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THE TEXAS SPUR

A Paper For The Homes Of Spur And Dickens County

"10c COTTON"

BUY-A-BALE

Every patriotic citizen who can will help the cause

Volume Five

SPUR, DICKENS COUNTY, TEXAS, OCTOBER 16 1914.

Number 50

CALLED MEETING FOR THE HIGHWAY ASSOCIATION

The Executive Committee of the Fort Worth Roswell Highway Association has been called to meet at Stamford, Texas, at 8:00 P. M., Wednesday, October 21st, to transact such business as may properly come before the committee. Among other matters action will be taken upon applications for membership in the association. If an application for membership from your county has not been made we would like to have it in time to act upon it at the Stamford meeting. The enclosed copy of the Constitution and By-Laws is self explanatory.

Active interest is manifested in this highway movement, and work is reported as already being done, or plans for making first class highways through the several charter member counties are being perfected. There is no specified type of roadway required, and the expense of making the improvements in each county, and the method of meeting the expense, will be controlled largely by local conditions. It is the purpose of the association to establish a continuous highway between Fort Worth, Texas, and Roswell, New Mexico, that will be suitable for travel at all seasons. When this is done the route will be inspected, logged, and, if it comes up to the requirements, will be duly recorded and advertised through proper channels. It is probable that over some sections of the route two lines will be adopted. This will be advantageous in that should one line be temporarily out of order, on account of weather, etc., the other would be available. Also, many tourists would like to go out by one line and return by the other.

That this movement is attracting notice is evidenced by the meetings being held at different places in favor of our line, or to organizing other associations to project other lines between our terminals. We were the first in the field to propose a through highway, with a permanent organization, and, in part, a definitely located route. Our association is organized on business principles, and, while there will be a general governing committee, each locality will be unhampered in its efforts to promote road building on main or lateral roads.

All counties are cordially invited to send representatives to the Stamford meeting. The meeting will be held after supper, so that business can be transacted and the committeemen return to their homes Thursday morning.—Jeff D. Reagan, Secretary-Treasurer.

PRINTING PLANT BURN'S

Information came to Spur last week that the printing plant of the Aspermont Star was totally destroyed by fire the latter part of the week. The amount of the loss is not stated. We sympathize with Editor Ward in this loss and hope that the Aspermont Star will again soon be prepared to publish a paper.

SAFE AND SANE DRIVER

E. C. Edmonds, B. D. Glasgow and W. F. Godfrey made a business trip last week to Briscoe county. In returning to Spur the car in which they were riding was run into the milk wagon of W. A. Craddock near the bridge over Dockum creek with the result that both the car and the wagon were overturned. However, with the exception of breaking "bottles" and spilling the contents but little damage was done. W. F. Godfrey was the "chauffeur" on this occasion, and he is generally recognized as a safe and sane driver.

PIONEER TEXAN

S. R. Dickey, County Attorney of Stonewall county and one of the most prominent citizens of that section, was in Spur last week to be with his wife who underwent an operation at the Standifer Hospital. Thirty odd years ago we remember S. R. Dickey as a prominent citizen and attorney of Brown and Eastland counties. He is one of the pioneers in the settlement of Texas and like many others has been drifting further west with the development progress of the country. He has been a citizen of Stonewall county some twelve or fifteen years and we are glad to know that he is prospering.

F. & M. BANK CLOSSES

The Farmers & Merchants State Bank of Spur closed its doors Monday and the business of the bank transferred to the First State Bank where all accounts and deposits will be adjusted and paid in the regular course of business procedure. L. W. Dunn, assistant cashier, will be with the First State Bank for some time assisting in the adjustment of the bank's affairs.

DIED

The news came to Spur Thursday morning of the death of the little son of Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Harrison at their home in the Wichita community. The little boy was only six or seven years of age, and it is thought his death was caused from poisoning by eating peanuts. The remains were interred Wednesday in the Dickens cemetery. We extend to Mr. and Mrs. Harrison our sincere, heart-felt sympathy in this bereavement.

REAL MANHOOD NEEDED

"The harder the job the greater the honor of doing it well." Present conditions require real manhood, and the real men are located by the way they meet and overcome the difficulties of life. This is no time for talking troubles and whining, but the time to be real men, if it is in us to be. We have much to be thankful for. We should be thankful that our NATION is not at war; that our young men are not being killed by the thousands. We should be thankful for the abundant crops. We can stand the stringent times far better than we could have done for the past five years. We should be thankful that though it takes two bales of cotton to bring as much as one has been bringing, we have the two bales, and our cribs are full to overflowing. We must ask our friends who owe us to sell their cotton and help us now. Our obligations must be met, and cotton is the only thing we have to bring the money. So let's sell and pay our debts and keep what we have left if we want to, then we will have the consciousness of having done our best.

We have paid cash for cotton so far, and hope to be able to all the time, so bring your cotton to Spur, sell it, and spend your money with us. We also pay \$10 per ton for maize in merchandise or on accounts.

Please don't ask to have goods charged. The credit season is over. We think we will be able to take care of your needs next spring, but please pay cash for your purchases now. Anybody can do well when all things are normal, but it takes energy, nerve and common sense now. It behooves us to keep in a good humor and do our best. We may have to make some sacrifice but after all we are much better off than the greater part of the world.

Yes, we have a big stock of well selected merchandise, and our prices are as cheap as you will find anywhere. So we want your cash business and believe we merit a liberal share of it.

Heating Stoves at war prices and Cook Stoves that will swell biscuits in three minutes, and make them so light and crisp they will almost float off in this

refreshing autumn air, "Biscuits, you know, like mother used to make," made of Light Crust.

Yes Ladies, we have the very Tailored Suit you want, and Coats for the whole family, even Dad, and we want to fit you up, and the prices we make you will surprise you. Miss Mathews has some special bargains to offer you in Hats this week. Her Department is full of the most up-to-date in Millinery. Come on with the crowds who trade with us. Bring a smile with you. Let's make the world brighter this week.—Bryant-Link Company.

SURVEY PROPOSED ROAD

Recently Clifford B. Jones, President of the Fort Worth Roswell Highway Association, and Secretary Jeff D. Reagan made a trip over the proposed highway from Spur to Crosbyton, viewing the several routes. They report having selected an excellent auto highway along the railroad right-of-way by the way of the "Leatherwood" crossing on the Cap Rock and crossing Blanco Canyon on the bridge near the C. B. Livestock Ranch headquarters. With very little labor this proposed route can be placed in first-class condition and will afford not only an auto road but one of the best wagon roads in the country.

MORE COTTON PICKERS

L. A. Hindman and R. L. Jones returned Wednesday from the eastern part of the state where they had been to secure cotton pickers. They brought back about sixty eight negroes who were parceled out among the farmers of the various communities. There are now probably more than two hundred negroes picking cotton in this section, and possibly one thousand or more extra cotton pickers in the whole country.

PEACOCK BANK CLOSSES

We understand that the Peacock Bank is closed on account of a recent fire which destroyed the building together with the books and accounts of the bank. It is also alleged that discrepancies existed in the books and the cashier was placed under bond charged with having raised the amount of county warrants or checks.

THE COTTON FARMER IS A BACK NUMBER

J. D. Hufstедler brought us in a sack of sweet potatoes this week gathered from his garden patch on his farm in the Dry Lake community. These potatoes were gathered from one hill, growing on one vine and weighed eleven pounds. Mr. Hufstедler is one among the most intelligent and successful farmers of the country, and is one who realizes that the farmers of this section must devote their time, attention and labors to growing potatoes, peas, peanuts, pigs and other things to eat rather than to growing cotton on account of the conditions resulting from the European warring situation. The Spur country will produce in abundance a great variety of feed and truck, pigs, cattle and horses, and the farmer who fails to realize the trend of the times by continuing to grow cotton will continue to come out at the little end of the horn.

ENTERTAINED

Friday afternoon of last week Mrs. C. L. Love entertained the Merry Wives Club at her home in the northwest part of the city, and again later in the evening quite a number of the young people of the city were entertained, the guest of honor being Miss Johnston recently of Stamford.

Progressive forty-two was the entertaining feature of the evening and at the conclusion of the several number of games refreshments of coffee, sandwiches and jellatin were served in the most delightful manner. Those present were Misses Johnston, Archer, Doyle, Hensley, Baker, Boykin, Collins, Lillian Grace, Kate Mahon, Shields, Matthews, Minnie Fite, Kathryn Cates, Gussie Stafford and Mesdames Allen and McClure; Messrs. Carl Patton, John Hardin, R. E. Dickson, Lane, Jones, Meadows, Glasgow, Lowery, Lovelace, Rogers, Godfrey, Attebury, Johns, Ensey and McClure. The occasion was one of pleasure to each guest and Mrs. Love maintained an enviable reputation as a most entertaining and charming hostess.

RETURNS TO HOSPITAL.

Miss Jessie Schneider returned last week to Spur and again resumed her position as head nurse at the Standifer Hospital. Miss Schneider is recognized as one of the very best nurses of the whole country and her services in the Standifer Hospital are duly appreciated by patrons as well as the management.

FINE KERSHAW'S.

Last week T. G. Harkey brought in a wagon load of kershaws from his twenty acre farm west of Spur, leaving two of the number at the Texas Spur office. These kershaws are as fine as can be grown in any country and the flavor can not be excelled.

