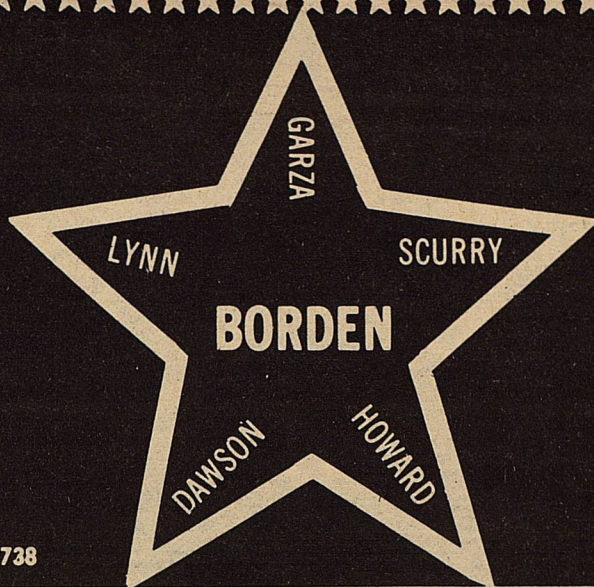


THE

STAR



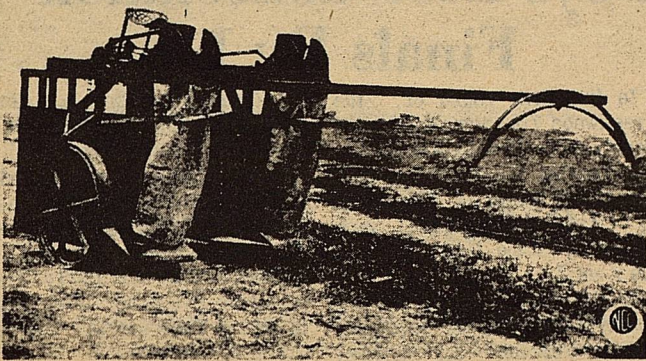
VOL. 5 NO. 13

GAIL, BORDEN COUNTY, TEXAS 79738

DECEMBER 15, WEDNESDAY 1976

10 CENTS 8 PAGES

Serving the Counties of Borden, Dawson, Garza, Howard, Lynn & Scurry



COTTON HARVESTER ?? -- In the late 1890's this spindle type harvester was among more than 1,800 patents for cotton pickers. Everything from blowing machines to chemically extracted bolls were tried. Not until the 1940's did a practical harvester become a reality.

Cotton Heritage

Article from Lamesa Reporter

Cotton production increased so rapidly after Whitney's invention of the gin that farmers feared they would overstock the market.

One historian reports that in 1796--three years after the gin's introduction--a farmer looked over his newly-gathered crop and exclaimed, "Well, I have done with cultivation of cotton. There's enough in that ginhouse to make stockings for all the people in America!"

While he may have been exaggerating somewhat, the farmer and his fellow cotton growers did turn out some 10 million pounds of cotton that year--enough to distribute about 2 1/2 pounds to each citizen then living in the United States.

By present standards, the crop would have made about 20,833 bales. That's pretty slim pickings today. In 1975--a year of unfavorable weather for cotton production in much of the Belt--American farmers produced better than 8.3 million bales.

The High Plains of Texas is, today, one of the largest cotton producing regions to be found.

Within a single generation, however, the Plains were transformed from "cow country" to "cotton country".

Although a few scattered experiments in cotton growing were made by settlers as early as 1880, no serious attempts to grow the crop were made until the turn of the century.

It is reported that Henry A. White cultivated a bumper crop on his farm near Petersburg in 1901 and 16 bales were harvested the following year by S.S. Rush of Lubbock.

In the Plainview community, J.N. Jordan was one of the first to encourage cotton's cultivation. In 1906, he brought in a carload of cottonseed from Childress and sold it to individual farmers for planting. Some 730 bales were produced by Jordan's gin that year, and, by the end of the following season, all cotton produced in Hale, Floyd, Crosby, Lubbock, Swisher and Brisco counties was marketed in Plainview. Fifty of the 4,000 bales sold were hauled by ox-wagon from Lubbock.

Everyone Invited

Borden County's Christmas Program will be at the Dorward Methodist Church in Gail Friday night, December 24 at 6 p.m. Everyone is invited to share in the joy of our Savior's birth.

Cotton's Future Hinges

County cotton growers face a crucial decision late this year in a special referendum on increasing their contributions for research and promotion programs.

Mr. Jim Burkett of the Plains community in Borden County is one producer who believes cotton's future hinges on the outcome of the vote.

"If the referendum carries--as I hope it will--then cotton growers will be showing the big synthetic fiber producers we mean business," he says. "Otherwise, the market momentum that cotton has going for it now will be halted and we'll see our market share slide backwards."

Loss of cotton markets would necessitate a decline in cotton production and this, in turn, would have a dire effect on the economy of Borden County.

A drive for cotton markets was started ten years ago when producers across the Belt approved a \$1 per bale assessment for research and promotion.

"At that time, we had a carry-over of 16.7 million bales," Burkett pointed out. "Cotton acreage was the lowest it had been since 1872 and cotton was bringing only 28 cents apound."

Now, with cotton making a big comeback in consumer favor, the local producer says it's no time to ease up on efforts.

"We can't just sit back and think our \$1 a bale is going to do the job," he added. "With inflation like it is, our \$1 a bale contribution today amounts to less than 60 cents a bale."

In addition, Burkett said federal budget cuts have wiped out the supplemental funds that helped the program get established. "So it's up to producers to protect their investment and keep cotton moving," he emphasized.

The producer pointed to an independent management study commissioned by the U.S. Department of Agriculture on the value of the producer research

cont. to page 7



MR. AND MRS. W. M. (BILL) STEPHENS

Celebrates 50th

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Stephens will be honored on their 50th Wedding Anniversary with a reception in the Borden County High School cafeteria from 2 to 5 P.M. Saturday January 1st 1977. Everyone is cordially invited to attend.

Hostesses and hosts will be neices and nephews of the couple. W.M. (Bill) Stephens has been a resident of Borden County since 1924. He barbered in Gail from 1927-1935. Moving from there to Hobbs, New Mexico where he was employed as a barber for one year. He then returned to Borden County where he farmed and ranched sixteen miles northwest of Gail. He also served eight years as Commissioner of Precinct 1 in Borden County.

Mrs. (May) Stephens is a native of Borden County and has spent most of her life here. They now live on the place where she was born. The Stephens have

been members of The Gail Baptist Church for forty-eight years.

Staff Member

Leaving

We regret the loss of Philena Pewitt on the Borden Star Staff.

