

E. J. COWAN  
NOTARY PUBLIC

Legal Conveyancer  
All Business Confidential

# THE TEXAS SPUR

Spur is the Youngest and Most Rapid Growing Town in Texas.

Dickens County  
Abstract Co.

OFFICES SPUR & DICKENS  
P. C. MAYNARD, Mgr.

Volume Two

SPUR, DICKENS COUNTY, TEXAS, DECEMBER 30, 1910,

Number Nine

## The New Year's Girl



## The Curtain Falls

By Margaret E. Sangster

Over the sorrow and over the bliss,  
Over the tear drop, over the kiss,  
Over the crimes that blotted and blurred,  
Over the wound of the angry word,  
Over the deeds in weakness done,  
Over the battles lost and won,  
Now at the end of the flying year,  
Year that tomorrow will not be here,  
Over our freedom, over our thralls,  
In the dark and the midnight, the curtain falls.

Over our gain and over our loss,  
Over our crown and over our cross,  
Over the fret of our discontent,  
Over the ill that we never meant,  
Over the scars of our self-denial,  
Over the strength that conquered trial,  
Now in the end of the flying year,  
Year that tomorrow will not be here,  
Quietly final, the prompter calls:  
Over it swiftly the curtain falls.

Over the crowds and the seclusions,  
Over our shifting, hurrying moods,  
Over the hearths where bright flames leap,  
Over the cribs where the babies sleep,  
Over the clamor, over the strife,  
Over the pageantry of life,  
Now in the end of the flying year,  
Year that tomorrow will not be here,  
Swiftly and surely, from starry walls,  
Silently downward the curtain falls.



## A CHRISTMAS HYMN

DONATION CAUSES CONSTERNATION IN CHURCH.

Little Ad Slipped Into Stately Anthem  
by Charitable Summer Cottager  
Breaks Up Christmas Day Services in Confusion.



IT WAS a charitable summer cottager who put up the money for a new church at the summer resort of X—, down on the Atlantic coast. The village parson was grateful beyond words, for the old structure had been an eyesore to the folk who desired of all things to attract wealthy summer resorters.

But when the season was over and the new church was finished his reverence discovered that no provision had been made for hymnbooks. The congregation was notably poor and not in the habit of pinching itself for the sake of charity, so the outlook for a supply of new books was very preca-

rious. It was a late summer man—a man of reputed wealth and influence in the distant city whence he hailed—who came to the relief of the devout clergyman.

"I'll buy hymn books for the church," said he, "and send them down to you—on one condition—that you let me insert a small ad. that will really not be noticeable. It's an ad. that I assure you will bring great comfort to your flock."

The simple country divine pondered the offer carefully, and finally, after a vestry meeting, it was decided that there could be no possible sin in accepting such an offer. The donor was a man of such integrity and character that the rest was assured.

"Well, the books came down from the city, 100 of them, finer than anything the people had dreamed of. They were still very new at Christmas—in fact, had never been in use until that day. In great pride, the parson called out the number of the good old favorite Christmas hymn: "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing."

The congregation, equipped with their new books, turned the pages rapidly and were ready. The organ struck up the tune that everybody knew. And lustily sang the people, gazed steadfastly on the written words:

"Hark the herald angels sing,  
Faker's pills are just the thing."  
The parson listened, looked, brushed his hand over his eyes, and a moment's panic passed over the church. But it passed. Then on into another verse they plunged:

"Peace on earth and mercy mild  
Two for a man, and one for a child."  
rang the impious words. The parson coughed, closed his book, and the service broke up in confusion. Everybody had forgot that the generous hymn book man was interested in a patent medicine.

## Christmas Omens.

Happy and prosperous will be the babe born at Christmas; long-lived and happy the bride that is married then; and it is very lucky for Christmas to fall on a Monday. It is good to give gifts of many kinds at this season; but let no housewife, be she the most free-handed woman in the world, throw or give away ashes or salt before breakfast on Christmas morning. A bright Christmas means a bright New Year, and may this Christmas be of brightest omen!

The New Year is but a mirror of the years that are past, and it may bring before you all that is best and brightest, helpful and heartening, truest and holiest, or it may sum up for you all that is debasing and dishonorable—you, alone, can determine these things.

## To the Old Year

By Julia Jayne Walker



O MANY days we've fared through gay and wintry weather, Old Year, I cannot let you go! Such great times we've had as we journeyed side by side.

None other so intimate as thou! No other friend, save thou, has witnessed my defeats, no other so cheerily shared my triumphs.

When friends proved unkind thou didst walk by my side and counsel patience. The hurts of wounded affection were healed; time alone endured. Thou wouldst usher in a new day, full of sunshine and the song of birds. Its blessed healing power didst revive my drooping spirit and soothe all wounds.

Thou didst bring me friends from afar. The meeting them in the flesh once again, the looking into loving eyes and holding hands warm with the grasp of friendship, proved a benediction after long years of wearying separation.

The turning point in life came to more than one young person about me. Crucial questions were decided which will make for weal or woe. Thou didst accompany me each day while I helped to guide young lives into making safe departure from the beaten path. Farewells have been said which tore the heartstrings and made them bleed afresh with the ever new pangs of parting.

And then a time came when a great wrench must be made. The old ways were to be mine no more. I must turn my back upon the past and set my face resolutely towards the future. No matter how hard the road, nor how many heartaches and longings for the old path were involved in the treading of the new, there was to be no looking back. With gaze bent forward, the present must be lived; but there need be no fear, with a heart of courage within and God in his heaven overhead.

All these memories are linked with thee, Old Year! How can I let thee go? No matter how sad the retrospect, no matter how many sighs and heart-throbs, we have trod the way together. Thou, and not another, hast been my companion over both the rough and pleasant ways.

I feel so much at home with thee, Old Year! Thy face, so familiar, is the face of an old friend. But this stranger which comes on apace, hurrying to take thy place and to usurp thy privileges, I know naught of him. I know not what strange new ways he may usher in. He fills me with distrust and forboding.

