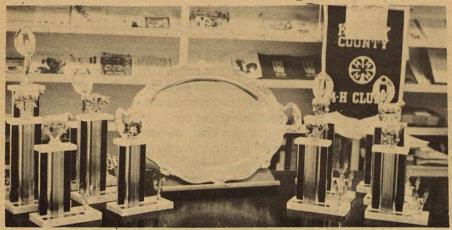


Twenty-Girst Annual

Kinney County FFA and 4-H Livestock Show Starts Today!



Above are some of the trophies that will be presented this weekend at the Stock Show. They were on display at the office of the County Extension Agent, Carl Esser.



STOCK SHOW GOODIES---the above group of Xi Rho Phi girls were at it "hot and heavy" making up cinnamon rolls for this busy weekend. Come on out and try them, after all the work (and fun) these following girls had making them: (Left to right) Golda Martin; Marty Miears; Nelda Gwartney; Mildred Borden and Paula Ragsdale.

C of C Elects Leaders

Emma Slaughter, Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, announced today the following results of the election. The Officers of the Chamber are President, Travis Wilson; Vice-President, Jimmie Bader; and Secretary-Treasurer, Miss Charles Wilson. Also elected were the follwoing Directors: Alfred Pena; Dr. Thomas Young; Rich Adams; and Dianne Pratt.

CP&L CAPER CONTINUES



Thursday , January 15th, thirty-two (32) infuriated citizens showed up at the City Council meeting at City Hall, after they summoned CP&L District Manager, Allan Wallace, regarding the rumors of closing the local office. (Mr. Wallace is the man with the tie on, in the center of the picture.)



Brackettville's Utility Attorney, Ralph Brown and Mayor Pro-Tem, C.H.McDaniels, discuss Central Power and Light's proposal to close the Brackettville office at an emergency meeting of the City Council on Monday, January 19th. (The Resolution adopted by the City Council is printed in this paper.)

EDITORIAL Dear Mr. CP&L,

BY GEORGE!

Central Power and Light may consider us a village, However, after reading this news release, you must also consider us "Village Idiots".

This is supposed to be a cost cutting move...Yet CP&L will be employing exactly the same number of personel, they will just be moved out of our area. You won't have the rent to pay here,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



thekinney

J.GEORGE LOOS, JR. EDITOR

> PUBLISHER JUDY LOOS

P.O.BOX 735 BRACKETTVILLE, TEXAS 78832

563-2696 Published each Friday SUBSCRIPTION RATE: \$11.00 per year APPLICATION TO MAIL AT SECOND CLASS POSTAGE RATE IS PENDING AT BRACKETTVILLE, TEXAS, 78832

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EDITORIAL (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

BUT, Mr. Wallace says we will have a direct line to Del Rio... If this is true, it will cost more than the rent you have been paying!

3rd, You claim you will have to hire a local collecting agency to collect your bills... (Mr. Wallace stated at 15¢ each). Multiply this times the 700 customers referred to in the news release. This is another \$105.00 per month expense that you don't have now...(If you can find a self respecting businessman to handle it after our shoddy treat-

4th, Mr. Robinson will not be here at all times, so a relief man will have to be on call. I am sure that you have volunteers standing in line to perform this duty at no cost.

Oh Well, you would be saving the electric bill at your local

If CP&L would really like to save some money, I have the following suggestion: Fire the mental giant that came up with this scheme (He was probably trying to impress someone with his expertise), and hire a 5th grader that can add and subtract.

Your news release stated: "The decision to close the office had been under consideration for some time". Then why in the Hell didn't your company have the courtesy to inform our citizens? Our City Council had to call your district manager ... Your Public relations department wasn't quite on the ball either!

How many other locations that were located 30 miles from the next office have you removed a local office from? How many of them were County Seats?

Your franchise with the city states that you will supply "FIRST CLASS SERVICE". It does not say First Class Electric Service, It Says FIRST CLASS SERVICE! Mr. Wallace inferred that our service would be the

NEW LOCATION

IN FRONT OF SCHOOL

Think of us as

Come in for a

loan on anything.

same. Buffalo Chips!

