

HELP US PUSH

If you think this paper is worth \$1, tell your neighbor and by so doing help us make it better

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, JUNE 25, 1915.

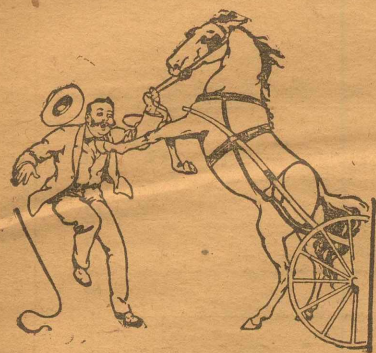
Number 34

SELLS FIVE SECTIONS OF SPUR FARM LANDS

This week the Spur Farm Lands management sold to J. B. Morrison four sections of land adjoining his holdings in the Red Mud country.

One section of land was also sold to Lilburn Standifer, this property being three or four miles west of Spur and adjoining the property owned by Dr. Standifer.

Both tracts, we understand, will be improved for both ranch and agricultural purposes. Again



STOP YOUR HORSE

even if he does balk and it necessitates your walking the balance of the way. You can't afford to miss seeing our new stock of Banner Buggies—the very thing you need to make the summer evenings enjoyable; \$50 and up for top buggies. We don't believe there is a buggy made that has the merits of the Banner at the price it costs you. See our new row binder, the Jno. Deere. It has all the good points of the McCormack and Deering, and has left off the bad ones.

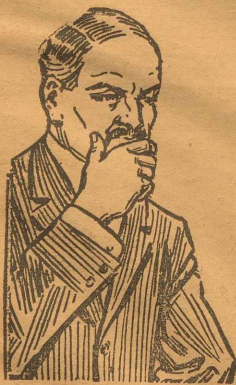
Bryant-Link Company.



Steer Clear

of inferior cream separators and get the best money can buy. We think we have it—De Laval—in stock, now ready for your inspection. Oil stoves have come to stay, and we have both the wick and the wickless, and want to place one in your home. Nothing lifts more burdens from your good wife's shoulders than a Wickless Blue Flame Florence.

Bryant-Link Company.



Don't Worry

The war will be over some day and the pictures in the magazines will be of peace and plenty,

we say that the fact that home people and old timers of this section continue to buy more land in the Spur country is substantial evidence that the country is rich in agricultural and stock farming resources, and is further encouragement to home-seekers to locate with us. There is no better country anywhere than the Spur country, and many will recognize this fact when land advances to fifty and one hundred dollars an acre.

Mrs. D. H. Sullivan is spending some time at Ennis with her son who is sick of fever.

and our good country will steer clear of the war god and be the message bearer of reconciliation between the powers now at war. In the meantime we want to continue to sell you goods. Come on and help us make 1915 our best year in Spur. So far it has been ahead of other years and we are doing our best to continue to merit your business. We know we all have that lazy feeling that comes with the Summer, but we are trying to keep enthusiastic and continue to hum the tune of "Bigger and Better 1915."

The teacher was trying to explain to her class the theory of expansion and contraction from heat and cold. She told the little charges that an iron bridge would expand several inches in hot weather and contract a like amount in cold. She then asked a little girl for another instance of expansion and contraction caused by heat and cold. The child hesitated a moment and then replied: "In hot weather the days are long; in cold weather they are much shorter."

"Give me the money that has been spent for war and I will purchase every foot of land upon the globe. I will clothe every man, woman and child in an attire of which kings and queens will be proud; I will build a school house on every hillside, and in every valley over the whole earth; I will build an academy in every town and endow it; a college in every state, and will fill it with able professors; I will crown every hill with a place of worship, consecrated to the gospel of peace; I will support in every pulpit an able teacher of righteousness, so that on every Sabbath the chimes on every hill will answer the chimes on another hill around the world."

And the day of peace will come when men shall cease to learn war. "After the greatest storm comes the most perfect calm." "On the darkest billow the brightest foam dances."

Bryant-Link Company.

MARKETING PEACHES.

Mrs. C. M. Buchanan was in Spur Wednesday with a wagon load of peaches to sell to the townspeople. The peaches were grown this year on the Buchanan farm several miles north of Dickens. On this farm is one of the largest and finest orchards of the whole country.

The Spur Masonic Lodge will meet Thursday at ten o'clock for the purpose of installing new officers for the ensuing year.

POSTOFFICE ELECTION TO BE HELD SATURDAY

An election has been ordered by B. D. Glasgow, Precinct Chairman of the Democratic Party, to be held in Spur Saturday for the purpose of selecting a postmaster from the Democratic ranks to serve as postmaster in the place of N. A. Baker whose term of office expires on the 22nd day of July. C. H. Perry has been appointed as Judge of the election, and none but true democrats will be permitted to vote in this election.

The following names will appear on the ticket to be voted as candidates for the office: Mrs. Lela Evans, Geo. T. Barnes, C. F. Cates, R. L. Collier, D. W. Scott and Jas. F. Williams.

Every candidate offering for the place as postmaster at Spur is well known to the voters, and any one of the number will give the public a satisfactory administration of postal affairs in Spur.

There may be those who censure Congressman Stephens for not making an appointment rather than submitting the proposition to the Democratic voters, but in this we believe that he has conformed to the rules of true democracy. In the beginning the Texas Spur suggested that an election be held to select a postmaster since a number of people were making application for the place and the appointment would be warmly contested and that the people of the town and country were in a better position to determine whom they desired to serve them as postmaster than was Congressman Stephens who was not on the ground.

The postoffice job pays about fifteen hundred dollars a year, and therefore is worth an effort to secure. Like Claud Callan we have always had a hankering to be postmaster, but since we failed to get our name on the ticket and could not get enough encouragement to enter the race for the office we will be forced to stand by and see the office go in to other hands for another four years. However, we will be content whoever the people may select for postmaster and will continue to patronize the postoffice as liberally in the future as we have in the past.

QUANAH, ACME & PACIFIC BUYS CROSBYTON S. P. RY.

Madam Rumor is passing the news around that the Quanah, Acme and Pacific, now builded to Roaring Springs has purchased the Crosbyton branch line from Lubbock to Crosbyton, and will soon connect the two roads into Lubbock.

We have not been able to get the report verified, but the information is to this effect.—Lubbock Avalanche.

Mrs. Gainor, who is now making her home with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. I. G. VanLeer several miles north of Spur, was in the city Tuesday and spent the day here with friends and shopping with the merchants.

STOCKING HIS RANCH

Recently J. D. Powell leased several sections of land in Garza county and is now buying cattle with which to stock this ranch property. He drove a bunch of cattle through the country from Spur to this property this week. We understand that Mr. Powell and family will probably move at an early date either to his ranch or to Post City.

REPRESENTATIVE BAKER RESIGNS HIS POSITION

We have just received a letter from T. F. Baker, representative of this, the 105th, district in the State Legislature, stating that he had tendered his resignation, which had been accepted by Governor Ferguson.

Mr. Baker states that he resigned his place in the Legislature solely for the reason that his financial affairs were such that he could not turn down an offer of other employment more remunerative. In part his letter follows:

"In handing my commission back to the people who gave it to me, I do so not without some feeling of sadness, and at the same time, I have a pardonable pride in believing that I have rendered some humble service to my district and to my state. I hope to be able, at some time in the future, to speak to the citizenship of my district, and give them an account of my short stewardship, the record of which I feel compares favorably with that of any other member of the 34th Legislature. I wish to say further that my legal residence still remains in the 105th District in Scurry county and that if I can be of any service to any of my constituents at any time, I want them to call upon me freely."

