

# HAPPY NEW YEAR

## Eastland Telegram

"COVERING EASTLAND COUNTY"



VOLUME TWENTY-SEVEN

EASTLAND, TEXAS, TUESDAY, JANUARY 1, 1957

No. 105

### Moore... ABOUT Eastland

By VIRGIL E. MOORE

Pop Whitaker has an offer that would be hard to beat. Pop is offering, free of charge, a large, rich garden space to someone who wants to use it. There will be no charge, Pop said, and he even agreed to plow the thing up for you if you are to lazy. He lives at 308 East Hill, or you can phone 10 or 1137-W.

—Vem—

Mrs. W. T. Young phoned to say she had quite a few old issues of the Oil Belt News. We are interested in looking at any old back papers you might have around the house, and we appreciate Mrs. Young calling. Wish you would do the same.

—Vem—

We were laughing up our sleeves in our column the other day about all the suckers around town having to inventory their stock. We realize our publisher was such a low character, but no sooner did he read our writings than he ordered us to start counting. You just can't win around this joint!

—Vem—

This, of course, is our New Year's edition. And it's the time for making resolutions. About the best thing we could do would be to do the things we said we would do in our last New Year's resolutions. For, if we remember correctly, we didn't make the grade on a single one of them.

We will resolve to try to make the Telegram a better newspaper in the coming year. Better coverage of local news, and more local pictures will be our aim.

Our pet project for the year will be an effort to get a new city charter written. We feel that if we gripe about the old one three times a week, someone will sooner or later get tired of hearing it to do something about it.

At best, the City of Eastland is operating under no charter at all. Under the old charter, City officials could draw salaries of only about \$150. There has been no amendment to that pay scale, but salaries are considerable higher than that, although still not high enough. Therefore, city commissioners and the city manager are breaking laws each day. Under the charter the city can not grow. Eastland cannot annex any area unless citizens of that area ask that they be annexed. Therefore, many people around Eastland enjoy both fire and police protection without sharing in the burdens of the city. For a very slight charge they also get city water. If any city ever needed a new charter, Eastland, Texas, U.S.A. is that city. And you, my

(Continued on Page Two)

### Peanut Reserve Program Is Cut

There will be no acreage reserve program for peanuts for 1957," Emmett E. Powell, office manager of the Eastland County Agriculture Stabilization and Conservation office revealed today.

Powell said new payment rates have been set up on cotton acreage placed in the Soil Bank acreage reserve. "These new payment rates will be mailed to cotton growers in the next few days," he said.

"In so far as we know, land placed in the 1957 Soil Bank must not be grazed in 1957," he declared. "If a producer intends to put land in the Soil Bank Program it should not be grazed after Jan. 1."

"Funds for the conservation reserve are limited to each county and producers signing up on the program will be signed up on first come, first served basis. When the funds for this program are exhausted we will be unable to take more contracts, but in no case after March 15."

Powell listed the ACP practices for 1957 as follows: Seeding pasture grasses, controlling oak and mesquite, construction of tanks, diversion terraces, waterways, and standard terraces.

"If you are interested in carrying out any of these practices for 1957 get in touch with the ASC office," he said.

### Eastland Closes For New Year's Day Activities

Tuesday is an official holiday in Eastland and most Eastland stores, offices and public buildings will be closed.

The courthouse, city hall, post office and bank will all observe New Year's Day, one of the days selected by a Chamber of Commerce committee as an official holiday here.

A number of New Year Eve dances and parties were held last night, but there is no special observance planned here today.

The holiday, of course, exempts such folks as policemen, firemen, telephone operators, newspapermen and all other emergency positions.

Motorists here were again asked to pay strict attention to their driving in order to stay out of the statistics compiled by the State Highway Department.

### Oil Firm Moves Superintendent To Eastland

Harding Production Co. of Dallas has located their district superintendent in Eastland.

Edward J. Petty and family are now making their home at 505 South Bassett.

Harding Production Co. has interest in several wells in this area and plan to do extensive drilling.

**Weather FREYSLAG INSURANCE AGENCY**  
No. Side Square Phone 178  
Presents the Weather Report

Clear to partly cloudy with no important changes in temperature. High both days middle 60s. Low Tuesday night near 40.



JACK CHAMBERLAIN JR. country club president

### Jack Chamberlain Jr. Is Lakeside Club President

Jack Chamberlain Jr. is the newly elected president of the Lakeside Country Club.

Chamberlain was selected to head the club during the coming year at a meeting of members Sunday afternoon. Other new officers elected included Carl Johnson, vice president, and Andy Taylor, secretary-treasurer.

Members of the Board of Directors are E. K. Henderson, Emmett Powell, Everett Plowman, Neil Day and George Parrack.

Chamberlain said every effort would be made to continue to improve the Lakeside Club. During the past year much work has been done on the nine hole golf course, and recent rains have greatly helped the course. Work on adding to the clubhouse is now underway.

Neil Day is outgoing president. He was praised for his active work during the past year. Day will serve on the Board on Directors during 1957.

W. A. Ball is manager of the club, and was re-elected to serve in that capacity during the coming year.

### Garland Man Loses Leg In Fall From Train

TEL PI GARLAND 24

A Garland man was in the West Texas Hospital in Ranger this morning with a severed left leg after falling from a freight train between Ranger and Strawn.