Rumors have spread that this is politically motivated and CP&L is making this move before the utilities commission gets into action ... I hope this is not

Your present personel (as of this minute), have been good friends of mine and the community. They are loyal people who have served us and your company well. They have, as loyal employees would, asked me repeatedly to down-grade this as a public issue. In all due respect to them, I have felt I also have a duty to publicize our predicament, even nationally if necessary.

We don't mean to be bitter but, HOW WOULD YOU FEEL IF YOU GOT KICKED IN THE ASS BY A FRIEND

NEWS FROM CPL-----

for immediate release----

January 19, 1976 Central Power and Light Company today announced plans to close its business office in Brackettville, but said the move will not affect electric service to the company's 700 customers in the community and the sur-

rounding area.

District Manager Allen Wallace said that CPL Serviceman Ray Robinson will continue to make his home in Brackettville, and handle service work in the area. One or more pay stations will be established in Brackettville for the convenience of local customers, Wallace pointed

Jake Royall, CPL's manager in Brackettville for the past three and one-half years, will move to a new post in the company's district engineering department in Uvalde, January 26, and CPL's Brackettville and Del Rio operations will be combined.

CONTINUED ON P. 3, COL. 3



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BRACKETT HAPPENINGS

LILLIE MAE DIMERY

Saturday, January 17th, Sister Charlotte Wright and the members of Jerusalem Temple, honored their Pastor and wife, Elder and Mrs. Bridges, on their 16th anniversary.

The Welcome address was given by Mrs. Cirella Daniels; the Speaker for the evening was Elder Reed of San Antonio. Visiting choir were from the Bibleway of Del Rio and St. John Youth Choir, Brackettville. A lovely dinner was served after the ser-

The Willie Warrior's and Tony, visited Miss Charles E. Wilson and the Dimery's. They were at the Civic Center, Saturday night.

To name a few seen at the dance, having a good time were: Bobbie Franklin, Dora Goodloe, Leo Brown, Hannah Daniels, the Alex Longoria's, the Victor Sanchez's and Yolanda Sanchez and many, many more.

Mrs. Beverly Wright has returned to her home in Las Vagas,

Mrs. Hannah Daniels, Mrs. Martha Taylor, Miss Charles Wilson, Mrs. Mable Wallace and Mrs. L. M. Dimery went to Uvalde Monday, January 19, to the last rites for Mrs. Texana Gafford. Mrs. Gafford was an old friend and a "Sister Heriones" for many years.

S. Sgt. (Ret.) and Mrs. Pete Pierce and their son, Tracy, of Abilene, bisited the L. Dimery's, Mable Wallace and Arthur E. Bryant over the weekend.

Goof-Up!

We apologize for the mistake last week in the announcement of G. C. Talamantez and T. H. Glover who are running for County Commissioner instead of for the Chamber of Commerce.

Also to remind everyone to hurry and file as February 2nd is the deadline.

CONTINUED FROM P. 2

When the office closes March 15, CPL's Brackettville cashier, Mrs. Gladys Fritter, will transfer her work location to Del Rio, where she will continue to assist with Brackettville accounts.

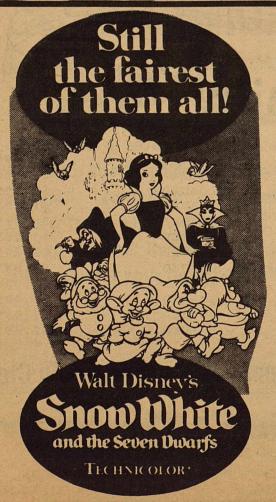
Wallace said the decision to close the office, which had been under consideration for some time, was made as part of the company's expense reduction campaign.

The company's service and construction crews from Del Rio will also be available to assist in repair and maintenance work in Brackettville, he pointed out.

"In these days of rapidlyrising costs, the company feels a responsibility to our customers to hold down costs whenever possible while maintaining quality electric service," Wallace commented.

CPL supplies electric service to more than 200 South Texas communities, but has offices in only about 70 towns.