J. P. Gibson was in the city this week from the Steel Hill community.

MAT BROWN DROWNED IN THE LAKE NEAR SPUR

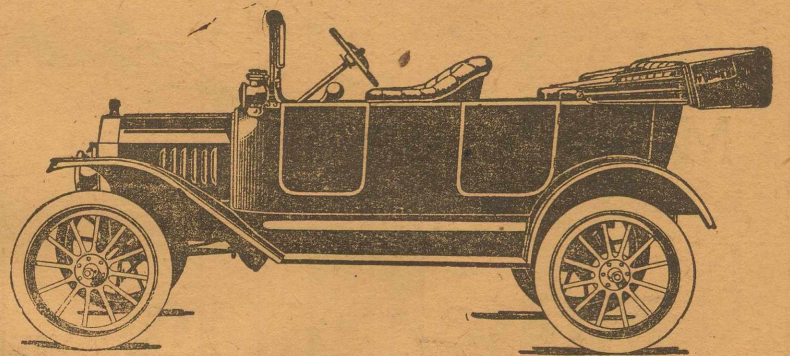
Friday of last week the lifeless body of Mat Brown was recovered from the lake on the railroad six miles east of Spur and shipped to his home in Fort Worth for burial.

Mat Brown was a noted fiddler and was known in every section of this western country. He was making the rounds of the country with the Gassaway Medicine Co. as fiddler, and had been playing in Spur throughout the week. Mat Brown and other members of the company had gone to the lake Friday to spend the day fishing.

He had waded out into the water with pole and line for better fishing. Other members of the party had gone to the camp to prepare dinner, and after calling to Mr. Brown to come to dinner paid no further attention to him for ten or fifteen minutes. The delay in his coming to dinner caused an investigation with the result that the body was found face down in water not more than three or four feet deep. The body was placed on a passing freight train, brought to Spur and prepared for shipment to Fort Worth.

IMPROVEMENTS PLANNED FOR WICHITA SCHOOL

Prof. Brummett, who taught the Dry Lake school the past term, has been employed as principal of the Wichita School for the 1915-16 term. We are informed that the Trustees of this school are now contemplating the purchase of a forty acre farm home near the school house for the purpose of furnishing a home for the teachers hereafter. Other improvements in the Wichita School are also contemplated, and within the next year a musical department will be added to the school.



Half the joy of motoring, either for business or pleasure, comes from dependable service and Ford economy, and explains why half the car owners today drive Ford cars. An average cost of two cents a mile for running and maintenance.

Barring the unforeseen, every retail buyer of a new Ford car between August 1914 and August 1915, will receive from \$40 to \$60 as a share of the Ford Motor Company's profits.

Touring Car \$490; Runabout \$440; Town Car \$690; Coupelet \$750; Sedan \$975; f. o. b. Detroit with all equipment.

On display and sale by

W. F. GODFREY, Salesman.
Spur, Texas

The ladies Aid and Missionary society of the Baptist Church will meet Monday afternoon, June 28th, at four o'clock, with Mrs. P. C. Ellis. A missionary program will be given. Subject, The Union, (W. M. U.) The ladies of the church are cordially invited to attend.

W. D. Thacker and W. T. Lovell, of the Draper country, were in Spur Monday and Tuesday. They report everything moving along nicely in their section of the country, crops growing nicely and farmers all smiling in anticipation of bumper harvests this fall.

J. R. Rogers and wife, of New Mexico, passed through Spur Thursday on their way to Mineral Wells for the benefit of Mrs. Rogers' health. They came by Draper and left their children with Lum Hobson and family of that section.

P. Hinson came in Saturday from his home near Tap and spent some time here shaking hands with friends and trading with the merchants. He reports crops growing nicely and that his section has not been injured by the hail.

W. M. Childress, of several miles northeast of Spur, was in the city Tuesday shaking hands with friends and also looking after business.

Towns Taylor came to Spur last week from the 24 Ranch in Kent county and is now sick at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Sanders Taylor.

Bill McArthur, of the Tap country, came in Saturday and spent several hours here greeting friends and looking after business interests.

Tom McArthur was among the number in the city Saturday, spending several hours here on business and greeting friends.

Miss Ruth and Alfred Glasgow, who have been attending school at Brownwood, came last week to Spur and are now keeping house with their father, B. D. Glasgow. Judge Glasgow made a trip to Brownwood and returned home with his son and daughter.

H. C. Parsons and family, of the Tap country, passed through Spur Saturday on their way to the Afton country where they will spend several days with relatives and friends.

Miss Creola Richbourg, Faust Collier and W. F. Godfrey are among those who have been reported quite sick the past week on account of the effects of vaccination.

Mr. and Mrs. Zugg and Mr. and Mrs. Bickley, of Stamford, formed an auto party to Spur last week, spending some time in the city with friends.

Ed Hulse came in Saturday from his farm home twelve miles west of Spur and spent the day here on business and shaking hands with friends.

J. C. McNeill came in Tuesday from his Alamo Stock Farm west of Spur and spent several hours in the city on business and greeting friends.

Sam Clemmons left this week for Runnells county and other sections of the country where he will spend a vacation of several weeks.

Lost.—On Thursday night of last week, between home and town, a baby's pillow.—Mrs. Luther Hindman.

Marshall Smith, of the White ranch headquarters, was among the number of visitors in Spur this week.

Mrs. Richbourg, of Carlton, is in Spur visiting her son, J. B. Richbourg and family.

HOT ONES!

ES—THE PAST FEW DAYS

But it's only reflection from the hot prices being made by the Love Dry Goods Co. Did you catch on to those Red Bundles the past week? It seemed like everybody had one. They were all attracted by our big Pre-inventory Sale---a regular slaughter of summer goods. Be wise; visit us this week; catch some of these bargains; they are coming right off the reel.

All 12 1-2c, 15c, 18c and 20c wash dress goods only	10c
Best grade dark calicoes only	4 1-2c
8 cent grade apron gingham only	5c
15 cent extra wide chevots only	8c
Men's elastic seam drawers for only	35c
Men's Balbriggan underwear for only	25c
Very best grade light calicoes only	4c
Very best grade table oilcloth only	15c
40c grade table linen cut to only	25c
\$1.00 middy blouses now only	75c
\$1.50 ladies' wash dresses	95c
\$2.25 ladies' patent leather sandals only	\$1.69
\$1.50 men's work pants, extra values, only	95c

Everything in Summer Goods must go before we invoice July 15th. Our prices are beyond comparison. This is a great money-saving sale. Visit us

The Rustlers **Love Dry Goods Co.** **SOMETHING DOING**
Spur, Texas



Moisten the conversation with **White Swan Grape Juice**

—it's the smoothest, richest, most delightful beverage you can possibly offer an evening caller or serve to the family.

Anybody can drink it—everybody will like it.

As refreshing and pleasing as the tinkle of the ice against the glass.



Get it for home from your grocer—in bottles. Buy it by the glass at any soda fountain.

WAPLES-PLATTER GROCER CO.

(Wholesale Only)
Denison, Ft. Worth, Dallas, Amarillo, Bowie, Brownwood, Chillicothe, Dublin, Gainesville, Greenville, Hamlin, Marshall, Stamford, Tex., and Ada, Okla.

TO THE PUBLIC.

I wish to thank my friends and the public in general for staying with me the way you have in the telephone business. I have lost only \$5,000 since I have been connected with the company. My interest has fallen to Tom Dixon, and I have been rooted out. The storm blew down a part of the line, as you doubtless all know, and it was impossible for one man to repair, and the Jayton lineman, I think, had Mr. Dixon come up and fire Clyde, and we quit, having no more to do with the Luzon Telephone Company, and am going on the Southwestern line. Again thanking you for your patronage, I am,
Yours very truly,
(Signed) T. G. HARKEY.