The man identified himself as Felix B. White. He said he fell from a moving T&P freight train. A second train crew spotted the injured man in Wile Canyon. Deputy Sheriff Johnny Boyd and a Ranger doctor reached the injured man by a railroad hand car after efforts to reach him with an ambulance failed.

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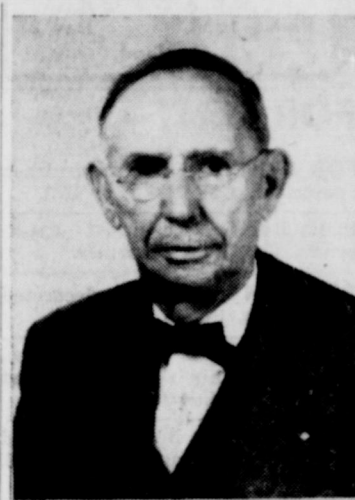
## Good Year Forecast For Eastland County

### If Drouth Breaks Things Will Shine

Eastland business, professional and farmers alike were almost unanimous in predicting a good year for 1957.

The optimistic outlook came despite a record breaking drouth. Most farmers seem to feel the drouth must end sometime, and heavy rains during December gave them new hope.

And from the farmers viewpoint, it takes a lot to still be optimistic. The past year saw the



EARL CONNER SR. death takes pioneer

City workmen have started putting up the new street marker signs here. They are working outward from the downtown square. Markers will be placed on each intersection in the city.

Eastland Lions will not hold their regular meeting today because of the holiday. Rotarians cancelled their Monday meeting too.

Eastland Mavericks started their workouts again this week in anticipation of kicking off the 1957 basketball campaign against Ranger in the Olden tournament Thursday. Gametime will be 9:15 p.m.

Classes resume in Eastland schools Wednesday. The holidays, which began Dec. 21, ended in the typical way: children were sad and their parents were glad.

Funeral services will be held Tuesday for Earl Conner Sr., one of Eastland County oldest pioneers, who died Sunday after a brief illness.

Mr. Conner, 84, moved to Eastland when he was only four years old. At the time of his death he was active as a prominent attorney.

Services will be held Tuesday at 2 p.m. at the First Methodist Church with Rev. Richard Smith, pastor, officiating. Burial will be in Eastland Cemetery under the direction of Hamner Funeral Home.

Palbearers will be Charles Freyschlag, Bill Frost, Jack Frost, Virgil Seaberry Jr., Russell Hill and J. M. Davis, all of Eastland, Allen Conner of Fort Worth and Ted Frewery of Dallas.

Mr. Conner was born near Waxahachie Dec. 2, 1872, and came to Eastland County with his parents in the fall of 1876, where he resided all his life, with the exception of five years absence in the State of Washington and while attending school.

He received his education in the public schools at Eastland and Seattle, Wash. He was a graduate of Marvin College of Waxahachie and attended the University of Texas in 1894-95. He then taught school at Buenavista in Ellis county, and was principal of Eastland High School in 1895-96. He received his license to practice law when he was 24 and continuously practiced law at Eastland since that time. He was for a while associated in the practice of law with the late Judge J. H. Calhoun and John D. McRae, and in the latter part of his life with his son, Earl Conner Jr.

He served as special district judge, chief justice and associate justice of the Eleventh District Court of Civil Appeals, always by appointment.

He also served on the city commission and the Eastland School Board, and during his early life

(Continued on Page 2)

### Services Set Today For Earl Conner Sr.

High School in 1895-96. He received his license to practice law when he was 24 and continuously practiced law at Eastland since that time. He was for a while associated in the practice of law with the late Judge J. H. Calhoun and John D. McRae, and in the latter part of his life with his son, Earl Conner Jr.

He served as special district judge, chief justice and associate justice of the Eleventh District Court of Civil Appeals, always by appointment.

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(Continued on Page 2)

### Stock Show To Send Caravan To Eastland

Three Eastland County cities Eastland, Ranger, and Cisco will be visited Tuesday, Jan. 8, by 35 members of the Fort Worth Optimists Clubs, who will extend an invitation to the Southwestern Exposition and Fat Stock Show. Dates of the Show are Jan. 25 through Feb. 3.

With them will be musicians and singers who will provide entertainment at each of the three cities. The chartered bus will arrive at Ranger at 9 a.m., and Cisco, 10 a.m.

The Fort Worth Show this year offers \$181,000 in premiums.

The world's greatest indoor rodeo will present brilliant specialty acts, the Ranch Girls Barrel Race and the open cutting horse contest as well as all of the world's champion cowboys and their foremost rivals.

Many riding clubs and bands will take part in the opening day parade in downtown Fort Worth, Jan. 25.

### TWO OIL TANKS CATCH FIRE NEAR FLATWOOD COMMUNITY

Eastland and Gorman firemen teamed together Sunday to fight a raging oil fire, and their teamwork payed off.

Two 150 barrel tanks of oil caught fire on a lease south of the Flatwood community as workers were heating the oil. A line of the heater broke loose, according to Eastland Fire Chief Billy Jack Johnson and the fire spread to the tanks through a hose on top of the tanks.

Two pump motors were ruined and damage to the tanks and other equipment was extensive. The flames were put out before the oil got hot enough to explode, however.

Fire fighters from Ranger and Cisco were also called to the scene of the blaze, but local firemen had the blaze under control before they arrived, and the two neighboring departments were sent home.

## Top Stories Of Year In Eastland Are Named

Nineteen hundred and fifty-six was a year of progress for Eastland, as a month by month summary of happenings quickly reveals.