Philena plans to continue her education in Lubbock after Christmas. We wish her well.

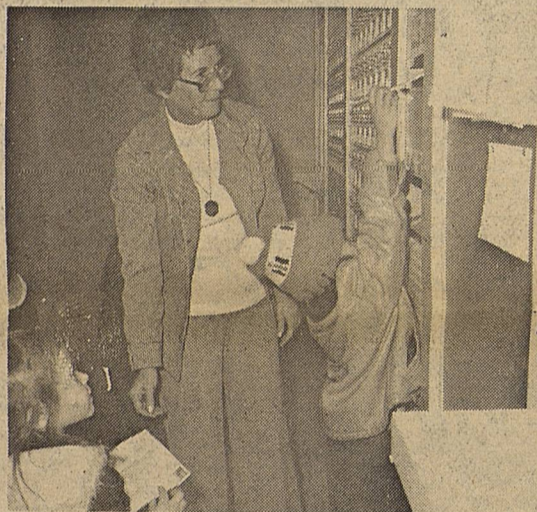
Once again The Borden Star is seeking help. Anyone with typing experience may apply. Though the hours can be arranged for the most convenience, it will be a year round job with two weeks paid vacation.

Any interested person may contact Mrs. J.R. Anderson, Ph. 915/399-4471; or 915/856-4402; or James McLeroy 915/856-4262. If applying by letter please mail to The Borden Star, Box 137, Gail, Texas 79738

Borden County School News



The Eighth Grade went on a field trip to the Clayton Ranch last week. They found fossils approximately 230 million years old. Shown left to right are back row are Bob McLeroy (Sr.), Keil Williams, Shelly White, Talley Griffin, Bart McMeans, Cindi Stewart, Danny Holmes, Jana Edwards, Tamny Telchik, Cindy Grose. Front row- Freddy Espinoza, Van York, Ronda Newsom, Suzanne Walker, Jackie Lockhart (Sr.), Larry Simer (Sr.) Becky Miller, Joie Brummett, Gayla Newton, Heather McPhaul and Charla Vaughn.



Chan Espinoza strains to mail his Santa letter. Offering him moral support are Mrs. Joe Copeland and Rachael Guajario.



MRS. DOTTIE WILLS AND MRS. BEVERLY COPELAND shown at the Gail Postoffice with the Kindergarten class. Back Row-left to right- Kate Phinizy, Richie Anderson, Chris Hagins, Shannon Landrum, Robert Ortiz, Richard Zant, Comanche Elliott, Kate Porter. Front Row-left to right- Chan Espinoza, Chad Vaughn, Eugene Arredondo, and Rachael Guajario.

Jr. High Girls Open District Play

The Junior High girls opened district play with a 41-18 win over Loop Monday night. Talley Griffin led the Coyotes with 26 points, followed by Jana Edwards with 8, Shelly White 6, and Joie Brummett 1 point. Also playing on the forward end were Tammy Telchik and Gena McLeroy. Doing a good job on the guard end were Shelly, Gayla Newton, Debra Kountz, Suzanne Walker, Becky Miller and Cindy Grose. The girl's record is now 7-0.

Basketball News

Girls Greenwood Tourney

The High School girls were defeated by Stanton 68-45 in the Consolation Finals of the Greenwood Tournament Saturday. The girls had advanced to the consolation finals with a 54-35 win over Grady after falling to Rankin 57-41 on the opening day of the tournament.

Game Summaries:
Rankin-Sue Hancock 16 points, Karen Williams 15, Kristy

Smith 8, Lesa Hensley 2 points and 6 rebounds, Tricia Jackson 6 rebounds.
Grady-Sue 25 points, Karen 14, Kristy 12, Lesa 2 points and 8 rebounds, Dana Westbrook 1 point, Martha Anderson 4 rebounds and 4 recoveries.
Stanton-Sue 18 points, Karen 15, Kristy 10, Lesa 2 points and 6 rebounds.

Boys Lose Consolation Finals By 1

In the first round of the Greenwood Tournament, Borden County boys lost to Rankin 57-41. Scoring for Borden County was Larry Simer 14, Tim Smith 11, Craig Peterson 10, Gene Cooley 2, Blane Dyess 2, and Joe Zant 2.

In the second round, Borden County met Grady and beat them 74-53. Scoring for Borden County was Larry Simer 28, Blane Dyess 13, Matt Farmer

10, Craig Peterson 8, Gene Cooley 6, Eurdist Rinehart 4, Joe Zant 2, and Tim Smith 2. Borden County boys then advanced to the consolation finals against Sundown and were beaten by them 36-35. Scoring for Borden County was Larry Simer 16, Blane Dyess 10, Gene Cooley 5, Craig Peterson 2, and Tim Smith 2. The Coyotes are 5-5 for the season.

Important —Time Change

The game between Borden High School and O'Donnell on December 30 will be played at 1:00 p.m. instead of 5:00 p.m.

Jr. High Boys Win

The Borden County Junior High Boys beat Loop Monday night 30-8. Scoring for the Junior High was Bart McMeans 20, Jym Rinehart 2, Keil Williams 2, Danny Holmes 2, Ricky Smith 2, and Kevin Telchik 2.

1976 - 1977

BORDEN HIGH BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Date	OPPONENT	Place	TEAMS	Time
Dec. 17	LOOP*	T	A Girls, A Boys	6:30
Dec. 21	KLONDIKE*	H	A & B Girls, A Boys	5:00
Dec. 30	O'DONNELL	T	A Girls, A & B Boys	1:00
Jan. 4	WELLMAN*	T	A & B Girls, A Boys	5:00
Jan. 7	DAWSON*	H	A & B Girls, A Boys	5:00
Jan. 11	UNION*	T	A Girls, A Boys	6:30
Jan. 18	SANDS*	T	A Girls, A & B Boys	5:00
Jan. 20	LOOP*	H	A Girls, A Boys	6:30
Jan. 25	KLONDIKE*	T	A Girls, A & B Boys	5:00
Jan. 28	WELLMAN*	H	A Girls, A & B Boys	5:00
Feb. 1	DAWSON*	T	A Girls, A & B Boys	5:00
Feb. 4	UNION*	H	A Girls, A Boys	6:30
Feb. 11	SANDS*	H	A & B Boys	6:30