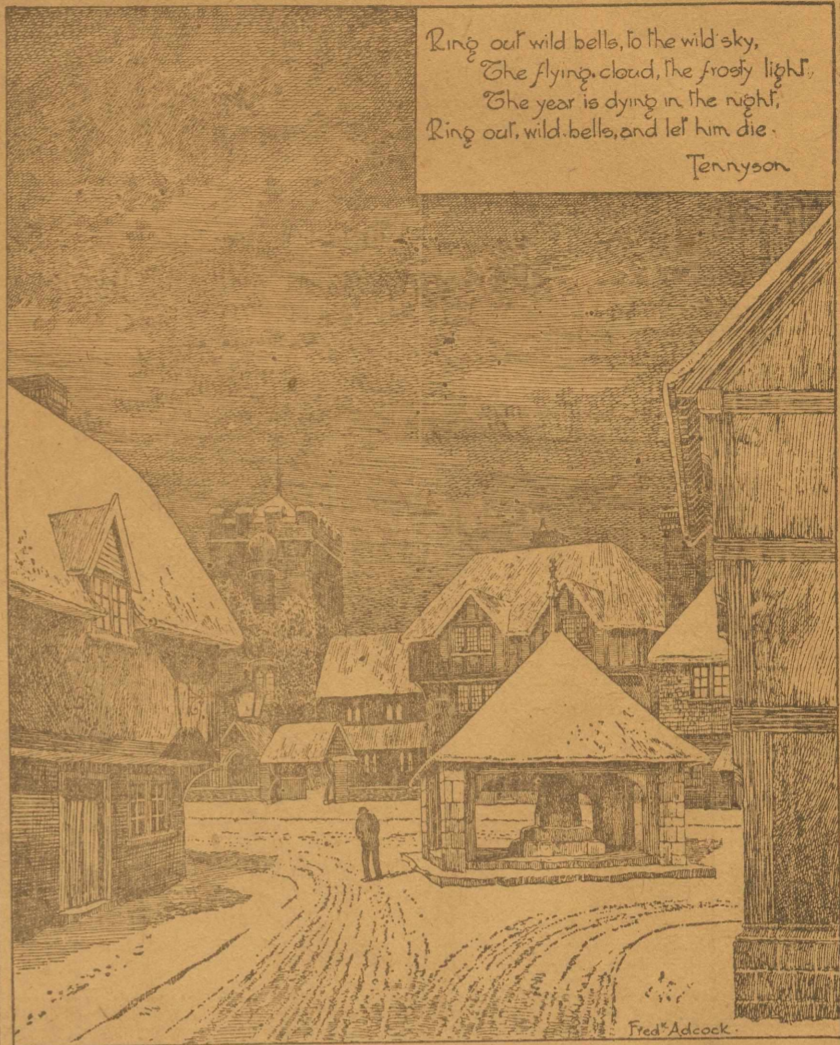
He comes bringing vast possibilities for great things. Who knows whether he will realize his responsibility and seize the moment of achievement as soon as it is presented? If he proves to be a worthy heir of thine, he may add materially to the world's acquisition of science. Ere his life be ended, Tennyson's dream may be realized—navies "grappling in the central blue." Edison may be making houses of cement, which shall be adapted to rich and poor alike. Wireless telegraphy and wireless telephoning may be as easily done as the same is upon wires today. Mr. Stead may have bridged the gulf between this land and the further shore, with his spirit communications. Medical scientists may have waged war against disease with such success that health may be reigning o'er the earth. Warfare between nations may have been made so destructive that universal peace will cover the land as a mantle of green covers the earth. But, Old Year, should he introduce all these innovations, he might also bring in his train sorrows and burdens, new trials and toils. I shrink from letting him

I shall trust thy son to be worthy of his sire, Old Year, to be like thee kind and sympathetic, no matter what fate may bring to me. Casting fears to the wind, I look toward the future with smiling confidence, asking only that strength may be given to bear whatever of ill or good fortune the New Year may bring.

Nevertheless, I am loath to part with thee, the friend of so many dear days that are gone into the irrevocable past.

Goodby, old year, thou dost not go out of my life. Though I shall see thy face no more, the recollection of thy dear friendship will be sacred among my heart's innermost treasures.

"Old year, you shall not die;  
We did so laugh and cry with you  
I've half a mind to die with you,  
Old year, if you must die."



Ring out wild bells, to the wild sky,  
The flying cloud, the frosty light,  
The year is dying in the night,  
Ring out, wild bells, and let him die.  
Tennyson

## New Year's Eve

## The Syrian New Year



ALL the Christians of New York do not observe Christmas as a time for Santa Claus. The Syrians, for instance, who live in the lower end of Manhattan island, in Washington street, from the Battery up to Albany street, have an old custom of giving their presents on New Year's day.

Then there also is a difference in the manner of giving. The Syrian children do not hang up their stockings. Neither do the parents disguise themselves as Santa Claus. On the contrary. The Syrian child invariably knows who is going to be his Santa Claus, and consequently is treated to no extraordinary surprise. There is one thing, however, of which he remains in ignorance, and that is the nature of the present he will receive.

The child picks out whosoever he thinks will treat him best in case he succeeds in meeting and greeting him at the proper time on New Year's day. Then comes a long vigil for midnight, as the custom so prescribes it that the one who offers the first greeting at the beginning of the new year shall receive a fitting reward from the one greeted. A good wish for success and prosperity in the first hour of New Year's day is held by the Syrians to augur well for the following twelve-month, and the one who first wishes good prospects is entitled to a reward.

Custom prescribes that at the time of this New Year's greeting whatever the one greeted happens to hold in his hand becomes the property of the other. The one who receives the greeting is supposed to be so pleased with it that, acting upon the happy impulse of the moment, he hesitates not to requite his greeter with whatever he first can lay hold on. This latter custom originated in feudal times, when the Emir was omnipotent in his province and his followers depended for their sustenance upon his gifts and what he allowed them of the plunders of war.

Of course you can't nowadays surprise any Syrian early New Year's day fooling with a costly article. He can be depended on as knowing better, for either he would have to make a gift of it to the one who first greeted him, or else he branded as a miser. Wise Syrians carry candy to hand to the children who greet them.

## Seeing the New Year In



## The Conflict of the Years

By KENNEDY SEATON

THE year is dying.  
The battle bravely fought is o'er  
at last;  
The aged warrior wounded to the death  
With Time's fell arrows, silently awaits  
The moment of release with laboured breath.  
The issued of the long-contested fight,  
Of victory, or defeat, or welcomed truce,  
The unborn years shall certainly declare,  
And turn each well-aimed blow to gain  
and use.  
The warrior, dying, curtailed by the night,  
Sees not or knows the gain that is to be,  
But dies in faith that right will surely win,  
And o'er the world will rule eternally.

The year is dawning.  
The young recruit takes up the unshathed sword  
His aged sire but just now laid aside;  
And buckling on his armour, newly bright,  
Essays him forth to ventures yet untried.  
Alluring dreams beguile his onward steps,  
And visions bright of victories to be won;  
He feels upon his brow the laurel crown,  
And hears afar the coveted "well done!"  
No thought of failure mars the blissful dream,  
No craven fear unnerves the heart of youth;  
Great tasks await him, and with faith as great,  
He steps into the fray, and strikes for truth!