FOR THE CONTINUED ADVENTURES OF GETTING YOUR PLUG PULLED, SEE PAGE /.











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January 23 & 24---- (Friday & Saturday) Kinney County Stock and Project Show at the Civic Center.

February 2---- (Monday) Filing Deadline for Democratic Primary.

Feb. 27----Chamber of Commerce Banquet at Civic Center-8:00 p.m. Tickets \$3.50 Door Prizes

AUSTIN---State Rep. Luther Jones announced today that a transcript of the meeting of the House Committee on Elections held on December 17, 1975, with officials from the U.S. Department of has been announced. Brenda Al-Justice on hand to explain the new federal Voting Rights Act is now available through the Committee office.

"I want to say how very gratified I was at the response to the meeting - more than 700 people from over 450 political subdivisure that many persons still have it seems strange, graduation is unanswered questions, and many others were unable to attend the meeting. The transcript will be especially useful to those people."

"The Committee had wanted to be able to distribute copies of the transcript free of charge," Jones continued, "but our appropriation just did not allow for such an expenditure. However, I have arranged to make copies available to any interested party for only what it cost the Committee to produce."

of the transcript may do so by

Committee on Elections P. O. Box 2910 Austin, Texas 78767

and enclosing a check or money order for \$3.00 for each copy requested.

"This transcript is a valuable source for both understanding the VRA and preparing the required submissions to the U.S. Department of Justice," Jones concluded.

around the campus...

The main order of business around BHS this week has been the Kinney County Livestock show today and tomorrow. As this is a joint venture of the Brackett High FFA and the county 4-H Clubs, just about everybody has been involved in one way or another.

The cast for the one act play, scheduled for April 3 in Uvalde, ston, Marion Johnson, Venita Gum, Bill Pratt, Mark Tidwell, and Tino Gomez have stage parts. Kenneth Carnley is charge of the stage crew and Kaye York and Lucy Lucas head the make-up department. Understudies are Steve Pena and Kaye.

The seniors have begun a study sions were able to attend," Jones The seniors have begun a study said. "However," he added, "I am of careers and vocations. Though just around the corner. Seniors are reminded that cap and gown pictures will be retaken February

> There's an old song that says, "Baby, its cold outside." Well, for the BHS junior high students, it was just as cold inside this week. The boiler in the junior high building was scheduled for a maintenence check and the heat was turned off.

Basketball rolls right along and the district race is getting tighter. At Dilley, last Friday Anyone wishing to order a copy night, the boys lost a close one and the girls squeezed in under the final buzzer with a two point winning margin. Tuesday, in a non-conference game, the varsity boys were defeated by the Eagle Pass team.

Contrary to popular belief, teachers are not creaking robots, as was displayed Thursday night at the "old-timers"??!! game against Sabinal. Will have more to say about it next week.

LATE-BREAKING BULLETIN!!! Black Bart, the meanest, most low down scoundrel to live with will be at Brackett High Tuesday at noon for a showdown. Don't miss it, but keep out of range.

Galaxie 500	LOADED	\$1,995
Olds Cutlass	LOADED	\$3,895
Chevrolet Station Wagon	LOADED	\$1,995
Chevrolet Caprice	LOADED	\$1,995
Mercury Monterey	LOADED	\$ 895
Dodge Charger	LOADED	\$3,495
Ford Galaxie 500	LOADED	\$2,295
Grand Torino Braugham	LOADED	\$3,895
Ford Courier	LOADED	\$1,000
Ford Club Wagon	LOADED	\$2,495
Wagoneer	LOADED	\$3,495
GMC	LOADED	\$2,595
	Olds Cutlass Chevrolet Station Weson Chevrolet Caprice Mercury Monterey Dodge Charger Ford Galaxie 500 Grand Torino Braugham Ford Courier Ford Club Wagon Wagoneer	Olds Cutlass Chevrolet Station Wason LOADED Chevrolet Caprice LOADED Mercury Monterey LOADED Dodge Charger LOADED Ford Galaxie 500 LOADED Grand Torino Braugham LOADED Ford Courier LOADED Ford Club Wagon LOADED Wagoneer LOADED

