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THE TEXAS SPUR

AND DICKENS ITEM

A NEWSPAPER

For the Homes of Dickens County, and the best advertising medium of this section of West Texas

Volume Six

SPUR, DICKENS COUNTY, TEXAS, MARCH 11, 1915.

Number 19

CITY ELECTION TO BE HELD TUESDAY, APRIL 6

The regular time designated by Statute for City Elections is the first Tuesday in April, and at which time one mayor and one commissioner will be elected in Spur for a term of two years.

As a general rule there are never any candidates for city offices, and the selection of officers is rarely ever considered by the majority of voters until election day. However, it may be just as well since possibly there is not a citizen of the town but could fill the offices with honor, dignity and integrity.

ELECTION APRIL 3 FOR COUNTY SCHOOL TRUSTEES

The Honorable Commissioners Court has ordered an election to be held in the several voting precincts throughout Dickens county, Saturday, April 3rd, for the purpose of selecting two men to serve as County School Trustees during the next regular term of such office.

This is an important election since it pertains to the advancement of general educational matters in the country. Men who are interested in educational matters and will take time and trouble in promoting the interests of the schools throughout Dickens county should be selected to fill the office, and the selection of the candidates should be considered before the election day. The interests of the whole county could be furthered in this matter by a conference of the citizens of Dickens, Afton, Spur and other sections of the county, and by so doing the best material in the county could be selected.

J. B. Richburg and W. L. Osborne, who are building a fine ranch home on the Geo. Renfro ranch in Kent county, came in and spent Sunday with their families.

PROCEEDINGS OF COMMISSIONERS COURT

Commissioners Court of Dickens County convened Monday at Dickens, all members being present and participating in the following proceedings:

The bond of J. O. Yopp, in the sum of five hundred dollars as Constable of Precinct 3, was approved.

County Treasurer J. B. Yantis was directed to pay all interest on the bonded indebtedness of Dickens county, and also to redeem the following bonds: Road and Bridge Bonds, Numbers 1 and 2, and due April 10, 1940 for the sum of \$500 each; Court House and Jail Bonds, Number 13, due May 15, 1920, for \$1,000; Road and Bridge Bonds, Numbers 2, 3, and 4, due April 10, 1920, for \$1,000 each; Court House and Jail Bonds, Numbers 1, 2, and 3, due October 10, 1939, for \$1,000 each.

The fact that Dickens County is not only doing business on a

"cash basis" but is now paying off and taking up the bonded indebtedness many years ahead of time for payment, as above indicated, is an evidence not only of prosperity but a tribute to the efficiency of the members of the Commissioners Court and other County officers in the wise and business like administration of the public official affairs of the county. There are few counties in the state in as good financial condition as Dickens county, and we here and now commend the county officers in contributing to such an enviable condition.

1,814 BALES GINNED AT GIRARD.

We note from the Girard Reporter that the gin at that place ginned 1,814 bales of cotton this season, the gin having closed down last week. Last year only 576 bales were ginned at that place.

Throughout this entire country bumper crops of cotton and feed were grown, and although the price of cotton was not as much as it should have been the country is in fine shape, everybody is prosperous and has plenty. Again this year the indications are that crops will be even more abundant than the 1914 crops. If you want to be happy, contented and prosperous we invite you to come to the Great Spur Country and get in on the "ground floor."

SHIPPING MAIZE TO SELL IN EASTERN PART OF STATE

Wednesday a number of the most substantial farmers of the Dry Lake community hauled in maize and loaded a car in Spur for the eastern part of the state where this maize will be sold at a price of twenty two dollars per ton.

Notwithstanding the fact that for many years men have been laughed at for farming efforts in Western Texas, yet these same men of the East are now calling on the West to furnish them feed stuff. This country is not only shipping feed stuff but each year ships an abundance of cotton, hogs and cattle. Come West brother, and grow up with the country, because it is now an unquestioned fact that we are growing, developing and prospering.

ELLIS-SETTLES.

Miss Dulaney Ellis and Herman Settles, two of the most prominent young people of Kent county, were married Thursday, February 25th, at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Ellis of several miles east of Spur. The marriage ceremony was performed by Judge Gleen of Kent county, and a large number of guests were present to witness the ceremony and participate in the wedding feast which followed. Mr. and Mrs. Settles are popular young people and their popularity was evidenced in the large number of handsome and appropriate wedding presents received. The Texas Spur joins their many friends in extending congratulations and very best wishes.

GOOD OLD DAYS.

We feel sorry for the fellow who is always talking about the "Good Old Days." Of course, we don't refer to the real old timers, they have a right to live in the past. We don't want to go back to the old conditions. The slow moving stage coach days with those jeans pants and red top boots. We think our men are just as great; our women just as pure and our flowers just as sweet as they used to be. But let us not waste time on the past. The present and hopes of the future are all we have worth thinking about, and the future looks very beautiful and full of promise to us.

Now we laugh where we used to cry
Where we used to crawl we have learned to fly
Set in my friends, the limit's the sky
For the time to act at our feet is hurled
Let us march as a man with our flag unfurled
For our Western Land and all the world.

Now folks, let's raise everything we can at home this year in the way of things to eat. Let's buy all The Made in America Goods we can. Keep these two mottoes before us: "Raise all we can to eat at home" and "Buy as nearly all our merchandise as we can that's made in America." And we would add by way of emphasis, spend all the cash you can with Bryant-Link Co.

Yes Ladies, we have the prettiest line of Spring Dress Goods we think we have ever had, and it's going to be warm enough one of these days to buy spring dresses, and we know you are coming to see us—that's all we ask. We can't tell you how pretty and how reasonable are the prices. We could tell you we are selling goods below cost, but that wouldn't be true, but we have some real values you will agree when you see them.

Miss Matthews is ready for you with the newest in Millinery. Come in and get one of those snappy little spring shapes with veils. Haven't you noticed them on the streets.

Queen Quality Oxfords made in Boston, especially for ladies. A real combination of beauty and comfort, and they are going fast at \$3.00 to \$5.00. If you read the Ladies Home Journal and other leading publications, you know Queen Quality is a watchword with the women, "who know," all over the world.

Goodness! You farmers are going to have to hurry when the land gets dry enough to work, so be ready. Come on now and get your Jno. Deere Planter, Buster, Cultivator or anything you may need, and be ready. Our car of Jno. Deere goods are here for you. So get in the good implement procession—Jno. Deere.

Hogs are good and profitable on the farm but you need to pasture them some. You can't afford to feed them all the time. We want to sell you Hog Fence. We have a big shipment coming, also car of Barbed Wire.

Business has been good with us thus far in 1915. We thank you one and all who have helped to make it good, and we are now asking for your continued business, and we promise you as

good merchandise for the money as can be sold honestly in this country. Come on with the crowds who already trade with us. Our customers are our friends. Ask them about us.

Men are the keepers of life's book
And each one more or less
Must write this year upon his page
A failure or success.

—Bryant-Link Co.

A THREE INCH SNOW.

E. B. Shaw, one of the leading citizens and farmers of the Croton country, was in Spur Wednesday looking after business matters and greeting his friends. Mr. Shaw reported that his section of the country had nearly a three inch snow the first of the week. He and other farmers of that section are optimistic in the assurance that bumper crops will be produced again this year.

RETURNING TO SPUR.

We are informed that W. Neilon and family, who have been making their home in Wichita Falls the past year, will soon return to Spur and again make this place their home. During the past year Mr. Neilon has been general traffic agent for the Wichita Valley Railway Company. After moving to Spur we understand that he will again be local agent of the Stamford & Northwestern Railway.

GOVERNMENT ISSUES 1914 CROP REPORT

The crop reporting board of the Federal Department of Agriculture has just made public its estimate of the 1914 farm crops of the United States. Fourteen crops, covering 300,720,000 acres or 92 per cent of the nation's cultivated area are included in the report and the combined farm value of all products is estimated at \$4,946,000,000.

Although the 1914 production of crops is 10 per cent greater than the previous year the aggregate farm value is \$20,000,000 less.

Both the wheat and the cotton crops of the nation in 1914 were the largest on record. The cotton crop was nearly 16,000,000 bales and the wheat production was approximately 891,000,000 bushels. While the 1914 cotton crop was approximately 1,800,000 bales more than the one of 1913 the value was \$306,000,000 less. Cotton in 1913 averaged \$22.20 per acre against \$14.14 in 1914. The yield per acre in 1914 was 25 pounds more than in 1913 but the price per pound in 1914 was 6.8 cents and 12 1-2 cents in 1913.

There is food for thought to every farmer in this country in the above report.

BUYS ANOTHER FARM.

J. C. Stephens, of the Afton country, recently bought the J. V. Bilberry farm in that section, thus further increasing his already extensive land holdings in Dickens county. We understand that Rev. J. V. Bilberry and family will soon leave this section of the country for Arkansas where they will reside in the future.

SPUR IS NOW DOING STREET IMPROVEMENT WORK

During the past several days G. L. Barber has been doing commendable work on the streets of Spur with the result that hereafter the streets will be attractive and in first-class condition.

There is nothing that adds more to the appearance of a town than clean, smooth streets and sidewalks, and in this Spur is the recognized leader in this section of the country. In fact, in all lines of endeavor Spur is one of the most substantial and progressive towns in all of Western Texas.

SPUR SCHOOL WILL END TERM FIRST OF APRIL

We are informed that the 1915 term of the Spur Public School will end the second term the first week in April, thus giving Spur only a seven months term. It was thought in the beginning that sufficient funds would be secured to continue a full nine months term of public school, but in this a miscalculation was made.

This has been one of the most successful terms of school within the history of the town. Not a single complaint has been heard of the teachers, and without a doubt the pupils have progressed rapidly in their studies throughout the short term.

Recently a bill passed the Legislature increasing the territory of the Spur Independent School District, and with this additional territory the school funds will be increased sufficiently to give us a full nine months term of school every year hereafter. In every respect Spur now has superior school facilities and advantages and offers exceptional educational advantages to the public and especially the man seeking a home.

CHALK BROWN SHOOTS HIMSELF ACCIDENTALLY

Chalk Brown, of the 24 Ranch in Kent County, accidentally shot himself in the leg with an automatic pistol Friday evening of last week while visiting at the home of his mother, Mrs. Boley Brown, in Clairemont. It is said that he had the pistol in his overcoat pocket and while sitting down he pulled his coat around when in some manner the safety on the pistol was thrown off and the shot followed. The ball struck the fleshy part of the leg between the knee and ankle, and while Mr. Brown will be disabled for some time, no serious results are anticipated as a result of the wound.

J. R. McArthur returned this week from a trip to Carr, Texas, where he spent several days on business and visiting his father-in-law, J. H. Airhart and family. Mr. McArthur called in Wednesday and had the paper sent to Mr. Airhart, for which he has our thanks.

"THE ACCOMPLICE" A Glance at Current Topics

By FREDERICK TREVOR HILL

A Unique Murder Trial as Described by the Foreman of the Jury, In Which Is Revealed the Most Astounding and Inconceivable Act of Rascality.

Copyright, 1906, by Harper Bros.

PROLOGUE.