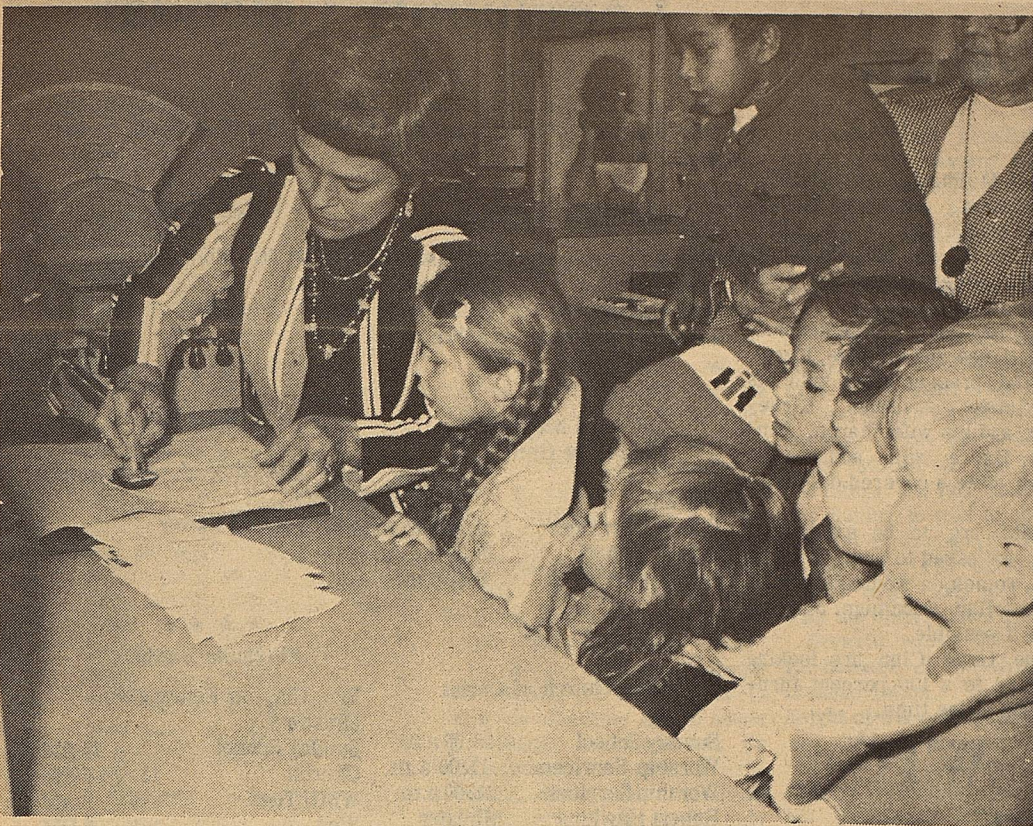
* District 9 B Games ** District Game for Girls Only

1976 - 1977

BORDEN JUNIOR HIGH BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Date	OPPONENT	Place	TEAMS	Time
Dec. 20	DAWSON*	T	A Girls, A & B Boys	5:30
Jan. 3	O'DONNELL	H	A & B Girls, A & B Boys	4:00
Jan. 6 & 8	DISTRICT TOURNAMENT	at LOOP*	A Girls, A Boys	
Jan. 10	UNION*	T	A Girls, A Boys	6:00
Jan. 17	KLONDIKE*	H	A Girls, A & B Boys	5:30
Jan. 20-22	GRADY TOURNAMENT		A Girls, A Boys	
Jan. 24	SANDS*	T	A Girls, A Boys	6:00
Jan. 31	GRADY*	H	A & B Girls, A Boys	5:30
Feb. 3 & 5	KLONDIKE PEE WEE TOURNAMENT		B Girls, B Boys	
Feb. 7	WELLMAN*	H	A Girls, A Boys	6:00

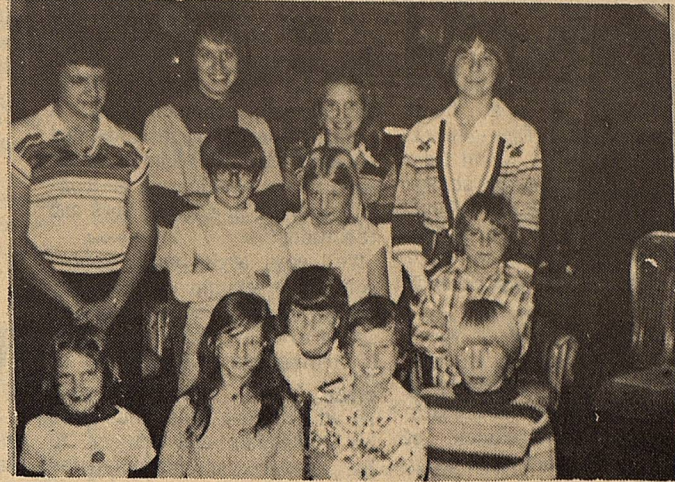
* District Games
Date of Klondike Pee Wee Tournament is tentative



Mrs. Dottie Wills postmarks Santa letters as children watch.



Purchasing stamps.



THE PLAINS PAN-HANDLERS met for their last meeting last week. Show left to right- back row- Karen Williams, Jana Edwards, Stephanie Stephens, and Glynda Burkett. Center row Kirby Williams, Shawna Vaughn, and John Stephens. Front- Kelly Williams, Lavinda Elliott, Shana Bradshaw, Bric Turner and Sammy Williams.

Letters To Santa

After writing letters to Santa Claus and addressing the envelopes to the North Pole, Mrs. Copelands' kindergarten class paid a visit to the Gail Post Office last Thursday. They purchased stamps for the letters, pasted them on the envelopes and mailed them.

The students were then shown how the post office handles mail by Mrs. Dottie Wills, due to absence of Mrs. O.D. Jackson, postmaster. Before leaving the postoffice and on the way back to school, the children sang Christmas carols.

School Menu

December 20-24, 1976

MONDAY
Chicken Salad
Lettuce, Tomatoes
Pork and Beans
Fruit Salad
Batter Bread
Milk

TUESDAY
Burritos
Vegetable Salad
Blackeyed Peas
Fruit Cobbler
Milk

WEDNESDAY
Vegetable Beef Stew
Pimento Cheese
Applesauce
Cornbread
Milk

THURSDAY
Christmas Holiday-
no school

FRIDAY
Christmas Holiday-
No School

District II 4-H Food Show

139 4-Hers from 20 counties gathered Saturday, December 11 at the Texas Tech University Center for the Annual District II 4-H Food Show. Borden County winners entering were Glynda Burkett-Senior Division (main Dish- Blue Ribbon,