It was a year which saw more happenings on the business front here than had occurred in many a day, and it was a year of sports supremacy. To pick the top story of the year is not easy, but the Telegram staff selected the building and opening of the new Hollywood-Maxwell Corset Co., which employs 250 with a half-million dollar annual payroll, as the biggest happening of the year.

Ranked as the second biggest story of the year was the wonderful rain which fell in late April and early May. The rain, as much as eight inches in parts of the county, filled up Lake Leon for the first time. In truth, the Lake was four inches short of capacity on May 1, but it was as full as it could be without running over the spillway.

The Mavericks great showing in the Class A state football playoffs ranked third. Eastland advanced to the semi-finals before having out.

The same group of boys won the district track meet and finished a close third in the district basketball race.

Rated as a tie for fourth and fifth place was the opening of the new Safeway store here and the sale of the Pipkin Food Market chain to Worth Food.

The Republicans capture of the county in the presidential race—the third such event in history—ranked sixth. Seventh ranked was the opening of Perry Bros. new store here. Rated eighth was the purchase and remodeling of the Petroleum Building, and ninth ranked was the announcement that an eight-lane highway would be built through Eastland County. The tenth ranked story was the record number of entries—406—in the County Livestock Show.

Here are the top happenings of the year in Eastland:

Jan. 5—Perry Bros. open most modern variety store in this area.

Jan. 26—Two hundred attend

Quarterback Club banquet to hear George Sauer.

Feb. 1—Retired Civil Service employees organize. Ed Layton of Eastland elected president.

Feb. 23—Annual orchard field day is held.

Feb. 26—Clinton Humphrey's steer wins first place ribbon at Abilene Fat Stock Show.

March 1—New band uniforms are purchased.

March 2—Eastland County pecan growers win 24 of 51 places at State Pecan Show.

March 11—Rev. Harvey Kimball elected president of Cisco Baptist Association.

March 20—O. H. Dick repurchases Eastland Telegram.

March 22—Hillcrest Food Market opens.

March 30-31—New record set as 406 entries recorded in Eastland County Livestock Show. Clinton Humphreys shows both grand champion and reserve grand champion steers.

April 10—Eastland ranks tops in county with total retail sales of \$7,428,000.

April 12—Eastland Mavs win district track championship in runaway fashion.

April 13—Dr. Fehrmann Lund named Lions Club president.

April 14—George L. Davenport re-elected mayor.

April 15—Bart Frasier of Cisco named president of West Texas Turkey Growers Association.

April 22—Eastland Memorial hospital receives \$5000 check from Ford Foundation.

May 1—Lake Leon reaches highest mark in history—within four inches of capacity—following big rain.

May 8—H. F. Park named Conservation Farmer of the year in Upper Leon Soil Conservation District.

May 17—Billy Smith, son of Mr. and Mrs. Taylor Smith, gets Air Force Academy appointment.

May 24—A. E. Taylor resigns as city manager.

June 1—Class of 1954 graduates from E. H. S. Javis Little is valedictorian and Alice Joyce Cushman is salutatorian.

June 3—Town Journal, national magazine, features Eastland Memorial Hospital in June edition.

June 4—New Little League Park is dedicated as season begins.

June 7—Virgil Seaberry Sr., is elected vice president of State Bar Association.

June 12—Jimmy Young is named city manager.

July 5—Aubrey VanHoy named Masonic Worshipful Master.

July 12—Petroleum Building purchased by T. J. Moody and remodeling begins.

July 24—County grants aid to city fire departments.

July 29—Democratic primary sees incumbents win re-election.

August 12—Wort Food requires Pipkin grocery chain in exchange of stock.

August 21—State begins paving

47 blocks in city limits. Price tag on work is \$87,000.

August 23—Plans for 15 million dollar eight-lane super highway across county (Highway 80) announced by State Highway Dept.

August 26—County ranks second in state in peanut acreage planted, Dept. of Commerce reveals.

August 26—Yarborough carries county by 411 votes, but Eastland picks gubernatorial winner—Price Daniel—by scant margin.

August 28—Mavs begin grid workouts.

August 30—Geneva Oil Co. add new field service division.

Sept. 4—School enroll 725 here

Sept. 7—Mavs lose 27-26 contest to Cisco.

Sept. 14—Eastland rips Dublin 39-0.

Sept. 20—Hollywood - Maxwell Corset Co. holds open house at new factory here.

Sept. 21—DeLeon falls, 26-7, to Mavericks.

Sept. 25—CRL "reluctantly" grants phone rate hike to be effective when dial is installed here.

Sept. 28—Cross Plains defeats Eastland, 7-6.

Oct. 2—Lone Cedar Country Club plans outlined by board of directors.

Oct. 5—Mavs spilled by Ranger, 28-12.

Oct. 7—First Methodist Church building mortgage retired.

Oct. 11—Bob Presley of Cisco elected president of Livestock Association.

Oct. 12—Citizens committee raises \$1585.78 to purchase street signs.

Oct. 12—Mavs dump Gorman, 53-0.

Oct. 16—Citizens approve plans for local "y" youth center.

Oct. 19—Eastland dumps Wylie, 38-6.

Oct. 26—Albany falls to locals, 38-23.

Nov. 6—Eastland and Eastland County votes Republican ticket for third time, helps elect Dwight Eisenhower president.

Nov. 11—Mavs wrap up district title, dumping Throckmorton, 65-0.