The office of foreman on the jury in the People versus Emory case falls to the lot of Mr. Lambert, a literary man, whose qualifications lay in his absolute ignorance of the case. Ferris Barstow, a man of tenacious tendencies, is the lawyer for the accused girl, Alice Emory, former private secretary of Gregory Shaw, who was found murdered mysteriously in his home. In presenting the case to the jury Deake Gilbert, the prosecutor, explains the facts in detail, and the evidence all points to the guilt of the accused. The foreman, homeward bound, assists Barbara Frayne, a young horsewoman, and unwillingly listens to a declaration on the Emory case. Barbara believes Miss Emory to be innocent. The foreman visits the scene of the murder. Viewing the home from the outside, he overhears Madeleine Mapes, the housekeeper, endeavoring to persuade Betty Field, another servant, to forget all about a blue skirt she had seen the former put in the furnace. At this moment Barstow's assistant, Mr. Hunt, visits the women in an effort to get them to leave the neighborhood where their testimony might injure the accused. The trial opens. Lambert forces valuable testimony from the architect who had drawn the plans for the Shaw house. Gilbert produces evidence that forged Shaw checks were made out to the order of Alice Emory. When court adjourns Lambert gets a message to call up 22 Pollicet and is told by Miss Frayne that she occupied Miss Emory's room on the night of the murder and that Miss Emory was not there. Soon thereafter Lambert is approached in a dark lane by a man who Lambert believes is Barstow's assistant, Hunt, but who calls himself Gilbert's assistant and gives the name Corning. This man tries to worm from Lambert his reason for desiring to leave the jury, but fails. Lambert meets the real Corning later. Barstow requests a delay in the court proceedings because of illness, and Lambert, taking advantage of the recess, plans to drive to Hefryville, catching up to Miss Frayne on the way after a chase. She is on her way to visit her friend, the prisoner, and they continue on their separate journeys. Meeting Gilbert soon afterward, Lambert is warned he shouldn't leave for Hefryville without first consulting the judge. Lambert ignores the warning and plays the part of hero, with Barbara a witness, by saving Miss Mapes and Betty Field from what looked like a runaway. The driver is pitched off his seat and is badly hurt. He proves to be Hunt in disguise. The defendant is led into the court leaning heavily on the arm of her lawyer. Bayne, a juror, characterizes it as "sham" to Lambert. Examining Dr. MacLean, Shaw's physician and friend, Barstow elicits the testimony that MacLean never saw Miss Emory sign Shaw's name. The doctor repels the insinuation that his testimony is colored by the fact that the will to him believes genuine leaves \$10,000 to him. Gilbert produces evidence to show Shaw swore he was unmarried.

Miss Mapes on the Stand.

BARSTOW made no objection to the proof proposed. On the contrary, he offered to admit that Shaw was unmarried at the time of his death if the prosecutor thought the fact essential, and when Gilbert declined to take advantage of the admission he protested against his opponent's waste of time. Indeed, from that moment Barstow began to hurry his adversary and continued to press him at every possible opportunity. Gilbert no sooner placed a witness on the stand than Barstow was at his heels wanting to know what he expected to prove by the testimony and offering to concede all an examination could possibly disclose. But though the prosecutor never availed himself of these repeated propositions to shorten the trial Barstow invariably managed to anticipate the testimony in his arguments and when the jury finally heard it from the witnesses it seemed stale and unimportant. Did Gilbert desire to show how Mr. Shaw had disposed of all his property and turned it into cash or its equivalent and deposited it in a Venezuelan bank in Alice Emory's name? The



"Miss Emory gave it to me."

testimony would reveal what he wanted to prove? Of course it would! But why waste time taking testimony to prove what was indisputably true?

At last Gilbert turned upon his tormentor.

"If my learned opponent is so anxious to expedite this trial," he exclaimed, "let him admit that the defendant knew of the securities deposited in Venezuela in her name and I will accommodate him."

Barstow regarded his adversary with an expression of scornful contempt.

"I offer to concede facts, not fancies," he retorted.

"Now, gentlemen!" from the judge.

Then Gilbert took up his interrupted examination and speedily succeeded in establishing the identity of the securities deposited in the Venezuelan bank in Miss Emory's name, but all his efforts to follow up this proof were frustrated.

At last the prosecutor abandoned the task and began a new assault. In quick succession he offered a number of letters in evidence, but again Barstow opposed him tooth and nail, and one after another the proposed exhibits were ruled out by the judge, and not one of them came under the observation of the jury.

Although his moves were repeatedly checked and turned, Gilbert stuck doggedly to his task, displaying wonderful resourcefulness and ingenuity. Once or twice he seemed on the verge of success, but Barstow's stubborn resistance always prevailed in the end and left him master of the situation. Indeed, the fight continued so long without advantage to the prosecutor that it grew monotonous, and at last some one in the audience laughed. Instantly the lawyer's face darkened with anger, and as he turned to the sound I saw his eyes rest for a moment on Barbara Frayne. Her expression was perfectly grave, but I could see the color mounting to her cheeks as Gilbert's glance passed her and swept along row after row of faces until he had inspected every person in the room. When he turned to the bench again he appeared more severe and determined than I had imagined he could be.

"Your honor," he began, "I have endeavored to conduct this trial up to the present time without formality, but at this point I must request the court to exclude all witnesses from the room."

Barstow rose and stared at the speaker with astonishment.

"Isn't it rather late in the day for my friend to make this request?" he inquired of the court. "Is he going to call any more witnesses? If not, I protest it is not courteous to exclude my witnesses when I did not exclude his."

"There is no use protesting, counselor. The request is entirely proper, and I shall grant it."

"Your honor, I now request that no person be allowed to enter or leave the courtroom during the examination of the next witness," said Gilbert.

Barstow looked up at his opponent with an angry sneer.

"Please, mister, may I breathe during this function?" he muttered.

The prosecutor swung on his heel and, leaning forward, looked his opponent squarely in the eyes.

"I'll make you hold your breath!" he retorted sternly.

Barstow tipped his chair back with

an uneasy laugh, and the judge rapped sharply for order.

"Any person desiring to retire from the courtroom before the next witness leaves the stand must do so now," he directed.

No one in the audience stirred at the announcement, and an expectant hush followed.

"Officer, lock the doors. Now, Mr. Gilbert."

His honor turned briskly to the prosecutor, who rose and glanced at the attendant standing before the door of the judge's chamber.

"Call Madeleine Mapes," he commanded sharply.

Gilbert studied Mr. Shaw's housekeeper after she had seated herself on the witness stand for some moments before addressing her.

"Miss Mapes, you are an intimate friend of the defendant, are you not?"

"Miss Emory and I are friends," she answered cautiously.

"And you believe her guiltless of the charge against her, do you not?"

"I certainly do."

Some one started applause, which was instantly silenced by the judge's gavel. Gilbert displayed no resentment at the witness' retort, but returned to the task of conciliating her with admirable tact and good nature. It was not until he touched upon the housekeeper's disappearance from Pollicet that his manner changed.

The witness had been given the position of caretaker of Mr. Shaw's Pollicet farm after his death, had she not? Why had she surrendered her duties to another person and departed from the state shortly after the inquest? That was her private business? Why did she take the ex-housemaid, Betty Field, with her on that private business? Because she needed companionship? Then why—

What was the prosecutor driving at? Did he mean to imply that the witness was trying to escape from testifying? Then why had she returned in time for the trial? She'd come back voluntarily, hadn't she? The prosecutor hadn't brought her back, had he? No one could have brought her back. Wasn't that so? Then what did he mean by his insinuations and insults and twistings and turnings and pretense of fair play?

Although I knew the woman was dodging, I could not but admire the courage with which she turned upon the prosecutor with her breathless burst of questions, but my admiration was tempered by the suspicion that she was fighting, not to help her friend, but to save herself.

"Miss Mapes, did you ever see the defendant wearing a blue skirt of this shade and texture?"

I started at the question, and instantly Gilbert's opening words recurred to my mind. When we found the wearer of the skirt from which the telltale threads were torn, he had told us, we would know the murderer of Gregory Shaw. This, then, was the crucial moment of the trial.

Miss Mapes carefully examined the exhibit.

"I have seen Miss Emory wear a dark blue skirt," she responded calmly, "but I couldn't say it was exactly like this sample."

"When did you last see the defendant wearing such a skirt?"

"More than two years ago."

"Where did you last see it?"

"In the closet of my room."

"Of your room? How did it happen to be there?"

"Miss Emory gave it to me."

"When did she give it to you?"

"Nearly two years ago."

"What did you do with it?"

"I ripped the silk lining out of it and threw the rest away."

"Where did you throw it?"

"I don't remember."

"Why don't you remember?"

"Because I haven't charged my mind with the whereabouts of every bit of rubbish I've thrown away in the last two years."

"How long ago did you throw away this particular bit of rubbish?"

"I don't remember."

"Was it since Mr. Shaw's death?"

"You know it wasn't!" she burst out snappishly. "It was almost, if not quite two years ago."

I could hear the audience giving vent to its relief, but I took no satisfaction in the sounds.

I knew that the housekeeper had been detected in the act of destroying something in the furnace after the discovery of the crime. She had occupied Miss Emory's room on the night of the murder, and now it appeared she was the skirt's last owner.

This last fact intensified my early suspicions against the woman, and I thrilled with excitement as the prosecutor paused and whispered to one of his assistants. Surely he would now bring out the rest of the story as I knew it, and see where the proofs were pointing. He had the necessary clew in his possession. Would he have the moral courage to abandon his pursuit of the defendant and camp on the housekeeper's trail?

[To be continued.]

England's Chancellor Criticised.

London, Feb. 27.—Viscount Haldane, lord high chancellor of Great Britain, who has recently been attacked by the British press, is considered one of the foremost lawyers and statesmen of his time. He was appointed to his present post in 1912 and previously had been secretary of state for war for seven years. Charges have been made against him in the British press that he was pro-German and accusing him of responsibility for some of the misfortunes of the army.

Viscount Haldane was born in Scotland in 1856 and was educated at the Universities of Edinburgh and Göttingen.



Viscount Haldane, Attacked by the English Press.

In 1885 he was elected a member of the house of commons, where he sat until he was raised to the peerage in 1911. His appointment to the cabinet as minister of war in 1905 occasioned much surprise, as he had been distinguished only for his knowledge of philosophy and the law. His administration of the war office, though able and of seven years' duration, was not popular. What finally caused his removal from the war office and his appointment as lord high chancellor was his trip to Berlin in 1912, when he was said by Sir Edward Grey to have posed as an emissary of the British government without authority of the foreign office. In the summer of 1913 Viscount Haldane visited this country and Canada by invitation of the American Bar association, as one of the world's greatest lawyers.

London in Wartime.

London, Feb. 28.—What is London like in wartime? On every taxicab and omnibus and van, in every shop window and on every boarding the recruiting bills call for men. Vast appeals for men shout from the walls of great shops and hotels, and the base of the Nelson column is built in with them. Yet there is khaki everywhere. Long lines of whistling, singing khaki tramp down Oxford street or Piccadilly. The parks are full of drilling khaki, though as yet there are no trenches dug there, nor have the green expanses been plowed (as some recommend) for crops. But trench making is practiced behind Westminster cathedral. Guns may be seen trundling down the quiet roads of St. John's wood, and in the inns of court, in the big squares of Bloomsbury, in every large open space the shout of the sergeant instructor may be heard. The underground stations are guarded by soldiers.