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COUNTY AGENT REPORTS BY CARL ESSER 4-H REPORT

The Twenty-First Annual Kinney County FFA and 4-H Livestock Show Fine Wools, Light Weight Cross-January 23, at 8:00 A.M. at the Brackettville Civic Center. All livestock will begin moving in place with the weighing, tagging, and penning of livestock continuing till 12:00 noon. At 1:00 p.m. be the presentation of the showhogs will begin, followed by the

judging of market hogs at 2:30 p.m. and the judging of commercial steers at 3:30 p.m. Judge for the hogs and steers will be Mr. James Bevel, Vo. Ag. teacher of La Pryor. On Saturday morning beginning at 8:00 a.m. the market lambs will be judged starting with Light Weight Fine Wool Fat bred and Heavy Weight Crossbred. Judging the market lamb will be Mr. George Ahlswede, sheep and goat specialist for the Texas Agriculture Extension Service at manship award. Beginning at

12:00 noon, a Ranch Style Bar-B-Que will be served under the direction of the 4-H and FFA mothers, The Junior Livestock Show Auction Sale will start promptly at 1:00 p.m., conducted by Joe Hargrove's Southwest Livestock Exchange.

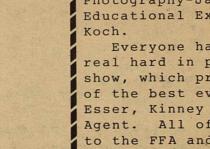
On Saturday morning, a breakfast will be held from 6:30 a.m. till 7:30 a.m. for all livestock exhibitors participating in the stock show. The breakfast will be prepared by the FHA girls and their instructor, Mrs. Clara

Superintendents in the livestock divisions are: Sheep-Pat Rose III; Calves-Jimmy Bader; Swine-Felix Lopez. A great deal of other people are helping and cooperating with the Kinney County Stock Show and a complete list of them will be in next weeks paper.

Also in conjunction with the Stock Show will be the Kinney County Project Show. All project show entries will be checked in Friday morning from 8:00 a.m. till 9:00 a.m. Judging will begin at 9:30 a.m. A large number of entries have been entered and the competition will be strong, reports Wanda Jennings, Overall project show chair man. The division in the project show and the chairman are as follows: Foods-Judge Burks; Clothing-Clara Ricks; Arts and Crafts-Laura Latham and Pam Mc Intoah; Metal Work-Jack Long; Photography-Jake Royal; and Educational Exhibits-Charles

Everyone has been working real hard in preparing for the show, which promises to be one of the best ever, states Carl Esser, Kinney County Extension Agent. All of the support shown to the FFA and 4-H boys and girls by the various firms, ranches and individuals, is greatly appreciated, says Esser,

vited and we are hoping to see all our friends and neighbors turn out for this annual event, adds Charles Foust, Vo. Ag. teacher at Brackettville.



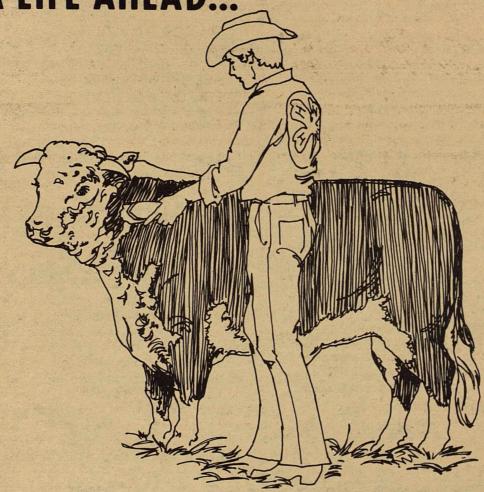
The public is cordially in-



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BETA SIGMA PHI

The Xi Rho Phi chapter of Beta Sigma Phi met Monday evening in the home of Jane Young. Paula Ragsdale served as hostess.

Marty Miears called the meeting to order and led the chapter in reciting the opening ritual. Nelda Gwarrney, chapter secretary called roll and read the minutes of the previous meetings. Communications from International were read by Nelda, Marty and Paula. Paula Ragsdale gave the treasurer's report.