Nov. 15—Eastland defeats Clyde 42-2.

Nov. 23—Bruce Pipkin's Sport Center opens.

Nov. 25—Mavs down Cross Plains, 26-7, for bi-district honors.

Nov. 29—Eastland observes Thanksgiving.

Nov. 30—Eastland downs Henrietta, 27-20, for regional honors.

Dec. 2—Bethel Baptist Church announces plans to build new church.

Dec. 7—Eastland rips Linden, 34-14, for quarterfinal victory.

Dec. 15—Stinnett drops Mavs, 55-20 in semi-finals. Rattlers go on to win State Class A crown.

Dec. 17—New Safeway store opens. Draws biggest crowds ever to attend opening of new store here.

Dec. 17—Two inch rain aids area.

Dec. 25—Eastland observes quiet Christmas.

Dec. 27—Ten Mavs on all-district team; eight named all-area; two all-state. Coach Carroll Shelton named Class A "coach of the year."

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Installment Loans Custom Made For Each Customer EASTLAND NATIONAL BANK Member F. D. I. C.

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# Eastland Telegram

Eastland County Record established in 1931, consolidated August 31, 1951. Chronicle established 1887, Telegram established 1923. Entered as second class matter at the Post Office at Eastland, Texas under the act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

VIRGIL E. MOORE, Editor  
TIMES PUBLISHING COMPANY  
Published Tri-Weekly—Tuesdays - Thursdays - Sundays  
FRANCES MOORE, Society Editor

One week by carrier in city .15  
One month by carrier in city .45  
One year by mail in County 2.95  
One year by mail in state 3.95  
One year by mail out of state 5.95

NOTICE TO PUBLIC—Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation which may appear in the columns of this newspaper will be gladly corrected upon being brought to the attention of the publishers.

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FOR SALE: Extra nice strawberry plants. \$2.50 per hundred. Phone 554-J.

Native trees, shrubs and plants that we could probably furnish you in the size that you would like: live oak, post oak, black jack, red bud, pecan, hack berry, native elm, persimmon, willow, plum, prickly ash, red hall, black hall, algeria berry bush, shynahall, cactus and others. We welcome your inquiry. Tennyson Nursery and Landscape Service, 1003 West 16th Street, Cisco.

FOR SALE: 18 by 14 house. Perfect for cabin. Call 189 or 123.

FOR SALE: AUTO 1956 Plymouth suburban, good condition, good tires. \$475. Phone 17.

FOR SALE: 193 1/2 acre oil lease. Call 843 or 1828 W. Main.

FOR SALE: Bred Hampshire gilts, with or without papers. Homer Stephens, Route 1, Gorman. Mile west of Euclid.

FOR SALE: MINNOWS. BIG Golden Shiners and Red Horses. Pink Haley, east side of Olden.

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LOST: Blue parakeet. Reward Return to 494 South Bassett or phone 1109-W.

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FOR SALE: Good used gas ranges from \$10 up. Western Auto Stores.

FOR SALE: Three desks in good condition. Replacing desks with newer models. These are excellent buys. Two flat top desks, which would cost \$150 new, for \$25 each. One typewriter desk (not a stand) for \$15. See at Telegram.

FOR SALE: Used Royal portable typewriter. Phone 502.

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FOR RENT: Furnished apartments. 611 West Plummer.

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FOR RENT: 3 bedroom house, 1 1/2 bath. Inquire at 1211 West Main. Phone 804-J.

FOR RENT: Small furnished house, 3 rooms and bath. 310 E. Main.

FOR RENT: 5 room house 407 S. Connellee. See Charles Harris 520 S. Connellee. Phone 354-W.

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**NEW '57 MODEL, SOVIET STYLE**—A pair of Russian women look over the latest model of the Soviet SZL midsize automobile. The pint-sized stubby car was designed and produced at the Serpukhov Motorcycle plant in Moscow.

### Local Woman's Sister Marries In Ft. Worth

Gwendolyn Beard, sister of Mrs. Harold Hitt of Eastland and Mrs. Jesse Sutton of Ranger, was married to Paul Gene Stockemer of Fort Worth Friday night in rites solemnized in the Travis Avenue Baptist Church in Fort Worth, by the bride's father, Rev. B. C. Beard of Olton.

The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph W. Stockemer of Warren, Arkansas.

Given away by her brother-in-law, James R. Taylor of Bryson, the bride wore a princess style gown with a V-neckline and waltz-length skirt. She carried a white Bible with a shower of stephanotis and a white orchid.

The couple will live at 1436 Hammond in Fort Worth.

### Favorites Named At Olden School

Class favorites were elected at Olden High School recently with Elizabeth Alford and Jack Hilliard being named as best all around athletes.

Others chosen were Tommy Alford, best looking boy; Cindy Fox, prettiest girl; and Elizabeth Fox and Don Fox, most popular girl and boy.

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Terms can be arranged for immediate sale!  
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### SERVICES—

(Continued from Page 1)

was active in public, civic and financial matters. He was one of several who procured the construction of Lake Tully, and with five associates built Lake Eastland, which they later sold to the City of Eastland at cost. He was one of the incorporators of the Southern Railway, the Ringling Brothers having bought the road before completion. He and a committee were credited with saving the Eastland Masonic Lodge from bankruptcy. He built the first brick apartment house and the first brick building on the south side of the square in Eastland. He acquired the first inflated tire automobile in the county and the first hot water system for his home.