But even now, but which will be the taller when next New Year's day comes?

# J. A. LAMBDIN & CO.

## This Stock Must Be Reduced Lower.

We will invoice in about 15 days and previous to that date we offer the most radical reductions in the history of the store. If you are in need of Clothing, Shoes, Hats, Gloves, Underwear, Dry Goods, or Ladies' Ready-to-Wear, now is the time for immediate action. Get busy and come now. We can easily show you better than words can express

## J. A. LAMBLIN & COMPANY

C. L. LOVE, Mgr.

Spur, Texas.

### IF YOU WANT

Something good with a lead pipe  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch and a tin roof over it remember us. Thanking you for your business, and wishing you a happy and prosperous new year, we remain,  
Faithfully yours,

Spur Sheet Metal Works.

### A New Years GREETING!!

At this the beginning of a new year, we greet all friends and customers and wish to impress the fact that in groceries and dry goods, that always

The Best is  
The Cheapest

**S. R. DAVIS**

In First State Bank Building

### New Year's Greeting To The General Public

At the beginning of the year 1911 we extend greetings to all and wish for each a most prosperous New Year. In the future as in the past we will continue to give the trade our very best service and will appreciate your business. Yours truly,  
CITY RESTAURANT  
& BAKERY.

### A Warm Heart and a Warm Fire go Together

When you want fuel or feed remember the place where you have always received prompt and courteous service. Thanking you for your generous patronage in the past, and offering you the same promptness in the delivery of orders in the future, we wish you a very happy New Year.

Very sincerely,  
SPUR GRAIN & COAL CO.

### To My Friends and Customers, Greeting

I send a greeting to all and thank customers for liberal patronage. It shall be my pleasure to serve you in the future as in the past when you are ready for the Spring Millinery.

Wishing you a very Happy New Year, I am, very truly,  
MRS. M. M. HUMPHREY.

## ..Greeting..

Wishing You a happy and prosperous New year. Thanking you for the liberal patronage we have received the past year and we shall use every effort to furnish you in the coming year with the very best of everything in Furniture, Carpets Rugs, Linoleum, Pianos and Organs at the lowest possible prices.

Spur Furniture Co.

### You Must All Eat.

It is meet that you should eat meat. Don't forget the Old Reliable Market. Thanking you for your splendid patronage in the past, and assuring you of prompt and satisfactory service in the future, we are with best wishes for a Happy New Year.

Spur Meat Market.

# SHOES TO SUIT YOU

FIT IS THE FIRST THING YOU WANT IN A PAIR OF SHOES. WE CARRY SHOES THAT WILL FIT YOU. APPEARANCE IS THE NEXT THING YOU WISH. OUR BUYERS SELECT THE SHOE STYLES THAT MAKE THE FOOT LOOK NEAT. "WEAR" IS ANOTHER QUALITY YOU WANT. OUR FACTORIES MAKE THE STRONGEST WEARING SHOES.

THE PRICES ON OUR SHOES ARE NEVER HIGHER THAN THE QUALITY. WE CONDUCT OUR SHOE DEPARTMENT AS WE DO ALL DEPARTMENTS OF OUR BUSINESS. WE BELIEVE IN GIVING OUR CUSTOMERS PLUMP VALUE FOR THE MONEY THEY SPEND WITH US. THIS BUSINESS PLAN HAS ENABLED US TO DO A BIG SHOE BUSINESS. WE CARRY A LARGE STOCK. YOU CAN FIND IN OUR STORE SHOES TO SUIT YOU.



## BRYANT-LINK COMPANY.

Where Quality Tells and Price Sells

### GRUBEN, The Jeweler

Mends Jewelry—Stay Mended  
Repairs Watches—Stay Repaired  
Sells Jewelry that's worth the money

Located in Lambdins' Store, Spur, Texas

W. F. Godfrey.

C. C. Tyler

### GODFREY-TYLER Realty Company.

We sell Farms, Ranches and Town Property  
Also write Fire and Tornado Insurance in strong and  
Reliable Companies.

CALL AND SEE US BEFORE YOU BUY

### Luzon Telephone Co. Spur, Texas.

Best Local and Long Distance Service and Connections

THE VERY BEST SERVICES EXTENDED TO PAT-  
RONS AND THE PUBLIC.

Let us put a 'phone in your home or place of business.



### FISH & OYSTERS



SERVED ANY STYLE

Fresh Bread, Cakes, Pies and Variety of Cookies.

City Restaurant and Bakery

### HAD MADE HIS LAST "HOLLER"

For the First Time Exuberant Cowboy  
Saw Himself Pictured as Others  
Saw Him.

Remington once told a story of himself that will bear retelling. One of his cowboy acquaintances in the west was known as Hollering Smith because of his favorite way of enjoying himself. Remington made a number of studies of him both in repose and at his favorite pursuit, and on returning to New York one time he utilized these in a series of illustrations in a magazine article. The next time he went west and got to Smith's neighborhood Smith came over to see him on the very day of his arrival, and hauling from his pocket a page torn from a magazine with one of Remington's studies of him as the central figure of a group in a state of eruption inquired: "Say, is that me?"

Fred was cautious, as he said, not being exactly sure of what was next on the program, and replied: "Well, I got the idea from you, of course, but—"

"Oh, it's all right," said Smith, "no offense; if it's me just say so."

"Well yes; it's a fairly close portrait of you," said Remington.

"That's what the boys at the ranch said," Smith came back. "I look like that when I holler, do I?"

"I think you do."

"Well," said Smith, tucking the page away in his pocket, "if that's the state of the case then all I've got to say is that Hollerin' Smith has hollered the last holler that he'll ever holler. Hereafter when I celebrate I'll blow a tin horn, you bet. I don't consider that no man has a right to look like that—not around among white folks at least."

St. Pierre Still Desolate.

"There is absolutely no truth in the report printed recently in a number of American newspapers that St. Pierre, Martinique, is being rebuilt," said Chester W. Martin of the American consular service, stationed at Bridgetown, Barbados, to the Washington Herald.

"I visited St. Pierre not long ago," said Mr. Martin, "and the only houses that I saw there were two houses which were put up by the French government and are used by the gendarmes. The French government has cleared up and excavated the scene of desolation and laid bare the streets; but there is no intention of rebuilding so far as I am aware."