Mrs. Evans and Mrs. Campbell entertained their Sunday School class Tuesday evening with a picnic over the hill north of Spur. Ice cream and cake were served, various games were played and a general good time is reported by those in attendance.

Miss Myrtle McClure, of Roby, is in the city spending a few days with Oran McClure and family.

Monarch Milk Maker

A GENERAL mixture of feed which will produce the butter at a very small cost. Try it.

We have also just received a car load of bran, and keep on hand at all times feed of all kinds.

Spur Grain & Coal Co.

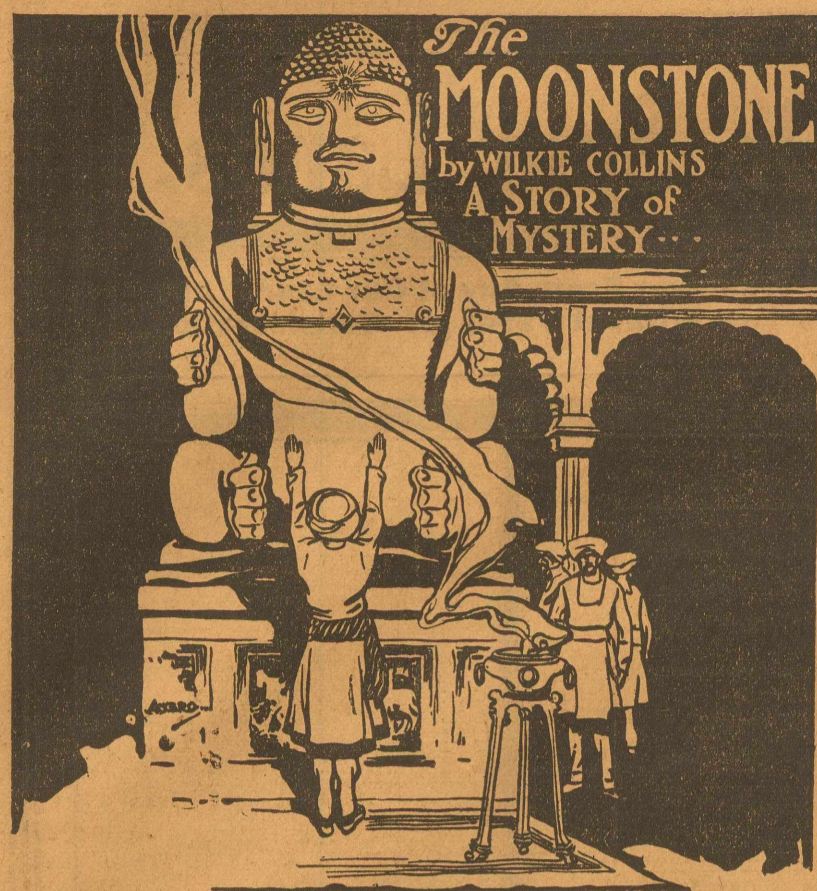
County Attorney B. G. Worswick left Saturday for San Francisco to attend the great Exposition. He will probably spend several weeks seeing the sights in that city before returning to Dickens county.

W. S. Campbell and wife returned the latter part of last week from an extended visit to their parents at Munday and on the Coast. They report a most pleasant visit.

Geo. S. Link accompanied his Sunday School class Tuesday to the Spur Ranch tank north of Spur where they spent the day fishing and picnicing.

W. A. Taylor, of the plains country, was in the city several days this week greeting friends and looking after his fruit tree business.

A girl baby was born Sunday morning to Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Brannen at their home in Swenson.



PROLOGUE.

The moonstone had first reposed in the forehead of an Indian idol. As centuries went by, ill luck following it, it passed into Mohammedan hands, but always through the ages three Brahman priests kept secret watch over it. John Hernecastle, an English officer, during the storming of Seringapatam, stole the stone, killing its guardians. Gabriel Betteredge, house steward for Julia, Lady Verinder, explains how the stone came into the house in which he serves. Master Franklin Blake, a nephew of Lady Verinder, had been sent abroad to be educated. On the day he was expected home Penelope, Betteredge's daughter, observes three Indian jugglers acting suspiciously. Franklin arrives earlier than expected, having eluded a dark stranger following him in London. Franklin has the diamond, which has been willed to his cousin Rachel as a birthday gift by Colonel Hernecastle. He puts the stone in a bank. The jugglers make a secret visit to the house. Rachel receives the moonstone on her birthday. Among the guests is Mr. Murthwaite, an Indian traveler. The next morning the diamond is missing. Superintendent of Police Seegrave is called in to investigate, and the three Indians are imprisoned. Suspicion also falls on Rosanna Spearman, a servant, and others. Sergeant Cuff, a London detective, is retained.

The Sergeant Begins His Work.

MR. FRANKLIN was as close at hand as could be—waiting for his first chance of being introduced to the great Cuff. In half a minute he was in the room, and was giving his evidence as follows:

"The door, sergeant," he said, "has been painted by Miss Verinder, under my inspection, with my help and in a vehicle of my own composition. The vehicle dries whatever colors may be used with it in twelve hours."

"Do you remember when the smeared bit was done, sir?" asked the sergeant.

"Perfectly," answered Mr. Franklin. "That was the last morsel of the door to be finished. We wanted to get it done on Wednesday last, and I myself completed it by 3 in the afternoon or soon after."

"Today is Friday," said Sergeant Cuff, addressing himself to Superintendent Seegrave. "Let us reckon back, sir. At 3 on the Wednesday afternoon that big of painting was completed. The vehicle dried it in twelve hours—that is to say, dried it by 3 o'clock on Thursday morning. At 11 on Thursday morning you held your inquiry here. Take three from 11 and 8 remains. That paint had been eight hours dry. Mr. Superintendent, when you supposed that the women servants' petticoats smeared it?"

First knockdown blow for Mr. Seegrave! If he had not suspected poor Penelope, I should have pitied him.

Having settled the question of the paint, Sergeant Cuff from the moment gave his brother officer up as a bad job and addressed himself to Mr. Franklin as the more promising assistant of the two.

"It's quite on the cards, sir," he said, "that you have put the clew into our hands."

As the words passed his lips the bedroom door opened and Miss Rachel came out among us suddenly.

She addressed herself to the sergeant, without appearing to notice or to heed that he was a perfect stranger to her.

"Did you say," she asked, pointing to Mr. Franklin, "that he had put the clew into your hands?"

"This is Miss Verinder," I whispered behind the sergeant.

"That gentleman, miss," says the sergeant, with his steely gray eyes carefully studying my young lady's face, "has possibly put the clew into our hands."

She turned for one moment and tried to look at Mr. Franklin. I say tried, for she suddenly looked away again before their eyes met. There seemed to be some strange disturbance in her mind. She colored up, and then she turned pale again. With the paleness there came a new look into her face, a look which startled me to see.

"Having answered your question, miss," says the sergeant, "I beg leave to make an inquiry in my turn. There is a smear on the painting of your door here. Do you happen to know when it was done or who did it?"

Instead of making any reply Miss Rachel went on with her questions as if he had not spoken or as if she had not heard him.

"Are you another police officer?" she asked.

"I am Sergeant Cuff, miss, of the detective police."

"Do you think a young lady's advice worth having?"

"I shall be glad to hear it, miss."

"Do your duty by yourself, and don't allow Mr. Franklin Blake to help you!"

She said those words so spitefully, so savagely, with such an extraordinary outbreak of ill will toward Mr. Franklin in her voice and her look, that, though I had known her for a baby, though I loved and honored her next to my lady herself, I was ashamed of Miss Rachel for the first time in my life.