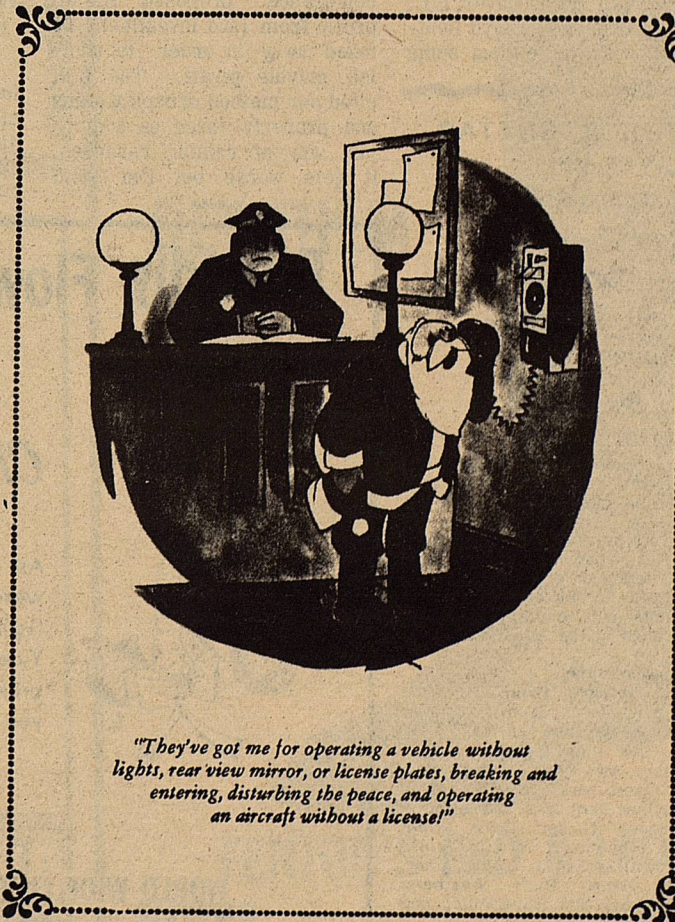
Junior Division blue ribbon winners were Stephanie Stephens (snacks and beverages) and Misty Merritt (breads and desserts). Winning red ribbons in the Junior Division were Tammy Merritt (main dish) and Becky Massingill (side dish),

Plains Pan-Handlers Meet

The cooking group met on December 1, 1976 at the Williams' home. The group made chili. Those attending were Shana Bradshaw, Shawna Vaughn, Stephanie Stevens, Simona Benavidez, Lavinda Elliott, Mickey Burkett, Kirby Williams,

and John Stevens. Junior leaders were Jana Edwards, and Karen Williams. Adult leaders were Mary Lynn Williams and Carolyn Stevens. December 1 was the last meeting for the Pan-Handlers. Reporter, Jana Edwards.

1976							DECEMBER							1976						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT														
NOVEMBER 1976							1							2						
<i>Merry Christmas.</i>																				
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
DAWSON - HERE							4-H MEETING PERIOD 4							H-H IN-SERV TAHOCA-3:30						
6:00 P.M. JR. HI BASKETBALL BOYS & GIRLS LOOP - HERE							5:00 P.M. H.S. BASKETBALL BOYS & GIRLS SANDS - HERE							PIANO RECITAL 7:00 P.M.						
5:30 P.M. JR. HI BASKETBALL BOYS & GIRLS DAWSON - THERE							5:00 P.M. H.S. BASKETBALL BOYS & GIRLS KLONDIKE - HERE							CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS						
CHRISTMAS							HOLIDAYS							CHRISTMAS DAY						
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Jerre's Gottings

While still on the subject of Mexico, it seems the U.N. narrowly escaped being led by Louis Echeverria. A vote was taken last week for U.N. secretary-general. Since ex President Echeverria could not succeed himself as president of Mexico, he had his eye on the U.N. job-but he lost. Kurt Waldheim of Austria was re-elected on the 2nd ballot. Mr. Waldheim and the U.S. have tangled on issues, namely Vietnam, over the years but all in all, he is a far better secretary-general than Echeverria would have been. Course I'm for scrapping the U.N. and gettin US out. But as long as we are straddled with the group, we don't want a land reformer as head honcho.

You remember that it was Louis Echeverria who expropriated thousands of hectares of privately owned fertile lands in his last days as President of Mexico. He handed these lands over to the campesinos who had demanded something for nothing-then he left the after math for his successor to wrestle with. At the same time he modestly announced that he was the obvious leader of the Third World and was available to be secretary-general of the U.N. Had Echeverria won, the world would have been that much closer to being divided among the many.

For all I know, Mr. Waldheim may be all for public ownership of lands too-but at least his name was not mentioned as being a promoter of such shenanigans at the U.N. habitat conference held in Vancouver, B.C. a month or so ago. Lloyd Bentsen got wind of it from some

alert Texas landowners and quickly demanded an explanation from Carla Hills, U.S. delegation head. Ms. Hills, who also chairs HUD, was quick to assure all inquirers that the federal government does not oppose private stewardship of the land.

Now why would she have to make such a to do about something we all agree on? Because, dear friends, that habitat conference drew up a land use statement that must have made Echeverria drool with anticipation. Ms. Hills defensively assets that if opponents think what was adopted (against U.S. recommendations) was bad, you should have heard the original draft. She said, "I categorically assure you that I do not, and the administration does not support 'an end to private ownership of land,' and I strongly resent any reference to the contrary". Then she elaborates by describing the recommendations as, "A compilation of suggestions that governments throughout the world may consider in the context of their practices, laws and traditions".

Well now, according to Bentsen, those recommendations include, "aland...cannot be treated as an ordinary asset controlled by individuals and subject to clude, "land ...cannot be treated as an ordinary asset controlled by individuals and subject to the pressures and inefficiencies of the market". And-"Private land ownership...contributes to social injustice, if unchecked, it may become a major obstacle in the planning and implementation of development schemes.. public control of land is therefore indispensable".

The conference suggested controlling the use of land thru taxation - the U.S. suggested land registration, building codes, zoning and tax incentives as ways to regulate land use. The conference recommended government expropriation without compensation of land for public use. The U.S. suggested government purchase. The conference proposed that all profit from land investment be taxed away in order to abolish private profit. The U.S. cited our method of capital gains and property taxes as a more just way of raising revenues. It gets worse but I'm sick.

Lions Club Party

Jack McPhaul, president of the Gail Lions, announced that the First Annual Lions Club Christmas Party will be held in the school cafeteria, December 18th, 8:00 p.m.

Special guests, State Senator, Kent Hance and his wife, Carol will be present along with his legislative assistant, Rickey Knox and his wife Sharon. Senator Hance will address the group after a covered dish supper.

Gifts are to be exchanged. Men are asked to bring a man's gift, women, a woman's gift. A two dollar maximum on the gifts if possible.

The Lions Club are looking forward to a 100 percent turnout and a fine time.

WTC Spring Registration

Snyder---Registration for spring semester classes at Western Texas College extension centers has been set for Jan. 11 and 13, Dr. Duane Hood, Dean of Student Services and Registrar, has announced.