## L. W. Davis

### ABSTRACTS

OFFICE OVER THE SPUR NATIONAL BANK

We have a complete abstract of all Dickens county land and can furnish accurate and complete abstracts to any tract of land in the county on short notice. We also represent a number of the oldest and most substantial Fire Insurance Companies and respectfully solicit a share of the business in that line as well.

## G. A. HOWSLEY

Horseshoeing & General Blacksmithing  
Hot and Cold Tire Setting a Specialty  
Also a Specialty in Horseshoeing.

Located Near Swenson Gin and Depot.

### An Absolute Cancer Cure.

I have an absolute cure for cancer and under my treatment will guarantee to remove every particle of cancer roots and as a result effect a permanent cure. For references write to Geo. Fulfer or Mr. Yarborough of Matador, or to Mrs. Sarah Allbury of Turkey, Hall county, from whom I have removed cancers and who are now permanently cured. I also do veterinary work. See or write me at Matador, Texas.

J. F. SPEER, Veterinary Surgeon and Cancer Doctor.

### The Eastside Barber Shop

TIDWELL & HAYNES, Props.

First-class Tonsorial Work, hot and cold baths and up-to-date service in every respect. Call to see us.

AGENTS FOR STEAM LAUNDRY

# SPUR FARM LANDS

We Offer You a Choice From 673 Square Miles of Texas' most Productive Territory

Sold direct to the homeseeker, perfect title, no selling commission. We give full value for every dollar.

**\$12 to \$17.50**  
Per Acre

With some additions when close to town

## THE FARMERS' OPPORTUNITY.

To Secure a  
**HOME.**

### STATE EXPERIMENTAL FARM STATION AT SPUR

Recognizing the great possibilities and wonderful future of Spur Farm Lands, the state is now operating an Experimental Farm Station at Spur. This will be a great benefit to the settlers in this region, showing them by actual demonstrations on the lands what crops can be most profitably raised; best methods of cultivation, and assisting in all the problems of the farm. This decision was reached after a visit to the lands by Judge Ed. R. Kone, Commissioner of Agriculture, and Dr. H. H. Harrington, Director of Experimental Stations, who recognized the unusual farming value.

To the first comers, ready to develop, we are willing to sell one-half our holdings of 673 square miles on easy terms and reasonable prices. We reserve the other half for big increase sure to come with development. We stand shoulder to shoulder with the homeseeker. Cotton, no boll weevil, corn, alfalfa, all feed stuffs, grains, fruits, melons, vegetables. Great hog country—no cholera ever known. The hog farmer is king, and nowhere can hogs be matured so cheaply. Quick run to Fort Worth market. Delightful, healthful climate—altitude 2000 to 2,500. The great extent and variety of land insure the homeseeker such range of selection that the man early on the ground can find exactly what he wants. For further information as to land and lots, with free illustrated pamphlet, see

**Chas. A. Jones, Manager for S. M. Swenson & Sons,**  
SPUR, DICKENS COUNTY, TEXAS.

### TEXAS SPUR

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY

Entered as second-class matter November 12, 1909, at the post office at Spur, Texas, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

ORAN McCLURE, Editor & Prop.

Subscription Price \$1.00 a Year.

FOUR ISSUES ONE MONTH

#### NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that the regular annual meeting of the Shareholders of The Spur National Bank, Spur, Texas, will be held at the Banking House of said bank in Spur, Texas on the second Tuesday, the 10th day of January, A. D. 1911, between the hours of 10 o'clock a. m. and 4 o'clock p. m., for the purpose of electing a Board of Directors for the ensuing year, and the transaction of such other business as may properly come before said meeting.

W. G. SHERROD, Cashier.  
6-4t Spur, Texas, Dec. 1, 1910.

Goods bought and sold at the Second Hand Store.

J. A. MOORE.

For Guns and Ammunition see Barber & Hancock.

LOST—Year old past horse colt, dark brown or black, white spot in forehead, no brand, large and heavy built, perfectly gentle. \$10 reward for return to Geo. M. Williams, Spur, Texas.

See H. T. Burgoon for rent houses. tf.

Goods bought and sold at the Second Hand Store.

J. A. MOORE.

Before you buy that town lot or tract of land you had better have the party selling to you to call at the office of the Dickens County Abstract Company and have an Abstract made. There may be unrecorded deeds in the chain of title, defective acknowledgements and such like which may cause trouble and expense later, which can be easily cured now.

Wagons! wagons! wagons!—Barber & Hancock.

#### MOVED TO NEW QUARTERS.

W. H. Teague has moved his blacksmith shop from the Blue Front Stable north one block on Fifth Street, near postoffice building. Horseshoeing and buggy work a specialty. See us for all kinds of blacksmithing and wood work. All work guaranteed. W. H. TEAGUE & SON.

#### STRAYED OR STOLEN.

One brown mare mule, 4 years old, white spot in face. \$10 reward for information. Notify C. E. Wilson, Afton, Texas.

### Professional Cards.

DR. MORRIS

PHYSICIAN & SURGEON  
Office in Spur Drug Co. Phone No. 40.

DR. G. M. BACHELOR,  
DENTIST

Office at Spur Drug Company.  
Office, both phones 40.  
Residence, both phones 80

T. T. Bouldin P. C. Maynard  
BOULDIN & MAYNARD,  
ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW  
Special attention given to examination of titles.

SPUR, - - - TEXAS

DR. T. E. STANDIFER  
PHYSICIAN & SURGEON

Diseases of women and children and Electrotherapy a specialty. Local Surgeon for Wichita Valley Railroad.

Residence phone 49. Office 39.

**G. T. BRANDON,**  
Dentist

Over the Royal Hotel  
Office hours from 8-12 and from 1-5  
Residence Phone 142.

B. D. GLASGLOW

ATTORNEY-AT-LAW

I am now located at Spur and office over the Spur Nat'l. Bank.

See us for Posts, Sash, Doors, Lime, Cement

## AND HIGH GRADE LUMBER

### Richardson Lumber Com'y

J. V. McCORMICK, Manager

**H. S. BARTLEY,**  
FEED AND FUEL

Niggerhead and Lump Coal, Post Oak Wood.  
All Kinds of Hay, Grain and Cow Feed

On Fifth Street  
Opposite Texas Spur Office

# GREETING!!

TO ALL OUR FRIENDS AND CUSTOMERS

AT this, the holiday season and the beginning of a new year, we wish to thank our friends and customers for liberal patronage in the past and solicit a share of your business in future. We at all times carry a complete stock of fresh Staple and Fancy Groceries, buy and sell country produce, and will be glad to serve you in our line. Wishing one and all a Merry Christmas and a Happy and a Prosperous New Year,

## HISEY GROCERY CO.

### Spur Dray and Transfer Co.

J. P. Simmons Prop

We do all kinds of heavy and light hauling and transfer work, and solicit your business in our line.