T. A. Ham, of Croton, marketed nine bales of cotton at Spur Tuesday.

You Will Soon Need A Stove

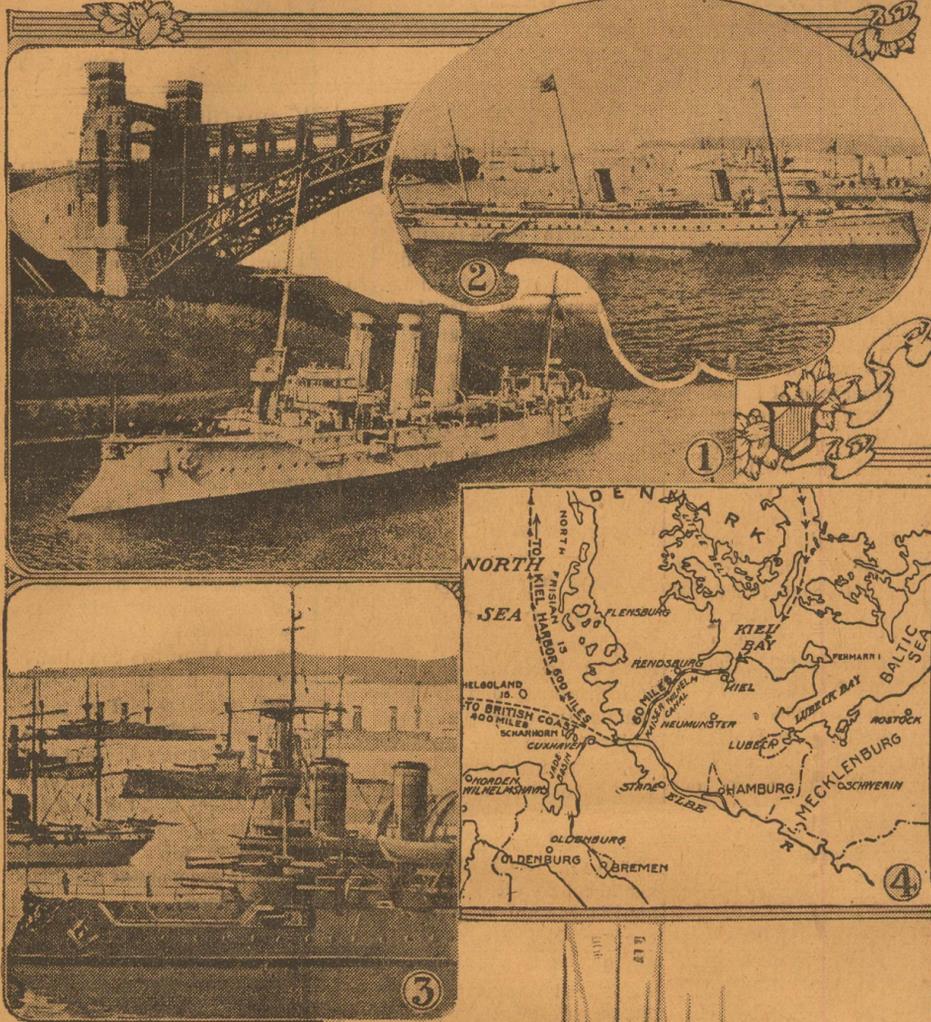
And in Order to Cash our Stock we Have Reduced the Price. Don't Buy Until you Have Priced Our

Cook Stoves
And Heaters

We Take Maize, Ear Corn or Cotton for Merchandise or Acc'ts.

SPUR HARDWARE CO'Y.

Why Kiel Canal Loomed Big In War



Germany's Strategical Waterway Connecting North Sea With Baltic Permitted Kaiser's Battleships to Pass From One to the Other Quickly and Unobserved—Its Locks Are Larger Than Those at Panama and Heavy Fortifications Protect Both Ends.

OF the utmost strategic importance in the great European war has been the big Kaiser Wilhelm canal, or Kiel canal, as it is better known, recently completed, which has given egress on the North sea to the German fleets on the Baltic coast.

If England at the beginning of hostilities had been able to batter down the locks of the canal where it opens on the Elbe river, a few miles from its entrance into the North sea, as easily as she established an effective blockade at that point, the battle fleets of the Kaiser would have been helplessly penned in and would have proved of little or perhaps no use in the ocean warfare. Germany anticipated this danger in the construction of the canal, and great forts were built to control the entrance of the Elbe.

The harbor of Kiel is the pride of Germany. It is located on Kiel bay, an arm of the Baltic sea, and is the rendezvous of the battleship fleets of the Kaiser. The harbor has an average depth of forty feet. Its length is eleven miles, and its width varies from a quarter of a mile at the southern end to four and one-half miles at the mouth. Its defenses include two forts on the west and four on the east side, situated about five miles from the head of the harbor at Friedrichsort, where its shores approach one another. The imperial docks, five in number, and shipbuilding yards are on the east side facing the town between Gaarden and Ellerbreck and comprise basins capable of containing the largest warships afloat. Krupp's great shipyards are also located here.

Fourteenth Century Idea.

As early as the fourteenth century the idea of cutting a canal across the peninsula leading to Denmark was considered. The foundation stone of the first canal was laid in 1837, and the waterway was formally opened by Emperor William II. in 1895. The expense of construction amounted to about \$37,000,000.

The canal crosses the land at sea level, the locks at either end being constructed merely to neutralize the rise and fall of the tide. Its length from Kiel to the Elbe river is about sixty miles.

With the increase in the size of war vessels it became necessary to enlarge the canal, and in April of this year the enlarged waterway was opened, a year earlier than had been anticipated. The bottom width had been increased from forty feet to 140 feet, the surface be-

ing 330 feet. The depth was increased to thirty-six feet, and the sharp angles were all eliminated. In addition, the places where ships could pass each other were increased from seven to eleven feet.

When the German emperor formally opened the Kiel canal last June he made his final preparation for war, according to a naval authority on this side.

Kiel Baltic Naval Port.

Kiel is the chief naval port on the Baltic. It is seventy miles from Hamburg, and its harbor is large enough to float all the warships in the world. It is eleven miles long, four and a half miles wide at its mouth and a quarter of a mile wide at its south end. It has a uniform depth of water of forty feet. At Kiel there are imperial docks, shipbuilding yards and basins to hold the largest warships. The name Kiel dates back to the tenth century. Then it was spelled Kyl and meant a safe place for ships. It is very strongly fortified, having two forts on the west side of the entrance and four on the east side.

At the Elbe entrance to the canal is the town of Brunsbuttel, and from that point as far west as the Netherlands border there is a string of immensely powerful forts, which guard the entrance to the rivers Elbe, Weser and Ems and particularly protect Wilhelmshaven, the naval port of the North sea; Bremerhaven and, farther inland, Bremen and Hamburg.

In front of the mouth of the Elbe are extensive sandbanks, and in front of these is the powerful island fortress of Helgoland. This island was ceded to Germany by the British in 1890. It lies twenty-eight miles from the mainland. The Germans have made it a second Gibraltar. It is also the headquarters of the big German dirigibles which the British from the start of the war feared would fly across the North sea and drop bombs on London.

By the way of the canal it is only a passage of eighty miles from the North sea to the Baltic, while to go around Denmark and through the Danish passages it is 530 miles. To blockade the canal and the naval ports two

powerful squadrons were found necessary.

Disadvantages In Wartime.

However, there are disadvantages to Germany in time of war. Von Moltke, the elder, pointed that out. He obviously viewed the proposal to build the canal with distrust over what might be the situation in just such a crisis as now faces Germany. He admitted that the canal would greatly contribute to the development of commerce and great ports on the Baltic shores of Germany. But he pointed out that in time of war, if the country were hard pressed, the canal would require an army corps to defend it. He also foresaw, back in 1883, just such a situation as now exists, wherein there would be a demand for every man possible for infantry, artillery and cavalry duty at points far distant from the Kiel district. He also saw that the great ports of Bremen and Hamburg were left exposed to the west and that if a fleet defended them it could not get back into the canal and if it did seek the refuge of the canal these harbors would be exposed.

However, in the elder Von Moltke's day Germany's star was ascending. War was not very threatening in 1887 and 1888, and the need for the development of a great commercial and industrial Germany was great. Bismarck weighed the situation and the canal was built. Old Emperor William laid the first stone. That was in 1888. The plans were by a Dane, Dahlstrom. The route is entirely through Holstein, the Danish territory seized and annexed by Prussia in 1864.

Such worldwide attention has been directed by the American enterprise in connecting the two oceans that it was scarcely realized that the German engineers have built locks even bigger than those at Panama.

The German canal has locks eighty-two feet longer, thirty-seven and one-half feet broader and of four feet greater draft than those of Panama and can accommodate a 60,000 ton battleship should naval designers go as high as that in the future. There is room and 200 feet to spare in them for the newest and biggest ocean liners of the Imperator and Aquitania class.

Topics of the Sport World

By SQUARE DEAL

Cornell's New Stadium.

The dream of thousands of Cornell men, alumni and undergraduates—that varsity athletics be transferred to the new alumni field on the campus—is about to be realized. Coincident with the beginning of the construction of a concrete stadium on the level devoted to football and track, and which will be known in the future as Schoellkopf field, comes the announcement from Graduate Manager Kent of the Cornell Athletic association that track meets next spring will be held on the new field and that by the fall of 1915 football games will be played there.

Thus, after twelve years and following an expenditure of \$330,000, Cornell will begin to use the great athletic field for varsity purposes.

The dirt already has begun to fly in the excavation work for the concrete stadium, which was made possible by the gift of \$70,000 by the Schoellkopf family a few weeks ago.

Mack May Get Johnson.

Connie Mack is making an effort to have Walter Johnson join his team next winter, when a tour of the west to the Pacific coast is contemplated by a nine which Mack will select from the American league and another which Frank Bancroft of the Cincinnati club will pick from the National. Mack wants Johnson as his star pitcher because he realizes that he is a great attraction. Walter has taken the proposition under advisement, but it is more than likely he will turn it down, as he is anxious to spend the entire winter on his farm spending.

To Open College Stadiums.

Yale and Princeton both expect to open their new athletic plants in the football season. The Tigers plan on throwing open the Palmer stadium for the Yale game the second Saturday of November. Yale and Harvard will meet the following Saturday, Nov. 21, on which date the New Haven collegians plan on dedicating the new Bowl, which will have a seating capacity of 60,000. The Harvard-Princeton game is scheduled for Cambridge the first Saturday in November.

Browns' Giant Southpaw.

Carl Weillman, leading pitcher of the

St. Louis Brown aggregation, is a southpaw and stands six feet five and a half inches in his stocking feet.

He is a good pitcher. He is the most improved pitcher in the American league. Ranking forty-second among the American league pitchers last season in the matter of earned runs—



Photo by American Press Association. Carl Weillman Stands Six Feet Five Inches In His Stockings.

American league teams averaged 3.41 earned runs per game as he worked—this season so far Weillman has held the opposition to an average well under two runs per game.

Other facts about Mr. Weillman might be summarized in this fashion: He pitches fewer curved balls than most pitchers; he is one inch taller than Bill James; he is one-half inch shorter than Myles Main of Detroit; he has an undying ambition to be a .300 hitter and may be found any time in practice working with the bat, and he has, with Roy Mitchell, the most perfect control of any pitcher among the Browns.

In the Sunday School Class

Text of the Lesson, Mark xiv, 12:25; Memory Verses, 22, 23; Golden Text, I Cor. xi, 26.

Luke says that he sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and prepare us the passover," and that they said unto him, "Where wilt thou that we prepare?" (Luke xxii, 8, 9.) So should we ever ask him concerning all our goings, and there is another question we should ask him concerning all our doings. He said, "Behold, when ye are entered into the city there shall a man meet you bearing a pitcher of water" (Luke xxii, 10).

They were to follow him into a house and say to the good man of the house, "The Master saith, where is the guest chamber where I shall eat the passover with my disciples?" (Verses 13, 14; Luke xxii, 10, 11.) It does not seem that the man bearing the water vessel knew what he was doing, but that he all unconsciously guided the men to the right house.

We are often unconsciously guiding people rightly or wrongly, for "Doth he not see my ways and count all my steps?" (Job xxxi, 4.)