Conner was instrumental in the establishment of the Eastland Telegram which finally absorbed the Oil Belt News, the Eastland Chronicle and the Eastland County Record.

He was very active during the formative period in the establishment of the oil and gas laws in Texas, and has locally represented the Magnolia Petroleum Oil Co. for more than 40 years, the Lone Star Gas Co. more than 40 years and the Texas and Pacific

Railway Co. more than 50 years, and their local attorney at the time of his death, having received a 50 year service pin awarded by the company.

Some 25 years ago he was elected life president of the Eastland County Bar Association and was a member of the State and American Bar associations.

He joined the Masonic Lodge in 1898 and served all offices, having been elected twice as worshipful master. Later he became a Commandry Mason and a Scottish Rite 32 degree Mason. He continuously was a member of both the York and Scottish orders thereafter.

He was secretary and treasurer of the Methodist Church for 25 years.

Conner married Ava Elizabeth Duggan in 1902. Three children were born to the couple: one daughter, now Mrs. Tully Beth Randolph of Eastland; two sons, Earl Jr. of Eastland and Sam of Ballenger; six grandchildren and one great grandchild. His wife and children survive him.

With his death the last of the original Conner family passed. His brother, Truman H. Conner, who served 12 years as District Judge of the old 42nd Judicial District, and 35 years as chief justice of the Second Supreme Judicial District of Texas, died several years ago at the age of 84.

### Moore About—

(Continued from Page 1)

friend, have just started rearing about it!

—Vem—  
A Happy New Year to you and yours. Our hope is yours, that Eastland may grow and prosper in the coming year, and still stay the wonderful town that it is.

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A few drops of OUTGRO bring blessed relief from tormenting pain of ingrown nail. OUTGRO softens the skin underneath the nail. Allows the nail to be cut and thus prevents further pain and discomfort. OUTGRO is available at all drug counters.

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### Teen-Age Investors Cheer 36,000,000th Chevrolet



Tommy Ramlow, 14, chairman of Class of '56 Stock Co., student investment company at Washington Irving High School, Tarrytown, N. Y., congratulates E. N. Cole, general manager of Chevrolet Motor Division, on completion of 36,000,000th Chevrolet at North Tarrytown plant. Cheering are other members of the freshman class who invested 77 cents each in one share of General Motors common stock as class project in corporate management.

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**FINANCIAL STATEMENT**  
**FIRST FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION OF RANGER**  
December 31, 1956

ASSETS	
First Mortgage Loans	650,470.21
FHA Title I & Other Loans	51,710.31
Stock in Federal Home Loan Bank	10,700.00
U. S. Government Bonds	42,000.00
Cash on Hand and in Bank	6,000.28
	760,880.80

LIABILITIES	
Savings & Investment Accounts	699,421.38
Borrower's Tax & Insurance Reserve	1,047.02
Other Liabilities	6,298.05
Specific and General Reserves	44,166.19
Surplus	9,948.16
	760,880.80

HOW YOUR ASSOCIATION HAS GROWN

1934	3,411.50
1940	38,611.35
1948	106,477.84
1951	290,282.46
1954	427,948.46

Officers and Directors  
I. R. Pearson, President  
F. P. Brashier, Vice President  
C. B. Pruet, Vice President  
C. E. May, Secretary-Treasurer  
J. T. Harness  
Willard Swaney  
J. E. Matthews



# "DUVAL COUNTY, USA"

This is the first in a series of ten articles by New York newspaper reporters Frederick Hodgson and Franz Rosenwald, who recently spent several weeks in Duval Co. and South Texas, gathering facts for this series.

STORY NO. 1

## Ballots, Bullets, Beatings, Booty: That's The Story of Duval County

By-FREDERICK HODGSON

NUEVO LAREDO, MEX.—We, Franz Rosenwald and I, have just been looking over the parking lot where a dark, baby-faced pistolero, Alfredo Cervantes, abandoned his big green automobile, Texas license EL2340, a few hours after he'd killed young Jacob Floyd in Alice, Texas, 80 miles away.

Cervantes must have had a wild ride that night almost four years ago, and his knuckles must have been white on the wheel as he drove onto the Rio Grande bridge from Laredo.

What if the Rangers were ahead of him? What if they'd caught his fellow killer, Mario "The Turk" Sapet, and El Turco had talked? Cervantes breathed easier perhaps as he recalled that El Turco wouldn't dare talk. The life of El Turco, the braggart, the hired assassin, wouldn't be worth a plugged centavo if he uttered a word that would lead to the men "higher up," or to Cervantes. It was a comforting thought.

The center of the span was nearer now. The two officers there, one American and one Mexican, were talking, paying little attention to the approaching automobile. In a second he was past them. He was in Mexico. He was safe.

Here in Nuevo Laredo Cervantes had a couple of quick tequilas at the International Gardens, Ricky Callone's place, to steady his nerves. Then he paid his three pesos—twenty five cents—and vanished.

And to this day El Turco, now serving 99 years in Huntsville Prison, hasn't talked. He wouldn't live long, even in Huntsville, if he did. And El Turk knows it.

What's all this got to do with Boss George Bertram Parr, the tottering Duke of Duval?

The answer, mister, is plenty, but plenty!

Dictatorships, whether they're red as in Russia, black as in Mussolini's Italy, brown as in Hitler's Germany, or red, white and blue as in Parr's Duval, follow the same pattern—ballots, beatings, bullets and booty. The ballots are phony but the others are real. All four figure in the story of Duval County, Texas.