The various chairpersons of the standing committees gave their reports. A discussion of the various ways and means projects was quite lengthy. The members signed up to work in the concession stand at the stock show Friday and Saturday. Xi Rho Phi and Alph Epsilon Psi chapters are making this a joint venture, and a percentage of the profits will be given to the 4-H Club.

During the next two months, chapter members will be selling tickets to two up coming Beta dances to be held in Del Rio. The first is the annual Sweetheart Ball to be held on February 14 in the Del Rio Civic Center. The sweethearts of the various local chapters will be presented in formal ceremonies at the ball. Golda Martin is Xi Rho Phi's chapter sweetheart. The second dance will be held April 3, in the Del Rio Civic Center and will benefit the Val Verde Memorial Hospital. The dance is being called a "Dottsy" Dance and will feature music by Dottsy and the New Country Edi-

tion Band. The chapter voted to send a letter to R. W. Hardy, Chairman of the Board of CPL, to express our support for the movement to keep the local C.P.L. office open and to retain Jake Royal as its manager.

After the business meeting,

Brackett Women Honored By Local Chapter



PICTURED ABOVE IS ONE OF THE EARLIEST KINNEY COUNTY SCHOOL BUILDINGS. MANY PROMINENT BRACKETT CIIZENS LEARNED THEIR 3-R'S HERE AND WERE TAUGHT BY MISS MITTIE JONES. THE BETA SIGMA PHI PROGRAM HONORED MISS JONES.

Jane Young gave the program entitled "Women who have made a difference! The emphasis was on local women who, according to the criteria given in the Beta Sigma Phi program book "have won attention because of something they were successful with, chosen to do, gifted at, struggled for, someone worth recognizing, emulating, and appreciat-Four ladies of distencing.' tion were honored in the program, Miss Mittie Jones, Miss Else Sauer, Mrs. Edith M. Bursey, and Mrs. Charlotte Goleman. The lives of each of these lovely, exhuberant ladies are exciting and inspiring and they certainly had an impact upon Brackettville. In this, our bicentennial year, it is appropriate to pause and remember the contributions of these ladies who gave so much. After the closing ritual the

members enjoyed refreshments

provided by Paula Ragsdale and drew for the hostess prizes. Present were Marty Miears, Paula Ragsdale, Nelda Gwartney, Golda Martin, Mildred Borden, Orlean Riley, Lin Frerich, Jane Young and guest Beverly Hood.

Miss Mittie Jones

Miss Mittie, as she was affectionately called, was a native of Kinney County and contributed much to the education and welfare of the county's children. Her teaching career began when Miss Mittie was very young, and lasted for 53 years, all but 2 of these in Brackettville. She lived on the family ranch, now the Orr Ranch, and with her young, adopted nephew Martin Raehmer, rode bicycles to school each day for several years. Miss Mittie moved into town, and soon afterwards, adopted 3 more children, Julia, Henry, and Mary M. Jones after the death of her brother and sister-in-law. All of these adopted children graduated from Brackett High School. The two girls attended Sul Ross College in Alpine and later taught in Brackettville.

Miss Mittie was active in the Mary Magdaline Cathalic Church and taught Catechism for many years. She established a local Camp Fire Girl's group and sponsored many of their field and camping trips.

During the summers, she attended college to keep up with the latest teaching methods, while she never earned a degree as such, she was awarded a Teacher's Permanent Certificate for Elementary grades in 1914.

Miss Mittie was a sister of Ben Jones, Sr. and of County Judge, Earnest Jones.

After many years as a teacher, Miss Mittie served very efficiently as the text book custodian. Before her death, the old two story brick school building was renamed for her, and in 1957 the new elementary school also bore her name.

CB Scene

Relaxed Rules.

- other antenna restrictions remain un- clarified to include boats, aircraft, etc. changed. Note these cover receiving as well as transmitting antennas.
- All channels except channels 9 and 11 can be used for communications between units of different sta-
- Non-substantive (hobby) use is permitted on all "free" channels.
- Only your call letters need be broadcast at the beginning and end of each transmission. Handles (Chief Frog, etc.) can be used additionally for ID purposes, but are not substitutes for call letters.
- The 5-year license fee has been reduced from \$20 to \$4.