By night the changes strike harder. In time of peace the fall of winter dark is welcomed, for it brings brilliance in place of gloom. In this wartime we exchange gloom for deeper gloom and a hint of danger. In streets and shop windows the lights are very few and thickly shaded. Last enemy air craft should see their way about London we must grope our own, and we must be saved from ourselves by the closing of public houses at 10 o'clock. Since the rule applies also, so far as wine and spirits are concerned, to clubs and restaurants, to anything except private houses, London has ceased to be a city of pleasure. The theaters close as early as they can; there are no more supper parties at the great hotels; the night clubs are shut. It is strange to observe, nevertheless, how full the streets are. The public seems never tired of walking to and fro, looking up to where, from the roofs of park gates and public buildings, the searchlights wheel across the ominous sky; and, stranger still perhaps, these dark streets and long nights have offered opportunities for crime in vain. The people are orderly; the criminals are too patriotic to take advantage of the nation's need. There is less crime now than even in days of peace.

Silent Treatment of Germans.

Brussels, Feb. 28.—The "silent treatment" of the German landsturm in

this city by the Belgian people is one of the most striking features of the situation here. It is spreading even to the children, who turn their heads away or cross the street whenever they see a German soldier approaching.

If a soldier enters a shop the Belgians either quit the building or move away as far as possible. If one of the landsturm enters a street car the Belgians leave or else turn their eyes away. There are no words of greeting, no smiles, not the slightest look of recognition that the soldier is a human being.

Whether this is having any effect on the soldiers is not certain, but an American who stopped a fine looking German soldier who was off duty and talked with him was surprised at what he heard.

"You are the first person who has spoken a civil word to me in this town for a month," said the soldier.

Red Man Rules Indians.

Washington, March 1.—Through politics Gabe E. Parker, a quarter blood Choctaw Indian, has just achieved the ambition of his life. Without solicitation or even knowledge on his part he was taken from the principalship of an Indian boys' school in Oklahoma and made register of the United States treasury. Mr. Parker gave up his chosen work—that of helping his own people to become competent, self-reliant, contributing men and women—only after a struggle. Now he is about to return to Oklahoma as superintendent of the five civilized tribes, with broader opportunity than ever before to accomplish the task he had originally set for himself.

The job Mr. Parker goes to Oklahoma to fill is a big one. It involves the welfare of 102,000 Indians of the Choctaw, Chickasaw, Creek, Seminole and Cherokee tribes, who desire to become citizens in fact as well as in name. Under the constitution of Oklahoma they are citizens of the state. They are wards of the nation so long as the government retains a control in trust of the 15,000,000 acres of their land, including the richest oil fields of the world and 450,000 acres of coal and asphalt lands. Mr. Parker's job is to carry out the policy of the present administration and to discharge into full and complete citizenship as many of these 102,000 Indians as are ready for the change, or may become so under his direction.

Queen Mary's German Cousin.

Berlin, Feb. 28.—Among the Germans fighting against England is Adolph Frederick, duke of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, and heir to the throne of the grand duchy. He is a cousin of Queen Mary of England, his grandmother having been sister of Princess Mary Adelaide of Teck, Queen Mary's mother. Duke Adolph, who was born in 1882, was Queen Mary's favorite cousin and was a frequent visitor to England. At present he is serving with a regiment of Mecklenburg cavalry, in which he holds high rank. He is the only son of the grand duke. Of his two sisters the youngest married



Photo by American Press Association. Duke of Mecklenburg-Strelitz is a Near Relative of England's Queen.

Prince Danilo of Montenegro and is therefore a sister-in-law to the queen of Italy.

The duke, like his father, is much interested in medical science, and it is said that had he not been heir to the crown he would have entered this profession. Duke Adolph is an excellent linguist and speaks English like a native of the isle. [10 A]

Items Over Dickens County BY CORRESPONDENTS

DRAPER.

J. A. Murchison was seen to come in the other evening, sit on the front porch and pull his shoes off, and while he shook the dirt out of them with one hand he wiped perspiration from his forehead with the other. We know by this infallible sign that spring is here, and although the weather has been cold enough to freeze the knobs off the north door it can't fool us. We have seen the dirt fall from those shoes too often.

Ye scribe was in Spur last Friday night and had the pleasure of seeing a free show. This is the only free thing we ever got in Spur except Uncle Bill Perry's yarns, which are as free as the water we drink.

Earl Wright, Carlos Gidings and W. T. Lovell were in Spur the latter part of last week.

Rev. Smith, of Roaring Springs, filled his regular appointment here Sunday.

A Sunday School was organized here Sunday. Everybody come out and help us.

Miss Edith Wright spent Saturday night with Miss Johnny Oldham.

Mr. Tracker lost one of his best horses last week.

E. B. Shaw was in Spur the latter part of last week.

Anyone wanting mules ridden send them to Earl Wright.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Mimms, a girl.

School Girl, what has become of School Chap? Has he gone where Whagdoodles mourn and woodbine bineth?—Rambling Bill.

TAP TELLINGS.

Elliott and Charley Henson to gather with their families left for parts on the Plains, and will go from there to New Mexico to file on land and make their future homes. We wish for them success in their new homes.

Merle Rash is back from Dickens again. There seems to be some attraction here for Merle.

Tom Parsons was visiting home folks Sunday from the J. J. Rogers farm and ranch.

Several young people enjoyed a social at W. E. Pirkle's Thursday night.

T. S. Lambert is taking in the W. O. W. meeting at Ft. Worth this week.

W. E. Pirkle and family spent Sunday with J. E. Sparks and family.

Craig Parsons overhauled the pump at the school house last week.

The fine rains continue which insure bumper crops for another year.

Most farmers are breaking and listing land for another crop.

Grandma Sparks is visiting at T. S. Lambert's this week.

H. C. Parsons made a business trip to Spur this week.

Ira Harrell is still suffering of rheumatism.

Rev. Scott preached for us again last Sunday.

Mrs. Cross is reported improving nicely.

Well, as I feel like I was taking meningitis, I will ring off.—Kid-a-luce.

We want to send this paper to every home in Dickens county.

GILPIN.

Rev. W. B. Bennett, who has been very much indisposed for the past two weeks, was taken worse Monday night and Dr. Hale, of Dickens, was called to his bedside. This morning he is resting as well as could be expected, but his neighbors are very much concerned about him. However, we hope that he will soon be well again.

The Literary given by the Duck Creek school last Friday night was a success in every particular. The children recited their pieces well and everybody seemed to enjoy the program. A large crowd was present and everybody is cordially invited to come back again.

Lee Cathey and sister, Miss Annie, took dinner at Rev. W. B. Bennett's Sunday. They were also the guests of Mr. and Mrs. P. E. Hagins while here, returning to their home Monday evening.

Farmers here, owing to the late cotton crop and wet weather, are behind with their work but there is yet time to prepare and plant a crop.

Hon. A. J. Hagins, of Jayton, transacted business here Monday. He says that he is ready to plant corn as soon as the weather will permit.

The infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Homer Wilson is quite sick, and it is reported that Mr. and Mrs. Roy Thomas have a sick child, also.

Rev. Vincent Bilberry, of Dickens, spent Saturday night in Gilpin. He filled his regular appointment at Steel Hill Saturday and Sunday.

Alec Bilberry, of the Midway settlement, was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Bilberry Saturday and Sunday.

This morning (March 9th) the ground is covered with snow. It is estimated a two inch fall.

J. T. Bilberry and Luther Hawkins attended church at Steel Hill Sunday.—A School Girl.

Murray Brothers...

YOU WILL EVENTUALLY
HAVE US DO
That Work

Why Not Now?

J. R. Rogers, a leading citizen of the Draper country, was among the number of business visitors in Spur this week.

C. H. Perry left Sunday to attend the Woodmen convention in Fort Worth.

Mrs. Perry Fite was elected a delegate to the Rebecca convention in San Antonio and will leave Sunday to attend the convention next week.

Emmett Lee is a delegate to the San Antonio convention of Odd Fellows and will probably leave Spur Sunday for that place.

We Want Your Cash Business!!

WHY NOT SAVE MONEY BY TRADING WITH US?

WE Are unloading a Fresh Car of **GLADIOLA FLOUR** this week. You can make no mistake by Buying Now---"it is **THE BEST** you can buy." Bring us your Eggs---we want them today.

"QUALITY ABOVE, AND PRICE BELOW" ALWAYS AT

E. Luce & Brannen Bros.

SPUR, TEXAS

A pair of Standard Computing Scales, good as new, will be sold at a big bargain and for less than half cost. Call at the Texas Spur office.

Hawley Bryant, of the Pitchfork Ranch, was in Spur Thursday and while here was a very pleasant caller at the Texas Spur office.

Get your neighbor to subscribe for the Texas Spur.

THE BEST FRUIT

Apples, Bananas, Oranges, Lemons and All Kinds of Fruits and Nuts, including the best Pecans, Almonds and Walnuts. Call and see me.

YOUR TRADE APPRECIATED

E. F. SPRINGER, SPUR, TEXAS



RIP VAN WINKLE

Could sleep 20 years now, and awake finding his bed soft and springy, without a hump, lump or a bump. This is the positive guarantee of the factory, and ourselves, for 20 years of service of the

SEALY TUFTLESS MATTRESS

This wonderful mattress is made in Sugar Land, Texas, the heart of the finest cotton land in the world. The long, white, springy cotton, the choicest of the Brazos Valley, is blown into the mattress by a pneumatic process, where the long cotton fibres interlace and intertwine, forming one huge batt, which is just sufficiently resilient to conform to every curve of the body. You owe it to yourself to provide the most comfortable place to sleep. The Sealy will last twice the time and give twice the comfort of any other mattress. It gives universal satisfaction, yet costs no more than any other pure, cotton mattress.

CAMPBELL & CAMPBELL

THE TEXAS TENANT FARMER.

Texas has more tenant farmers than any other State in the Union.

About 60 per cent of the tenant farmers of Texas move every year.

Only 8,000 of the 220,000 tenant farmers in Texas have not moved during the past ten years.

Only 99,734 or 24 per cent of the farms of Texas are entirely owned by the farmers operating them.

There are 314,263 homeless farmers in Texas, and only 55,000 of them are negroes, leaving 259,000 white farmers that do not own the soil they till or the homes in which they live.

There are 219,575 tenant farmers in Texas, and in addition to this number 28,348 farm land owners rent additional land, making a total of 247,923 farm land renters in this State.

More than 202,000 Texas tenant farmers operate on a share basis, while only 17,549 pay cash rental.

Nearly ten per cent of the tenant farmers in the United States live in Texas, while only five per cent of the nation's farm home owners reside in this State.

In 1880 only 38 per cent of the Texas farmers were tenants, 42 per cent in 1890, 50 per cent in 1900 and 53 per cent in 1910.

We have 563 miles of railroad to each 100 square miles of territory Texas has 37 miles of railway track to every 10,000 inhabitants.

There are 1,916 locomotives, 1,286 passenger coaches and 45,894 freight cars in service on Texas roads.

The railroads of Texas are long enough to reach across the United States five times.

FROM THE FARM TO THE FIRESIDE

The farm-to-table delivery instituted by the Postmaster General has been established in twenty-seven cities in the United States. The institution is part of the parcel post system and the arrangement is designed to establish direct trading relations between the producer and consumer and to bring the two in direct communication.

The postmasters are acting in the capacity of clearing house managers, in furnishing price lists of the articles of produce which farmers and truck growers are prepared to send to city customers.

The results which must be obtained before the plan is proved a success are the standardizing of products so that there may be no misunderstanding the ability of the post office to handle packages so as to be received in good condition and, last but not least, an honest purpose and patient persistence of each party to the bargain to insure satisfaction to all concerned.