The registration schedule is as follows:

Colorado City- Jan. 11, 6:30-8 p.m., Colorado Middle School

Haskell-Jan. 11, 6:30-8 p.m., High School Library

Rotan-Jan. 11, 6:30-8 p.m., High School Library

Post-Jan. 13, 6:30-8 p.m., High School Learning Center

Sweetwater-Jan. 13, 6:30-8 p.m., High School cafeteria

Persons wishing additional information about extension center classes may contact the coordinator in each of the above named towns or the office of the registrar at WTC.

Community Calendar

If your club, organization, or church wishes a listing in this calendar, contact the Borden Star, Box 137, Ph. 915-856-4402, by Friday noon.

Gail Baptist Church

Rev. J. Roy Haynes Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Worship Services 11:00 a.m.
Evening Services 5:00 p.m.

Dorward Methodist Church of Gail

Don Elliot Pastor
Worship Services 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
Evening Services 6:30 p.m.

Gail Church of Christ

Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Worship Services 11:00 a.m.
Worship Services 11:00 a.m.
Robert Hawkins Minister

Lions Club

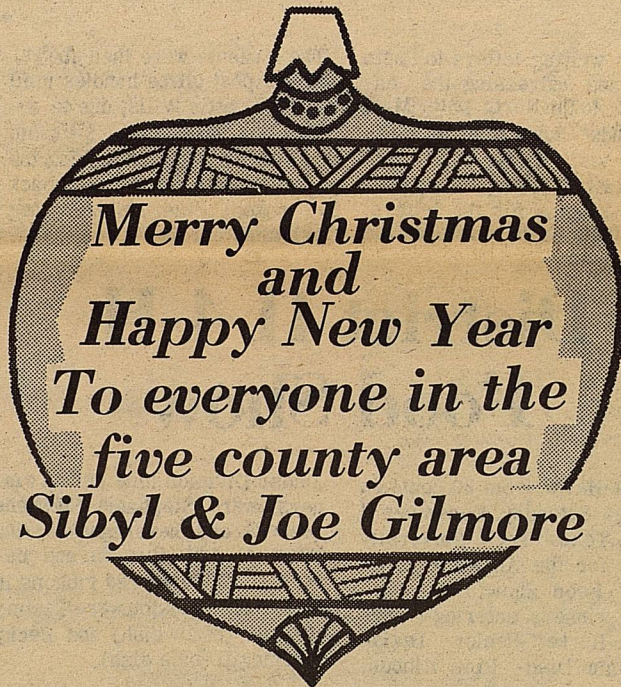
1st and 3rd Mondays
7:00 a.m.
School Cafeteria

Parents Club

First Thursday of every month
2:30 p.m.
Elementary Library

Fluvanna Baptist

Bro. Clayton Pennington
(Pastor)
Sunday School 10 AM
Church 11 AM-6 PM
WMU Tues. 9 AM
Wed 8 PM



THE BORDEN STAR

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Barbara Anderson

Assistant Ed
Clara Dyess

Business Mgr
Philena Pewitt

Adv. Mgr.
Dottie Wills

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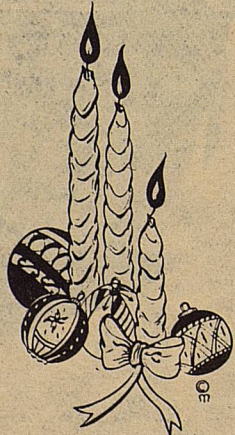
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Borden Star Publishers, Inc.

Friendly Flower Shop

Merry Christmas



As candles glow so warm and bright, to light the way to Yuletide pleasures, we greet you and wish you the best.

WORLD WIDE FLORAL SERVICE

3001 College Ave.



Best Wishes

As the story of the first Christmas lives anew, the hope and promise of His message brings comfort and joy. We join in the general rejoicing and share the treasured tradition of extending season's greetings to our friends.

Modesta's

Health Care In Texas

Houston-The bumper sticker clinging to the tailgate of the dusty pickup truck reads--Groveton, Texas Needs Doctors. In a state where 23 counties have no doctors of medicine and 20 others have but one, what is being done to make health care more accessible to Texas' 12 million citizens?

"We're slowly modifying the medical education process to train more family doctors," explained Dr. Harold Brown, head of the division of family practice at Baylor College of Medicine and formerly a Garland, Tex., family physician for 20 years. "Most of our family physician graduates are going to towns under 20,000 people; in fact, all of our graduates this year plan to stay and practice in small Texas towns."

Baylor's family practice training efforts are "growing like a new calf," Dr. Brown said as he relit his pipe for the third time. "The subtle changes taking place in medical education today will mean that Texans will be able to find a doctor when they really need one in the future."

These "subtle changes" in Baylor's educational program include the probable addition of Family Practice as a required medical student course, four new family practice electives and a family practice residency program that began with three residents in 1973 and will grow to 78 by 1980. A residency program provides training for young graduate physicians in the medical specialty of their choice.

"The need for family doctors, especially in the small and isolated towns, is acute," he pointed out. "Put three family doctors in a town and 85 percent or more of the health problems will be cared for, and for those who do need specialists, the family doctors know who they are and how to reach them," Dr. Brown added with a smile that brightened his leathery face.

The expansion of Baylor's family practice program is a part of the College's overall effort to train more doctors for Texas. Since 1971, with support from the State of Texas, Baylor has tripled its enrollment of Texans, who now constitute 75 percent of the student body. Today, as Texas' only private medical school, Baylor trains 24 percent of the State's new graduates while receiving a cost-effective 3.8 percent of Texas' medical education appropriation. In addition, Baylor's total residency program has grown 42 percent in just five years, to become the largest in Texas.

Baylor College of Medicine's commitment to meet the State's major health care needs involves the training of "primary care" physicians--family practitioners, pediatricians, internists, and obstetricians; gynecologists. The primary care physicians can deal with "the large majority of people's health

problems, serve as their entry into the health care system, and guide them toward the right specialist if they need one," said Dr. Brown. "This year, 60 percent of Baylor's graduating medical class are taking their first year of residency training in a primary care specialty."

"Family practice, as a primary care specialty, lends a whole new element to medical education," Dr. Brown concluded. "We teach medical students to relate to more than just a disease process. We teach them that they are treating a human being who happens to have a disease and we want them to learn to care for people on a personal level."

As Baylor College of Medicine alters its curriculum to meet the changing health needs of Texans, and increases its commitment to primary care training, the people in those dusty pickup trucks should only have to drive across town to see their doctor, rather than drive 90 miles across the county line.