To non-Texans looking in, to observers such as Franz Rosenwald and myself, the political situation in Duval County is utterly fantastic—and frightening. That it can happen here, in America, the home of the free, brings one's thinking up with a jolt.

Dictatorship developed in Duval because the right set of political circumstances existed. And, with Attorney General John Ben Shepperd operating the battering ram, it's now being broken up—because the right set of circumstances exists.

Being outsiders, we are not presuming to point out that circumstances favorable to a clean-up of Duval County could have been brought about any time during the last 50 years, but weren't. Let's just say that the fact that Attorney General Shepperd dared to take on George Parr after 50 years made this series of articles possible.

What if the right set of political circumstances for dictatorship were to come about in other counties, in Texas or anywhere else? Or in whole states? Or even in the entire United States?

That idea isn't intended to be funny. Hitler rose to power because of "the right set of political circumstances." So did old Archie Parr, founder of the dynasty in the Duchy of Duval.

Franz Rosenwald was born and raised in Berlin, and he watched the ridiculous little man with the Charlie Chaplin moustache destroy the Weimar Republic and set up the Third Reich. His personal tragedy under the Hitler terror was great.

Like myself, Rosenwald didn't believe that such a place as Duval County could possibly exist in the Western world, until he came to Texas and saw for himself. Until he talked to little people who had been beaten and ruined, the little people whose names do not appear in the papers. Until he talked to the families of men who had been killed.

Until he talked face to face with one of the killers, a professional murderer, a hired pistolero.

Rosenwald, who has lived under the red shirts and under the brown shirts, and who doesn't like either of them, has written sev-

eral pieces in this series. And he shows the startling similarity between the methods of Boss Parr and the methods of Hitler's bully boys.

Back in April of this year Rosenwald and I called John Ben Shepperd long distance from New York and talked about a book, and possibly a motion picture, about the Duval story. Then he sent us a long telegram, reading in part "The Duval story is a sordid one that America should know, not because of what's happened there but to prevent a recurrence anywhere in the country. Our office will cooperate in every way."

Later we met Mr. Shepperd in Atlantic City, New Jersey, and heard him address a session of the National Association of Attorneys General, of which he is president. We were talking in his hotel room when he received word that Boss Parr had "given back" the 55,000-acre Dobie Ranch, a piece of real estate that Parr had bought for himself with Duval County funds.

The Duval story looked pretty grim even from that distance, just how grim we didn't realize until we hopped an airplane to Austin. There we hired an automobile from Avis and covered more than 4,000 miles of South Texas and Mexico and had a good look at the Duval story for ourselves. We weren't prepared for what we saw and heard.

Texans have lived so close to the Duval story for the past half century that it's old hat by now. Sometimes in the papers there is a story about a killing, the story told out of focus, without relation to the background. Or a spot news story about an indictment, a trial, or a sentence—again told out of focus, because that's the way newspapers have to work. Sometimes Boss Parr hits the front pages with a political pronouncement when he endorses a candidate, or damns a candidate, for reasons of his own.

But, by and large, the full story of Duval hasn't been really and fully told, has never been pulled together all in one place and in complete focus so that the whole picture, clear and sharp, can be seen at one time.

That's what Franz Rosenwald and this writer propose to do.

And we'll tell the story in terms of real, live people, the people who, like the men of the Alamo, of San Jacinto, of Goliad, are fighting—and dying—for the right to be free.

## Gorman Gatherings

By Mrs. R. E. Boucher

Gorman was a very busy little town during the holidays. Not even a parking space on any of the main streets. It was a day of automobiles, 1956. It was quite a different story fifty years ago when we had no paved streets and no cars. Looking back to that date 1906 you would have seen the horse and buggy days. In fact, one of our visitors, not quite that old, produced some of the street scenes of 1906 while here. Tommy Jones and wife of Texas City visited with his mother during the holidays. His father was in business at the time the pictures were made and this sign was very plain "B. J. Jones."

While visiting down town Tommy was meeting his old friends and he met J. E. Walker and he pulled the pictures out of his pocket to show to his old friend and he said "that Mr. Walker recognized his own boyhood picture." The scene was the Frassard Department Store. We are not saying that Walker is old but we are proud that he is one of our early day citizens and that he is alert and still in the pharmacy business.

Visiting in the home of W. L. Andrus for the holidays were Mr. and Mrs. Aubrey Griffin, James and Michael of Phillips and Mr. and Mrs. Gene Marshall of Fort Worth.

Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Cribbs spent Christmas with her father Bob Boucher.

The Gene Ellisons of Abilene were in Gorman Friday night visiting Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Ellison.

Mr. and Mrs. Carlton Basset of Stamford visited with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. M. Roberts and other friends and relatives.

Mrs. Nettie Rider's guests for the holidays were her daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Burk of Austin and daughter-in-law, Mrs. Floyd Rider of Midland.

Mrs. Faye Raines and daughter of Lubbock and Mrs. Mamie Brown of Abilene visited their mother, Mrs. Ella Jobe and Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Jobe.

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The M. A. Penningtons are visiting their relatives in Athens and Fort Worth.

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Mr. and Mrs. Wyley Yeager of DeLeon spent Christmas day with the R. E. Boswells.

BoB Boswell of Fort Worth was home for Christmas.

Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Boswell left Wednesday for Fort Worth where he will be on a job for six weeks or longer.

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## First Beautician In Gorman Dies

GORMAN — Funeral services for Mrs. Florence Butler Jay, 65, have been tentatively scheduled for this afternoon at the Baptist Church in Gorman.

Mrs. Jay, a lifelong resident of Gorman, died Monday Morning.

We have quite a few sick friends; Mrs. Pat Peak is critically ill in her home and Mrs. Florence (Butler) Jay is critically ill in Blackwell hospital.

Mrs. Angie Fritchard, Miss Ethel and Mrs. Ella Logan spent Christmas day with the Joan Collins in Eastland.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Richey and son of Tulsa, Oklahoma and Mr. and Mrs. Elvie Clark and daughter of Enid, Oklahoma are visiting their mothers, Mrs. Minnie Richey and Mrs. J. W. Clark. Also visiting in the Richey home were the Browns of Lubbock.

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Visitors with Dr. E. Wyatt were Mr. and Mrs



# Women's Activities

## Mrs. Gay Mitchell Is Speaker At Thursday Club Christmas Party

Mrs. Gay Poe Mitchell was the guest speaker when the members of the Thursday Afternoon Club honored their husbands with their traditional Christmas dinner on December 20.

As they arrived, guests were served cranberry punch by Mrs. Virgil Seaberry Jr., from a table decorated in red. Dinner was served in the club room at candle lit tables of eight. Each table was decorated to portray Christmas customs in a foreign land. Bethlehem of Judea was represented with a manger scene; Mexico's traditional pinata was on one table; the Dutch table was arranged with wooden shoes and dolls brought from Dutch occupied islands. A gift-filled snowman and other English figures were the center of interest in the table representing England, and Norway was portrayed by a family group of dolls singing under a Christmas tree. The spirit of the American Christmas was depicted by Santa Claus with his sleigh and reindeer in a setting of decorated trees.

Mrs. Harold Durham served as mistress of ceremonies and led the group in the singing of several beloved carols, after she had told the story of the origin of each song. Mrs. Virgil Seaberry Jr. presented Vivian Jones and a group of singers who sang three numbers in keeping with the holiday season. The singers were Vivian Jones, Esther Ruth Jenkins, Inez King, Arvelia Shaw and Ozona Durall, accompanist.

Mrs. Durham introduced the guest speaker, the former Gay Elizabeth Poe, granddaughter of Dr. and Mrs. W. S. Poe, as a hometown girl of whom Eastland may be very proud. She was graduated from Hardin-Simmons University with a major in speech and she is now a teacher in the Abilene public school system. Mrs. Mitchell chose for her subject "World Wide Customs of Christmas" and described traditional celebrations observed in Bethlehem, Germany, Norway, Mexico, Russia and the United States.

Before the arrival of Santa to distribute gifts from the beautifully decorated tree, the club president, Mrs. Frank Sparks, recognized the hostess committee who were Mmes. Cecil Collings, Fred Davenport, Turner Collier, Hubert Jones, W. A. Martin, Harold Durham and F. N. Sayre.

Attending the affair were three guests, Dr. and Mrs. W. S. Poe and Mrs. Charles Loreto of New York City, and the following members and their husbands: Messrs. and Mmes. Cecil Collings, Turner Collier, Frank Crowell, H. H. Durham, Ben Hamner, C. W. Hoffmann, James Horton, D. L. Houle, Iral C. Inzer, Hubert Jones, D. L. Kinaird, Milburn Long, W. A. Martin, Arthur Murrell, Joseph Perkins, Robert G. Perkins, Grady Pipkin, F. N. Sayre, Virgil Seaberry Jr., Frank Sparks, E. R. Townsend, M. A. Treadwell, Tom Wilson, Clyde Young and Mesdames W. P. Leslie, Frank Lovett, B. W. Patterson and R. E. Sikes.

## Westbrooks and Miss Koepf are Honored Friday

A farewell supper was held Friday night at the White Elephant Cafe honoring Dr. and Mrs. B. B. Westbrook, Jr. and Miss Marjorie Koepf. The Westbrooks are moving to Beaumont where he will be connected with a hospital and Miss Koepf will move to Fort Worth soon where she will work at the Carswell Air Force Base Hospital.

Those attending the supper were Mr. and Mrs. Jack Hoffman and Judy; Mr. and Mrs. P. A. Witcher; Mrs. Anna Grace Bumpass; Miss Bonnie Jo Westbrook; Dr. and Mrs. H. J. Bulgrin and the hostesses.

### Cotton Cover-Up



Carnival colors show up in a bloused shirtwaist beach top of cotton chiffon. By Mary Blair of Cabana, it goes over an awning-striped cotton satin swimsuit.

## Roy Turners Are Hosts To Open House Sunday

Rev. and Mrs. Roy Turner were hostesses to an openhouse Sunday in their home, the First Christian Church parsonage, from three to five in the afternoon. Approximately 80 persons called during that time. The holiday open house has been a tradition of the Turners since he became a pastor.

The house was decorated throughout with a Christmas motif with a gaily decorated tree and a large arrangement of red gladiolas in the living room.

The serving table was centered with Christmas balls, pinecones and evergreen. Spiced tea and coffee were served from a silver coffee service with German anise cookies, dips and nuts served from milk glass dishes.

Mr. and Mrs. Eldress Gattis assisted the Turners as co-hostesses.