Phone Us at No. 114

and we will give you prompt and satisfactory service.

### W. C. BOWMAN

## Lumber Comp'y

LUMBER, SASH  
DOORS, PAINT,

And All Kinds Building Material

G. H. Connell, Pres. S. R. Davis, Vice Pt. E. C. Edmonds, Cashier.

### First State Bank of Spur, Texas.

CAPITAL STOCK - - - \$50,000.00

The deposits of this Bank are protected by the Guaranty Fund Plan of the State of Texas.

Stockholders, and Directors,

Jno. T. George, Cattleman; G. H. Connell, Banker; S. R. Gardner of Pitch Fork Ranch; P. H. Miller, Lumberman; M. B. Loyd, Banker; S. B. Burnett, Cattleman; R. A. Jay, Banker; Chas. Windham, Cattleman; Robert Hamilton, Capitalist; I. D. Scoggins, Cattleman; W. E. Connell, Banker; S. R. Davis, Merchant; G. A. Pursley, Cattleman; J. D. Harkney, Cattleman; T. E. Standifer, Physician; I. R. Powell, Cattleman; E. C. Edmonds, Cashier.

### New Year's Day in the Long Ago



LONG years ago the people who lived in a great many different places in the world were very much interested in New Year's day, just as we are, and they did many things in honor of the day, exactly as we do. They feasted and decorated their houses and churches, and at 12 o'clock they were very particular to show in some way that they were rejoicing that another year had begun.

Not all of these people celebrated New Year's on the same day. The ancient Romans used to have their New Year's day in March; then they changed to January, and a large part of the rest of the world followed them. The Jewish people have another day and the Chinese and Japanese still another, but whenever the day falls, according to their special calendar, there is always a very important celebration of it.

The Druids, who were the priests of England before the Christian religion was taken into Great Britain, also celebrated New Year's day. They were very interesting and very strange people, these Druids, and, according to what one reads about them in history, one always imagines them as wearing beautiful white robes and having tall, magnificent figures and flowing white beards and hair. At any rate, they always wore white robes on New Year's day, for that was the day when they cut down the sacred mistletoe.

For the Druids didn't think that mistletoe was only a pretty green vine. They believed it to be a miraculous growth which would prevent people from being harmed by poisonous food or drink.

On that day a particularly large, handsome Druid, with glistening white beard and hair and rather cold gray eyes—Druids always had cold gray eyes we believe—and clothed most beautifully in white, would climb the oak tree on which the mistletoe grew and cut it down with a golden sickle. He wouldn't take it in his hand, because they didn't consider that respectful enough to the sacred mistletoe, which could do such wonderful things. Instead he would catch it in a pure white cloth and climb carefully down the tree with it. After this an altar would be erected and white bulls sacrificed and prayers offered. Then the Druidical community felt that for the following year they would have all the good luck possible.

You see in those days New Year's celebrations were very serious things, and all of the ceremonies attending them were religious.



### Ring in the New Year



Unpleasant sounds for the "Old Man."

### Decorations in Middle Ages.

They did their Christmas decorations very thoroughly in the middle ages. "Every man's house, as also the parish churches, were decked with holly, ivy, hays and whatever the season of the year afforded to be green," we read in Stow, but he omits to mention that decking with evergreens in the month of December, like most of the details of our Christmas festivities, was heathen in origin. It originated, for all that, in a very poetic idea, for the Druids did it so that the woodland spirits might have a warm place in which to take shelter until the spring came round again and the trees out of doors once more had leaves of their own.

### No Leavings.

Tramp to little Willie, who has opened the door—Have yer had yer Christmas dinner yet, little boy?

Willie—No; we're just going to eat it now.

Tramp—Then perhaps if I wait around I can get some of the eatables left over?

Little Willie (feeling of his stomach)—There ain't going to be anything left.

H. P. COLE, Pres.

J. F. VERNON, Cashier

## Farmers & Merchants State Bank SPUR, TEXAS.

LOSES \$500 CASH IN FIRE.

Tenant on Haskell County Farm  
Also Loses Household  
Goods in Blaz.

O'Brien, Haskell Co., Tex., Oct. 8th.—A small tenant house burned to the ground on the farm of J. D. Smith, about two miles south of town. The building was occupied by T. C. Smith, who lost all his household goods besides \$500 in cash and several land notes and accounts.

If this man had of had his money in the bank it would have been safe. So Mr. Farmer don't do like this man but leave your money on deposit with the Farmers & Merchants State Bank where it is safe from fire and where it is secured by the Depositors Guaranty Fund of the great state of Texas.

No account too small for us. Plenty of room for your valuable papers.

Make our bank your bank.

## F. & M. State Bank

SPUR, TEXAS.

MAY WE SERVE YOU

## SPUR SHEET METAL WORKS

Don't do cheap work, but do good work cheap.  
Try us once and be convinced.

::: EVERYTHING IN SHEET METAL :::

## H. E. CARTER,

Dealer in West Texas Lands  
and Spur Town Property

### Exchanges a Specialty

Trades what you have for what you want.  
Office up stairs over Spur National Bank.

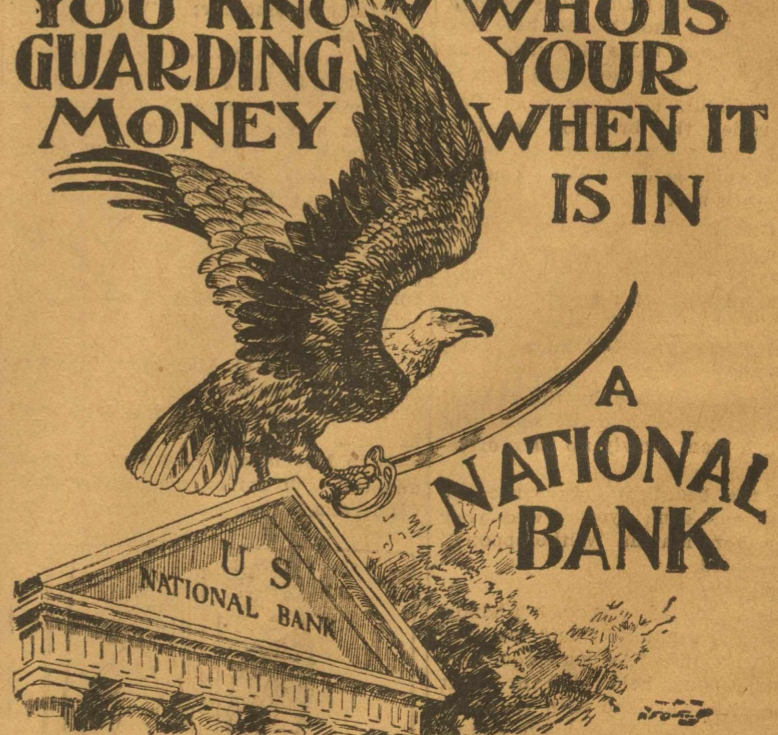
## J. H. STRADLEY

DEALER IN

Family Groceries, Shelf Hardware and Undertakers Goods

Dickens, - Texas.