THE VISION OF VICTOR HUGO

"A day will come when the only battle field will be the market open to commerce and the mind opening to new ideas. A day will come when bullets and bomb shells will be replaced by votes and by the venerable arbitration of a great sovereign senate. A day will come when a cannon will be exhibited in public museums just as an instrument of torture is now, and people will be astonished how such a thing could have been. A day will come when these two immense groups, the United States of America and the United States of Europe shall be seen placed in the presence of each other, extending the hand of fellowship across the ocean."

At The Lyric Theatre

FRIDAY NIGHT—4 REELS. Second Episode of "Zudora". "The Mystery of the Sleeping House"—a great picture, don't miss it. "Mutual Girl No. 39"—something interesting. Keystone Comedy "The Anglers."

VAUDEVILLE MONDAY, TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY NIGHTS
By Big-4 Company—A High Class Vaudeville—Admission 15c and 25c

THE SPUR HOTEL

F. R. HARRINGTON, Prop.

We serve the Best Meals, Have the cleanest and Best Beds, and solicit the patronage of the public with the understanding that in every instance we give value received for your money.

TEXAS SPUR
PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY

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

ORAN McCLURE, Editor & Prop.

Subscription Price \$1.00 a Year.

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

FOUR ISSUES ONE MONTH

Thirty days after the adjournment of the regular legislative session a Special called session of the Legislature will be convened by Governor Ferguson.

Farmers who planted winter wheat and other small grain are now smiling and the cotton farmer is hopeful and optimistic. Come to Dickens county and the great Spur country and enjoy our prosperity.

According to the Motley County News a real "Sport" is one who owns a Ford car, an Oliver typewriter, carries an Ingersoll watch and drinks one dollar and ninety eight cent whiskey. No doubt such characters are properly termed "sports."

The recent freeze no doubt has considerably damaged the fruit crop throughout North, East and West Texas. Yet, out of our abundance and glowing prospects, this one misfortune will not be felt nor hardly noticed in Western Texas.

The three inch snow which fell over this section Tuesday night further contributes to the ideal season for crops this year. Unless some calamity befalls Dickens county and the entire Spur country will harvest the biggest crops known in the history of farming in Western Texas.

At the present time there are no vacant houses in the towns of Dickens county, including Spur, Dickens and Afton. Such a condition denotes substantial advantages in schools, churches and other institutions which invite and attract people and contribute to the establishment and maintenance of town centers.

Hogs are a great factor in the prosperity of this country, and the great majority of the farmers are aware of this fact as is evidenced by the numbers who raise a few pigs as a surplus crop on their farms. As the years roll by and more scientific farming methods are practiced this will be recognized not only as the greatest but the richest country in America.

The passage of the compulsory school attendance bill is one of the best day's work the Legislature ever did. There may be those who think such a law "undemocratic," but the fact remains that the government has just as much authority to enforce parents to provide food and sustenance for the mind as well as the body of a child. It is of as much importance to humanity and society to educate as well as clothe children. Too many men refuse to consider the mental advancement of children in view of assistance rendered in agricultural and commercial pursuits. Compulsory education is coming.

The two banks of Spur have individual deposits to the amount of a quarter of a million dollars. This is substantial evidence that the country is prosperous and on a solid, substantial foundation.

While other countries in the East are suffering from floods and overflows Western Texas is getting an ideal season for bumper crops. Again we urge the homeless man to come west and help develop our boundless resources.

Riots as a result of famine now adds to the troubles of revolution ridden Mexico. If all the leaders in Mexico were imprisoned for a time the Mexican people would have more opportunity to peacefully solve their problems and build a substantial national government.

The large number of people attending the show Friday night at the Lyric Theatre demonstrates beyond any question that "it pays to advertise" when you have something to offer the public. The house and lobby was crowded to its capacity and many were turned away. However, the show was free, but this fact had to be known to get the people.

Harry K. Thaw is again coming into the lime-light through his trial in New York on a charge of conspiracy in escapeing from Mattawan prison for the criminally insane. In 1906 Thaw was acquitted on a charge of murdering Stanford White on the insanity plea, and as a result was committed to the Mattawan prison.

The Girard bank is the only bank we know of in the whole country which does not send to foreign concerns for printed checks, deposit slips and other printing which can be done by the home print shop. If we ever get any surplus funds we will go over to Girard and make a deposit to maintain general principles.

Sometimes in following the proceedings and workings in the Legislature one is inclined to form an opinion that legislative halls is a centre in which to promote the personal interests of politicians, devoting only a sufficient time to public legislative interests to somewhat salve the ill clamorings of the dear people—and yet we have too much legislation for the good results desired in accord with the expense. In other words, too many men go to the Legislature to further their own political future rather than merely to represent constituents.



TAILORED CLOTHES

The kind sold by the BEST SHOPS in the South are GLOBE SUITS. Our Prices are Lower than other high grade makes. Don't wait and regret it, but LOOK THROUGH THE LINE TODAY. If you prefer the READY-TO-WEAR kind we have "YOUR NUMBER" in CURLEE and the FRESHMAN MAKES.—None Better.

EASTER IS APRIL 4TH

If you're in need of
SHIRTS HATS NECKWEAR
SHOES HOSIERY COLLARS
We have them

HOGAN & PATTON

"CLOTHIERS"
Cleaning and Pressing "The Sanitary Way"

On March 1st a new Federal law became operative that has an important bearing upon many proprietary or patent remedies marketed throughout America. The new enactment requires that concerns placing on the market for retail trade medicines that contain opium, cocaine or their derivations in any quantity shall make a registration with the internal revenue department of the government, showing the exact quantity of such ingredients that are used, and regulates the sales, dispensing and giving away of such medicines.

LAST LYCEUM NUMBER.

The last number of the Lyceum Course for the season will be given Saturday night, March 13, at the Lyric Theatre. This number will be "The Arcadian Trio," a company of unusual versatility and talent, giving vocal and violin solos, readings, trios and sketches. The Arcadian Trio promises to be one of the best numbers to appear in Spur and those who fail to attend will miss a rare treat.

When in Spur drop into The German Kitchen and get you something to eat? We have it.

H. H. Hill, a prominent citizen of the Dry Lake community, was in the city Wednesday.

YOUR OWN LITTLE TOWN.

There are fancier towns than the little home town,
There are towns that are bigger than this
And the people who live in the tinier town
All the city excitement may miss.
There are things you can see in the weathier town,
That you can't in the town that is small,
And yet up and down
There is no other town
Like your own little town after all.

It may be that the street through the heart of the town,
Isn't long, isn't wide, isn't straight,
But the neighbors you know in your own little town,
With a welcome your coming await,
On the glittering streets of the glittering town
By the palace and pavement and wall,
In the midst of the throng
You will long, you will long
For you own little town after all.

It was here by the hill in your own little town,
You courted your wife when a maid,
It was here in the vale of your own little town,
You builded a home in the shade.
It was here on the hill in your own little town,
That the school and the books you recall
Every step of the way
So your memories say
It's your own little town after all.

For it isn't by money you measure a town,
Or the miles its borders extends,
For the best things you gather whatever the town
Are contentment, enjoyment and friends.
If you live and you work and you trade in your town,
In spite of the fact it is small
You'll find that the town
That's your own little town
Is the best little town after all.
—Contributed.

MARKETING WORLD'S GREATEST PROBLEM

We Are Long on Production, Short on Distribution.

By Peter Radford,
Lecturer National Farmers' Union.

The economic distribution of farm products is today the world's greatest problem and the war, while it has brought its hardships, has clearly emphasized the importance of distribution as a factor in American agriculture and promises to give the farmers the co-operation of the government and the business men the solution of their marketing problem.

This result will, in a measure, compensate us for our war losses, for the business interests and government have been in the main assisting almost exclusively on the production side of agriculture. While the department of agriculture has been dumping tons of literature on the farmer telling him how to produce, the farmer has been dumping tons of products in the nation's garbage can for want of a market. The World Will Never Starve.

At no time since Adam and Eve were driven from the Garden of Eden have the inhabitants of this world suffered from lack of production, but some people have gone hungry from the day of creation to this good hour for the lack of proper distribution. Slight variations in production have forced a change in diet and one locality has felt the pinch of want, while another surfeited, but the world as a whole has ever been a land of plenty.

We now have less than one-tenth of the tillable land of the earth's surface under cultivation and we not only have this surplus area to draw on but it is safe to estimate that in case of dire necessity one-half of the earth's population could at the present time knock their living out of the trees of the forests gather it from wild vines and draw it from streams. No one should become alarmed; the world will never starve.

The consumer has always feared that the producer would not supply him and his fright has found expression on the statute books of our states and nations, and the farmer has been urged to produce recklessly and without reference to a market, and regardless of the demands of the consumer.

Back to the Soil.

The city people have been urging each other to move back to the farm, but very few of them have moved. We welcome our city cousins back to the soil and this earth's surface contains 16,092,160,000 idle acres of tillable land where they can make a living by tickling the earth with a forked stick, but we do not need them so far as increasing production is concerned; we now have all the producers we can use. The city man has very erroneous ideas of agricultural conditions. The commonly accepted theory that we are short on production is all wrong. Our annual increase in production far exceeds our increase in population.

The World as a Farm.

Taking the world as one big farm, we find two billion acres of land in cultivation. Of this amount there is approximately 750,000,000 acres on the western and 1,260,000,000 acres on the eastern hemisphere, in cultivation. This estimate, of course, does not include grazing lands, forests, etc., where large quantities of meat are produced.

The world's annual crop approximates fifteen billion bushels of cereals, thirteen billion pounds of fibre and sixty-five million tons of meat.

The world shows an average increase in cereal production of 13 per cent. during the past decade, compared with the previous five years, while the world's population shows an increase of only 3 per cent.

The gain in production far exceeds that of our increase in population, and it is safe to estimate that the farmer can easily increase production 25 per cent. if a remunerative market can be found for the products.

Your Credit

IS the estimate of your financial worth which others place upon you. Being a clearing house of credit, the bank is the best place for you to establish yours. A good word from your banker will help you a long way. The City National Bank offers its facilities to serious minded people who want to build their credit.

THE CITY NAT'L BANK OF SPUR, TEXAS

E. C. EDMONDS Cashier
C. HOGAN, Asst Cashier

G. H. CONNELL, President

S. R. DAVIS, Vice-Pres.
D. HARKEY, Vice-Pres.

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.

SWEET, SWEET TOMORROW.

O yellow breasted lark,
You've made my heart grow lighter -
The clouds that hovered low and dark
Over me the livelong day
Have spread their wings and sailed away;
You've made the world seem brighter.
For whether the skies are gray or blue,
Or steeped in tears of sorrow,
Never a plaint have we heard from you.
For the veiled future you have no fear,
While you warble your song of hope and cheer.

Sweet, sweet tomorrow,
O little messenger of love,
Singing your cheerful song;
God sent you to us from above.
With your "Sweet, sweet tomorrow,
sweet,"

Our hearts to gladness you entreat
The whole day long.
And so while I my way pursue,
Your song I'll from you borrow.
And whether the skies are gray or blue,
And whether the way is stormy and steep
This promise bright in my heart I'll keep:
"Sweet, sweet tomorrow."

—Mrs. W. B. Bennett.