- Communications are still limited to 5 minutes duration, but waiting time between communications has been reduced to one minute. CB'ers can now relay messages for other operators up to a total distance of 150 miles.
- Uses of channel 9 which provide raised to 60 feet above ground. All assistance to travellers have been



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T. H. GLOVER

Oounty Commissioner Precinct No. 3 G. C. TALAMANTEZ

L. S. JOHNSON punty Commission Precinct No. 6



CITY OF BRANCHER REPORTED

KINNEY COUNTY, TEXAS

BRACKETTVILLE, TEXAS
78832
January 20, 1976

Mr. R.W. Hardy Chairman of the Board Central Power & Light Co. Box 2121 Corpus Christi, Texas 78403

Dear Mr. Hardy:

As Mayor of the City of Brackettville I present you with a resolution passed and approved on January 19, 1976 by the City Council.

I beg of you to review your decision to remove from Brackettville your office and service personnal, our citizens are quite perturbed as well as the Council and so far we have seen no reason or justification for the move. We can see nothing but a danger to the health, safety and welfare of our citizens.

The City Government of Brackettville feel some what embarrassed as we were the last to hear of this move. Several rumors had come to us, but nothing official and we had to call the District Manager to confirm the anticipated action. Now we hear that this has been in the mill for several months.

Again in the interest of all concerned, I beg of you to review and reverse your decision.

Sincerely.

C.H. McDaniel
Mayor Pro-Tem
City of Brackettville

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BRACKETTVILLE OPPOSING THE REMOVAL OF CENTRAL POWER AND LIGHT FACALITIES AND PERSONNEL FROM THE CITY OF BRACKETTVILLE.

WHEREAS, for the past forty eight years Central Power & Light Company has supplied electrical service to the City of Brackettville, during which time it has continously maintained an office personnel and equipment in the City of Brackettville capable and adequate to insure reliable and efficient electric service, and

WHEREAS, it has been brought to the attention of the City Council of Brackettville that Central Power & Light Company now intends to remove its office, personnel and equipment from the City of Brackettville, and

WHEREAS, Central Power & Light Company has heretofore contracted to provide "first class" service to the City of Brackett-ville and its inhabitants which will not be physically possible in the event such facilities are removed from the city, and

WHEREAS, the removal of such personnel and facilities will result in a deterioation of electric service to the City of Brackettville and will present a threat to the health, safety and welfare of the residents of the City of Brackettville.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Brackettville:

- 1. That the City Council of the City of Brackettville is unalterably opposed to the physical removal of personnel and facalities of Central Power & Light Company from the City of Brackettville.
- 2. That the management of Central Power & Light Company is hereby specifically requested to reconsider its decision and to revoke such decision and to leave its existing equipment, personnel and facilities in the City of Brackettville so that the continuation of "First Class Service" to the City of Brackettville and its inhabitatants will be assured.
- 3. That a delegation of the City Council be directed to personally deliver an executed copy of this resolution to the management of Central Power & Light Company.
- That copies hereof be forwarded to appropriate members of the State Legislature and United States Congress.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 19, day of January, 1976.

CHAPTO Onniel
MAYOR PRO-TEM

ATTEST:

Mulelland CITY SECRETARY

TOMMY SEARGEANT

DOLORES RANEY

J. A. SHEEDY Sheriff & Tax

MARY SENNE County Treasurer

TULLY SHAHAN

Kinney County



COUNTY SEAT

Brackettville, Texas 78832

January 20, 1976

Mr. R. W. Hardy, Chairman of the Board

Central Power & Light Company P. O. Box #2121 Corpus Christi, Texas 78403

Dear Mr. Hardy:

I recently learned that your Company has decided to close its Brackettville office, and abandon this community for any reliable daily contact.

For many years, your company has been a valued corporate citizen. CP&L employees residing here have contributed much to our small city, and we also feel that Brackettville is a worthwhile part of your service area. I cannot believe it is in your economic interest to close this office, and it is self evident that such closing will be economically detrimental to Brackettville.