Sergeant Cuff's immovable eyes never stirred from off her face. "Thank you, miss," he said. "Do you happen to know anything about the smear? Might you have done it by accident yourself?"

"I know nothing about the smear."

With that answer she turned away and shut herself up again in her bedroom. This time I heard her, as Penelope had heard her before, burst out crying as soon as she was alone again.

I couldn't bring myself to look at the sergeant. I looked at Mr. Franklin, who stood nearest to me. He seemed to be even more sorely distressed at what had passed than I was.

"A young lady's tongue is a privileged member, sir," says the sergeant to Mr. Franklin. "Let us forget what has passed and go straight on with this business. Thanks to you, we know when the paint was dry. The next thing to discover is when the paint was last seen without that smear. You have got a head on your shoulders, and you understand what I mean."

Mr. Franklin composed himself and came back with an effort from Miss Rachel to the matter in hand.

"I think I do understand," he said.

"The more we narrow the question of time the more we also narrow the field of inquiry."

"That's it, sir," said the sergeant.

"Did you notice your work here on the Wednesday afternoon after you had done it?"

Mr. Franklin shook his head and answered, "I can't say I did."

"Did you?" inquired Sergeant Cuff, turning to me.

"I can't say I did either, sir."

"Who was the last person in the room the last thing on Wednesday night?"

"Miss Rachel, I suppose, sir."

Mr. Franklin struck in there, "Or possibly your daughter, Betteredge."

He turned to Sergeant Cuff and explained that my daughter was Miss Verinder's maid.

"Mr. Betteredge, ask your daughter to step up. Stop!" says the sergeant, taking me away to the window out of earshot. "Your superintendent here," he went on in a whisper, "has made a pretty full report to me of the manner in which he has managed this case. Among other things he has by his own confession set the servants' backs up. It's very important to smooth them down again. Tell your daughter and tell the rest of them these two things with my compli-

ments: First, that I have no evidence before me yet that the diamond has been stolen. I only know that the diamond has been lost. Second, that my business here with the servants is simply to ask them to lay their heads together and help me to find it."

My experience of the women servants, when Superintendent Seegrave laid his embargo on their rooms, came in handy here.

"May I make so bold, sergeant, as to tell the women a third thing?" I asked. "Are they free, with your compliments, to fidget up and down stairs and whisk in and out of their bedrooms if the fit takes them?"

"Perfectly free," says the sergeant. "That will smooth them down, sir," I remarked, "from the cook to the scullion."

"Go and do it at once, Mr. Betteredge."

I did it in less than five minutes. There was only one difficulty when I came to the bit about the bedrooms. It took a pretty stiff exertion of my authority as chief to prevent the whole of the female household from following me and Penelope upstairs in a burning fever of anxiety to help Sergeant Cuff.

The sergeant seemed to approve of Penelope. He became a trifle less dreary, and he looked much as he had looked when he noticed the white musk rose in the flower garden.

Penelope examined: Took a lively interest in the painting on the door, having helped to mix the colors; noticed the bit of work under the lock because it was the last bit done; had seen it some hours afterward without a smear; had left it as late as 12 at night without a smear.

The sergeant's next proceeding was to question me about any large dogs in the house who might have got into the room and done the mischief with a whisk of their tails. Hearing that this was impossible, he next sent for a magnifying glass and tried how the smear looked, seen that way. No skin mark, as of a human hand, printed off on the paint. All the signs visible—signs which told that the paint had been smeared by some loose article of somebody's dress touching it in going by. That somebody, putting together Penelope's evidence and Mr. Franklin's evidence, must have been in the room and done the mischief between midnight and 3 o'clock on the Thursday morning.

Having brought his investigation to this point, Sergeant Cuff discovered that such a person as Superintendent Seegrave was still left in the room, upon which he summed up the proceedings for his brother officer's benefit, as follows:

"This trifle of yours, Mr. Superintendent," says the sergeant, pointing to the place on the door, "has grown a little in importance since you noticed it last. You have got one of your men here, I see. Leave him here at my disposal in case I want him and allow me to wish you good morning."

Superintendent Seegrave's respect for the sergeant was great, but his respect for himself was greater still. Hit hard by the celebrated Cuff, he hit back smartly to the best of his ability on leaving the room.

"I have abstained from expressing any opinion so far," says Mr. Superintendent, with his military voice still in good working order. "I have now only one remark to offer on leaving this case in your hands. There is such a thing, sergeant, as making a mountain out of a mole hill. Good morning."

"There is also such a thing as making nothing out of a mole hill, in consequence of your head being too high to see it." Having returned his brother officer's compliment in those terms, Sergeant Cuff wheeled about and walked away to the window by himself.

Turning from the window after a minute or two the sergeant walked into the middle of the room and stopped there, deep in thought, with his eyes on Miss Rachel's bedroom door. After a little he roused himself, nodded his head, as much as to say, "That will do," and, addressing me, asked for ten minutes' conversation with my mistress at her ladyship's earliest convenience.

I found my lady in her own sitting room. She started and looked annoyed when I mentioned that Sergeant Cuff wished to speak to her.

"Must I see him?" she asked. "Can't you represent me, Gabriel?"

I felt at a loss to understand this and showed it plainly, I suppose, in my face. My lady was so good as to explain herself.

"I am afraid my nerves are a little shaken," she said. "There is something in that police officer from London which I recoil from. I don't know why. I have a presentiment that he is bringing trouble and misery with him into the house. Very foolish and very unlike me, but so it is."

I hardly knew what to say to this. The more I saw of Sergeant Cuff the better I liked him. My lady rallied a little after having opened her heart to me, being naturally a woman of a high courage, as I have already told you.

"If I must see him I must," she said. "But I can't prevail on myself to see him alone. Bring him in, Gabriel, and stay here as long as he stays."

This was the first attack of megrims

that I remembered in my mistress since the time when she was a young girl. I went back to the "boudoir." Mr. Franklin strolled out into the garden and joined Mr. Godfrey, whose time for departure was now drawing near. Sergeant Cuff and I went straight to my mistress' room.

I declare my lady turned a shade paler at the sight of him. She commanded herself, however, in other respects and asked the sergeant if he had any objection to my being present. She was so good as to add that I was her trusted adviser as well as her old servant and that in anything which related to the household I was the person whom it might be most profitable to consult. The sergeant politely answered that he would take my presence as a favor, having something to say about the servants in general and having found my experience in that quarter already of some use to him.

He then went into the matter of the smear on the paint and stated the conclusions he drew from it—just as he had stated them, only with greater respect of language, to Superintendent Seegrave. "One thing," he said in conclusion, "is certain. The diamond is missing out of the drawer in the cabinet. Another thing is next to certain. The marks from the smear on the door must be on some article of dress belonging to somebody in this house. We must discover that article of dress before we go a step farther."

"And that discovery," remarked my mistress, "implies, I presume, the discovery of the thief?"

"I beg your ladyship's pardon. I don't say the diamond is stolen. I only say at present that the diamond is missing. The discovery of the stained dress may lead the way to finding it."

Her ladyship looked at me. "Do you understand this?" she said.

"Sergeant Cuff understands it, my lady," I answered.

"How do you propose to discover the stained dress?" inquired my mistress, addressing herself once more to the sergeant. "My good servants, who have been with me for years, have, I am ashamed to say, had their boxes and rooms searched already by the other officer. I can't and won't permit them to be insulted in that way a second time."

"I have got a plan to meet the difficulty," said Sergeant Cuff, "if your ladyship will consent to it. I propose explaining the case to the servants."

"The women will think themselves suspected directly," I said, interrupting him.