Editor Bill Cooper, of the Girard Reporter, was in Spur Sunday between trains. He reports that section of the country wet and promising of bumper crops this year. Watch West Texas grow and prosper.

J. F. Speer, Veterinary Surgeon, will be in Spur Saturday, March 20th, prepared to do work in his line. Bring your sick and ailing horses to town that day and have them treated.

We are informed that Mrs. Grantham recently purchased the A. J. Thomas residence in the northwestern part of the city, and will hereafter make that place her permanent home.

We are sorry to note that Judge A. J. McClain is reported sick of pneumonia at his Cat Fish Ranch and farm home. We hope to see him out again soon.

Mules and hogs for sale.—See R. L. Collier, 9-1f

**B. G. WORSWICK
Attorney-At-Law**

Practice Solicited in District and Higher Courts
County Attorney's Office Dickens, Texas

**B. D. GLASGOW
Attorney-At-Law**

Office Over The Spur National Bank

J. H. GRACE, M. D.

General Practice of Medicine
Prompt response will be given to all calls, city or country, day or night.
Office at Spur Drug Store
Both Res. Phones No. 96

**W. D. WILSON
LAWYER**

Practice in all Courts
Office with W. F. Godfrey Realty Co. Spur Texas

**T. E. STANDIFER
Physician and Surgeon**

COUNTRY CALLS ANSWERED NIGHT OR DAY

**J. E. MORRIS
Physician and Surgeon**

All calls answered promptly, day or night.
Diseases of Women and Children
A Specialty

**M. L. PIERCE
DENTIST**

Office Over Spur National Bank
Highest Class Work And All Work Guaranteed
Telephones: Luzon 61, Southwestern 3

**F. P. WATSON
DENTIST**

Office At Spur Drug Co.

**R. E. BRANNEN
EXPRESS & BAGGAGE**

To All Parts of Town
Phone No. 24

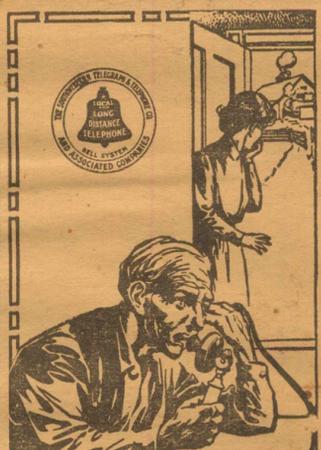
**J. O. YOPP
BAGGAGE AND EXPRESS**

Phones: Residence 30, Business 61

For Sale—Fine, long staple Mebane cotton seed. Call at the residence of Geo. M. Williams for particulars. 15tf

OBITUARY.

Philip Lafayette Berlin was born in Berryville, Virginia, February 6th, 1829. Was married to Mary E. Burkherds, November 10th, 1858. He served in the Confederate army during the entire war. Enlisted into service at Brenham, Texas, and was in the last battle of the war at Brownsville, Texas. He then moved back to Virginia, remained there eight years, removed to Texas in 1876, lived in Denton county until 1888, from there to Stonewall county near old Double Mountain postoffice. Moved to Dickens county October, 1891, and has lived in this county practically ever since. His great grandfather came over with DeKalb and served in the Revolution. He became a Missionary Baptist in early youth, and lived a consistent christian life until his death. His wife died April 28th, 1898. He died March 3rd, 1915, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. B. G. Warswick, near Dickens, he being at the time of his death 86 years and 25 days old. His remains were laid to rest in Dickens Cemetery March 4, 1915. Funeral services were conducted by J. V. Bilberry at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Warswick. He was at the time of his death a member of Dickens Baptist Church. But let us "sorrow not, even as others which have no hope," but through tears and heavy hearts we look to that day when "the dead in Christ shall rise and death is swallowed up in victory." May the Lord keep us humble and comfort the bereaved relatives. His former pastor—J. V. Bilberry.



The Value of a Telephone

in the farmer's home cannot be measured in dollars and cents. It may be the means of saving your property from destruction by fire, your family from serious illness, your products from a drop in prices.

Thousands of farmer's telephones are connected with the vast system of this Company. The cost is most reasonable. Inquire of our nearest Manager.

Southwestern Tel. & Tel. Co.

C. A. Love and family moved last week to the Dr. Standifer residence recently vacated by J. B. Morrison and family in the northwest part of the city. Mr. Morrison and family moved to the R. S. Holman residence which he recently purchased.

J. C. Davis came over Tuesday from his ranch home north of Dickens and spent some time in Spur on business and visiting at the home of R. C. Forbis and Sol Davis.

For Sale—One two row P. N. & O. lister planter and one Jno. Deere two row cultivator.—Mace Hunter. 1tp

No. 9611

The Spur National Bank

CAPITAL STOCK, \$100,000
SURPLUS, 20,000

We Solicit Accounts of Merchants, Farmers and Stockmen, and Promise Fair and Courteous Treatment to All. Accommodations Granted Consistent with Sound Banking.

MAKE OUR BANK YOUR BANK

OFFICERS

R. V. COLBERT, PRESIDENT
C. A. JONES, VICE PRESIDENT
M. E. MANNING, CASHIER
JNO. B. HARDIN, ASST. CASHIER

No. 10703.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

Office of Comptroller of the Currency

Washington, D. C., February 12, 1915.

Whereas, by satisfactory evidence presented to the undersigned, it has been made to appear that "The City National Bank of Spur" in the city of Spur in the County of Dickens and State of Texas has complied with all the provisions of the Statutes of the United States, required to be complied with before an association shall be authorized to commence the business of Banking;

Now therefore I, Thomas P. Kane, acting Comptroller of the Currency, do hereby certify that "The City National Bank of Spur" in the city of Spur in the County of Dickens and the State of Texas is authorized to commence the business of Banking as provided in Section Fifty one hundred and sixty nine of the Revised Statutes of the United States.

Conversion of "The First State Bank of Spur," Texas.

In testimony whereof witness my hand and Seal of office this twelfth day of February, 1915.

(SEAL) T. P. KANE
Acting Comptroller of the Currency.

A. C. Hyatt, of Dickens and former editor of the Dickens Item, is in Fort Worth this week attending a state convention of the Woodmen of The World. A. C. Hyatt is one of the best newspaper men of this entire country, and his temporary retirement from the newspaper business is a real loss to this section.

Mrs. Sol Davis, who has been in the Standifer Hospital during the past ten days for an operation, was removed last week to her home and we are glad to note that she is now recovering rapidly.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Wedekind and little son, James, left last week for Carbon in Eastland county where they will spend a week or ten days visiting relatives and friends.

Mrs. Jas. Mahon is in Fort Worth to spend some time with her sister and other relatives and friends.

BUMPER CROP PROSPECTS.

J. J. Noland, a leading citizen and prosperous farmer of the Afton country, was in Spur Tuesday greeting friends and trading with the merchants. Mr. Noland reports everything in fine shape in his section of the country. This whole country is now in ideal condition with respect to bumper crop prospects. The indications now are that Dickens county will break all former records in bumper crop production this year. Come to Dickens county if you want to live long and prosper.

Mrs. T. B. Johnson and daughter, Miss Lone, returned Sunday to their home in Fort Worth after spending some time in Spur with her sisters, Mesdames R. C. Forbis and Sol Davis.

Lost—One brown mare mule, three years old, branded J on the left jaw, mouse colored nose. I will pay five dollars reward to anyone who will bring her to my place.—J. J. Cloud. 19 tf.

J. Carlisle, one of the oldest and most prominent citizens of the county, was in Spur the latter part of last week from his farm home in the Gilpin country.

We will be in Spur next Monday for the purpose of buying two good work teams. Heavy mares, horses or mules.—Hyatt & Shaw. 19 tf.

J. D. Hufstедler, a prominent citizen and successful farmer of the Dry Lake community, was in Spur Tuesday on business.

Sheriff J. B. Conner came over from Dickens Monday and spent several hours in Spur on official business.

Earl Harkey came over Monday from Dickens and spent some time in Spur on business and greeting friends.

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.

..J. P. SIMMONS..

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

W. F. Godfrey Realty Company.

We Buy and Sell Cattle, Fords, Real Estate and Write Fire Insurance.

Eastside Barber Shop

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

CADET HOSIERY

The very Best Hand-Made Linen Heel and Toe, for Men, Women and Children. All colors in white, tan blue, lavender, grey and black.

If You Never Used These Hose, Try A Pair.

All Over Embroidery the greatest value we ever saw, could only get 20 pieces
 Sale price, only25c

WHITE SHOES

\$4 00 White Buck Oxfords..\$3 00
 \$3 00 White House Oxfords..2 25
 \$1 75 White Canvas Oxfords..1 40
 \$1 50 Misses White Oxfords \$1.15
 Save Money; Buy Now.

Special 48c, 79c, 98c. \$1.39
 6 spools Clark's O. N. T. Thread.....25c
 Lonsdale Green Ticket Muslin.....10c
 36 inch wide soft finish Muslin.....7 1-2c
 36 inch Light or Dark Percales, extra values.....10c
 All Spring Calicoes, best made 5c
 25 pieces good Mattress Bed Tick, only.....6 1 2c

EMBROIDERY SPECIAL
 10 inch wide Swiss or Hamburg Embroidery. Some 25 styles of patterns you pay 25c a yard many a time for same quality.
 During Sale, only10c

SWISS FLOUNCING

27 inch Swiss Floouncing would be very cheap at 60c a yard. 10 styles of designs to make a selection from.
 During Sale, choice pr. yd. 33c

SPECIAL SHOE DISCOUNT

We have never advanced the price on any shoe in our stock, carrying the best shoes made, yet leather has continually soared higher. We want to show you wherein your cash left with us means better than banked. During this Big Spring and White Goods Sale we shall refund 10 per cent on any shoe sold for cash.

LADIES SHIRT WAISTS

We display to you everything new. The Columbia Brand Best made direct from factory. Regular \$1 50, \$1 75 and \$2 00 kinds during sale, only; choice.....\$1 23
 Special 3 doz. Waists choice 98c



We have just received a shipment of new Henderson and La Princesse front lace corsets.

¶ They're beauties; we will be glad to show them to all visitors.

¶ If you contemplate getting a new front laced corset, you'll be interested in seeing these models which are of the very latest designs.

CORSET COVERS.

Our line of Corset Covers will speak for themselves. Such values as we shall display will appeal to you. They are priced away down below value. They are trade winners. Special price During Sale.....23c, 27c, 48c

This Sale Commences Wednesday, March 10th

Continues Until Saturday, March 20th, 1915

We extend this Sale 10 days so that all may have a chance to buy their White Goods for early wear. We expect them to come a long ways to this Sale. We are prepared to handle the crowds. We guarantee prices. They will not be advanced. Mail Orders will be carefully attended to. If you can't come, write or phone. One price prevails. No juggling with figures. A child can buy with the same assurance of protection. Money back when displeased. A square deal to all. Your trade is wanted, and the more cash trade the better we can defend your pocket-book.

We Save You Big Money on Every Cash Purchase Made Here!

Try Us Once And You Will Always Be A Friend!

LOVE DRY GOODS COM'Y.