The owner of the house must have been a disciple, for he understood and showed them the upper room furnished. Thus they found as he had said unto them (verse 10; see also Luke xix, 32).

So shall we always find it to be just as he has said. The words translated "guest chamber" are found in only one other place besides this incident, and that is in Luke ii, 7, "No room for them in the inn." There they made ready the passover. What a privilege and honor and pleasure to make anything ready for him! Do you find it so? As he sat down with them in the evening he said that he had greatly desired to eat this passover with them before he suffered, but that he would not eat of it again until fulfilled in the kingdom of God (Luke xxii, 15-18). He himself is our passover sacrificed for us, but as there was a great deliverance of Israel from Egypt at the first passover there will be a greater deliverance of Israel at his second coming to set up his kingdom (I Cor. v, 7; Jer. xxiii, 7, 8).

After this portion from Luke there should come in the incident of the feet washing, found only in John xiii, by which he taught them humbly to serve one another and the necessity of constant cleansing from earth's defilement. Then as they ate the passover he said that one of them would betray him and it had been good for that man if

he had never been born. No one seemed to suspect Judas Iscariot, for they said one by one, "Is it I?" Simon Peter asked John, who was leaning on Jesus' bosom, to ask Jesus who it was. He replied, "He it is to whom I shall give a sop when I have dipped it." He gave the sop to Judas Iscariot, and then Satan entered into him.

Then Jesus said to him, "That thou doest, do quickly."

Judas went immediately out, and it was night and has been night with him ever since. Before he went out he said, "Master, is it I?" And Jesus said unto him, "Thou hast said" (verses 18-21; Matt. xxvi, 25; John xiii, 25-30). According to our lesson, there followed the institution of the supper, by which, according to I Cor., xi, 26, we show the Lord's death till he come. The bread represents his body given for us and the wine his blood shed for us, and by believing we eat himself as is explained in John vi, 47, 54, where in the one verse eternal life is the result of believing on him, and in the other it is the result of eating his flesh and drinking his blood, so that eating his flesh and drinking his blood is just believing on him or, according to John i, 12, receiving him.

He said again in this connection that he would not drink any more of the fruit of the vine till he should drink it new in the kingdom of God (verse 25).

He also spoke of appointing to the twelve (some one taking the place of Judas Iscariot) a kingdom that they might eat and drink at his table in his kingdom and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel (Luke xxii, 28-30). Compare Matt. xix, 28.

While he had before him, knowing all things, the suffering of Gethsemane and Calvary, they were selfishly talking of who should be the greatest, and Simon was saying that he was ready to go with him to prison and to death, not knowing his utter weakness now that Satan was asking for him to sift him (Luke xxii, 24-34).

In his reference to swords he seems to me to be saying to them that if they could not trust him when invisible as well as when visible with them they had better buy swords and take care of themselves. When he said that two swords were enough it is evident that he did not mean that each should have one.

Connect John xiii, 36-38, and xiv, 1, as if there were no chapter divisions and see how marvelous it is.

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The Spur National Bank

CAPITAL STOCK, \$100,000
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We Solicit Accounts of Merchants, Farmers and Stockmen, and Promise Fair and Courteous Treatment to All. Accommodations Granted Consistent with Sound Banking.

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LABORERS AND IDLERS

Slavery includes all other crimes. It is the joint product of the kidnapper, the pirate, thief, murderer, and hypocrite. It degrades labor and corrupts leisure. With the idea that labor is the basis of progress goes the truth that labor must go free. The laborer must be a free man, I would like to see this world, at last, so that a man could die and not feel that he had left his wife and children a prey to the greed, the avarice or the cruelties of mankind. There is something wrong in a government where they who do the most have the least. There is something wrong when honesty wears a rag and rascality a robe; when the loving, the tender, eat a crust, while the infamous sit at banquets. The laboring people should unite and protect themselves against all idlers. You can divide mankind into two classes: The laborers and the idlers, the supporters and the supported, the honest and the dishonest. Every man is dishonest who lives upon the unpaid labor of others, no matter if he occupies a throne. We need free bodies and free minds—free labor and free thought, chainless hands and fetterless brains. Free labor will give us wealth. Free thought will give us truth. There will never be a generation of great men until there has been a generation of free women—of free mothers. When women reason, and babes sit in the laps of philosophy, the victory of reason over the shadowy host of darkness will not be complete. The rights of men and women should be equal and sacred—marriage should be a perfect partnership—children should be governed by kindness—every family should be a republic—every fireside a democracy.—Robt. G. Ingersoll.

NEW HOPE

Wm. Cook, of Roaring Springs, is in our midst on business, Rev. L. S. Bilberry preached at Duck Creek Sunday. Pres Goen is here buying cattle for his ranch. T. N. Dodson, one of Motley county's best citizens, is in our community transacting business. Rev. Minor Wilson has a regular appointment now, the second Sunday in the afternoon. Everybody is picking cotton and selling at the prevailing war prices.—Oatmeal.

J. O. YOPP

BAGGAGE AND EXPRESS
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Attorney-At-Law

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TIDWELL & REEVES, Props.
First Class Tonsorial Work. Hot and Cold Baths and Up-To-Date Service in Every Respect. Call and see us

FACTS AND FIGURES

Once a corporation wanted to see for itself the value of newspaper advertising. So it selected eighteen towns at random. It picked one dealer who advertised in each town, then selected three or four in each town who did not. When all the names were written down, eighteen advertisers were shown and fifty-six non-advertisers. Then the amount of business was compared. The eighteen advertisers did nearly twice as much business as did the fifty-six. Get that? Twice as much business among one-third as many dealers! Moral: Advertise. Do it consistently, not spasmodically. It pays.—Pawhatan, Kansas Bee.

FOR SALE

140 acres of land in Haskell county, 100 in cultivation, good improvements, abundance of water, small cash payment. Will take some trade.—J. A. Smith, Spur, Texas. 47tf

Murray Brothers...

YOU WILL EVENTUALLY HAVE US DO That Work Why Not Now?



The Telephone Joy of Farm Life.

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Pleasanter, because it brings messages of cheer and companionship from friends far away, more secure because it brings help immediately when there is need.

Write our nearest office for information.

The Southwestern Telegraph & Telephone Company



NOTICE

You will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law if caught hunting, fishing, shooting, trapping or trespassing in any way in any of the 24 pastures.—Mrs. Boley Brown & Sons. By Bert N. Brown, manager. 1-26t

Mr. and Mrs. Irven Joplin, of Abilene, have been spending the week in Spur with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Joplin and C. P. Poole.

We do all kinds of Auto repairing: keep extras, gasoline, oil, etc. Don't fail to see us when in need of anything in our line.—E. L. Clay. tf

We Carry a Full Line of
SHELF AND HEAVY HARDWARE

ALSO Enameled Ware, Queens-ware, Garland Stoves and Ranges, Guns, and Ammunition. Also have a good stock of Buggies which we are going to sell at Mail-Order House prices, for Cash only. Come in and see us.

WE EARNESTLY SOLICIT AND APPRECIATE YOUR BUSINESS

RITER HARDWARE CO.

A NIGGER SERMON ON THE COTTON PROBLEM

I am just a plain country nigger who am just like lots of white folks. I depends on my hands stead of my head to figger out bout all dis talk in the daly papers bout murgency money. Las sunday our paster sho preached a powerful sermen on dis Instating subject and the members who am indicated said he was sho powered wid selusion and judgment. He say:

Brederns and sisterns, the time is at hand dat the bible say they shall be wars and roomers of war, dat don't mean the peceful waiting war wid mexico dat means the all lies war over yonder near jesulam, the fulfillment is staring you in the face. dis book say they shall be weaping and wailing and snapping ob the teeth. now my cristans dat dont mean a thing but a hongry nigger, and I pray dat dis entire conegation will hear the rustication of the wise prenoncement and supply yo needs wid chickens dat belong to yoself. It say earthquakes and pestes will sho bound in divers places. the fulfillment ob dis passage am demon-strated in the cotton patch. aint the groun done crack open? Aint the pestes done cral out ob the cracks and vouring all the cotton? I hates to spress moself bout dem divers for it will sho caus confusement in the foles ob dis church anyway dey aint nothin cepten white folks in the north who runs the cotton market to suit deyself. dem hi tone yankees aint thinking bout freeing you niggers ob dis financial comppressment. der aint no more Abraham Lincons up thar, all dem divers care bout you niggers and poor white trash is to keep you in the cotton patch, so dey can buy the cotton cheap and sell back to you at figuration prices for a calico dress. The most solemist precisement in the tex of my sarmon is the pearance of Gabril wid his horn—when he toots the sheeps will go to the right and the goats to

the left. Now, in my picious judgment dat man Gabriel will look out after the sheeps and the debil will take care of the goats.

Brederns and sisterns, my expulshon of the facts concerning the disturbance and the seperation ob dese animals is basted on the fulfillment ob the warnings which am layed down in the good book. Dat man Gabriel is livin dis minit down in Georgy, when he tooted the trumpet it say—buy a bale! buy a bale! the sheep all flocked to the right side. The goats dey all staid in der north and telegrams the people from Washington dat the confusion will soon be over Mister Mackydo don issued a billion dollars murgency money—all the niggers and poor white trash dat raises cotton run to the post office to get some ob the money on dey cotton and the man say we hafter go to the Natnal Bank. the Natnal bank man say, nigger you owe the bank now and your cotton will pay us a 6 1 2 a pound. Sell it and bring us the money. We aint got no murgency currency. Who am going to get all dis money? the man dat don't ned it dont want it and the nigger that do need it cant get it.

My dear Brederns and Sisterns, dese goats am foolin' the poor nigger as well as the white folks, dat murgency money is at the end of the rainbo and dats where all dese Natnal banks is wid a sign on the door, "we loan money at ten per cent."

In closing dis sarmon, I wants to express on you all to tend to you own business cause you aint goin to get no money from Washington, de Democrats is afraid to hep you and the republicans dont like you.

Peaceful waiting and watching be unto you all. Amen.—Zeno Fairchild.

Attorney R. S. Holman was called to Afton Saturday to defend several cases in Justice Court. He was accompanied by Mrs. Holman and children who spent the day with her daughter, Mrs. Rucker, and other friends of Afton.

JACKSON REALTY CO.

Fire, Tornado, Plate Glass and Livestock Insurance. We sell Land, City Property and Livestock. Non-Residents' business promptly attended to.

Notary Public in the Office.

[Concluding Chapter]

The Sowing of Alderson Cree

By MARGARET P. MONTAGUE

A Strong Story of Character Building, With Scenes Laid In the West Virginia Mountains Among a Picturesque People

PROLOGUE.