"The women won't, Mr. Betteredge," answered the sergeant. "If I can tell them I am going to examine the wardrobes of everybody—from her ladyship downward—who slept in the house on Wednesday night. It's a mere formality," he added, with a side look at my mistress, "but the servants will accept it as even dealing between them and their betters and instead of hindering the investigation they will make a point of honor of assisting it."

My mistress rose to ring the bell for her maid. "You shall speak to the servants," she said, "with the keys of my wardrobe in your hand."

Sergeant Cuff stopped her by a very unexpected question.

"Hadn't we better make sure first," he asked, "that the other ladies and gentlemen in the house will consent to?"

"The only other lady in the house is Miss Verinder," answered my mistress, with a look of surprise. "The only gentlemen are my nephews, Mr. Blake and Mr. Ablewhite. There is not the least fear of a refusal from any of the three."

I reminded my lady here that Mr. Godfrey was going away. As I said the words Mr. Godfrey himself knocked at the door to say goodby and was followed in by Mr. Franklin, who was going with him to the station. My lady explained the difficulty. Mr. Godfrey settled it directly. He called to Samuel through the window to take his portmanteau upstairs again, and he then put the key himself into Sergeant Cuff's hand.

"My luggage can follow me to London," he said, "when the inquiry is over." Mr. Franklin on following his cousin out informed the sergeant that all his clothes were open to examination and that nothing he possessed was kept under lock and key. Sergeant Cuff made his best acknowledgments. There was only Miss Rachel now wanting to follow their lead before we called the servants together and began the search for the stained dress.

My lady's unaccountable objection to the sergeant seemed to make our conference more distasteful to her than ever as soon as we were left alone again. "If I send you down Miss Verinder's keys," she said to him, "I presume I shall have done all you want of me for the present."

"I beg your ladyship's pardon," said Sergeant Cuff. "Before we begin I should like, if convenient, to have the washing book. The stained article of dress may be an article of linen. If the search leads to nothing I want to be able to account next for all the linen in the house and for all the linen sent to wash. If there is an article missing there will be at least a presumption that it has got the paint stain on it and that it has been purposely made away with yesterday or today by the person owning it. Superintendent

Seegrave," added the sergeant, turning to me, "pointed the attention of the women servants to the smear when they all crowded into the room on Thursday morning. That may turn out, Mr. Betteredge, to have been one more of Superintendent Seegrave's many mistakes."

My lady desired me to ring the bell and order the washing book. She remained with us until it was produced in case Sergeant Cuff had any further request to make of her after looking at it.

The washing book was brought in by Rosanna Spearman. The girl had come down to breakfast that morning miserably pale and haggard, but sufficiently recovered from her illness of the previous day to do her usual work. Sergeant Cuff looked attentively at our second housemaid—at her face when she came in, at her crooked shoulder when she went out.

"Have you anything more to say to me?" asked my lady, still as eager as ever to be out of the sergeant's society.

The great Cuff opened the washing book, understood it perfectly in half a minute and shut it up again. "I venture to trouble your ladyship with one last question," he said. "Has the young woman who brought us this book been in your employment as long as the other servants?"

"Why do you ask?" said my lady.

"The last time I saw her," answered the sergeant, "she was in prison for theft."

After that there was no help for it but to tell him the truth. My mistress dwelt strongly on Rosanna's good conduct in her service and on the high opinion entertained of her by the matron of the reformatory. "You don't suspect her, I hope?" my lady added in conclusion very earnestly.

"I have already told your ladyship that I don't suspect any person in the house of thieving up to the present time."

After that answer my lady rose to go upstairs and ask for Miss Rachel's keys. The sergeant was beforehand with me in opening the door for her. He made a very low bow. My lady shuddered as she passed him.

We waited and waited, and no keys appeared. Sergeant Cuff made no remark to me. He turned his melancholy face to the window; he put his lanky hands into his pockets, and he whistled "The Last Rose of Summer" drearily to himself.

At last Samuel came in, not with the keys, but with a morsel of paper for me.

"Any news of Miss Verinder's keys?" asked the sergeant.

"My young lady refuses to have her wardrobe examined."

"Ah!" said the sergeant.

His voice was not quite in such a perfect state of discipline as his face. When he said "Ah!" he said it in the tone of a man who had heard something which he expected to hear. He half angered and half frightened me—why, I couldn't tell but he did it.

"Must the search be given up?" I asked.

"Yes," said the sergeant, "the search must be given up because your young lady refuses to submit to it like the rest. We must examine all the wardrobes in the house or none. Send Mr. Ablewhite's portmanteau to London by the next train, and return the washing book, with my compliments and thanks, to the young woman who brought it in."

"You don't seem to be much disappointed," I said.

"No," said Sergeant Cuff; "I'm not much disappointed." I tried to make him explain himself.

"Come out into the garden," he said, "and let's have a look at the roses."

The nearest way to the garden, on going out of my lady's sitting room, was by the shrubby path. We must now try to solve the mystery of the smear on the door, which, you may take my word for it, means the mystery of the diamond also—in some other way. I have decided to see the servants and to search their thoughts and actions, Mr. Betteredge, instead of searching their wardrobes. Before I begin, however, I want to ask you a question or two. You are an observant man. Did you notice any thing strange in any of the servants, making due allowance, of course, for fright and fluster, after the loss of the diamond was found out? Any particular quarrel among them? Any one of them not in his or her usual spirits? Unexpectedly out of temper, for instance, or unexpectedly taken ill?"

I had just time to think of Rosanna Spearman's sudden illness at yesterday's dinner, but not time to make any answer, when I saw Sergeant Cuff's eyes suddenly turn aside toward the shrubbery, and I heard him say softly to himself, "Halloo!"

"What's the matter?" I asked.

"A touch of the rheumatics in my back," said the sergeant, in a loud voice, as if he wanted some third person to hear us. "We shall have a change in the weather before long."

A few steps farther brought us to the corner of the house. Turning off sharp to the right, we entered on the terrace and went down by the steps in the middle into the garden below. Sergeant Cuff stopped there in the open space, where we could see round us on every side.

[To be continued.]

Wood Cutting Prohibited On Spur Lands!

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

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

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

S. M. Swenson And Sons

CHAS. A. JONES, Manager,

Spur, Dickens Co., Texas

TEXAS SPUR PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY

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.

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FOUR ISSUES ONE MONTH

DO YOU HELP THE LOCAL NEWSPAPER?

The local newspaper is always hustling for you and yours. But what are you doing for it? The paper is always scheming, planning and laboring for a better community, for a more prosperous community. Do you ever exert yourself to give the paper a boost? The paper is always pushing you and your people to the front, giving you a good word before your neighbors and the public, assisting you to build up a reputation which will be of inestimable value to you through the years of your life. But what are you doing? Are you reciprocating in any way? Do you ever suggest to your neighbor or friends that it is a good paper, a loyal paper and that it should receive their support?

The paper devotes many hours and many pages in advertising the natural advantages of the community—of your community, and in seeking to enhance the welfare of your community and of yourself. But what of you? Do you ever seek to advertise the paper, or to swell its subscription

list, or to increase its general usefulness to the community?

The paper is working six days a week for the community, and you and yours. But do you ever devote a minute of your time to its material welfare? Have you ever done so?

The duty of the paper is to supply you with the legitimate news of the town and community. But the paper goes much further. Its labors in behalf of the community are endless and without end, and it will continue to advocate the cause of the community progress as long as it is a paper.

You are an important part of the community, therefore its labors are in your behalf. But are you doing a single thing to requite the paper for all of its toil in your behalf.

You take the paper, you say.

True, and you get more than value received each issue in the news items alone. The fund of information which the paper hands you each publication day for a cent or so would cost you

many dollars if you went out to gather it up for yourself.