SPUR, - Dickens County, - TEXAS

MUSLIN DRAWERS

We offer a very strong showing in Muslin Drawers. Prices far cheaper than you can buy the materials at. Neatly trimmed Lace and Embroidery. You are certain to find what you want.
 Sale prices 23c, 43c, 48c, 89c

PRINCESS SLIPS

The line shown here can not be equalled this side of Dallas. We have cut the price from 50c to \$1 00 on each garment. Lovely trimmed in Laces and Embroidery—beauties.
 Specials 98c, \$1.13, 1.69, 2.98

SKIRTS

Our buying of Muslin Skirts will convince you that your interest has been looked after. Such lovely Skirts, such low prices in values displayed will strongly appeal to you.
 Sale prices 48, 79, 98c, \$1.19

A LACE ATTRACTION

10,000 yards pure Linen Lace 1 to 4 inches wide, the kind you pay 10c, 15c and 20c for all the time. It won't last always. Come early.
 Special per yard, only5c

CREPES AND ETAMINES

We have just received 25 pieces of those lovely Wash Dress Goods in stripes and fancy figured patterns. We bought them in 15c sellers but decided to offer our customers a Bargain During sale only 10c yard

Always Come to Us For Bargains!

Just Arrived

BY RECENT EXPRESS

75 Beautiful Wash Dresses direct from New York, bought for this Sale. We can show you 25 distinct styles. New Creations at a saving of fully 35 per cent when bought from us. When it comes to Ladies Ready-to-Wear if it comes from LOVE'S you know it's Correct.

You Can't Miss

This Rare Treat



ANNUAL WHITE GOODS SALE

LOVE DRY GOODS CO.

A NNOUNCES to the entire Trade Territory surrounding Spur that promptly at 8 o'clock Wednesday Morning, March 10th, 1915, they will Throw Open Their Doors, Starting the Ball Rolling with their Opening Shot Cash Business with the Greatest Feast for Lovers of Fine White Goods, Laces, Embroideries, Ribbons, etc., ever attempted in this vicinity. We intend to demonstrate to the General Public of this entire Trade Territory of Dickens & Surrounding counties



Big Special!

RIBBON OFFERINGS!!

Three Ribbon Bargains Never Seen in Spur

Lot 1: Consists of everything new in 35c Ribbons
Sale Price - 25c

Lot 2: A Special lot of 20c and 25c values
Sale Price - 15c

Lot 3: A big line of all shades in 15c and 12 1-2c value
This Sale for 10c

Take Advantage

Of Our Offerings

"Cash is King" When Backed by Energy and Brains

NO MAN CAN SERVE TWO MASTERS CONSISTENTLY, CONTINUOUSLY AND SUCCESSFULLY!

The man that depends on his Large Credit Business can not serve the Cash Man with Equal services---some one Must Pay The Losses, and that means Your Cash. We realize that attractive inducements must be offered to the man that pays out his cash. One glance at our price list will vanish all doubts as to our Ability to Undersell. We are ceaseless toilers for the Trade, ever ready to show prospective Buyers and knowing that we can produce the Highest Quality Merchandise manufactured, smothering any lines shown elsewhere as to Style, Workmanship and Finish.

A BROADSIDE OF BARGAINS WITH RECOGNIZED MERIT TO ALL!!

Reinforced with Linen

Making the most durable fabric known. We guarantee you satisfaction. All colors and sizes for men, women and children.



NOVELTY WHITE GOODS

We have everything new in this line. Prices ranging from 10c per yard up to \$2 00 per yard in Fancy Embroidery Goods. Take a look. They are pleasing

WHITE INDIAN LINEN

10 pieces Indian Linen.....10c
15 pieces Indian Linen.....12 1-2
10 pieces Indian Linen.....15c
10 pieces fine Cambric.....10c
A saving of one-third your money

WHITE TURKISH TOWELS

36 inch pure white, soft finish Turkish Towels, good heavy quality, bought for this sale 25 dozen. While they last
Only 25c a pair

GOWNS

4 great special offerings to you at a saving of 25 and 35 per cent of their regular worth, beautifully trimmed Lace and Embroidery. It's to your interest to see these lovely garments even if you don't intend to pur-

WHITE BED SPREADS

We have 2 special goods value givers in Spreads; full size, good weight, great patterns. These prices good only during sale.
Special.....98c and \$1.69

GINGHAM SPECIALS

100 pieces of 15 and 12 1-2c Dress Gingham; no two pieces alike. The greatest line ever shown. New Patterns and Color Combinations.
Special per yd.....10c

EMBROIDERY SPECIAL



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

PROFIT BY THE KNOWLEDGE OF OTHERS

"We farmers need awakening to the fact that we have unmistakably reached the period where we must think and plan. I am one of the slow German farmers that had to be shown, and I am now giving my experience that others may profit, for knowledge is more expensive now than ten years ago.

"Twenty-nine years ago I began my farm career. I had an old team and \$50. Our furniture was mostly home-made—chairs, cupboard and lounge made from dry goods boxes, neatly covered with ten-cent cretonne by my girl wife. We rented eighty acres. Being a boy of good habits I got all needed machinery and groceries of our home merchants on credit, until fall crops were sold. The first year was a wet season and I did not make enough to pay creditors. I went to each on date of promise and explained conditions, paying as much as possible, and they all carried the balance over another year. They continued to accommodate me until I was able to buy a forty-acre piece of my own.

"As soon as I owned these few acres the mail order houses began sending me catalogues, and gradually I began sending my loose change to them, letting my accounts stand in my home town where I had gotten my accommodations when I needed it.

"We then had one of the thriftiest little villages in the state—good line of business in all the branches, merchants who were willing to help an honest fellow over a bad year, and a town full of people who came twice a week

to trade and visit. Our little country town supported a library, high school, ball team, and we had celebrations every year.

"A farm near a live town soon doubles in value. I sold my forty acres at a big advance and bought an eighty, gradually adding to it until I had 200 acres of the best land in Iowa. I then felt no need of asking favors, and found it easy to patronize the mail order agents that came almost weekly to our door. I regret to say that I was the first in the country to make up a neighborhood bill and send it to a mail order house. Though we got bit every once in a while, we got in the habit of sending away for stuff.

"Gradually the merchants lessened their stock of goods—for lack of patronage. Finally we began to realize that when we needed a bolt quickly for machinery, or clothing for sickness or death we had to wait and send away for it, which wasn't so pleasant. One by one our merchants moved to places where they were appreciated, and men of less energy moved in. Gradually our town had gone down; our business houses are 'tacky' in appearance, a number are empty; our schools and churches are gone down, we have no library or ball team. There is no business done in the town, and therefore no taxes to keep things up. Hotel is closed for lack of travel. Go down to the depot when the freight pulls in and you will see the sequel in mail order packages."

"Nine years ago my farm was worth \$195 an acre; today I'd have a hard matter to sell it at \$167 an acre. It is too far from a live town—so every farmer has said that wants to buy. He

AN ORDINANCE AFFECTING THE PUBLIC HEALTH

Be it ordained by the Commissioners of the City of Spur, Texas, that from and after April 30th, 1915, all closets located on the alleys dividing Blocks No's. 5, 6, 11, 12, 21, 22, 27, 28, 37 and 38, in the City of Spur, Texas, shall be connected with the sewers of said City in the manner provided by the City Commissioners, regulating sewerage connection, or permanently removed from said alleys.

And be it further ordained, that any person, firm or corporation refusing to make such connection or removing such closet, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and fined in any sum not less than One Dollar nor more than Ten Dollars, and each day such removal or connection is not made, shall constitute a separate offense.

Passed at an adjourned session of the Commissioners of the City of Spur on the 3rd day of February, 1915. Present and voting for the ordinance E. C. Edmonds and Clifford B. Jones. Voting against the ordinance none.

Approved this 3rd day of February 1915.
Geo. S. Link, Mayor
Oscar Jackson, City Secy.

18-3t
wants a place near schools and churches, where his children can take advantages. I have awakened to the fact that in helping to pull the town down it has cost me \$5,600 in nine years."

The above is a letter written by Hans Garbus, a German farmer of Iowa, who has discovered by actual experience that the practice of patronizing mail order concerns means not only disaster to the home town and country but means an actual loss in the end to those who patronize such concerns. By trading at home you help others as well as yourself, and it is well for every man of this territory to give this matter serious and intelligent thought.

A boy was recently born to Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Woltman at their home in the city. We are sorry to note that the infant is reported quite sick the past week. We hope he will soon recover and rapidly develop into one of the leading figures in the work and progress of the great Spur country and Western Texas.

J. F. Speer, a prominent citizen and veterinary surgeon of Dickens, called in at the Texas Spur office last week and made us a very pleasant call. Mr. Speer is one of the best "horse doctors" of this whole country and his services as veterinary surgeon are in demand in every section.

L. A. Hindman has been managing and operating the Virgil Davis establishment during his illness. We are glad to note that Mr. Davis is now reported doing nicely and we hope he will soon be able to be at his place of business.

Oscar Jackson and family moved last week into their new home just completed in the north part of the city. The Jackson home is one of the most modern, handsome and convenient homes in the city.

J. L. Perry called in this week and handed us the wherewithal with which to extend his subscription to the Texas Spur up another year and for which he has our thanks.

Jack Stringer, who is now employed on the Pitchfork Ranch, spent Sunday in Spur visiting friends.

Sam White, of the East Spur Ranch, was in the city Tuesday and spent several hours here on business.

THE PURCHASING POWER OF FARMERS

The purchasing power of the farmer depends not only upon the money value of what he produces, but also upon the money value of what he buys. From 1899 to 1909 (census years) the money value of 1 acre of the farmer's crops increased 72.7 per cent, but in the same period the money value of the articles usually purchased by farmers had increased 121 per cent; consequently, as a result of the greater increase in the price of what a farmer sold than in the price of what he bought, the net increase in the purchasing power of the produce of 1 acre was 54 per cent; that is, 1 acre of the farmer's crop in 1909 could buy 54 per cent more of the articles usually bought by farmers than in 1899.

Upon the basis of the purchasing power of the value of 1 acre of produce, the year 1909 stands as the most prosperous for farmers of the past 50 years for which there are records.—National News Bureau.

Dr. M. L. Pierce and wife moved recently from the Mahon Hotel to the residence vacated by Oscar Jackson and family and where they will reside in the future.

Mrs. C. H. Perry and children returned last week from Lueders where they spent some time with her sister who has been quite sick.

Mrs. R. M. Hamby returned recently from an extended visit to relatives and friends at Peacock.

The Golden Greyhound

By DWIGHT TILTON

A chase after a fair face leads Overton Brill, a wealthy man about town, into assisting in the defeat of the most astounding act of piracy ever attempted on the high seas.

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PROLOGUE.

The action of the story has its real beginning on an ocean liner bound for Europe and just leaving New York. It has been boarded in haste on a winter day by Overton Brill, an impetuous wealthy young bachelor, who, attracted by a pretty girl accompanied by an elderly gentleman, has followed them aboard. Brill was on his way uptown with Aristides Stebbins, his valet, known as Jay, when he saw the girl, just after purchasing a valuable bracelet as a gift for a Miss Carstairs. The passenger list reveals the names of the pursued as Mr. Andrew Jennison and daughter. Brill finds himself without money and negotiates with a dark individual named Benedict for the sale of the bracelet, receiving \$500 for it, with which he secures a de luxe cabin. At dinner the conversation turns to the weather, and a Professor Pennythorpe's storm prediction is placed before Captain Humphries for judgment. Brill makes the acquaintance of Mr. Jennison, and the two proceed to the captain's cabin to inspect a phenomenal, wonderfully trained canary. At luncheon a jovial person, Christopher C. Marsh, introduces himself to Brill. Starting from a sound sleep, Brill hears through his window Benedict, the professor and Jennison discussing the large shipment of gold aboard. Soon after this he is rewarded by a smile from Marion Jennison for a small courtesy. Marsh is informed that he has been selected to take charge of the Christmas concert, and he chooses Brill, Marion Jennison, the professor and Mrs. Blucher-Ward as his aids. Brill, known as Mr. Overton, and Miss Jennison, have a pleasant chat together. Icebergs and fog are reported. A child dies in the steerage, and Miss Jennison asks Brill to seek the captain's consent to hold the funeral in the first cabin. He finds the chief officer in company with Benedict and wonders. He gets the permit, but the purser officiates at the services. Jennison, worrying about the gold, becomes sick. Professor Pennythorpe observes that the ship is off its course. Marsh notices that the captain hasn't been at the dinner table for several days.