YOU KNOW WHO IS  
GUARDING YOUR  
MONEY WHEN IT  
IS IN



A National Bank is an absolutely safe place to put your money, because the United States Government examines regularly all National Banks.

Ask our patrons how we treat you.

We invite you to make OUR Bank YOUR Bank.

## THE SPUR NATIONAL BANK

## A New Year's Fantasy

By PHILIP KEAN

Copyright, by Associated Literary Press

**T**HE long line of people stretched down the winding walk in front of the White House and through the gate and out into the street. On New Year's day all the world might come and shake hands with the president, and it seemed as if half the world had availed itself of the privilege.

Marcia Marks felt almost overpowered by the thought of the honor that was before her. Marcia had not yet learned to shrug her shoulders at high position and august officials. She had been in Washington only three weeks. That she was soon to have a peep at the wonders of which she had heard so much seemed like a part of the fairy lore which she had loved as a child. She wished that there was some one who might share her pleasure. But she had made no friends, so she shifted from one foot to the other, moving forward slightly as far up at the other end of the line people were admitted through a magic door.

It was very cold, but Marcia's heart was warm. For the first time in her life she was earning money, and she was sending part of it home. Then, too, she had a new hat, which was a



"Won't You Get in Here With Me?"

great cause of happiness. It was the first really lovely hat that she had ever possessed.

She did not dream that her exquisite blonde beauty framed by the big hat was attracting the attention not only of the pedestrians but of the occupants of the autos and of the carriages that drove slowly in line toward the other entrance, where a privileged few were admitted at once to the blue room. Marcia feasted her eyes on the pretty gowns, and for the first time as she stood there in the cold a little bit of envy entered her heart. Why shouldn't she ride in luxurious comfort? She had beauty and youth, and loved a good time.

But even as the thought entered, she put it away. Wasn't she lucky enough with her \$60 a month and her new hat? And once more her face was bright, and she held her head high.

Then suddenly she gave a startled glance under the brim of her hat, as the door of a great motor car opened and a voice said: "Won't you get in here with me?"

The woman who spoke was beautiful with the beauty of old age. Under her wide hat her hair was white, but she held herself with grace and dignity. "Oh," Marcia faltered, and the lady said, quietly: "Get in, my dear, I will explain later."

So Marcia, followed by the eyes of the crowd, stepped into the wonderful car, which went slowly up the driveway.

Then the beautiful lady turned to her with sparkling eyes. "Was your grandmother, Martha Witherspoon?" she demanded.

"Why—yes—"  
The beautiful lady clapped her hands. "I knew it the minute I laid my eyes on you," she said. "As you stood there with your head held high in that haughty little way, and with your blue eyes and your red-gold hair—it was as if my dear school friend had come

back to me."  
"Grandmother is the dearest thing," Marcia said, "and as pretty as ever."  
"I lost track of her," the beautiful lady told her, "when I went abroad years ago, and when I saw you I wasn't going to run the chance of not finding you again—so I made you get in, and made you lose your place in the line."

"Oh, I don't mind that," said Marcia. "I can go back to the end and wait."

"Indeed, you won't," said the beautiful lady. "I am going to take you right along with me to the blue room. I am to stand behind the receiving line, and you shall meet the president and go on to the east room, and wait from me there."

"But I am not dressed for that," Marcia demurred.

"I am going to play fairy godmother, and put my wrap on you. Your gloves are all right, and your hat, and you shall have my violets, and presto!—you will be a young lady of fashion."

Marcia protested, but for just one moment the curtains of the closed car were drawn, as the wrap was slipped

from the fairy godmother's shoulders and transferred to Marcia's more slender ones, and then the crowd, looking on saw two exquisitely gowned women, side by side, the younger one blushing beautifully over her bouquet of violets and valley lilies.

The rest was a dream to little Marcia—the entrance into the brilliantly lighted rooms, the music, the rustle of silken gowns, the presentation to the president. She drew a great breath of delight, as she settled herself finally in a corner of the east room.

But there was more to follow, for in a few moments the fairy godmother sent the prince. He was the nephew of the beautiful lady and he was to take care of Marcia.

And he did take care of her, most graciously, and he talked with her as if she were a princess instead of a very shabby little girl, with her shabbiness covered by a borrowed cloak.

"Aren't you warm?" he said to her once, and Marcia said, hurriedly: "Oh, no." But when he said again: "I think you'd better let me take your wrap," she laughed and confessed:

"It's your aunt's cloak, and I wish you could see what a very shabby little suit I am wearing under it."

And the prince said the cloak wasn't any prettier than the hat, and that the hair under the hat was the prettiest of all, and just then the beautiful lady came along and asked: "Have you made friends with my boy, Marcia?"

"I think he is lovely," she said, and blushed prettily.

She was carried off to dinner with the beautiful lady, and the prince went, too. And when Marcia took off the cloak he said he liked her in her simple little suit. "Only you must still wear the violets, because they match your eyes."

It was all very dear and delightful, but that night when Marcia went home to her poor little apartment she told herself that, of course, she must not expect anything more. It was a New Year's fairy tale, and that was all.

But the beautiful lady came every day and took Marcia out with her, and often the prince was there, and at last, one day, Marcia said: "Dear beautiful lady, you must not, you are spoiling me for everyday things."

But she did not say that the real reason for her protest was because of the prince. He was such a charming prince, and she felt that for her own peace of mind she must not see too much of him.

And as Marcia withdrew more and more, the prince one day demanded of the fairy godmother: "Where's our Cinderella?"

"She insists," the old lady smiled, "on sitting in the ashes. She says we are too fine for her with our pumpkin coaches and our palaces."

"Humph," said the prince, "I guess we will see about that." He thereupon sought Marcia in her shabby apartment.