But this is not a kick, nor a roast. It is just a little food for thought in a few of your idle moments.

J. J. Rogers, a prominent citizen and stockfarmer of the Cat Fish country west of Spur, was in the city Tuesday and spent several hours here trading with merchants and looking after other business affairs. He reports everything moving along nicely and crop prospects continue most promising at this time.

CARD OF THANKS.

I take this means of thanking those who have been so kind and ready with their assistance and sympathies during the recent illness of my wife. May heaven's richest blessings be your portion.
M. C. Bingham.

For Sale—Yearling Jersey bull, A fine animal. Price \$25 if sold at once. J. E. Cherry, 7 miles southeast of Spur. 33-2tp.

W. C. BOWMAN Lumber Com'y.

LUMBER, SASH
DOORS, AND...

All Kinds of Building Material

W. D. Blair and wife were in Spur Tuesday from their home several miles east and spent some time here selling produce and buying goods of the merchants.

L. S. Scott and family, of the Red Mud country, were among the number of visitors in Spur Saturday.

LIV - VER - LAX

ACTS SURELY, SAFELY

Just because you are feeling the ill effects of a torpid liver is no excuse for buying a harmful medicine that has brought physical decay to thousands. Calomel is dangerous and as everyone knows has very disagreeable and weakening after effects. Medical science has found a natural, vegetable remedy, GRIGSBY'S LIV-VER-LAX that thoroughly cleanses the liver and bowels without causing any bad feeling. Children can take it with perfect safety. Every bottle guaranteed. 50c and \$1.00 a bottle. None genuine without the likeness and signature of L. K. Grigsby. For sale by Spur Drug Co.

Fresh bread is baked every day at the German Kitchen, there is none better. Try one loaf and you will always prefer the bread made in your home town. 32-1f.

J. H. Boothe was in the city this week from his farm home a mile or two southeast of Spur.

"Here's My Check with Your Endorsement"

When you are asked to pay an account twice, how much better to be able to say that than "I have a receipt somewhere." ¶ With a checking account of your own and a fixed rule to use checks in paying all your bills, you can readily clear up such a difficulty. ¶ Have you a personal account at the

THE CITY NAT'L BANK OF SPUR, TEXAS

CAPITAL STOCK \$40,000 SURPLUS FUND \$10,000
E. C. EDMONDS, Cashier C. HOGAN, Asst. Cashier G. H. CONNELL, President S. R. DAVIS, Vice-Pres. J. D. HARKEY, Vice-Pres.

ELECTION ORDERED FOR SPUR POSTMASTERSHIP

Vernon, Texas, June 19, 1915.
Hon. B. D. Glasgow,
Democratic Precinct Chairman
Dickens County, Texas,
Spur, Texas.

Dear Sir:
As per the phone conversation you held yesterday with my Secretary Mr. Townsend, you are hereby requested to call a Democratic Primary Election for the purpose of selecting a postmaster. You will kindly adhere to the present primary law as much as possible, also kindly follow the following special instructions:

- 1st. Said election is to cover the Spur voting precinct only.
- 2nd. All applicants must be local residents.
- 3rd. This is to be strictly a democratic primary, no one but known democrats to participate.
- 4th. All applicants must be democrats and be qualified to fill the office.

Upon your return to me as the result of such election, I shall recommend the one receiving the

highest number of votes to the President for appointment.
I am very respectfully,
Jno. H. Stephens

In accordance with the above letter I hereby call an election to be held in the town of Spur, Texas, at the building known as the Spur Bottling works, on Saturday the 26th of June A. D. 1915, said election to be held between the hours of 8 o'clock a. m. and 6 o'clock p. m. for the purpose of selecting a postmaster for Spur, and to be held in accordance with said above instruction.

B. D. Glasgow,
Democratic Chairman for Precinct No. 3, Dickens County, Texas.

All parties wishing their names to appear on the ticket in above election must make application and pay their pro rata part of expenses of same not later than Friday noon.

GROWING MELONS.

J. A. Neighbors, a leading citizen and prosperous farmer of the Steel Hill country, was in Spur Wednesday. He reports that he planted one and a half acres of watermelons, one-half acre each of Georgia Sweets, Halbert's Honey's and Tom Watson's—one patch for family use, one for his pigs and one for the boys. He expects to have melons ready to eat by the twentieth of July. Mr. Neighbors is a successful farmer and we are going to try to make it around to his place on the twentieth of July to view the results of his farming efforts this year.

Pink Keister, who is now making his home at Haskell, was in Spur this week looking after his property interests and also greeting his many friends of this section of the country.

Fruit and Ornamental Trees

I am now representing the Austin Nursery, and am prepared to furnish you with Berries, Fruit, Shade and Ornamental Trees of every variety. Hold your orders for me.

Wyatt Taylor
SPUR, TEXAS
Agent for Dickens, Kent and Stonewall Counties

A Change of Location

To the Fair-minded People of Dickens Co.:

It is a known fact that of the many lines of trade, there is none in which absolute accuracy is so essential as is the case in the dispensing of drugs. It is not the school boy's business. It requires more talent than is expected from your doctor. Your pharmacist is expected to rectify the error of the doctor who does not know. So why should you not Demand the Best Talent? I assure you the cost is no greater.

That we may become better acquainted before moving to our new location in the F. & M. Bank, will give you for cash a 20 per cent discount on all purchases, as---

- | | | | |
|---|-----|-------------------------------|-----|
| Plant Juice, \$1.00 size | 80c | Swamp Root, \$1 size | 80c |
| Peruna, \$1.00 size for | 80c | Electric Bitters, \$1.00 size | 80c |
| Beef, Wine and Iron, (the best tonic), \$1.00 bottle for only | 80c | | |

All other Patent Medicines in Like Proportion

Please Call to See Us

STAFFORD'S PHARMACY

N. B.---No Hostetter's Bitters Sold Here

A Bargain in a Suburban Home

A 20-acre block, nice home and well improved, adjoining Spur, will be sold at an exceptional bargain.

This property is going to be sold at an early date, and if you are interested you had better see about it today.

Call at the Texas Spur office or see J. E. Counts.

We Have Just Received a Full and Complete Line of PENNSYLVANIA & FIRESTONE TIRES

Tubes & Automobile Supplies

GAS STATION AND FREE AIR

Fill Your Tires at Our Station

We also carry a full line of Shelf and Heavy Hardware, Implements, Vehicles, Leather Goods, Pipe and Pipe Fittings, Windmills and Tanks

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WE EARNESTLY SOLICIT AND APPRECIATE YOUR BUSINESS

RITER HARDWARE CO.

FOR POSTMASTER.

Mr. Voter: Since an election will be held Saturday, June 26, please consider why I ask your support in the election for postmaster.

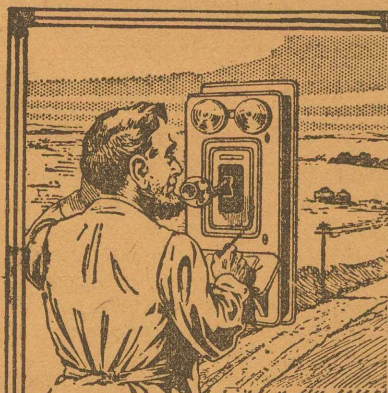
In the first place, I have been here over six years; have worked earnestly and faithfully for the Spur country. I have invested every cent brought here by me, also everything I have earned since my arrival, in the upbuilding and advancement of your town.

I have given every arrival in Spur the most courteous treatment possible. If they wanted to buy, look, rent or otherwise investigate, I am always at their command. If they work I have assisted them in every way possible. In fact, have left nothing undone for the upbuilding of Spur and the Spur county.