A Meeting of the Committee.

BENEDICT was in his seat, pale and saturnine as ever. Brill stared him squarely in the face as if to challenge the Mexican to an exchange of thought. He seemed to return the look, but the light from an electric globe glistened upon his glasses in such fantastic fashion that Brill was wholly unable to reach the eye of the man. He wondered if he should ever penetrate that crystal armor.

Dinner over, Brill proposed the customary cigar in the smoking room.

"Obliged, old man," returned Marsh, "but I am—well, I've a little writing to do. You've never been in my quarters. Why not hunt me up in an hour or so? I'm in 39, starboard side, forward—same corridor as your room—the room farthest aft. Benedict's telephone gang have all the rest on that side."

"Are they saloon passengers?" asked Brill in surprise.

"They are the engineers and other brains of the expedition, I suppose."

So Brill and Stebbins found themselves without companionship for awhile, and even Jay, after much diffident apology, admitted that he had intended devoting the evening to a book on steamship engines he had discovered in the library. His master would try a turn or two on deck, he said. As he left the room he saw at the end of the corridor Andrew Jennison making his way unsteadily along, and he went to him at once.

"Perhaps," said the old man, "you



wouldn't mind taking me where I can find the captain."

Brill smiled assent. He was grateful for the opportunity of this service, slight as it was.

"I suppose I shouldn't be out," continued Jennison. "The voyage goes hard with me. But I've heard about this change in route."

The young man told of Professor Pennythorpe's visit to the captain and its result.

"Yes," said the other, "but I want the captain's personal assurance that everything is right. You see, there's an immensely valuable cargo aboard, and I'm in a way responsible."

Inquiry brought the information that Captain Humphries was in his quarters, and thither the two repaired, Jennison leaning heavily on Brill's arm. A knock at the door brought the officer in person. He was in his shirt sleeves, and his hair was ruffled.

"Excuse me," he exclaimed. "I've been having a nap. Oh, no, you didn't disturb me! I was just getting ready to go on the bridge. Will you have a drop of something?" he added, getting into his coat.

Both waived liquid refreshment, but Brill took a cigar.

"I think I'll have a nip to keep the damp out," said the captain, pouring a liberal draft of Scotch with a hand that shook the merest trifle. Brill thought; then he looked inquiringly at his callers.

"I hope you'll not think me intrusive, captain," began Jennison, "but I've heard of the ship's course, and I've a special interest."

"Ah!" said Captain Humphries, with a tinge of questioning in the word.

"You see, I'm a—well, a sort of private supercargo for the gold shipment, and—"

"And you're anxious. Don't blame you. I've been so myself. Carrying so much wealth in one ship seems like tempting fate."

"That's what—I've thought," stammered the old man.

"Well, you ought to be glad we changed our course, then. That yellow stuff wouldn't be worth a pinhead as a life preserver if we'd stuck the ship's nose into an iceberg."

"But," persisted Jennison feebly, "time is very valuable to me for certain reasons."

Captain Humphries clapped him on the shoulder jovially. "Don't distress yourself about that," he exclaimed. "You'll see land even sooner than you expected—that is," he qualified, "if nothing breaks. Oh, no, there's no fear of that."

After a few questions and hearty assurances the visitors took their leave, again declining the captain's invitation to refresh themselves. As they closed the door Brill heard the music of a bottle striking a glass. But Mr. Jennison felt very much better, even physically, it seemed, and the young man gave little heed to the amount of Captain Humphries' potations.

In Marsh's snug quarters he retailed the story of the interview with the captain.

"Why's Jennison so interested?" queried the commercial man.

Brill believed there was no secret now about the matter and said frankly, "He's concerned in the big gold shipment."

"Oh, yes. Read about it in the papers. Rather a poetical title the reporters gave the Olympiad—'The Golden Greyhound.' Yet the ship isn't a dog; isn't even a bark. How'd you find Cap'n Ab after his visitation from Pennythorpe?"

"Extremely good natured and hospitable, but there was something queer—"

At that moment there was a violent knock at Marsh's door, followed im-

mediately by the agitated form of Professor Pennythorpe, his hat on one side and his cherished whiskers all awry.

"I've been robbed, Mr. Marsh. My sextant, sir, my sextant!" he roared, then dropped upon a couch, overcome by emotion.

After he was calmer the wretched scientist explained that upon completing his observation at noon he had left the instrument in his stateroom, and when he returned it was gone.

"Couldn't you have laid it down elsewhere?" asked Marsh.

"Impossible, sir; I would not be so careless."

"You may have forgotten."

"I never forget," returned Pennythorpe, disdainfully, and, as if unable to endure such imputations against his strength of mind, he hurried away, growing deep toned threats.

"Now, if they'd only taken him," laughed Marsh, "instead of the sextant—Well, how's the Christmas jamboree getting on?"

That was a topic on which Brill could and would talk with the greatest delight. At last Marsh yawned in spite of himself, and his visitor made off.

He found Aristides still engrossed in the book of engines. Another was on the table, and he picked it up mechanically.

"Find this in the library, Jay?" he asked.

"No; Chief Engineer Tyson loaned me that."

There was silence for some minutes, as Brill prepared for his berth. Then he said casually:

"Did you hear that we're out of our course?"

"Oh, yes, yesterday," replied Stebbins, looking up from his fascinating pages. His master regarded him with inquiry. "Mr. Tyson told me," he explained.

"What does he think of it?"

"I haven't heard him say but one thing."

"Well, you oyster, what was that?"

"He talked up the speaking tube this afternoon, and then exclaimed, but not looking at me. 'In the name of Jupiter, what's got into the old man!'"

When Brill awoke next morning and peered from his porthole, the damp gray blankness that met his vision told of another stratum of fog. But it mattered little, for to him there was brightness and cheer in the knowledge that at 9:30 the Christmas concert committee was to meet. That committee had but two members, so far as he was concerned.

After breakfast he went to the library, that by no possibility should he be late. It was empty, save for the souls of men in the bookcases. He tried to commune with one of them, but found no answering thrill.

He had not long to wait, for Marion Jennison was also early. His heart leaped, as he wondered if her interest had been similar to his own. He soon knew the truth.

"I came early," she said, "because I wanted to thank you for your kindness to my father last night. Oh, yes, he told me how you made it possible for him to see the captain. His mind was much relieved after that."

Brill murmured something deprecatory.

"Oh, I think it was a great deal of trouble for a stranger," the girl persisted.

A "stranger!" That took all the joy from the thanks.

Just then Marsh bustled in, radiating good cheer from his portly person.

"Good morning, Miss Jennison," he cried briskly. "Morning, Overton, Pretty foggy, but you two seem cheerful enough."

Brill would have given half his wealth could he have been certain that he saw Marion Jennison's eyes fall at this pointed sally, but he knew he must be mistaken.

"Ah, here's another of the committee," continued Marsh.

At the word in rushed Professor Pennythorpe, apparently in no mood for Christmas concert discussion.

"Good morning, professor! Found your sextant?" asked the commercial man.

"No, sir," boomed Pennythorpe, "and the thief also took my compass and several other instruments. I must be excused. My loss completely upsets me."

"You'll be all at sea on navigation now, professor," said Marsh quizzically. "On second thought, where should you be but at sea for navigation? Unless you get a peek at the ship's compass, you'll not even know which way we're heading."

"That is where your conjecture is completely erroneous, sir," said Pennythorpe triumphantly, whipping a large old fashioned watch from his pocket. "With this watch dial I can find the points of the compass."

Miss Jennison looked over his shoulder—an easy process—and examined the watch as if it were some rare instrument.

"Really!" she exclaimed. "How is that, professor?"

"My dear young lady," returned the man of science in his most professional tone, "I simply point the hour hand toward the sun, and the south lies then midway between whatever hour it happens to be and the numeral 12 on the dial."

"How interesting!" said the girl. "What do you do when there is no sun?" asked Marsh.

"There was sun enough a moment this morning for me to find that this ship is still headed due east instead of northeast, as promised. But I must find the captain to protest about these thefts."

His departure reduced the committee by one. But while he had been discoursing Mrs. Blucher-Ward had sailed majestically into the room and had deposited her generously proportioned self on a divan. She was now seen to be staring straight ahead. Marsh regarded her with a knowing wink.

"It seems like a committee of three," he observed.

Peculiarly enough, there was immediately another secession from the party. Marsh all at once remembered that he had not given the ship's carpenter the height of the stage.

"Christmas before last," he explained, "the stage was so high that the audience had stiff necks the rest of the voyage."

Brill's gratitude would have delighted the genial traveler could he have seen it as he ambled away. As it was, he chuckled audibly, to the wonderment of the deck steward, as he turned into the smoking room. He did not find the carpenter there, but he seemed content, for he remained in the atmosphere of nicotine the rest of the forenoon.

The committee was now happily depleted to two, and the real business it had in hand was begun. It soon became evident that musical talent was lacking in the ship's company or that shyness ruled the possessors thereof, and the available performers were soon classified.

"Strangely enough," said Marion, "no one confesses ability to play an accompaniment, so I suppose if the singers are to favor us I shall have to be pianist as well as committee."

Brill thought this an excellent plan and said so. He hoped, too, that he would be near enough when the gracious moment arrived to see those shapely, rosy fingers flying over the keys and to watch the outline of the pretty wrist, of which he now perceived but a little. He noted that the girl wore no jewelry except one small chased gold ring, evidently a class emblem of some sort.

He brought pen and ink, and the girl wrote out the program. It became



"You have been quite clear. I hope to make myself equally so."

professionally necessary, of course, for him to look over Marion's shoulder at this, and if his cheek grazed her lustrous hair and his lips almost touched the pink shell of an ear that was merely incidental.

Just as the writing was ended Brill, looking up as by some call or instinct, saw the Mexican pass the library door. He must have noted this close communion, Brill believed, but his face gave no sign. As for the girl, she was wholly ignorant of the other's presence and chatted gaily of many things in which they found a common interest, until at last the sound of the ship's bell recalled her to other duties, her father's comfort in particular.

As Brill rose to leave the library a steward accosted him.

"Beg pardon, sir," he said, "but Mr. Benedict told me to ask you if you would please step to 'is room when you were disengaged."

Thanking the man, Brill started to go forward almost involuntarily. Twice he stopped and turned back as if in irresolution whether or not to heed this command, could he call it? It might be that, in which case it should be spurned, but at last curiosity prevailed.

"It's best I should not provoke him, and perhaps he may show his hand,"

he said to himself. That expression brought vividly back to him his dream of a day or two before, and he clinched his teeth sharply as he recalled how the Mexican's cards had been made to win.