Alderson Cree, a West Virginia mountaineer, while hunting is shot from behind. He exacts a promise from his young son, David, to kill Kip Ryerson, whom he suspects. After David goes for aid Alderson relents and prays to live long enough to relieve the son from the promise. Only Martha Lamfire, a character of the mountains, hidden behind the bushes, hears his appeal. Ryerson is arrested, tried, but acquitted. The mountaineers, accused by David of cowardice, band together and order Ryerson out of town. Four years later, on his sixteenth birthday, David had gone out to a neighboring Draft to fulfill his promise to his father, but learned that Kip Ryerson was already dead. At twenty-two David is the devoted slave of Mary Reddin. Kip Ryerson returns. Ellen Daw, a poor, beragged adopted daughter of Silas Daw of Drupe mountain, weary and faint from her lonely farm work, is assisted by Adrian Blair, a well to do youth of the Draft. On Sunday the people of the Draft flocked to the schoolhouse to hear Brother Braxton's farewell sermon. David, leading the prayer, suddenly catches sight of Ryerson, who until then he had thought dead. He leaps on his old antagonist, but strong arms restrain him, and Ryerson escapes. Mary coaxes David home with her for an hour, but his love for her can't hold him longer. His promise to his dying father proves strongest, and he leaves on his errand of revenge. Hidden from his distracted sweetheart, he flings himself on the ground in an effort to adjust his confused thoughts. Hours later, his mind still racked with indecision, he reaches home, where his mother had awaited him. She learns of his inactivity, and her terrible scorn sends him back to fulfill his promised work of destruction. It becomes Ellen Daw's wish to do something for Mary and David. Conscious of her own useless life, she hits upon a plan. Half afraid, she quickly grasps an old pistol and flees from the house. Seeing a figure coming through the rain which she supposes to be Kip Ryerson, she fires, misses and is horrified to discover that it is Adrian Blair, to whom she confesses all. To the complete surprise of the frightened girl he tells her how he



"Never mind—never mind, honey. You wasn't goin' ter shoot."

had loved her since their schooldays, but was afraid to say it. David reaches the lumber camp. Kip Ryerson, secreted in the mill house, hears the mill boss tell David that Kip has left camp. David turns back, and Ryerson is told to go before being discovered. Mary is called to the bedside of Martha Lamfire, the old woman of the woods, who is dying. Before death she unburdens her secret, and Mary learns of Alderson Cree's last message to his son relieving him of his promise to kill Ryerson. David's mother, knowing nothing of Martha Lamfire's confession, but remorseful, asks George Hedrick to stay David's hand, but the latter continues true to the promise made to his father. Only when Mary comes with the message from the deathbed of Martha Lamfire is he contented to give up his quest for Ryerson. But the fates are against him, and Ryerson, fully convinced that David is miles away, runs into him. Ryerson draws a gun, and the two grapple. David after a superhuman effort disarms his antagonist. Ryerson, paralyzed with terror, thinks his doom is near.

Forgiven.

FOR a half second David paused, then suddenly, astonishingly, with the conflict over and his enemy covering before him and absolutely at his mercy, his anger went out as instantly, as completely

The Life of a Willful Boy Who Set Upon Himself the Responsibility of Avenging His Father's Murder

as a blown candle—and on the instant of its going he uncocked the pistol with a tiny click and dropped his hand.

But Ryerson heard the click and misunderstood. Flinging his arms wide above his head, he screamed again, that frantic, anguished scream of fear, but halfway through the cry broke suddenly into gurgling silence, and as they watched him the man bent all at once at the knees, swayed a moment back and forth with the settling tremble of a falling tree and then plunged forward into the road and lay still.

For a long moment the three spectators were silent, then George Hedrick went slowly forward, and turning Ryerson over, felt for his heart.

"He's dead," he said at length. "Dead," he repeated. "Just nat'ally skeered ter death."

And he turned with a shudder of contempt from the fixed horror that stared up at him out of the dead eyes.

David drew a deep breath and looked about him with a half dazed expression, his hand rising unconsciously every now and again to dash the trickle of blood out of his eye.

"Mary," he cried, "Mary, I wasn't trying to kill him. I was jest tryin' to keep him from shootin'."—He broke off, looking at her with wild eyes that sought justification in her face.

"I wouldn't never have troubled him," he went on distractedly. "I wouldn't have teched him. I was goin' on by if he hadn't have drawn his gun—I would, Mary, I would er gone on by—honest I would," he pleaded.

His gaze wavered every now and again from her face to the limp figure in the road, and he was like a man suddenly awakening from sleep to see the last flash of a terrible dream a real thing before his eyes.

Mary took his hand in her cold little fingers and pressed it tremblingly. "I know yer didn't mean to jump on him—I know yer was goin' on by," she said firmly.

But the remembrance of the over-mastery of his fury came flooding back upon David, and the realization of his powerlessness in the clutch of the full strength of his passion appalled him, and he tore his hands away.

"But I was—I was fightin' to kill," he cried. "I heered him say, 'I'll kill yer like I done Alderson,' and after that I jest didn't keer what happened, and I don't know now why I didn't shoot him at the end, 'cept when he stood up before me like that an' I knowed I could do hit; somehow I jest didn't want to do hit no more."

He stood back from Mary, waving her hands away. "Mary," he cried, "I was fightin' to kill, an' I broke my promise to you."

He said it passionately, insistently. It was as though he would not accept her love without a full understanding on her part, and understanding of that self within himself, which even he did not understand. Yet though his hands held her off, his eyes besought her.

Mary too still looking at him, and in the look her education moved on a step, for in that pause it came home to her the manner of man she had chosen to love—a man whose passion of anger came and went as abruptly, as violently as the wind. This time, in spite of his own sudden horror of himself, she knew that he had triumphed, but the next time what might not some twist of circumstance bring forth? A little longer she paused, facing with clear eyes the possibilities of the future; then she went forward, and taking one corner of her limp wet apron she pressed it against the wound on David's forehead.

"Never mind—never mind, honey," she said. "You wasn't goin' ter shoot, I seed you wasn't. And hit's over—hit's all over fer now."

Her look and gesture were almost maternal, and, though her voice broke, there was in it, nevertheless, a certain new note, a note of knowledge, yet of strength and hope as well and strong determination.

THE END.

A Glance at Current Topics

Holland Cares For Wounded.
Maastricht, Holland (via The Hague), Oct. 3.—This city, the gateway to the Belgian theater of the war, presents scenes of suffering and misery seldom seen. Across the neutral frontier have come hundreds of refugees without money, without food and with only the clothes they stand in. While most of them are in this city hundreds of wounded have been brought to other parts of the country.

Refugee camps have been established

that their wives must be pretty and charming. The officers were always looking for pretty, modernized women with a view to marriage.

"Now, however," he observed, "things are changing. The marriageable naval officers of today are looking for women who are sober in mind and healthy in body. It is probably due to the object lesson furnished by husbands taxed with pretty but luxurious, vain and uncontrollable wives."

Admiral Yashiro said that although

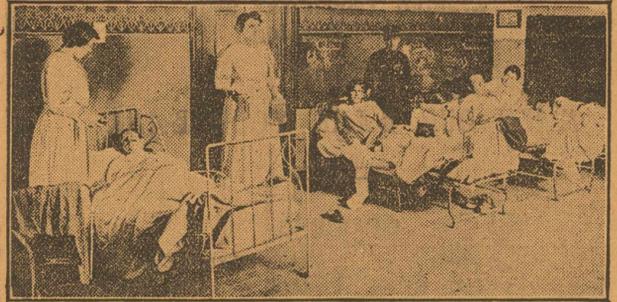


Photo by American Press Association.
WOUNDED BELGIANS AND GERMANS IN A HOSPITAL AT THE HAGUE.

ed by the Dutch Red Cross, and feeble efforts are being made to relieve the suffering of the men, women and children who fled their Belgian homes before the German advance. Several hospitals have been improvised. Here the sick and the wounded are being treated.

The little cathedral in Maastricht has been transformed into a temporary hospital.

One soldier, hardly more than a boy, was brought in fearfully wounded. For two days he lay unconscious. Then, just before he died, a glimmer of consciousness returned. He tried to raise himself, failed, then raised his hand weakly in salute and whispered in a voice audible only to the nurse at his side:

"Herr Lieutenant, I report myself."
The Dutch Red Cross has been utilizing its every resource to give needed aid. But the task has proved almost too much for the organization.

Rhodes Scholars Held Up.
London, Oct. 4.—The vice chancellor of Oxford university telegraphs in reply to an inquiry as to whether Rhodes scholars are expected next term:

"Yes, certainly—Americans and colonials."

Evidently the Germans are not expected at Oxford.

The hundred or more Rhodes scholars from the United States will be expected to report at Oxford university for the approaching term, but Oxford university probably will not reopen before January.

London's Postmen Go to Front.

London, Oct. 5.—London's postal service is being so seriously crippled by the war draft for the army that the usual number of deliveries and collections of mail has been reduced by half, and the employment of women to handle the mail in outlying districts is being considered. The Pall Mall Gazette in discussing the trouble, however, says that delays of mail are now being much reduced. It says:

"In the central parts of London the ordinary number of deliveries is twelve. It will now be six. The first and last posts, which are regarded as being far the most important of the day, will be maintained as usual. The number of collections is being similarly reduced. In the sub districts, extending through the nearer to the outer suburbs, the number of deliveries and collections are also reduced, but not quite to the same extent. Where there have been six or seven deliveries a day there are still about four, and in no case has it fallen below three.

"The number of men who have been withdrawn from the London postal service for duty in the naval reserve, the army reserve and the territorial force is about 4,000, consisting chiefly of postmen, sorters and porters. Their places will be kept open for them."

Alps Passes Guarded.

Geneva, Oct. 5.—Climbing among the central Alps is among the things forbidden by the military law in Switzerland. The Swiss mountain guides were among the first to be called to the colors.

Many amateur mountain climbers who were not aware of this regulation have found themselves stopped by armed sentinels in the St. Gothard region and at all points near the frontier.

Japanese Officers Shun Beauty.

Tokyo, Oct. 3.—"The golden age of beautiful women is passing," according to Admiral Yashiro, minister of the navy, who with friendly paternalism has been observing the choice of wives which naval officers have made.

"For over ten years," he said, "the idea has obtained in the navy that the officers were a kind of diplomat and

the number of selfish people had increased in Japan, as witness the recent naval bribery affair, he was convinced that the people as a whole would not countenance such conduct and such an attitude toward life. The Japanese would, he thought, return in a great measure to the old principles of loyalty, altruism and patriotism.

War Map For President.

Washington, Oct. 7.—A large war map, studded with colored pins to indicate the various armies, has been placed in the cabinet room of the White House so that the president and his advisers may see in graphic form how the battles abroad are proceeding.

Ambassadors at "War" Too.

Washington, Oct. 6.—Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, was being ushered into the diplomatic ante-room of the state department when he hesitated and asked Eddie Savoy, the veteran head messenger to the secretary of state, who was inside. "The Dominican minister, sir," answered Savoy. "Oh, that is all right," the German diplomat remarked, as he entered the room: "we are not at war with his country."

