.

(END OF TWELFTH EPISODE)

Mrs. Dora Wilmot, left Monday evening for Lamesa.