Marcia's face was radiant as she welcomed him. "But you must not come again," she said, when he was leaving.

"Why not?"

"Because," said Marcia, which was not a real reason.

"I shall come as often as I please," he said.

Then Marcia stood up very straight and tall. "I am only a shabby little Cinderella," she said, "and I must



"But You Must Not Come Again," She Said, When He Was Leaving.

work, and I haven't the time to fritter away with fairy godmothers and princes who wear gardenias."

Then he looked very sober and asked: "Do you think I fritter away my time?"

"Yes," Marcia told him, "I do."

"Well, tomorrow I am going to work," he told her. "They have ordered me to the Philippines. And I shall be gone six months."

"Six months?"

Something in her voice made him say sharply: "You care?"

Marcia tried to say: "Oh, no," but her lips were white and her voice shook.

Then the prince gathered her into his arms. "You shall go with me, little Cinderella," he said. "From the minute I saw you in your fairy godmother's cloak, I knew you were the one woman."

"And I knew you were the one man," she told him later, "but somehow I felt that it would never really come true—for it seemed only a New Year's fantasy."



### THE MAKING OF A GOOD PLAY

Plot, Skillfully or Unskillfully Drawn, is at the Bottom of Success or Failure.

A good plot is that sure edifice which slowly rises out of the interplay of circumstance on temperament, and temperament on circumstances, within the inclosing atmosphere of an idea, writes John Galsworthy, in the Atlantic. A human being is the best plot there is; it may be impossible to see why he is a good plot, because the idea within which he was brought forth cannot be fully grasped; but it is plain that he is a good plot. He is organic. And so it must be with a good play. Reason alone produces no good plots; they come by original aim, sure conception, and instinctive after power of selecting what benefits the germ. A bad plot, on the other hand, is simply a row of stakes, with a character impaled on each—characters who would have liked to live, but came to untimely grief; who started bravely, but fell on these stakes, placed beforehand in a row, and were transfixed one by one, while their ghosts stride on, squeaking and gibbering through the play. Whether these stakes are made of acts, or of ideas, according to the nature of the dramatist who planted them, their effect on the unfortunate characters is the same; the creatures were begotten to be staked, and staked they are!

### BELONG TO LATER STONE AGE

Interesting Find of Prehistoric Dwellings Just Made by Dr. Otto Froedin.

The Swedish anthropologist, Dr. Otto Froedin, has discovered at Omberg, near Alvastra, the remains of a number of lake dwellings, dating from the later Stone Age, and estimated to be about 4,000 years old, being, in fact, the oldest discovered so far in northern Europe. The dwellings were built in the usual manner on piles, but differ from the well-known Swiss lake-dwellings in resting partly on the bank and projecting over the water. The floors of the houses, which were of fir and birch wood, were well preserved, the bark still adhering to the birch logs. In addition to weapons and vessels of stone, horn and wood, Dr. Froedin found carbonized apples and grains of corn. The latest finds are stated to be particularly interesting, as hitherto only the imprints of grains had been found in earthenware vessels, and no actual grains have been discovered. Another find was a large amber bead, described as "the symbol of divinity." Dr. Froedin also found the remains of skins with which the flooring was covered, and large quantities of nut shells. Various indications go to prove that the Stone Age men who inhabited these dwellings were in commercial relations with other races.

### NONE SUCH.

Wife—Will you take me to-night to "What Every Woman Knows?"

Husband—My dear, if you could suggest a play called "What Not a Woman Knows," I would go in a minute.

## LIST OF PRIZES

FOR TRADES DAY

Monday, Jan. 2, 1911.

For best mare with horse colt,	\$5.00
For best mare with mule colt,	5.00
For best suckling horse colt,	2.50
For best suckling mule colt,	2.50
For best yearling past horse,	2.50
For best yearling past filly,	2.50
For best yearling past mule,	2.50
For best 2 year old past, horse	2.50
For best 2 year old past, filly	2.50
For best 2 year old past, mule	2.50
Best pr. of pigs under 6 mo. 1st,	2.50
Best pr. of pigs under 6 mo. 2nd,	1.50
For best chickens, 1st pair	1.50
For best chickens, 2nd pair,	1.00
For best pr. of turkeys, 1st	2.00
For best pr. of turkeys, 2nd	1.00
Best lb. of home made butter	.50

The above list of prizes will be given at Spur, on Trades Day, Jan. 2, for stock and produce from the trade territory of Spur. We want everybody to come and bring your selling and trading stock. There will be out of town buyers here.

The merchants of Spur will offer some special trade inducements for Trades Day, besides individual prizes in addition to the above list. Don't forget the date, Jan. 2.

## Spur Grain & Coal Co.

HAY, GRAIN AND ALL KINDS FEED

Seed Wheat and Oats.

WE HANDLE THE McALLISTER AND NEW MEXICO COAL. PHONE US YOUR ORDER.

We pay the highest cash price for hides

## Useful New Year Gift

SERVICEABLE, USEFUL AND APPRECIATIVE GOODS.

Hand-painted Chinaware  
Rogers 1847 Silverware  
Boys Express Wagons  
Mens and Boys Watches  
Safety Razors  
Carving sets  
Bicycles  
Guns

CALL IN TO SEE US. WE SOLICIT YOUR BUSINESS.

## Barber & Hancock.

### C. D. PULLIN,

Transfer, Baggage & Express Wagon.

We will be at your service at any and all times and solicit your business in our line.

# 100 WANTED 100

Between Ages of 1 and 100

BY THE

# WESTERN GROCERY

## C O M P A N Y

100 NEW CUSTOMERS FOR THE COMING YEAR, 1911

While we are very thankful to our many friends who have been so liberal with us and are well pleased with the volume of business we have had the past six months we have been here, yet there is room for more, and as we have at all times tried to give 100 cts. worth for \$1.00 we are justifiable in soliciting your future business. With best wishes for a Prosperous New Year, we remain yours truly,

## WESTERN GROCERY COMPANY

BOTH PHONES 93.

O. J. WEAVER, Proprietor.

SPUR, TEXAS

### Livery Feed & Sale Stable

H. K. PARKS, Prop.

We have nice rigs and good teams at all times. Furnish drivers to any part of the country and give the very best service and most courteous treatment to all.

COME IN AND SEE US

Once a Customer Always a Customer.

W. J. Young, of Afton, will furnish the people of Spur with dressed hogs. Notify Tom Davis at Spur Market who will dress and deliver to your home. tf.

Goods bought and sold at the Second Hand Store.