This little incident calls attention to the fact that the European struggle has produced a strange situation among the members of the local foreign diplomatic body. Some long friendships have been broken. The diplomatic representative of one nation at war may not speak to the representative of a foe. This break in relations of the diplomats is not only official, but personal.

There are opportunities for many embarrassing incidents, and it is necessary for hostesses to exercise the greatest care and tact to prevent unpleasant happenings at dinner parties and receptions.

This condition runs down the line and affects all the counselors, secretaries and attaches of the various diplomatic establishments of nations at war. There is no rule with reference to the women



Photo by American Press Association.
Count von Bernstorff, German Ambassador at Washington.

of the diplomatic households, but it is to be supposed that they will follow the line of procedure laid down by the male members of their families.

During the war between Russia and Japan Mr. Takahira, the Japanese ambassador, now Baron Takahira, came face to face with Baron Rosen, the Russian ambassador, during a call at the state department. Both diplomats looked surprised and embarrassed and seemed at a loss as to what to do. Then each bowed in a perfunctory sort of way and passed on. [41 B]

Gentlemen of the Jury, What Is the Verdict, Guilty or Not Guilty?

You Will Find the Answer In

"The Accomplice"

By FREDERICK TREVOR HILL

Our Next Serial Story

In it the foreman of the jury in a most sensational murder trial will lead you from one mystery to another, after each of which the finger of guilt still points to the beautiful defendant. He tells you of subtle influences that tortured his mind and that he fought. Then is revealed the most astounding rascality. The work of Cupid helps to make this story exceptional in every way.

Start It and You'll Read All of It

For the Man Who Feeds the Nation

DEHORNING CATTLE

Use Clothesline and Sharp Meat Saw In Operation.

CUT HALF INCH BELOW SKIN.

In Recent Years Shears or Clippers Have Come Into Use, Some Owners Preferring Those Tools, Especially When Large Numbers Are Handled.

[Prepared by United States department of agriculture.]

The dehorning of cattle can be very satisfactorily performed without any other apparatus or instruments than a good, strong clothesline and a clean, sharp meat saw or a miter saw with a rigid back. The same simple means for controlling the animal is just as

FARM INFORMATION.

The goose, like the duck, has practically no crop.

Cramming is a system of forcing feed into young fowls, either by hand or machine, so as to put on extra flesh.

Goose feathers range from 60 cents a pound for white to 50 cents for mixed.

Paint adds much to the appearance and durability of poultry buildings and is a good investment.

The intensive system of long houses is recommended for the production of market eggs and the colony system for breeding stock.

Feeding turkeys with chickens is bad policy, and throwing their feed on ground where chickens trot is bound to bring deadly blackhead.

CHIEF WORK OF THE BUSY BEE

Its Fertilizing Activities Worth More Than Its Honey Making.

What are bees for? "To make honey, of course," will be the answer of ninety-nine out of a hundred. That, however, is not the chief work of the bees. Scientists tell us that they do a still more important work in fertilizing the blossoms they visit. The value of the honey and wax taken from bees in the United States is estimated at \$20,000,000. Some estimate the value of their work as fertilizers at \$100,000,000. All agree that it exceeds \$20,000,000.

Many men have found that beekeeping and fruit growing are practicable when carried on together. It is generally known that bees are useful in pollinating the blossoms of most fruits, even if they are not actually necessary to a crop. They are numerous in early spring when few other insects are present in like numbers. If continued damp weather prevails during bloom they are useful in distributing the pollen and causing the setting of the fruit. The bees need pollen to feed the young in the hive, and are especially active in that season in obtaining it. They are useful, too, in cross fertilizing such varieties as are sterile unless crossed. It has been demonstrated also that in the cultivation of melons and cucumbers bees are absolutely necessary to good crops. It was long since conclusively proved that bees were not created solely to furnish man with a delectable sweet, but to increase the yield of edible fruits.

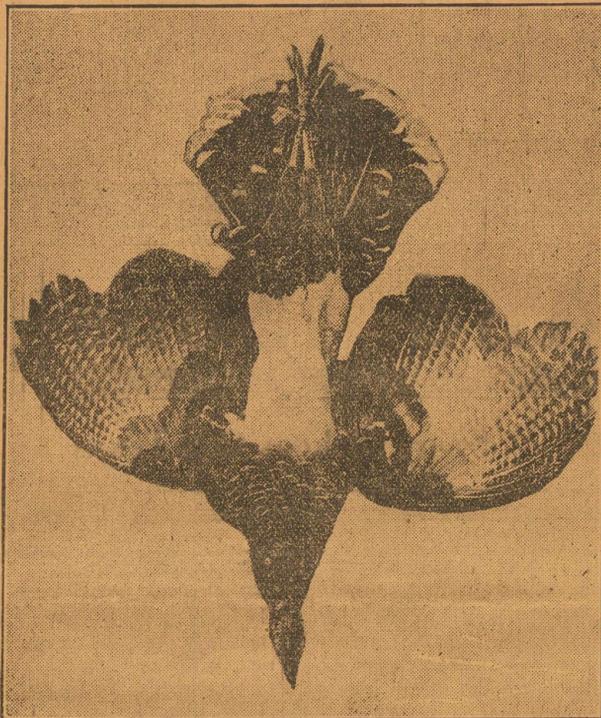
Exercising the Bull.

For some years we have turned into the paddock with the herd bull a youngster aged from six months to a year old, and the old chap will never lack exercise, as the youngster will give him a dig first in one place, then another, and keep him on the move, writes a correspondent of the Pacific Dairy Review. If Mr. Bull lies down the young fellow will quietly walk up to him and in an instant is on his back with his sharp hoofs, which brings the old chap to his feet in short order, with his ire kindled; then a scrap ensues, and all goes well for a few seconds; then some other game is pursued, and the old chap will always have sufficient exercise to give him a good appetite and keep him good natured. We always turn in another youngster when one is sold, so we keep the old bull going. We have never had the slightest injury done to a young bull yet.

Index to Hen Health.

A fowl's comb is always an index to the condition of the bird. When the comb is pale or very black something is wrong, as a healthy fowl shows a bright scarlet color of the comb. Whenever the comb changes color the fowl should be examined for disease.

How to Fatten the Turkey



A HANDSOME HEN TURKEY.

To make that extra dollar turkeys must be well finished and dressed. Many have quit the old corn fattening method and finish turks with milk mash, beautiful specimens of which process we present. Before killing they should be fasted a day and night or they turn green at crop, ribs and vent. To kill they should be hung head down, with nothing for wings to strike, and arteries should be cut in back of throat and bird should hang head down until drained of blood or discoloration ensues.

While bleeding feathers pluck easy and skin is less liable to tear. Whether birds should be picked bare or feathers should be left on neck, wings, tail and rump depends on market call.

After all stubs are removed the head, feet and shanks should be washed and clotted blood removed from throat, mouth and mouth cleft and all blood spots wiped off.

applicable when dehorning clippers are to be used as when the horns are to be removed with the saw.

The head of the animal is secured to a horizontal rail or stringer which holds the upper ends of the stanchion boards. The animal is put in the stanchion in the usual manner; then one end of a heavy clothesline is passed around the upper part of the neck and tied in a knot that will not slip; otherwise it will choke the animal. The free end of the rope is now carried between the horns, through the stanchion to the front, up and over the horizontal stanchion rail, then down underneath the neck and up and over the top of the stanchion rail, and through to the front again to the hands of the assistant, who should stand three or four feet in front of the animal and hold the rope firmly, but be prepared to release it when told to do so by the operator.

The horns should be severed from a quarter to a half inch below where the skin joins the base of the horn, cutting from the back toward the front.

If the cut is made too high and irregular a gnarly growth of horn is very apt to follow. It should be noted that the point of union of the skin and horn varies in different cattle; hence there can be no rule of measurement.

In recent years, since dehorning shears or clippers have come into use, this means of dehorning is considered by some cattle owners to be preferable, especially where large numbers of cattle are to be dehorned.

If the animals are dehorned in warm weather it is well to apply some pine tar with a view of keeping flies from the wounds. Some operators do this in nearly all cases, thinking that it facilitates healing. The dehorning operation should be performed in cool weather and upon animals at least two years old.

CONDENSED MILK FOR COLTS.

Proper Treatment of Young Horses Just After Weaning.

The most trying times in the life of the young horse are during the hot months of summer, and again in early fall just after it has been weaned. In most parts of the country there is more or less of a drought in the late summer, and the mare is unable to supply enough milk to sustain the foal in a healthy and growing condition. In addition to this the flies at that period of the year annoy the young animal.

To overcome these obstacles some breeders stable the mare and colt during the day and supply the loss of pasture by feeding the mare grain and freshly cut hay. But in a majority of cases the mare, with her young foal, is allowed to run at pasture with no additional feed.

A scheme that has been found to give entire satisfaction in such cases is to empty a can of condensed milk into a pail of water and allow the foal to drink some of this mixture two or three times a day. After the foal has been weaned this system is especially effective, and as the colt is then older and stronger it will drink a pailful both night and morning. The youngsters soon learn to like it. When purchased by the case condensed milk has been found to be quite economical, while there is little doubt that as a flesh making food it is almost without an equal.

Country Gentleman.

Water For the Gopher Pest.

One friend who is active above his collar button has thought out a plan of getting rid of the gopher pest. He fills a good sized wagon tank full of water, attaches a hose at the rear end and proceeds to the infested pastures or fields. When he finds a hole he inserts the hose and turns on the water. Out comes the gopher, and he is easily dispatched.

Repeating on Himself.

She—Am I the first girl you ever kissed?
He—Why—er—I don't know. Your face seems familiar.—Life.

Inseparable.

Percival—Young Benedict and his new wife are inseparable, aren't they?
Sylvester—Yes; he calls her his altar ego.—Judge.



The Lion—Is dinner ready?
The Monkey—Yes, sir; I'll go bring it to you.
The Lion (significantly)—But why go?
—Pittsburgh Press.

Where Justice Failed.

The justice had fined the auto owner \$7 for speeding.
The victim pulled out a ten dollar bill.
The justice stared at it.
"It's th' smallest you've got?"
"Yes."
"Ain't I a chump!" said the justice.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Defining a Secret.

He (annoyed)—Didn't I tell you it was a secret and that you mustn't tell anybody? She—No, you didn't; you only said it was a secret.—Boston Transcript.

Nothing More Needed.



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Cupid on the Wire

By DANIEL J. ROGERS

I AM, or, rather, was till lately, a woman telegraph operator. I was sitting at my operating table one night reading a novel to kill time—for there was but little for me to do—when there came a night message from a distant station. As soon as it was finished the operator who sent it said good night to me. I replied that I wished I could say good night to all the world, for I was tired and sleepy and would like to go to bed. This resulted in a bit of conversation, in which my correspondent used certain masculine phrases that indicated him to be a man. But when I asked if he were a man he surprised me by saying that he was a woman. Next I was asked as to my sex, and, half suspecting that the operator was trying to humbug me, I replied that I was a man.