If it is my good fortune to be elected to this position, I promise you that the office shall be run in a businesslike and thorough manner; that every accommodation that can be offered the patrons of the office will be extended, and that it shall be my intention and ambition to use the influence which goes with the office in extending the rural routes out over the country, and anything else that will be of benefit to the patrons of this office.

Yours very truly,
C. F. Cates.

Walter Greer, of the Tap country, was among the number in Spur Wednesday.



The Telephone Road to Every Market

Are you up on current dairy prices during the scarce season?

The farmer with a Bell Telephone is "wise" and he sells at the market's height. Why not share your telephone-connected neighbors advantages.

Apply to our nearest manager for information, or write

THE SOUTHWESTERN TELEGRAPH and TELEPHONE CO. DALLAS, TEXAS.

FREE

with each sack of Bran a 25c Medicated Salt Brick. I am not charging more for bran—but I am reducing the price to \$1.60 per 100 pounds. Monarch Milk Maker \$1.40.—Spur Grain & Coal Company. 34.

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

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. 1-26f

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. 52-1f

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E. F. SPRINGER, SPUR, TEXAS

Things the Farmer Likes to Know

CLIP PIGS' TUSKS.

Get Rid of Them Before Animal Is One Hour Old.

THUS ELIMINATE A DANGER.

They Are Likely to Be Made a Source of Injury to the Sow's Udder—A Good Strong Pair of Steel Pincers Is the Thing to Use When You Adopt the Role of Dentist.

Every little pig should have its tusks clipped off when one hour old or sooner. It is not too late to do some good

AROUND THE DAIRY.

The good milker is the cow that turns the most feed into the largest flow of good, rich, healthful milk.

Certainty is the fundamental necessity in dairying. Don't guess at results but know what you are doing.

Milk that has once been spoiled by dirt or foul odor can never be restored by straining or any other method.

It is seldom that a good cow is too high in price. If she is really a worthy animal you can afford to buy her.

Irregularity in the work of the dairy means loss.

TO GROW TOMATOES.

Characteristic of the Good Plant is a Strong and Extensive Root.

Many growers of late tomatoes for canning purposes underestimate the importance of good plants for setting, says a bulletin recently issued by the New Jersey State College of Agriculture.

"Under ideal weather and soil conditions very small and weak plants will live," the bulletin continues, "but the experience of several years past in some parts of New Jersey has shown that such conditions are not apt to prevail; hence, in dry seasons and always in northerly localities where replanting is likely to give too late a crop, the strength of the first plants set is an all important point. Some planters prefer to run the risk of losing plants, with the intention of replanting such as are lost, rather than to take a little extra care in producing sets of the best kind. In the unusual season, such as that of 1914, such growers are almost certain to sustain a loss.

"The first characteristic of the strong plant is a strong and extensive root system, since with such a root system there usually goes a stock stem, which all growers like to have. Crowded plants cannot develop the right kind of roots, for the simple reason that they have not room enough for expansion. Some growers who aim to get an early start by sowing seed in the greenhouse or cold frame may often lose all they expect to gain, because they feel compelled to utilize all the space to the utmost by crowding the seedlings. In many such cases field sowing with more space between the plants would give as good or better results with less labor.

"It is the opinion of the experiment station authorities that transplanting could be done much more easily and cheaply than many growers seem to think. Where transplanting is not done, thinning is advised. Growers are urged to try the undercutting method on a few rows this year, as this method promises good results."

THE COMING NUT.

Interest in the commercial growing of nuts is increasing rapidly. The pecan and the English walnut hold the lead in popularity in spite of some failures and misdirected efforts in handling these crops. Agricultural colleges are answering the demand for investigations in nut culture. The Pennsylvania experiment station has called for information about English walnuts now growing in the state that may be of value. In California, Oregon and some southern states nut investigations have been under way for several years and are beginning to bring worth while results.

There is opportunity to improve even the common black walnut. Improvement of nuts is slower than improvement of the commercial orchard fruits. It is a task for those who are well established in farming and are able to make tests covering a period of years. The importance and economy of nut production have frequently been urged in these columns. Those who are interested in permanent agriculture have a great opportunity to participate in the development of an industry that now gives promise of rapid growth.—Country Gentleman.

Economy of the Dairy Cow.

There is no question as to the economy of the dairy cow as a producer of human food. None of our domestic animals can produce similar values from the same quantity of digestible food. The Holstein cow Maid Henry produced at the Kansas experiment station in one year 2,471 pounds of milk solids. A prime steer weighing 1,250 pounds under test at the Missouri experiment station was found, when chemically analyzed, to have produced in total solids 547 pounds. These total solids included the entire carcass of the steer, a very large per cent of which cannot be used as food. Every ounce of the material produced by the cow was edible, and the total quantity was nearly five times as great as that contained in the whole body of the steer.

Milk the Cow Early.

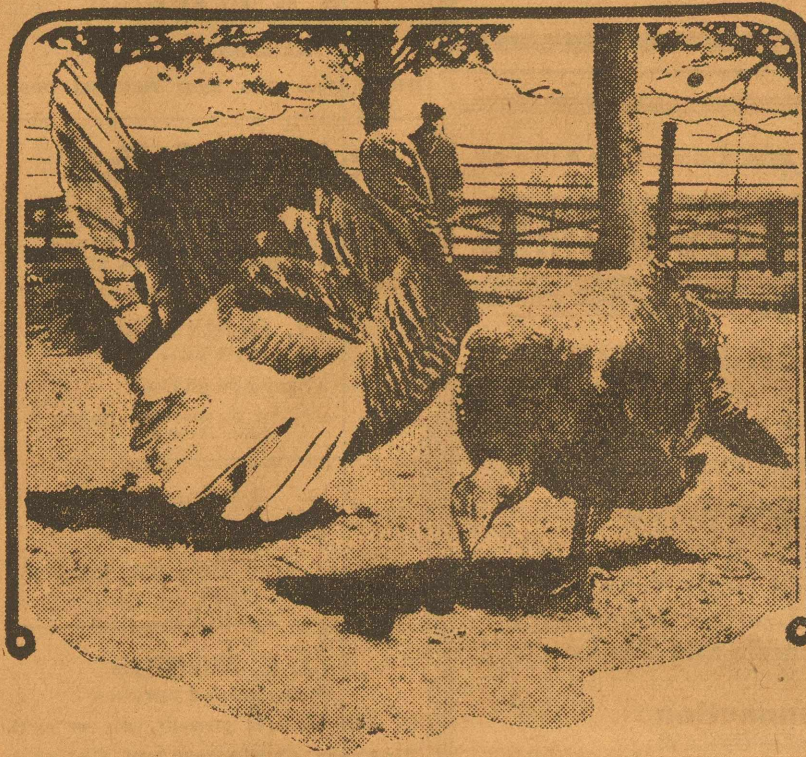
Milk early and turn the dairy cows to grass in time for them to do their grazing before it grows so hot. They then can lie in the shade and enjoy chewing their cuds during the hottest portion of the day. It will mean greater comfort for the cows and more milk in the pail at evening.—Farm and Fireside.

Similarity.

"Why do you compare my marksmanship with lightning?" asked the recruit.

"Because," replied the instructor, "it never hits twice in the same place."—Washington Star.

Breed Turkeys Straight



A PRIZE PAIR OF BRONZE TURKEYS.