Grain Thefts

Austin-Grain handlers from farmers to elevator operators are being warned by Agriculture Commissioner John C. White to double precautionary steps to halt the increase in thefts of whole truckloads of sorghum.

"By using various schemes, drivers, often using stolen trucks, are stealing more grain than in the past. We have had more reports on thefts recently because of the great amount of grain stored on the ground. Elevators are full, and farmers are having to wait to send their harvest to storage," White explained. "The drivers are bolder now; they just make off with the entire truckload."

Several ruses are successful because of the shortage of transportation. During the height of harvest season, trucks are difficult to contract, and farmers will take almost anyone who is available, just to get his grain out of the weather and into storage, White said.

One driver loaded his truck with 80,400 pounds of milo, consigned for Galveston. The grain

was never delivered. THE BORDEN STAR WED., DEC. 15, 1976 ... 5 of description on the vehicle.

The farmer did get the trailer license number, but the records showed that the license was stolen. Since the truck was loaded at night, no description of the tractor could be made.

At one elevator a driver had a sign taped on the side of his truck and got in line with others with similar authorized signs. He got the truck bed filled and pulled out. "Where the grain was sold is anybody's guess," White said.

"We have several suggestions for farmers and elevator operators, but the most important is to try to be as wary as the thief. If operators don't know the driver, he should get the driver's license number, the make of the truck and trailer, the license number of the truck and trailer, and some type

"Once the grain has been picked up, don't wait two or three days to call the destination. Allow just sufficient time for him to get there and call to make certain that delivery was made. If the truck hasn't reached the destination, call the nearest law enforcement office," White advised.

Farmers in the Panhandle are cautioned not to leave their loaded trailers in the fields overnight; some thieves have just been towing them off.

Another suggestion is the use of confetti coded for each farmer or elevator. This helps in proving theft from elevators and could deter thefts. Such a method is widely used in the Midwest, but has not become common practice in Texas.

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Season's Best

When your stockings are hung by the chimney with care... our holiday greetings are sure to be there.

FRED BARRINGTON CHEVROLET

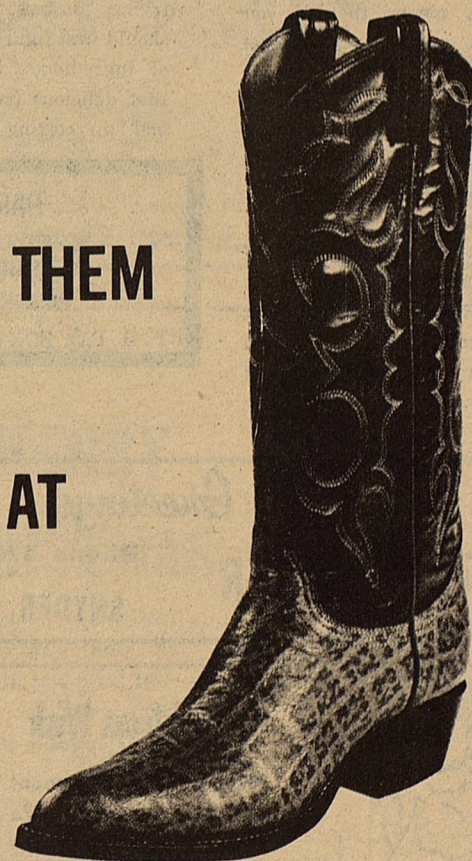
BOOTS

MAKE GREAT CHRISTMAS

PRESENTS

GET THEM

AT



FENTON'S DAD & LAD

SNYDER

LAMESA

May the wreath of happiness

surround your Christmas.

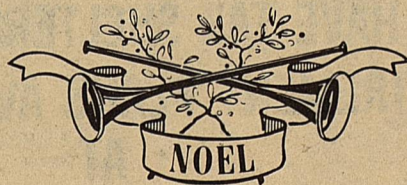
And with this wish from us

to you, we send a hearty

Thank You, too. All the best!

**FARMERS CO-OP
ASSN
O'DONNELL, TEXAS**

A Christmas Wish



We're sounding forth with glad greetings for all our friends and neighbors. May this Christmas season be merry and bright. Many thanks for the pleasure of serving you.

FORD
MERCURY
LINCOLN

BOB BROCK FORD

"Drive a Little. Save a Lot"

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The Consumer Alert

by John L. Hill
Attorney General

AUSTIN—If you're among the many Texans who haven't finished Christmas shopping yet, you may be close to panic as you battle the crowds in stores and shopping centers to hunt for something "just right" at a reasonable price.

Our Consumer Protection Division attorneys say "panic buying" almost always results in later dissatisfaction—either with the product or with the price you had to pay for it.

It's still not too late to get organized, though. You may find that a few simple precautions can help to prevent mistakes that could cause you to start off the New Year in a department store exchange line. Or what's even worse, in line for an emergency loan to pay off debts.

The first and foremost step, say our attorneys, is to make a realistic decision about how much you can spend on remaining Christmas gifts. You should arrive at a total for all gifts and holiday expenses that is compatible with your budget—*don't make financial commitments you cannot meet!*

This means that if you charge purchases at several stores with extended payment plans, you must be able to meet the minimum required payments at each store, *plus* be able to meet your other monthly bills.

Next, make a list of everyone you need to shop for and allocate a certain amount to spend that will keep you within your budget. This will make shopping easier, since

you can eliminate any gifts over that amount. Stick to your list when you shop; however, if you can't find an item or if you spot a good bargain on another, be flexible and take advantage of it. Just be sure it *is* a bargain.

If it's on sale, it may be marked "not returnable" or there may be a notice that "all sales are final." Even if an item isn't on sale, though, you should check the store's return policy before buying something that may need to be exchanged or returned later. Stores are not legally required to refund money, exchange merchandise, or accept returned goods for credit unless the item is defective or is not as represented.

If you find your gift list exceeds your funds, you may want to try cutting back a bit. Some families or groups of friends draw names for Christmas. Or you might like to make some simple gifts, if not too pressed for time. Talented cooks often give homemade holiday foods and special baked goods. This is a nice gesture, but if you're trying to save money, you should first figure up the cost of ingredients. Quite often, that delicious fruitcake may end up costing more (and

taking much more time!) than a "store-bought" gift.

Our attorneys also suggest that you ask yourself some searching questions before setting out on a last-minute shopping spree. Your answers could spell the difference between a Christmas you'll enjoy remembering and one you'll try hard to forget.

-Is this a gift someone really needs or can use?

-Am I paying more than I can afford for a gift because someone "expects it"?

-Am I sacrificing quality for quantity in my buying?

-Will I end up paying double for a gift that I've charged when all the carrying charges are added?

-Will it take me until next Christmas to pay for this one?

-Will my Christmas spending mean my family and I have to do without some necessities during the New Year?