Then followed a period of love making, in which I as the man took the lead. I found it very difficult to make love as a man would, and the effort constituted the principal part of the amusement I derived from the affair. When I had nothing better to do I would write out certain lover-like phrases, then go over them, taking out the feminine give aways, substituting masculine phrases. These I would use in the corrected form the next time my lady called me up. I flattered myself that in this way I would avoid the appearance of being a woman.

My correspondent, if a man, which he claimed not to be, surely played the womanly part very well. He used very flowing language and expressed himself with such words as "I declare!" "That's just too funny for anything!" "Goodness gracious!" while I gave vent to "The dickens you say!" "Cut it out!" and "You bet!"

While I had been led to believe my correspondent was a man, a constant use of feminine expressions altered my opinion. I did not believe any man could avoid making some slip that would give him away. I certainly found it almost impossible to avoid revealing myself as a woman and realized that I could only do so in the manner I have indicated—that is, by writing my phrases and correcting them.

We exchanged, or pretended to exchange, photographs, though mine was one of my cousin, a handsome fellow about twenty-five. My correspondent was a comely girl with a spark of mischief in her eye. It was this expression that convinced me my correspondent was a girl. As I looked at her photograph it struck me that she was just the person to indulge in such a wise flirtation as was being carried on between us. I looked forward with pleasure to the day when we would meet and I should see the look of surprise on her face when she discovered her mistake.

To accomplish a meeting and apply

a test at the same time I proposed that if my correspondent were coming my way he should call and see me. If he were really a man he would not scruple to do so. If she were a woman and believed me to be a man she would not come to see me, but expect me to come and see her. She stood the test. When I made the proposition she expressed herself as greatly surprised that I should do so, saying that she would not think of going to call on a man. She would, however, be happy to have the man call upon her.

If there was any doubt left in my mind that my operator was a woman this dispelled it. I apologized for what I called my thoughtlessness and said that I would take an early opportunity to call upon her. Nevertheless if it should turn out that some man had been representing himself as a woman it would be embarrassing for me, so I concluded to forego the pleasure of laughing at the girl and let the matter drop.

One morning a young man alighted from a train, came into the station, wrote a telegram and asked me to send it. The message was an unimportant one, simply stating that he would be in a certain place at a certain date. I counted the words, told him the price of the message, and he threw down the money. But he kept me at the window asking me questions about the town, how far it was to this place and that place and the running of trains. He was deferential, and I was not displeased to answer his questions. Finally I broke away to send his message, and as I did so he called to me: "If the party is not found tell them to leave the message."

He went off uptown, but returned in about an hour with some flowers and, advancing to the window, laid them on the board over which messages are received and asked me if he might not send a telegram himself. Since he knew the Morse alphabet and thought he could stumble through one I assented, and, coming into the operating room, he sat down at the instrument and began to rattle off with the fluency of a professional telegrapher the name and address for the message. The address being the station of my correspondent, I pricked up my ears. The message read:

I have found the operator who has been pretending to be a man, and she is a woman, as was plain from the constant use of "Dear me." She is comely and attractive. I have brought her some flowers.

With that he turned with a sparkle in his eye to find me staring at him with cheeks red as the flowers he had brought me.

Munster, Ireland, has a crop area of 1,287,207 acres and a population of 1,035,495 persons.

Laugh and the World Laughs Too

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The Lion (significantly)—But why go?
—Pittsburgh Press.

Famous.

The Guest—And who is the distinguished personage in oil over the mantel?
The Owner—That's my great-grandfather, Hoppinger Hinkle, painted by Kalosky. He was one of the mob of patriots who dumped the boatload of storage eggs into the harbor.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Enthusiastic.

"I understand the bride and groom are back from their honeymoon trip."
"Yes."
"Are they all settled?"
"Yes."
"And happy?"
"Very. She can hardly wait for his first pay day to come."—Detroit Free Press.

Simple.

"I don't know how to take this chicken apart," declared the bride.
"Well, we tackled an automobile successfully," said the young husband. "We ought to be able to handle a small job like this. Where's the book of instructions?"—Kansas City Journal.

Holding Out.

"Won't you get me an automobile, dear?" said the young married woman.
"But the expense, wife!" replied the husband.
"Oh, you know you promised to keep nothing from me after we were married."—Yonkers Statesman.

A Lesson In Botany.

He—What has made the professor so wild? She—Oh, he was gassing about botany, and so I asked him if he had ever seen a pink palm. He said "No," and I showed him my hands.—London Telegraph.

Locked Up.

Miss Manchaser—You know the old adage, "Love laughs at locksmiths?" Mr. Grouchmore—Yep. Getting in is easy enough, but getting out is no joke.—Chicago News.

The City Man's Complaint.

"The farmer had electric lights in his house."
"That so?"
"Yes, and a bathroom with a porcelain tub."
"Indeed?"
"And telephone and an automobile."
"Well, I declare."
"If they keep on improving things in the country soon there'll be no place for us city folks to go to when we're tired."—Detroit Free Press.

As He Saw Him.



Candidate—I hope you don't believe what the other side is saying about me.
Pat—Not a bit! All I believe about you is that you are saying about the other side.—Chicago News.

Her Delicate Method.

"Is it true that the widow proposed to Tompkins?"
"Yes, in a way. Tompkins was calling there one evening, when she handed him a novel to read entitled 'Put Yourself In His Place.' Tompkins took the hint."—Boston Transcript.

Wood Cutting Prohibited On Spur Lands!

Notice is Hereby Given That Any Person Who Cuts Wood of Any Kind Whatever From Any of Our Lands Any Where Now or Hereafter will Be Prosecuted to the Fullest Extent of the Law Without Favor or Consideration

IN Some localities in past years, the lands have been shamefully cut over, regardless of our rights, and those of purchasers of land not occupied. Many otherwise honest men, have come to think that what others have done, without a penalty resulting, they can also do, and there is an increasing disposition to appropriate wood wherever it can be found, no matter to whom it belongs. This must and will be stopped. We must protect the people who have already bought Spur Lands, and those who will hereafter buy them, from this wood cutting.

Some people pretend to think there is no objection to it. This is, therefore, public notice that no one has our permission to cut, saw, grub, break down or gather wood of any kind whatever from our lands anywhere, and that prosecution will certainly follow trespassers hereafter without favor.

S. M. Swenson And Sons

CHAS. A. JONES, Manager,

Spur, Dickens Co., Texas

TEXAS SPUR

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY

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ORAN McCLURE, Editor & Prop.

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When not specified, all Ads will be continued until ordered out and charged for accordingly.

FOUR ISSUES ONE MONTH

DEMOCRATIC NOMINEES

For Representative, 105th District:
T. F. Baker, Snyder, Texas
For District Attorney, 50th Judicial District:
Isaac O. Newton (re-election)
For District and County Clerk:
C. C. Cobb (re-election)
For Tax Assessor:
G. B. Joplin
For Sheriff and Tax Collector:
J. B. Conner (2nd term)
For County Judge:
Blaine Speer
For County Treasurer:
J. B. Yantis
For Commissioner Precinct No. 3:
W. A. Johnson

Since the price of cotton continues to go down and the price of everything else goes up, it is very evident that cotton growers will have to devote their acreage and labors to the growing of other crops in the future. The Spur country is specially adapted to growing a variety and abundance of feed and truck, hogs, cattle, horses and mules, therefore the abandonment of growing cotton will not materially effect this section except in the loss sustained this year in growing a bumper cotton crop. It is also evident that the government and other agencies will not give permanent relief and that the farmer must work out his own salvation through diversified farming.

A one hundred and fifty million dollar Cotton Loaning Association is in process of formation, having its origin in Saint Louis. The capital stock of this association will be subscribed by bankers, manufacturers, wholesale and retail merchants and other business interests of the whole country. The association proposes to loan money on cotton on a basis of six cents a pound at seven per cent interest per annum, and on this basis will be in a position to hold from the market five million bales of cotton. This association, together with other "Buy-a-Bale" organizations now in operation in many sections of the country, should place the farmers of the South in a position to withstand the prevailing cotton marketing stringency, and since the European warring conditions give little promise of an early end, it is not presumed that the farmers of the country will produce more cotton next year than is demanded by the marketing conditions.

Carranza has exhibited a broadness and true citizenship in resigning his position as president of Mexico for the sake of establishing a peaceable government, but as heretofore said the spirit of personal and factional rivalry for supremacy in Mexico will result in continued revolutions and it is to be hoped that the factions and leading personages of Mexico will submit to the proposed Commission form of Government pending the establishment of an equitable, just and peaceable government in revolution ridden Mexico.

Shackelford county has joined in with the Fort Worth-Roswell Highway Association and will help push the auto line through by the way of Spur to Lubbock. Other organizations are being formed elsewhere to divert the course of this proposed highway and it is expected that a friendly spirit of rivalry will be exhibited in securing the adoption and recognition of the route of this proposed highway from Ft. Worth to Roswell.

We believe the governmental agents could better serve the real interests of the country by giving farmers information concerning marketing demands rather than giving manufacturers and the market information concerning the amount of the farming products. At least, it would be only fair to all concerned to give reliable information from both sources.

The great European war continues with little hope of an early end and without material change in the great battle now in progress between the great forces of the allies and Germany. This is already recognized as the greatest and most devastating war within the history of the world.

PUT PESSIMISM BEHIND YOU

Humanity may be staggered by the horrors of Europe's war, but civilization will not be destroyed. Millions of men and billions of treasure may be lost in this devilish work; thrones may totter, and new maps of

Europe may be necessary before the end is reached; but mankind will, on the wreck of these ruins, build a better civilization—one in which the people, and not a few unscrupulous men who feel that they have been Divinely appointed, will rule.

As the people of this country view the horrors of the European situation they may well take courage and thank God that they live in a land free from such conditions as those prevailing in Europe. While moved by profound sorrow for the awful tragedy that is being enacted on the battlefield and the greater suffering of broken hearts in homes made desolate by war's destruction, we yet have a right to lift up our hearts in thanksgiving for the blessings of this country in material things and in the freedom from the conditions prevailing in Europe.

In the light of the contrast between the blessings which the people of the United States are now enjoying, with the magnificent crops of the year and all other privileges vouchsafed to us, how small and petty seem our thoughts when we mourn because business is not quite as good as it might be and because our chances of making money are for the moment not quite as abundant as in times past.

Let the people of this country put behind them such pessimism and such narrowness, and in a spirit of enthusiastic optimism carry forward the work of the day, without hesitating or halting and then there will be business enough for all and room enough for all when the temporary disadvantages of the present situation have passed away.