## SOCIAL CALENDAR

**Thursday, January 3**  
2 p.m.—The Thursday Art Club will elect officers at their meeting in the home of Mrs. Roy Lawson, 206 South Walnut. All members are urged to attend.  
3 p.m.—Federation Affairs will be discussed at the Thursday Afternoon Club meeting in the Woman's Club, with Mrs. Frank Castleberry as leader. Election of officers will also be held at that time.

**Saturday, January 5**  
10 a.m.—Mrs. Tom Wilson will tell stories at the aturday tery our in the Woman's Club. All children between the ages of three years and the fifth grade are invited to attend. It is sponsored by the Thursday Afternoon Club.

**Monday, January 7**  
7:30 p.m.—Mr. Versie Bell will present "A New Way To a Happy New Year" at the Los Leadas Club meeting in the Woman's Club. Mrs. Don Parker will be hostess.

**Wednesday, January 9**  
3 p.m.—A speaker from the Southwest Insurance Information Incorporation and films will be the program at the Civic League and Garden Club meeting in the Woman's Club.

**Thursday, January 10**  
3 p.m.—The Alpha Delphian Club will meet in the Club House and have Rev. Jack Garrett as guest speaker for the afternoon. Members will answer roll call with a Bible verse.

TRADE WITH YOUR HOMETOWN MERCHANTS

## Farewell Coffee Saturday Honors Mrs. J. Carter

Mrs. Jerry Carter was honored with a farewell coffee Saturday morning in the home of Mrs. Don Day.

Mrs. Carter left Sunday for Midland where she will join her husband. For the past four and a

half years she has been employed by the Eastland National Bank. She plans to work for a bank in Midland.

Cinnamon rolls, coffee and Cokes were served to the hostess Mmes. Ronald Burton, Larry Kinard, A. G. Crosby, Jack Horn, Arthur Gallagher, the hostess and honoree.

CALL 601 FOR CLASSIFIED AD SERVICE

## INVITING THE UNDERTAKER-



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## LOOK WHO'S NEW

Mr. and Mrs. June Bond are the parents of a daughter, Sheila Lee, born December 23 at 10 p.m. in the Memorial Hospital at Ardmore, Oklahoma. Her grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Canet and Mrs. Gladys Bond all of Eastland.

### HOLIDAY VISITORS

Visiting in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Hitt and family over the holidays were their parents, Mr. and Mrs. V. M. Hitt of Abilene and Rev. and Mrs. B. C. Beard of Olton; Hitt's brother, V. M. Hitt, Jr.; and her sisters and their families, Rev. and Mrs. Irvin Burison and daughters, Marcia and Therone of Texarkana; Mr. and Mrs. James Robert Taylor of Bryson; Mr. and Mrs. Jessie Sutton, Rhonda and Celeste of Ranger and Miss Gwen Beard of Fort Worth.

Friday the group went to Fort Worth where they attended the wedding of Miss Beard and P. G. Stockemer, at the Travis Avenue Baptist Church.

## Mary Jo Jesse, John Slaughter Married Friday

Miss Mary Jo Jesse, daughter of Mrs. Bertha Jesse, became the bride of John Dean Slaughter, son of Mr. and Mrs. Millard Slaughter of Cisco, Friday at 7 p.m. in the First Christian Church. Rev. Roy M. Turner, pastor, performed the double ring ceremony.

Attending the bride, wearing an aqua dress with white accessories, was Mrs. Jack Graham. Billy Jordan served as best man.

The bride chose for her wedding a grey and gold wool suit. Following a wedding trip to Abilene, the couple are at home at 1112 West Main.

Mrs. Slaughter is a graduate of Eastland High School and is employed in the County Clerk's office. An employee at KERC Radio Station, Slaughter graduated from Cisco High School and Cisco Junior College.

Attending the wedding were Mrs. Bertha Jesse, Mrs. Millard Slaughter, Jerry Slaughter, Mrs. Billy Jordan, Miss Margaret Ellen Jesse and the attendants.

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**And your family's financial standing depends as much upon your ability to manage money as it does your husband's ability to earn it.** Your family savings program is as much your responsibility as it is your husband's.

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Remember, you can help your family win financial security tomorrow—by encouraging your husband to invest regularly in Savings Bonds today.

And the next time you hear someone say "just a housewife," stick up your chin and speak up for the job you're doing. Where would your family or your country be without you?

For the big things in your life, be ready with U. S. Savings Bonds

### Hospital News

Patients in the Eastland Memorial Hospital are:

Mrs. Earline Horton, surgical  
Mrs. Billy Mayfield, medical  
Charles Peel, accident  
Mrs. Pearl Jones, medical  
Lelroy McCullough, surgical  
Mrs. Hattie Whatley, medical  
Kenneth Sullivan, medical  
Harvey Lewis, medical  
Mrs. C. D. Everton, surgical  
Mrs. David Fry and baby girl  
Dismissed were Mrs. Mary Ziehr, Vernon Humphreys, Mrs. Marie Boyett and Stephen Lund.

Patients in the Ranger General Hospital from Eastland are:

G. B. Massengale, medical  
Mrs. Vett Hudson, medical  
M. T. Pharrs, medical  
Mrs. Berta Garland, medical  
Allen Leslie, medical  
Clinton Lovelace, medical  
Carolyn Sue Medford, medical

### VISIT IN ABILENE

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Roe spent Christmas in Abilene with their son, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Roe and their daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Thomas.

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