J. A. MOORE.

For good fresh Groceries and quick service phone Hisey Grocery Co.

The Dickens County Abstract Company can furnish that Abstract on short notice.

YOU get what you BUY at RICHARDSON LUMBER Co.

### J. L. HASKEW Livery and Transfer

Meets all trains and prepared to haul passengers to any part of the country

Good Teams and Rigs, Wagon Yard & Camp House

Be careful don't buy a lawsuit. Order an Abstract of Title and have it passed on before you pay your money for that lot. See the Dickens County Abstract Company about it.

Lost—Pocket book containing \$5 bill and \$2.25 in silver. Reward for return to J. O. Wooten, Dickens, Texas.

Goods bought and sold at the Second Hand Store.  
J. A. MOORE.

For staple and Fancy Groceries Phone Hisey Grocery Co.

See H. T. Burgoon for rent houses. tf.

We sell J. I. Case plows—Barber & Hancock.

Fish, oysters and short orders served at the Bijou Cafe.

### LODGE DIRECTORY.

W. O. W. meets 1st and 3rd Friday nights in each month. J. A. C. Davis, C. C.; M. Gray, Clerk.

I. O. O. F. meets every Monday night. Jno. B. Pruden, N. G.; T. A. Tidwell, Sec.

M. W. A. meets every Thursday night. Emmett Lee, Clerk. Praetorians meet the 2nd and 4th Friday nights of each month.

K. of P. meets every Tuesday night. W. G. Broyles, C. C.; E. J. Cowan, Sec.

We want your trade on wire and nails, and prices are right.—Barber & Hancock.

## Star & Leader Windmills

Pipe and Pipe Fittings, Tanks of All sizes

WINDMILL BARGAINS are often more windy than real. There are men going about who will put you up a windmill for almost any old price. They get your money and go away, and then something usually happens and your mill doesn't work. Better let us put up your windmill. We are agents for the best kinds and we put them up properly and securely. If anything happens we are right here to make it good, and you'll find that our charges are not much, if any higher than the wandering windmill man.

## The Studebaker Buggies and Wagons

THERE ARE NO BETTER VEHICLES TO BE FOUND

Buy your buggy right here at home where you can register any "kick" coming. Buy it only after a thorough examination, but don't buy from catalogue pictures

RITER HARDWARE COMPANY, Spur, Texas

### C. D. PULLIN,

Transfer, Baggage & Express Wagon.

We will be at your service at any and all times and solicit your business in our line.

### XMAS GIFT \$15.00.

Clip and send this notice to J. D. Miracle, Abilene, Texas, care of Hotel Grace, and he will send you as CHRISTMAS GIFT a \$15.00 check, recommending that you use it as payment on a scholarship in

Draughon's Practical Business College Abilene, a link of the WORLD'S FAMOUS chain of 46 BIG Business Colleges in 18 States. Mr. Miracle is giving away only 200 of these checks and not more than five in one County. First application given preference. 3t

## New Years Greeting

We thank our friends and customers for the very liberal patronage given us the past year, and wish for each and all a happy and prosperous New Year. When you need fresh groceries call on us.

White Front Grocery Store

## To Our Friends and Patrons.

We extend to you our best wishes for a happy and prosperous new year. We wish to thank our customers for the many kind favors that they have extended to us throughout the year now drawing to a close and trust we have been able to please you, and to merit a continuance of your patronage in the New year. May health, wealth and happiness be yours

Very respectfully,

The First State Bank

## ..Greeting..

To our customers and friends we extend our heartfelt thanks for their liberal patronage during the past year, and wish you all a prosperous and happy New Year. It has and will be our pleasure to please the public. We recognize the fact that a satisfied customer is the best advertisement, and to this end we will exert our efforts in the future as in the past.

Bryant-Link Company.

## BARBER SHOP

W. P. SIMPSON Prop.

FIRST-CLASS WORK. HOT OR COLD BATHS  
AGENTS FOR STAMFORD STEAM LAUNDRY

Located West Side Burlington Ave., Opposite Royal Hotel.

## New Years GREETING.

The end of the passing year marks practically the close of our first business year. It has been a very satisfactory business period, and in looking backward we feel that, in common with the other citizens of the Spur country, we have much to be thankful for and we appreciate the business that has been extended to us.

We have been favored with good crops in 1910, and this wonderful new country is just beginning to get on its feet and to realize its great possibilities; the past year being the first year of cultivation of much of the land tributary to Spur.

We wish to do our full share in futhering the farming and business interests and looking forward, we feel sure of a year of abundant prosperity for the farmers in the Spur country and for the merchants of the Spur vicinity to whom we respectfully offer our banking services, guaranteeing at all times such accomodations as are consistent with safe business.

This is a bank of unusual resources, which are at your command. We will appreciate every account, no matter how small, and any legitimate help we can give our customers will be cheerfully extended.

We want our neighbors to feel at home with us, and we will be glad to welcome you on the first day of the year, and every day thereafter.

With best wishes for prosperity and happiness during the year 1911, we are,

Yours sincerely,

Spur National Bank,  
W. G. SHERROD, Cashier.

## GREETING!!

To Our Friends and Customers

of the Spur Country we extend to you best wishes for the New Year 1911 we are thankful for past patronage, which was gratifying indeed. We wish for each a Happy & Prosperous New Year.

J. A. LAMB DIN  
& COMPANY.

C. L. LOVE, Mgr.

## Christmas Has Come and Gone

and many little hearts have been made happy by a visit of old Santa Claus. We thank you, one and all, for your liberal patronage, and it will be our pleasure to keep a place of welcome and pleasure during the coming year. Wishing you a happy and prosperous New Year, we are  
Very Sincerely,

Red Front Drug Store,  
Carl Lowery, Mgr.

## -Greeting-

We thank our friends and customers for their liberal patronage and will in the future be glad to extend to them the same courteous treatment as in the past. We will keep a supply of first class drugs, toilet articles and stationery. Wishing you a Happy New Year, we are

Yours truly,

Spur Drug Co.  
C. B. COOK, Mgr.

## New Years Greeting

If you want a happy and Prosperous New Year be sure to see W. E. Kellar for your Mule Jewelry. Thanking you for past favors and wishing you a happy and prosperous New Year, I am yours truly,

W. E. KELLAR.

## ...GREETING...

We extend to our friends and patrons our thanks for the kind consideration you have shown us during the short time in Spur, and will appreciate your further patronage. To you and all others we wish a happy and prosperous New Year. May the good things come your way, and may we help you to take care of your good fortunes.

F. & M. STATE BANK