—Manufacturers Record.

STRICT CONFIDENCE

IS maintained, whatever your relations with the First State Bank. You may discuss with the utmost freedom with the officers of this bank any matters pertaining to your financial affairs, with the assurance that your confidence will not be abused, and that you will receive the counsel which, in the best judgment of the officers, is for your best interests.

THE FIRST STATE BANK OF SPUR, TEXAS

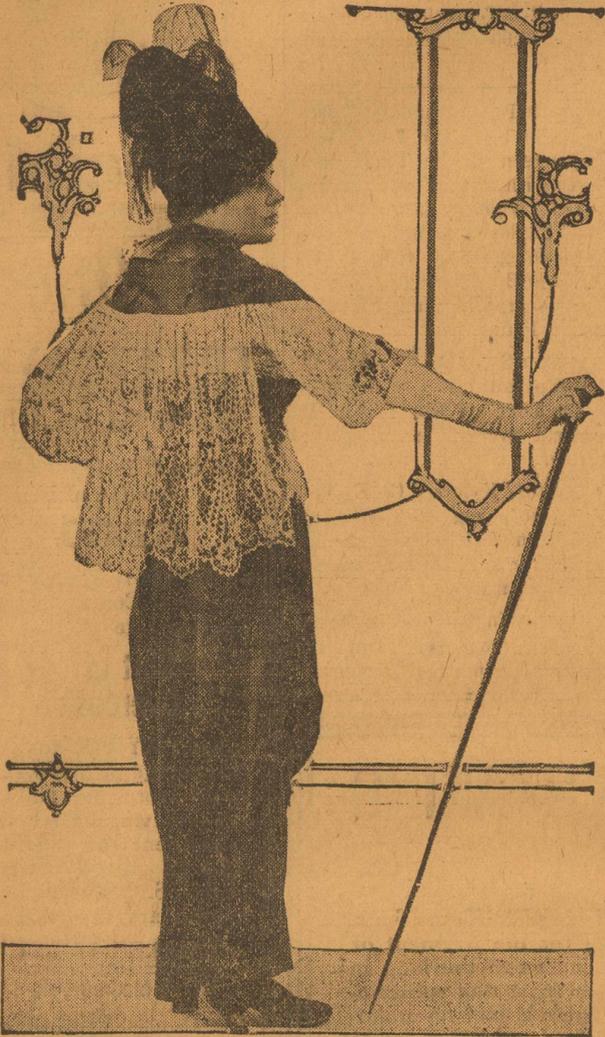
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D. HARKEY, Vice-Pres.

Woman's Work and Fashions

Cape Gowns For Fall Afternoon Wear



This imported gown of black satin has a short shoulder cape of crocheted lace. The shoulder cape is a feature of many fall gowns. Capes are immensely popular and are used in a great variety of styles.

Children's Shoes.

The footwear of small girls and boys is of exceeding importance to their appearance. Not only must the shoes be of the shape best calculated to the proper development of the feet, but they must be kept shapely. For mornings and play hours the best summer shoe is the high boot, laced or buttoned, in white canvas or in dark tan kid. Next to these comes the tie for semi-dress occasions. For parties are the patent leather sandals for boys and sandals in various shades for the girl, whose shoes and stockings invariably match the color of her dancing frock.

Test the Oven.

A useful and simple test to try the heat of an oven is by means of a piece of white paper. If too hot the paper when placed in the oven will blaze up or blacken. When the paper becomes dark brown, the color of meat pie crust, then the oven is suitable for small pastry. When light brown, the color of real nice pastry, then the oven is ready for pies, etc. When the paper turns dark yellow you can bake bread, large meat pies or large pound cakes. If the paper is just tinged the oven is right for sponge cakes and meringues. The temperature of an oven may be easily reduced while cooking by placing a bowl of water in it.

The Best In Man



—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

GIRDLES AND SASHES.

Quaint and Attractive Features of the Smart Evening Frock.

The apron string sash is a quaint little fashion feature that is becoming popular. The "strings" begin at the sides of the waist line, fastened by a flower buckle or button, and are tied in a loose knot about six or eight inches below the center normal waist line in the back. These apron strings are found upon evening dresses as well as upon afternoon dresses. Usually in both instances they are of black velvet.

Another feature of evening gowns just as incongruous as apron strings and equally effective is the vest girdle. No one would expect such a girdle to venture outside the tailored lines, but it is to be found upon the most diaphanous and light colored frocks. The girdle is usually of a contrasting color, although it sometimes matches the material, and comes up very high in the front, making the entire bodice closely resemble the frock of a Swiss peasant.

The very center front is fastened by buttons and buttonholes, and the lower part of this opening is usually shaped so that buttons and buttonholes slope away from each other and the girdle itself falls to meet, leaving about two or three of the buttons "unbuttoned" or, rather, "unbuttonholed." The back of the girdle is wide and somewhat crushed, but there is no suggestion of the point which characterizes the front and gives the vest effect.

NEW FABRIC FANCIES.

The Vogue of Worsted and Woolen Materials Confidently Predicted.

As a large proportion of the fall dress samples of the leading houses are being made of worsted or woolen materials there is every indication that the early predictions of a big cloth season will materialize, says the Dry Goods Economist. Gabardine, serge, chiffon, broadcloth, prunella cloth and various novelty worsteds are among the fabrics employed.

When cloth is used in combination with silk the latter is usually in qualities having a high sheen, such as satin, charmeuse and messaline. To bring the waist into harmony with the skirt a sufficient amount of cloth is used to give the one piece appearance.

As regards colors, navy blue, as usual, is in the lead, but green and brown are being featured, and it is anticipated that they will be strong colors for fall and winter. The shade of green most in favor has a yellow cast somewhat on the tone of olive, but considerably darker.

Several shades of brown are featured, but the darkest tones are considered the smartest.

Devoted to Our Boys and Girls

WHY, WHAT, IF AND WHICH.

Cover Up the Answers and Then Puzzle These Out.

Why is a man just imprisoned like a boat full of water? Because he requires balling out.

Why is a bald head like heaven? Because it is a bright and shining spot and there's no parting there.

Why is my cup of tea stronger than yours? Because it is all my tea (almighty).

What is that which is invisible yet never out of sight? The letter S.

Why are quinine and gentian like Germans? Because they are two tonics (Teutonics).

Why is a comprehensive action an affectionate one? Because it embraces everything.

If a man saw his sister fall into a well, why could he not rescue her? Because he could not be a brother and assist her too.

Which are the two most disagreeable letters if you get too much of them? K N (cayenne).

What kind of cravat would a hog be most likely to choose? A pig's-tye, of course.

FLOWERS GROWING IN ICE.

The idea of flowers growing on an iceberg is one that it is rather hard to accustom oneself to, but men who have traveled in the far north describe the beautiful effect they have witnessed very enthusiastically.

Birds and animals carry on their feet a deposit of moss, and this growth is deposited on the ice while it remains attached to the mainland in Arctic regions. The moss decays and forms a thin covering in which the seeds of wild flowers, borne by southern winds, find a resting place. They frequently take root and bloom in the shallow soil when the iceberg floats out to sea and is carried southward by the currents until the warm winds melt the surface and give the daring little plants the needful sunshine.

TESTING HER LOVE

By WILLIAM D. KEARNEY

MIRIAM WOTHERSPOON had ideas of her own respecting love—that is, love between the sexes. She was at the proper age when women or men are apt to think a great deal of love and marriage.

Miss Wotherspoon had noticed the increasing number of divorces with concern and thought of a divorce in her own case with horror. Therefore when she became engaged to George Chandler she occupied herself thinking of the probabilities or possibilities of their separating after marriage till her mind got into a condition of semimonomania. Believing that the chief cause of divorces is a want of genuine love, she resolved upon testing both her lover and herself to discover whether the bond between them was or was not true love. Absence she considered the best test and resolved to live apart from her fiancé for six months.

Chandler was a practical sort of fellow and was principally concerned in getting his affairs into shape to be married. When Miriam told him that she had resolved on a long journey to be absent a year he was astonished. When she gave her reasons he endeavored to dissuade her from her plan. Not succeeding, he finally gave his consent. When he saw her off on the steamer he said: "I know a better test than absence. Perhaps I shall apply it." Miriam begged him to tell her what it was, but he, knowing that she would not give over trying to get it out of him, refrained from mentioning it till just as the vessel was leaving the dock.

When Miriam had been gone six months Chandler wrote her that her absence had made no difference with his feelings toward her, and if she had experienced no diminution of her affection for him she would better return. She replied that she still felt the same toward him, but her test called for a year's absence.

It was about a month after this that a young American, Edward Treat, joined the party that Miss Wotherspoon traveled with. He seemed to take a desperate fancy to Miriam, and, since he was a very attractive fellow, she found his attentions agreeable. Love springs in the path of tourists of opposite sex like daisies in a clover field. When there is nothing to divert the mind of young persons from loving they are likely to love. Sightseeing—visiting ruins, works of art, gardens that have been cultivated for centuries—does not divert the mind from love. On the contrary, it encourages love.

Miriam, though she was somewhat troubled at a change she experienced within her, was confirmed in her opinion that she had been wise to apply

her test. She began to doubt if her love for George Chandler was genuine, and one evening when floating in the moonlight on the bosom of Lake Como she was quite certain that it was not genuine. There are many degrees in the art of lovmaking, and Treat was an adept. Besides, any girl who would fall to be impressed by the devotion of an attractive man on a moonlight night on the most beautiful lake in the world must have a heart of adamant.

Treat did not get to a proposal. Miriam warned him off from that. Though she was convinced that there was nothing about her love for George Chandler that might not be broken through, she was not ready to throw off the old and take on the new. Nevertheless she wrote her fiancé a letter which indicated that she had not the faith in the endurance of her love for him that she had supposed. Within another week she wrote him asking if it would be convenient for him to come over.

Chandler sailed for Genoa as soon as he could make his arrangements to be absent and joined his fiancée at Milan. He found her in a very muddled condition. She had confessed her engagement with George to Treat, and the latter had ceased his attentions until she had decided to break with her fiancé. She told Treat that Chandler was coming over and suggested that he go to Switzerland.

When George Chandler arrived Miriam was so glad to see him that new doubts arose in her bosom. She regretted that instead of sending for him she had not gone home to him. Nevertheless she felt that she had not stood the test, that she had proved her affection for him was not true blue and she told him the whole story.

"I see nothing for me to do," he said, "but release you from our engagement."

"But I am not sure that I wish to be released."

"Miriam," he said, looking with a kindly expression into her eyes, "do you remember saying that I had a better test than yours?"

"Yes; I do."

"Well, I have applied it. Ned Treat is an old friend of mine. Hearing that he was coming aboard, I secured his promise to seek you and try to win you from me."