Holiday Traffic Tips

The 55 mph speed limit may have decreased deaths due to auto accidents but fatality rates are climbing again. Many factors are involved but carelessness, especially on country roads, unsafe cars, bad weather and motorists who don't wear seat belts all contribute to accidents that could be prevented, the Texas Medical Association (TMA) says.

In 1975 there were 4.1 people killed for every 100 million miles traveled—compared to 3.9 in 1974. The trend seems to be increasing, the Governor's Office for Traffic Safety says. A National Safety Council study shows country roads produce nine times as many deaths

and 14 times as many property damage accidents as do controlled-access superhighways. Blind intersections and reduced vision on curves and hills contribute to many crashes. Being alert and prepared to stop in these situations can save many lives.

A quick check of the car also can help avoid trouble. Check tire tread and pressure, windshield wipers, accessibility of seat belts, de-fogger or rags to wipe off fogged windows, and hoses, belts and fluids under the hood. Problems with many of these could mean being stranded on the highway in winter weather—which can be very dangerous. Even for a short trip, it's wise to toss in a coat and adequate shoes in case there is car trouble.

CB radios not only help spot smokies but they also are useful for passing on weather and road condition information. Even AM or FM radio weather forecasts can give valuable information about what's coming. Sometimes postponing a trip for a few hours or a day will avoid bad weather that can threaten even experienced drivers. Arriving late is better than not arriving at all, TMA says.

People increase their chances of arriving alive if they wear seat belts. Even if people refuse to use seat belts on short errands, buckling up on a trip is not too much trouble. Hospital beds or caskets are much more confining than seat belts.

Classified

FREE--FREE---FREE

PUPPIES FOR CHRISTMAS
WILL DELIVER
Call 915/399-4456 or contact
Pat Porter
at Vealmoor, Texas

Receives Larry Fultz Award

Lubbock--A former sergeant in the U.S. Air Force police has been named recipient of the Larry Fultz Memorial Award for excellence in university campus police work.

He is David A. Niver, senior criminal investigator for the New Mexico State University (at Las Cruces) Police Department. Niver received the award recently at the 13th annual conference of the Texas and New Mexico Association of College and University Police Departments in Lubbock. The conference was hosted by the Texas Tech University Police Department.

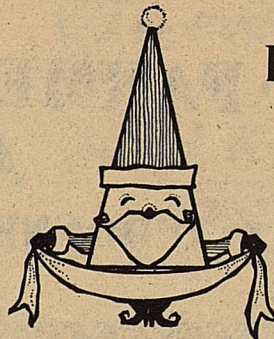
A former "Young Policeman of the Year" in Las Cruces, N.M., Niver was cited for his criminal investigation work in more than 150 cases.

After one year of investigation, Niver solved 62 related criminal offense cases with the arrest of one person. Niver also cleared another 90 criminal investigations with the arrest of another person. In one recent case Niver's work led to the recovery of \$11,000 in university property and the arrest of a suspect.

Praised for his use of color photography in his investigations, Niver also was cited for his off-duty work with the Explorer Scouts in Las Cruces. His police chief, G. Stan Johnson, nominated him for the award, which was named for the late outstanding Houston-area law officer, Fultz, who served several years as the chief of the University of Houston Police Department.

Happy Holiday

Jolly good greetings to all our friends and neighbors. Here's wishing you a holiday brimming with fellowship and good cheer.



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MEMBER FDIC

Kikers Kolumn

17th Deadline For Returning Ballots

Lubbock--Cotton producers have until midnight, Dec. 17 to get their ballots in the mail on the cotton research and promotion referendum ordered by Congress.

Ballots for the long-awaited referendum which authorizes new assessments for cotton research and promotion nationwide were mailed to cotton producers Dec. 8, says County Extension Agent Kiker. These ballots must be returned to county Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation offices with a postmark no later than midnight, Friday, Dec. 17.

"The vote is on amending the Cotton Research and Promotion Act which currently authorizes the collection of \$1 per bale to finance the research and market development work of Cotton Incorporated," says Kiker. "If producers approve, the dollar--a bale collection will rise in 1977 to \$1 plus four-tenths of one percent of the cotton's value."

Cotton Incorporated is the cotton producer's fiber company, says Kiker. It has marketing headquarters in New York, research facilities in Raleigh, N.C. and fabric libraries in New York, Los Angeles, and Dallas.

W.B. Criswell of Idalou, cotton producer and current president of the Lubbock-based Plains Cotton Growers, strongly favors passage of the referendum, as does the entire 50-man PCG Board of Directors.

Criswell says additional funding for Cotton Incorporated is needed for two reasons. First, CI will no longer be getting from \$3 million to \$10 million a year in federal funds as it did for the years 1972 through 1976, he explains, and second, inflation has reduced the buying power of the dollar by about 40 percent since the rate was set in 1966.

"CI has put new and improved cotton products on the market," Criswell points out, "and these products plus CI's advertising and promotion programs have stopped the decline in cotton's share of the textile fiber market for the first time in 20 years or more."

The Board of Directors of CI recommends the supplemental assessment be 4/10ths of 1 percent of the gross sales price per bale of cotton beginning with the 1977 crop. (For example, if cotton prices were 60¢ per pound, the supplement on each 500-lb. bale would be \$1.20.) The order also provides that, beginning with the 1978 crop the rate can be increased in increments on recommendation of the Cotton Board and approval of the Secretary of Agriculture. However, the final rate cannot exceed 1 percent of a bale's gross sales price.

Kiker adds that the producer-run Cotton Board has publicly testified it would not recommend an increase to the Secretary unless an in-depth study showed that (1) the program was being conducted with maximum effectiveness, (2) its effectiveness could be increased only with additional financing, (3) producers indicated an overwhelming sentiment for an increase, and (4)

the Board determined the exact level of the increase desired by producers.

Kiker explains that budgets developed by the CI staff are submitted first to CI's board of directors. Members of this board are cotton farmers who have been elected by cotton producer organizations in each of the cotton-producing states. Once the budget is approved by CI directors, it is then submitted to the Cotton Board. This Board is named by the Secretary of Agriculture from a list of nominees chosen by cotton producer organizations, and has full responsibility for collecting and administering CI funds. After the budget is approved by the Board, it must then be approved by the Secretary of Agriculture who is responsible for seeing that it complies with the Order's provisions.

You And The Law

Q: My father, who lives in Arizona, has willed me an estate. I am married and a resident of Texas. Will this inheritance be considered my separate, or community, property?

A: Separate property in Texas is defined as property owned before marriage or property received after marriage by gift or inheritance; the owner of separate property is free to manage and own it independent of the spouse. Income from separate property, such as interest on a savings account or fees from a rent house, is community property and is owned jointly by the husband and wife.