The relatively recent trend for utilities to regionalize their services and insulate themselves from their customers is deplorable. I am certain you are aware that this trend would be impossible if the utilities were in a competitive situation.

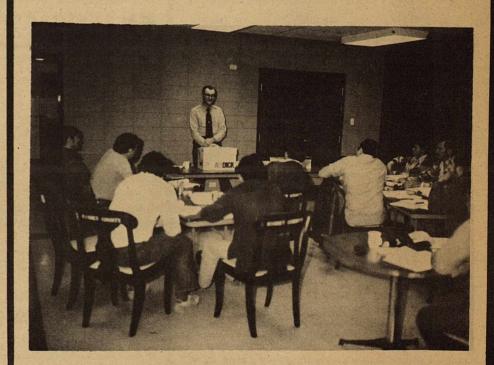
Utilities have learned they can have a total disdain for the public that serves them without a significant effect on their operational income simply, and only, because no competition exists or can practically and legally replace them.

I am optimistic that good corporate judgment will prevail, and your company will continue its basic responsibilities to this community.

Yours very truly,

Tommy Seargeant
County Judge

Area Lawmen Hold School Here



LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS from Kinney, Uvalde, and Val Verde counties are presently holding a forty hour seminar in Brackettville at the Civic Center. Mr. Bill C. Cooksey of the engineering extension service of Texas A & M University is shown above instructing the first class of the intermediate criminal law penal code course. The course was started on January 19 and will conclude January 23.

The officers attending will cover such subjects as: offenses against property, offenses against public order and decency, and offenses against public health, safety, and morals.

In addition to Mr. Cooksey, speakers will be present from the district attorney's office, and the Texas Department of Public Safety.



THEY'RE ALL IN SAVINGS

RATES: 10¢ per word; phone, 2 words: address, 2 words. Payment must accompany ads. MAIL to CAVALRYMAN, P.O. Box 735; Brackettville, Texas, 78832. \$1.00 Minimum. Display ads this page regular rates. DEADLINE...MONDAY

NOTICES

LAS MORAS LODGE NO. 444, A.F. & A.M.



Brackettville,

Brackettville, Texas Regular Meetings the second Tuesday Evening of each Month, at 8:00 p.m.

David Winters, W.M. M.H.WINKENWERDER, SECY. *********

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Used Sucker Rods-"V" Mesh Wire-2 in. x 4 in. Pipe Posts, 4 to 8 foot in length

First come first serve-Cash Only Contact: Charles Entrikin-Fort Clark Zoo Farm

30-30 Winchester Rifle, Model 94, almost nev, \$50.00 Clr: 563-2394.

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BHS Class Ring. Contact Johnny Fritter 563-2754.

WOULD LIKE TO BAKE, BIRTHDAY AND WEDDING CAKES, HOMEMADE BREAD AND Mrs. Jack Graham, 563-2759.

Would like to babysit in my home. Contact: Sherrie Collett, Rudman's Trailor Park, or phone 563-2851

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SAGEBRUSH

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COMMENTS from THE SAGEBRUSH

BY: JOE TOWNSEND



It's tree trimming and tree planting time. If you have a tree that is not doing well, trimming may be just the thing it needs. If it is an old tree or a nature tree of any age. you can hardly hurt it by cutting it. Many times a tree that seems to be dying can be saved by topping it. When this is done you can safely cut off all the top of the tree leaving only the major branches to the length of 4 to 6 feet. When a limb is cut off it should be a clean smooth cut. If the limb is cut part way and breaks off the rest of the way the wound to the tree can be most

damaging. This can cause decay, disease or fungus infestation which could eventually work its way into the heart of the tree. If the limb is cut at an angle, not parallel to the earth, there is usually no need to treat or paint the cut. Most trees will heal over and seal themselves in this area. Mesquite and mulberry are exceptions. If these are not treated or painted they will "bleed" and cause damage to anything beneath the cut as well as the tree. By all means, all dead wood should be removed. For healthy, beautiful trees, give them a little care now.