She gave him a look of astonishment, reproach, self abasement, then collapsed on his breast.

"It's all right," Chandler added. "I'll see during our married life that you don't fall under the influence of a fascinating man. If that won't keep us from the divorce you dread it is at least all I can do."

Boy Scouts Do Their Duty Like "Men."



Photo by American Press Association.

Everywhere in Europe the boy scouts have been doing their duty like "men." In England, Germany, France and Belgium particularly the boys have been called upon to do various duties for which they were best fitted to help their countries. Giving aid in harvesting crops, acting as subway guards, watching railroad stations, bridges, steamship docks and other public places against spies who may want to blow them up are some of the duties of these youthful "soldiers." In Spain the boy scouts are reported to be ready to do anything their country requires of them in case they are needed. Here is a troop of Spanish boy scouts being reviewed by their king, Alfonso, who is the third man from your right in the picture.

INDIANS IN LONDON.

When a wild west show reached London recently fifteen American Indians, who travel with the show, rode out to Brompton cemetery and gave voice to mournful chants about the grave of Chief Lone Wolf, who died in England in 1892 while touring with another outfit.

Chief Red Shirt of the Sioux led the party. Standing at the grave, he spoke

solemnly, thanking the English nation for taking care of his red skinned brother.

Afterward the stalwart braves planted feathers in the turf above the grave in acknowledgment of Lone Wolf's bravery; a small amount of food was placed in a hole in the ground, and a solemn dirge sung by all fifteen redskins completed a ceremony surely very strange to London eyes.

FROM DICKENS ITEM

W. T. Stewart returned this week and is making preparations to work in an effort to locate a lead mine on the Chas. Windham ranch. Mr. Stewart is confident he is right in the location of the vein of lead and will have the mine opened up in a short while.

W. W. Waldrup was kicked the first of the week by a mule and for awhile thought his leg was broken. He came to town for medical attention. The limb was badly bruised.

Lee Payne went to Fort Worth this week and secured several cotton pickers for the Croton community.

J. F. Speer went to Spur today and sold nine bales of cotton at six and a quarter.

MARRIED

Mr. Joe Thornton and Miss Reba Brantner, of the Red Mud community, came to town Thursday, secured marriage license at the Clerk's office and had Judge O. S. Ferguson tie the nuptial knot.

Mr. Thornton has resided in this county several years, being an employee of the Spur Ranch, and is favorably known as a young man of sterling worth.

Miss Brantner is the daughter of A. L. Brantner, an old timer in the Red Mud country, and is known as an admirable and charming young woman.—Dickens Item.

B. Y. P. U. PROGRAM, OCT. 18th

President in charge.
 Song—Prayer.
 Leader in charge.
 Song.
 Leader, Jessie Rodgers.
 Scripture—Gal. 6:1-10—B y Leader.
 The story of the good Samaritan—Luke 10:25-37—T. R. Brannen.
 Special Song.
 Why the word needs the personal touch, Ella Pierce.
 Why we need personal service, N. Q. Brannen.
 Song.
 Close, by short prayer.
 Everybody who can, come.
 We need you.

DIED AT HALE CENTER.

T. G. Harkey received a message Wednesday stating that his sister, Mrs. Allen of Hale Center, died on that day, and he and Sheriff J. B. Conner left Wednesday afternoon to attend the funeral. We extend our sympathy to Uncle Tom and other relatives in this bereavement.

T. M. Burges returned last week from Fort Worth where he had been to secure cotton pickers.

JOSEPH DALY; M. D.

ABILENE, TEXAS

Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Diseases Treated and Glasses Fitted

WILL BE IN SPUR

NOVEMBER 4 & 5

Office With Dr. Morris

GILPIN

Well, we had a fine rain Sunday night.

P. E. Hagins and Mr. Lollar left Thursday for Temple where they went to get hands to help gather the abundant crops of cotton.

Willie Hagins came home Saturday to stay a few days.

Rev. Luther Bilberry filled his regular appointment here Sunday.

Rev. W. B. Bennett and mother, Mrs. M. J. Bennett, went to Red Mud Saturday.

Mrs. Turner is on the sick list this week.

Cecil Bennett spent Monday night with Willie Hagins.

Miss Eunice Comptom spent Sunday with Miss Mattie Hagins.

Mrs. D. D. Hagins visited Mrs. Turner Monday evening.

D. D. Hagins and wife carried their baby to the doctor Thursday evening.

E. R. and D. D. Hagins and families made a trip to Jayton Sunday.

Edgar Carlisle and wife, of Girard, were in Gilpin Sunday.—Aunt Martha Jane.

TAP

Rev. Bennett, of Gilpin, preached here Saturday night and Sunday.

Grandpa Sparks has been on the sick list quite awhile.

Rev. Owens preached here Sunday night. He is about 85 years of age.

Mr. Dozier and family spent Sunday with T. S. Lambert and family.

Sambo Rutherford is still quite ill. We hope he will recover soon.

Mr. Trout and wife spent Saturday and Sunday with Mr. Harris of near Spur.

Wilbert Scott, from the east, is here visiting his uncle, Liss Scott.

Mrs. John Smith and children spent Sunday with Mrs. Cross and children.

Tom McArthur and family spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Liss Scott.

Tip Pirkle is here from Cleburne visiting his brothers, Willis and Jeff, and sister, Mrs. J. E. Sparks.

E. Luce spent Tuesday night at Seab Lambert's.

A few of Tap's young folks spent Sunday with Miss Annie Cross. Those present were Misses Essie Lambert, Flora and Gladis Jones; Messrs. Joe Lambert and George Crump.

Rev. John Stephens will preach at the Red Top schoolhouse Sunday at 11:00 o'clock.—A Candy Kid.

Wyatt Taylor was down Thursday from his Silver Lake farm, and presented the Texas Spur force with a sack of roasting ears for which he has our thanks. Mr. Taylor returned recently from an extended visit to his sister at Breckenridge. He reports everything in good shape on the Plains.

Baxter Scoggins was here the latter part of last week from his ranch home on Cat Fish. He reports everything in good shape.

Bedford Kyle and C. E. Wallace, two young men who are here from Hubbard and picking cotton for J. P. Gibson, were in the city Saturday.

Chas. Windham was in the city recently from his farm and ranch home north of Dickens.



Special!

Suit Offer!

FOR 15 DAYS

BEGINNING SAT. OCT. 17TH.

We are Offering the Reduction of **\$2.50**

on All Ready-Made Suits and Over-Coats. If you Contemplate Buying A

Suit or Overcoat

It will PAY YOU to take Advantage of this Offer. Aside from the Nobby Weaves, we have a large assortment of STEEL GRAYS and BLUE SERGES. Every garment bears the reliable

CURLEE LABEL

Which Insures Value!

The Original Price of Our Clothes is Very Low, and at this Special Offer there is no Need of any one being in need of a Suit or Overcoat

HOGAN & PATTON

"Everything in Mens Clothes"

A DISAGREEABLE UNDERTAKING

NOVEMBER 1st Ends Five Years of service in publishing The Texas Spur. During that time we have not sent out bills asking for the payment of subscription accounts. Possibly we have let these accounts run too long in many instances, but those who have never tried to collect past due subscriptions to a newspaper cannot fully realize how disagreeable is such an undertaking—some will swear they never ordered the paper, others will claim to have paid, and still others will say they thought we were mailing them the paper free of charge, etc., while the majority keep paid up along and many make us feel good by paying in advance. We have a number of subscribers on our books who owe us from one dollar to five dollars. These amounts are small to the individual, but the total amounts to a considerable sum of money to us. The time has come when we must ask that these amounts be settled, since we need the money and our financial condition will not permit us to extend the accounts indefinitely.

A newspaper has only two ways to get money—through subscriptions and advertising space—and both sources of income does not bring us any surplus funds. The blank paper for each yearly subscriber costs us more than fifty cents in cash without any consideration of the cost of publishing the paper, therefore you can readily understand that we can not afford to mail the paper free to anyone—and the only exceptions we have made is for preachers and widows and orphans who are not able to pay.

We sincerely hope to not offend anyone, but we want the money and necessity will force us to ask even at this late date for the payment of all past due subscription accounts, and realizing our position and appreciating our circumstances we trust you to respond by November 1st.

THE TEXAS SPUR

GROWING MELONS.

J. J. Cloud complimented the Texas Spur last week with a big water melon grown on his place near Soldier Mound. He said that this melon came from a vine on which he had secured eighteen other big melons and others continue to grow on the vine.

Miss Nig Blackwell returned last week from the Spur Ranch headquarters where she had been spending some time with her sister.

Ed Jackson, a prosperous farmer and cattle raiser of the Draper country, was in Spur recently on business and greeting his friends here.

HOUSE BURNS.

Dan Hogan, who has been doing painting and other work on the Cairnes Ranch in Kent county, was in Spur this week greeting friends. He reports that a house on the ranch was recently burned.

E. B. Shaw, a prominent citizen and one of the most prosperous of the Croton country, was in Spur Tuesday and Wednesday on business and trading with Spur merchants.

Fred O. McFall was in the city this week from his farm home north of Spur.

For Sale Cheap—A good piano.—Western Hotel, Spur, Texas.

Mrs. B. B. Gainor, who has been spending some time in Kent county with relatives and friends, returned last week and is again visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. I. G. VanLeer at their home north of Spur.

Witt Springer returned last week from Jayton where he had been spending some time looking after his ice business at that place.

P. N. Arthur, a prominent citizen of Dickens, was brought this week to the Standifer Hospital for an operation.

Rev. W. B. Bennett, of Gilpin, was among the number of business visitors in Spur the latter part of last week.

Dr. Daly will be in Spur November 4th and 5th. See him about your Eye trouble. 50 Ct

W. M. Mitchell, of near Dickens, was in Spur the first of the week on business.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS

We will send out bills to those in arrears on subscription to the Texas Spur and will expect all who can to respond, since we need the cash. While the majority of subscribers keep paid up, yet there are quite a number who owe as much as five dollars for subscription and pay little attention to as small a matter as one dollar a year. We are not in a position to run subscription accounts indefinitely and we will appreciate your consideration of our position.

If you will notice your paper you can tell just exactly how much you owe on subscription. The figures opposite each name represents the year to which you have paid, and preceding the figures is the month to which you have paid. Please pay particular attention to these figures.

A little child of Mr. and Mrs. Rutherford, who recently moved to Spur from Tap, is reported to have been quite sick the past week.

P. H. Miller returned Monday from Peacock where he spent several days of last week on business.

We know how to serve the wants of the hungry—Eat at the German Kitchen and be filled.

Mayor Link made a business trip last week to Aspermont.

The Baptist Ladies Aid Society will have a Bazaar Dec. 18 19.

..J. P. SIMMONS..

Drayman and Agent for Pierce-Fordice Oil Ass'n. Heavy and light hauling. All work guaranteed