When he reached Benedict's room, however, he was as cool as the sea fog outside. The dark occupant of the cabin rose to meet him, his impenetrable glasses veiling whatever sentiment might have dwelt in his eyes.

"I've only a few words to say to you, Mr. Brill, alias Overton, or Overton alias Brill," he began icily.

Brill felt this lash of contempt and could have throttled the fellow but that he realized that the man had appearances to justify him and that, after all, his coming was not to quarrel, but to obtain information. He neither moved nor spoke.

"I've no wish to expose you nor to call public attention to your peculiar position on this ship," continued Benedict. "Neither do I desire to force you to explain your possession of the little—keepsake that I am holding for you. But"—and his voice now rang with the fire of assumed authority—"you are worming yourself into the confidence of friends of mine, and it must go no further. I cannot allow an acquaintance based upon false pretenses to be prolonged with the lady who is to be my wife."

He paused to allow the weight of his last words to settle into Brill's mind.

"Have I made myself quite clear?" he asked, with the supreme insolence of a man who believes his position unassailable.

Brill did not answer at once. He knew that what he said must serve, in a certain sense, as colors nailed to a mast. Under them he would fight, under them he would die to the world if necessary. When he did reply his voice was as unruined as if he were ordering a cutlet at his club.

"You have been quite clear. I hope to make myself equally so. When I sever an acquaintance that has proved extremely pleasant, it will be at the request of the lady in question, of her father, or, should she honor any man so much, of her husband."

Then he turned and left the room.

But with all his enforced self-possession doubts tortured him. The Mexican's declaration haunted him. How could he assure himself that the man's statements were not true? Had Marion Jennison given any sign to be construed against them? He admitted that she had not, and yet—there is always the lover's "and yet." In Brill's case it was based on nothing more secure than his sense of the eternal fitness of things. Could the lovely Marion Jennison, whose other qualities surely matched her physical beauty, could such a woman fall to the lot of such a man as the scoundrel he was willing to believe Benedict to be? He was never vain, and in thought of the girl's attributes he felt humble enough, yet he knew that he was more worthy than the other.

There was to be a battle. He made no doubt of that. The idea was inspiration to his soul. Henceforth the issue was clear. He would match wit with wit and duplicity with honest endeavor. Fate would determine which armor was the stronger.

Back in his stateroom Brill found Stebbins again immersed in scientific and mechanical lore—a most unpromising companion. The young man moved restlessly about in the little space like a wild creature in its cage.

"I'm going out on deck, Jay," he announced suddenly. Stebbins looked up from his book and surveyed his patron with alarm.

"Your overcoat, sir!" he exclaimed, springing up and going into his own room, thence emerging with a heavy storm garment. "This is better for the weather. I got it of the steward."

Armored with the new coat Brill made his way on deck. The impenetrable fog wrapped him so closely that beyond an arm's length nothing was visible, and voices heard not far off seemed strangely dissociated with actual life. All this gloom, this uncertainty, this newness, seemed to typify his own changed existence.

The ship's bell clanged out eight strokes, and Brill could hear the shuffling of feet ahead as the afternoon watch succeeded that of the morning. He caught the order for the course, "east by south," called out by Captain Humphries on the bridge and noted the curious effect of the fog in changing the qualities of a man's voice. Then, as he often did when Captain Humphries came to his mind, he thought of Benedict.

Did that swarthy rival of his speak the truth, he wondered? It seemed a profanation of Marion Jennison to ask the question, and yet he was old enough to know how seemingly paradoxical are the inclinations of a woman to a man.

All at once a nearing figure grew tangible out of the ghostly mist. "Benedict" was Brill's first thought, born of his reflections. But it proved to be the bright witted roly poly Marsh. It was almost like seeing the sun again.

"Thought I'd find you here!" cried the traveling man. "Like a fog? I do—rather. Did you hear that course? East by south. Still pointed for Portugal."

[To be continued.]

The War in Europe is Making the Prices High on Necessaries of Life

MY PRICES ARE ABOUT THE SAME AS BEFORE THE WAR

I Sell as Cheap, and Many Things Cheaper Than You can Buy Elsewhere.

CHAS. JAYE, DICKENS, TEX.

A Rare Opportunity to Own Your Own Farm--

We are offering for sale 10,000 acres of fine farming and grazing land adjoining the town of Swearingen, Cottle county, Texas, on the Q. A. & P. railroad, in any size tracts to suit the purchaser, on the liberal terms of \$1.00 per acre cash and \$1.00 per acre each year until paid for.

This is located in the heart of a fine agricultural country; 2,5000 bales of cotton ginned at the town of Swearingen this past year. For further particulars address

White-Swearingen Realty Co'y.,
Weatherford, Texas

A FINE TEACHER.

Prof. Geo. T. Barnes, of the Croton country, spent Saturday and Sunday in Spur with his family, returning Monday to resume his duties as superintendent of the school in that district. Prof. Barnes is one of the most highly educated men of the country and is a teacher of exceptional ability and of many years experience. The school of that section is fortunate in securing his services.

Charley Yates left Sunday to spend the week in Fort Worth with his parents. Mr. Yates is head clerk of the Red Front Drug Store, having held that position during the past several years, and is one among the most popular young men of the town and country.

Mrs. Bradley has been quite sick the past several days at the home of her daughter, Mrs. R. G. Rogers. Mrs. Bradley is seventy seven years of age, and although feebleness comes naturally to the aged, we hope that she will soon regain her former good health.

Ed Jackson, a leading citizen, farmer and ranchman of the Draper country, was in Spur Saturday of last week on business and greeting his friends here.

Female Masonry, a play given by ladies of the Order of Eastern Star at the Lyric Theatre Saturday night, was largely attended and appreciated by the entire audience. We understand that the sum of about sixty five dollars was realized from the performance, and the funds will aid in the purchase of an organ to be used in the lodge rooms.

We call attention to the double page advertisement of Love Dry Goods Company in inaugurating a Special White Goods Sale throughout the next ten days. The ad is full of interest to the trade of this territory and deserves consideration at the hands of the buying public.

B. G. Ford has been appointed City Marshall of Spur, and from the manner in which he has assumed his official duties he will not need the stimulus of mass meetings to encourage action in discouraging all law violations within the City Limits.

We call especial attention to the advertisement of Chas. Jaye, the popular grocer of Dickens. Mr. Jaye is making war on prices, and in every respect is one of the liveliest business men of the country.

Frank Hood, of Vernon, is in the city visiting his uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Harrington at the Spur Hotel.

OLD EX-CONFEDERATE VETERANS MEET IN SPUR

The old Ex-Confederate Veterans and members of the Jno. A. Green Camp of Dickens County, met Saturday at the Spur Inn for the purpose of determining whether or not the Camp should be disbanded and a new camp organized or the old camp reorganized. It was decided that the Jno. A. Green Camp be reorganized, back dues were paid up and hereafter the Jno. A. Green Camp of Dickens county will be recognized by the National organization of Ex Confederate Veterans.

At this meeting there were nine of the old veterans present, the youngest one being sixty nine years of age and the oldest one seventy eight years of age, those present being J. M. Campbell, D. E. Thomas, J. C. Stephens, Wyatt Taylor, J. H. Sparks, G. W. Glasgow, E. Luce, L. T. Cochran and Mr. Osborne, R. L. Collier, being an honorary member of the camp, was also present on this occasion. After a short business session those present were invited to dinner, the table being specially prepared by the Spur Inn management in honoring the ex-Confederate Veterans on this day. The dinner was sumptuous and inviting and served in the most gracious manner, and as the meal progressed scenes and activities of war times were recounted, and although memories of hardships and privations endured in a lost cause were recalled, a mellow joy illumined the countenance of each of the old soldiers on this occasion.

After dinner Captain Stephens called the Camp to order for the purpose of electing new officers for the ensuing year. G. W. Glasgow was elected Captain and R. L. Collier was re-elected Adjutant. It was decided that hereafter the members of the Jno. A. Green Camp would meet once each month, and the next meeting will be held in Spur on the fourth Saturday in April. Every ex-Confederate veteran in this section of the country, whether or not he be a member of this Camp, is urged to be present at the next meeting. R. L. Collier and Oran McClure were appointed a committee to draft resolutions of respect and condolence upon the recent death of their comrade, Col. P. L. Berlin, and also Mrs. Jno. A. Green, wife of Col. Jno. Green, in whose honor the Camp is named.

There are only twelve or fifteen old ex-Confederate veterans living in this section of country, and the youngest of these bears the unmistakable scars of age as well as battles of war times. At this meeting we were forcibly impressed with the fact that the ranks of these old soldiers is rapidly thinning, the living monuments of the Southern Confederacy are passing to a more fitting and deserved reward in that Great Beyond, and after a very few years only a hallowed memory will survive the grand old patriots of a lost and revered cause. There are no men living for whom we bear a deeper and more heart-felt reverence, who are entitled to the highest esteem of Southern manhood, and who have earned more respect from opposing forces than these hoary headed survivors of a civil strife. May their few remaining days be strewn with flowers of peace, contentment and happiness, and



Come to us for your Easter dyes and let us supply the medicines and toilet things

When you buy your dyes or anything else in the drug line from us you may KNOW that you get the best. We do not allow anything to grow stale and palm it off on our patrons. We want the CONFIDENCE of this community; the way to get is to DESERVE it.

we want those who do not buy their drug store things from us to ask about us from those who DO.

Red Front Drug Store

We give you what you ASK for.

in that Great Beyond we know that the least of the Confederate Veterans will be distinguished with crowns of honor and glory.

Ed Hulse and wife, of several miles west of Spur, were in the city Wednesday trading with the merchants and looking after other business matters.

H. O. Bradley, of Kingfisher, Oklahoma, is in Spur at the bedside of his mother who is quite sick at the home of her daughter, Mrs. R. G. Rogers.

A. Stiffler returned this week from Crosbyton where he has been spending the past several weeks in the interest of his piano business.

Ned Hogan returned this week from the eastern markets where he spent several days buying goods for the Hogan & Patton establishment.

E. E. Kutch returned the first of the week from Kent county where he spent several days on business and visiting relatives at the 24 Ranch.

Dead Shot To Blue Bugs—We have a preparation guaranteed to kill blue bugs. For sale by J. B. Roberts, Spur, Texas. 18 4tp

NO HUNTING ALLOWED

The public is hereby notified that hereafter no hunting will be allowed in any of the Half Circle S pastures. All parties will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law for any hunting violations.—A. W. Hudson. 51 6m

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

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 pastures controlled by me.—Sam White. 52 tf

Wm. Bott, a leading citizen and business man of Dickens, has been spending the week in Spur on business.

Howard Campbell came in Saturday from his farm home several miles southwest of Spur.

For Sale—Well located Main Street lot in Spur, \$200.—C. H. McDonald, Wirt, Okla. 15-5tp

Patronize Your Home Merchants

It is important that there be a real center of activities in this campaign. If you think a dollar spent abroad comes back, mark the next one you send away, and then look for it awhile. Votes are merely a question of interesting your friends in your behalf, by urging them to spend their money where votes can be secured. Try it.

Spur Hardware Co. Lyric Theatre
Red Front Drug Store German Kitchen
Hogan & Patton Midway Hotel
Texas Spur

SPUR,

TEXAS

W. C. BOWMAN Lumber Com'y.

LUMBER, SASH DOORS, AND...

All Kinds of Building Material