Cotton Referendum

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cont. from page 1 and promotion program being carried out by Cotton Incorporated. The study concluded that the program has "begun to have impact."

"We know our program is having impact on consumers as well as our competitors", Burkett continued. "Synthetic fiber companies are running trade paper ads against cotton's 'Natural Blend' shirts almost every week.

"It's no wonder," he added.

"These shirts mark the first major reversal in blended fabrics--turning men's shirts from 65 percent polyester to 60 percent cotton--and they've been adopted by 13 of the country's major shirt manufacturers."

Burkett said more adequate funding will not only help keep cotton's momentum going but also allow it to take advantage of opportunities for further market growth.

"I'm convinced a 'yes' vote in the referendum will pay solid dividends for producers," he added.



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Merry Christmas

May the Holy season of His birth fill your hearts with joy, love and peace in full Christmas measure.

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Seasons Greetings 

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Christmas Greetings 

McCall Drug Company

We join in the festivities with an old-fashioned greeting, Merry Christmas to one and to all. Our heartfelt thanks for your continued loyalty and good will.

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 **GREETINGS** 

Extra! Extra! Read all about the Merry Christmas we wish you. May friendship and good cheer be the message of this season.

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MERRY CHRISTMAS 

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What Hurts

Business Most?

In a recent survey among the membership of the West Texas Chamber of Commerce on "What problems Hurt West Texas Business Most", results show that Government Regulations in General was rated first in the list of subjects included in the survey. Inflation came in a close second.

According to J. Fike Godfrey, WTCC executive Vice President, the four biggest problems were (1) Government Regulations in General; (2) Inflation; (3) Taxes; and (4) Government Paperwork.

The survey shows that the next largest problems were rated as follows: (5) Insufficient Labor Supply; (6) Environmental Restrictions; (7) Labor Unions; (8) Minimum Wage Law; (9) Insufficient Depreciation Allowance; (10) Water Supply; (11) Crime; (12) Lack of Available Capital; and (13) Difficulty in Borrowing Money.

"Apparently Big Government Bureaucracy is still the number one road block to more and better job and profit opportunities in West Texas", observed WTCC Executive Vice President Godfrey. A similar survey about a year ago rated Big Government Bureaucracy as the number one problem of West Texas businesses.

Progress Against Leukemia

Are we getting anywhere with cancer research?

Perhaps the most dramatic example of progress is in a relatively rare type of cancer--leukemia. This is a form of cancer that attacks the blood forming tissues. It is usually associated with children, but more adults than children have been victims of leukemia.

Only about 15 years ago, leukemia patients had an average survival time of about three months. Today, there are children who were diagnosed and treated for leukemia ten years ago and are alive and well,

without any symptoms of disease.

The concentrated efforts of scientists, who developed new kinds of drug treatment, paved the way for what would have seemed a miracle just a couple of decades ago. Fully half of all victims of acute lymphocytic leukemia, the kind that hits children, most often, are successfully treated at the cancer centers and hospitals equipped for the most advanced types of treatment.

Only the teamwork at a well equipped institution, where various types of specialists combine their efforts, makes this possible.

Medical scientists believe that advances made in the control of leukemia provide vital leads for treatment of other types of cancer. It is, therefore, not surprising to find that the American Cancer Society spends up to \$5,000,000 a year or leukemia related research.

Furthermore, the Society has developed a program of counseling and help for families where leukemia has struck because of the profound psychological and social problems that affect those families.

QUESTION — What is the single most important factor in traffic safety?

ANSWER — (You-the driver)

Fishing Booming

Almost every fishing party had reports of one or more of these good-sized fish, which ranged up to 10 1/4 pounds. There were several reports of black bass, too, along with channel catfish and white bass.

Here are some of the reports: Y.J.'s Marina--Margie Sullivan, Baird, 6 1/2 and 9 1/2-lb. stripers; Paul Varner, Midland, 9-lb. striper; Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Aycock, Terry Aycock of Midland, and R.B. Fields, Odessa, eight stripers to 10 1/4 lbs.; Charles Huckabee, Odessa, two stripers to 6 lbs; Larry Lindley, and Johnny Nicholas, Odessa, two stripers to 5 lbs, and five white bass.

Triangle Grocery--Mr. and Mrs. R.C. Rainwater, Robert Lee, a 6 1/2 lb. striper, and a 5 1/2 lb. black bass. The Rainwaters previously reported nine channel cat to 13 lbs.

Hillside Grocery--M.D. Young and O.H. Gibbs four stripers to 9 lbs.' W.J. Phillips, Mike Gibson and Bill Flippin of Denver City three stripers to 7 lbs.' 10 white bass to 1 1/2 lbs; Joe Dunham, Odessa, two stripers to 12 lbs., two black bass to 4 lbs, two blue cats to 4 lbs.

Fish A Rama--W.D. Brown, Midland, three black bass to 4 lbs; George Brickley, Midland, two stripers to 4 1/2 lbs.

Grandpaw Says

-Hi-
If you think twice before you speak, you'll never get into the conversation.

Youth is like fashion, both fade away quickly.

There are two kinds of foods: Those who cannot change their opinions, and those who won't.

You never know how many things you can do without until you marry.

When you take responsibilities on your shoulders, there is not much room left for chips.

----just in case it ever comes up in a conversation----It says here that sixteen of the states have names that start with --NORM-----

Hope all continues well at your house.
G.P.



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Christmas Cheer

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Greetings

Hark! Let Christmas be joyful, and every heart light. Thanks for your patronage.

IS 20W GAGE FINA Sweetwater

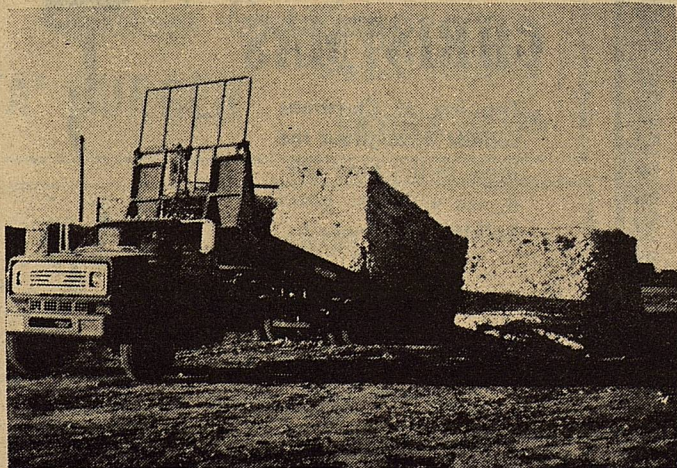
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