Whatever you do, don't gamble with a good thing. Breed turkeys straight. There are the Bronze, White Holland, Narragansett, Slate, Black and Buff, all dandy turkey meat, all salable, differing in color and size mainly. Just pick your favorite and then breed scientifically and true. As a straight line is the shortest distance between two points, so straight breeding is the shortest, surest road to success. We have bred them straight and crossed. The mixed did not have the vigor and profit of the straight bred. The Bronze was best of all, and the White Holland won second. The Bronze is the world's favorite. Seven million turkeys were raised in the United States last year, one western state shipping 800,000 pounds to relieve the famine in the east, and it was nearly all Bronze. The Bronze gobbler and his mate shown here are a prize pair raised by an expert turkey fancier, Ralph N. Grover of Islip, N. Y.

If they are quite good size, writes R. A. Hayne in the National Stockman. Catch a little fellow and look at the needle pointed teeth on each side above and below.

Have a care while looking, else he will treat you as he does his mates and often his mother when she suddenly jumps up while the pigs are tussling for their places at dinner. When the sow does this a pig has cut her udder with one of those tusks. Look at the lips and noses, faces and eyes of pigs a few days old and see the sores and scars from these same teeth. Cut them off, save all this pain and have larger, growther pigs.

A pair of small, stiff steel pincers is the thing to do the job. Have a pine stick six inches long, one inch wide and half an inch in thickness, round the edges and put this in the pig's mouth like a bit. Sit on the ground or a low stool, set the pig on his rump between your knees with feet toward you, hold his nose and stick with one hand, hold his body with your knees and clip his upper teeth off clean and smooth with gums. Don't pull them out. Then turn him with back toward you and cut out lower ones the same way. Now he is disarmed, no more sore and cut lips and eyes, and the mother will lie still till all are fed.

MARKET GARDENING

If the radish plants stand too thickly thin them to stand at proper distances. The small button radishes need not be more than one and one-half inches apart in the row, while the long rooted varieties should be about three inches apart. Thinning is often necessary to obtain roots of large and uniform size.

Beets often come up too thickly and should be thinned. This operation is even more important than for radishes. Parsnips, carrots, salsify and early turnips may also require attention in this respect.

Cultural experiments at the Pennsylvania State college, conducted on a large scale, show that it is perfectly feasible to grow potatoes between rows of young apple trees and to do this in the same ground year after year. The potatoes are always followed by rye, which is plowed down for manurial purposes for each crop of potatoes. The apple trees are seven years old, and they have made 12 per cent better growth than those which have been grown in cultivated ground followed by a cover crop.—National Stockman and Farmer.

HISTORY IN WAX FIGURES.

At an average rate of one model per fortnight I must have turned a round thousand in my time, some in hot haste to be up to date, others at comparative leisure, being less meteoric and of more abiding interest—royalties, for example, and men of letters, or great soldiers like Gordon, Wolseley and Roberts. Each stays as long as his fame endures. Nobody remembers when Shakespeare was not in the exhibition. Voltaire is its oldest inhabitant, and five generations have now passed before the figure of this revolutionary. The most notorious leaders of the French revolution are there, as of course the exhibition was transferred from Paris to London over 100 years ago.

It was in 1802 that madame came to London, having lived in Paris through the whole of the French revolution. Frequently had her art been requisitioned to mold the head of some sanguinary monster or other, Robespierre, Danton and Marat among the number. The cast of the last mentioned of this trio, still in the exhibition, was taken by Mme. Tussaud at the scene of his murder, and later she made a cast of the once beautiful face of his assassin, Charlotte Corday. Madame came to London alone, leaving her husband, Francois Tussaud, in Paris. After nearly half a century of peaceful and prosperous years in England, she died in 1850, in her ninety-first year.—John Theodore Tussaud in London Strand Magazine.

A Glance at Current Topics

One of Ablest of Naval Operators.
Washington, June 22.—Rear Admiral W. S. Benson, appointed chief of naval operations, is generally conceded to be one of the ablest officers in Uncle Sam's navy. The new office, which was created by the last congress, gives the rear admiral control of and makes him responsible for the preparation and maintenance of plans for the use and efficiency of the fleet in and for war, and in effect also makes him the active head of the navy.

The creation of the office of chief of naval operations does not disturb the general board of the navy, of which Admiral Dewey is chairman.

Before his appointment Rear Admiral Benson was one of the senior



Photo by American Press Association.
Rear Admiral William Shepherd Benson.

captains and in the ordinary course of events would have been promoted to the rank he now holds by virtue of his office next November. Born in Georgia on Sept. 25, 1855, the new chief of operations is young enough to hold his present post for the full term of four years. He entered the Naval academy in 1872 and was graduated four years later, and during a sea service of twenty-two years since that time has cruised practically all over the world. Since 1908 Admiral Benson's sea duty included the command of several important ships and also service as chief of staff of the Pacific fleet. His most recent sea service was as captain of the super-Dreadnought Utah and temporarily as commander of the first division of the Atlantic fleet. In July, 1913, he was detached from the Utah to become commandant of the Philadelphia navy yard.

Trees Along Eighty-four Mile Road.

Austin, Tex., June 23.—The United States post highway which is being constructed between Austin and San Antonio, eighty-four miles, is to be beautified by the planting of shade trees along both sides the entire route. Local organizations have been formed in each county through which the road passes for the purpose of carrying on the work of beautification.

It is also planned to build rest houses on the new highway and to add to the comfort of travelers in every possible way. The cost of constructing the road is being borne in part by the federal government and in part by the counties through which it passes.

Big Claims For New Explosive.

New York, June 21.—Rochamboite is the name of a new explosive in which United States, British and French military experts are much interested. Military boards have been carefully watching experiments made by its inventor.

The new destructive agent looks like a fine sand or powder, and when exploded in a shell it creates a heat of more than 2,500 degrees and throws molten metal just as the bullets in a shrapnel shell are scattered.

F. W. Pugsley, who is a metallurgical engineer connected with the McKinley-Darragh Mining company and is stationed at Perth Amboy, N. J., has been studying rochamboite since last October and has now perfected it and is ready to put it to use.

Sources of Pebble Supply.

Washington, June 2.—The European war has threatened to disturb the importation of flint pebbles, upon which during recent years cement manufacture and gold ore milling have been dependent in large measure.

The geological survey suggests some sources of domestic flint and other pebbles that are available as substitutes for foreign flint. Besides the flint gravels of the gulf states and the beach gravels of New England, there are also available suitable gravel deposits on parts of the shores of Lake Superior and the Pacific coast and, particularly in the western states, stream gravels

containing tough and resistant pebbles of granitic, rhyolitic, and basaltic rock.

Furthermore, mill tests have demonstrated the efficiency of artificial pebbles, made by rounding quarried blocks of rhyolite in a tumbler. Roughly cubical or angular talus blocks of basalt, taken as they are found, also become well rounded during use. It has also been suggested that tough and blocky gold ores can be made to supply of themselves pebbles for grinding.

Swiss Offer a Plan to Preserve Peace.

Basel (via London), June 22.—The Swiss Peace society at its annual meeting adopted the following resolutions, which it was declared should be considered when the time came for the conclusion of peace in Europe:

First.—The avoidance of any annexation or territorial changes which are in opposition to the interests and wishes of a population; a guarantee of religious liberty, free speech and equality before the law for the minority.

Second.—The creation of a permanent organization in which all European states shall be equally represented, for the purpose of safeguarding the order, peace and safety of our portion of the earth.

Third.—The development of an international law organization by continual Hague conferences.

The proponents of the second resolution hope to establish a kind of European people's court, before which all international questions may be discussed and decided.

First Dirigible For Navy.

Washington, June 23.—The United States navy has bought its first dirigible airship under a contract which calls for its delivery within the next three months, when Secretary Daniels awarded a contract for the manufacture of the dirigible to the Connecticut Air Craft Company of New Haven, Conn., whose bid was \$45,636.25.

The dirigible ordered is designed to carry eight men, four of whom will be the crew. It will be 175 feet in length and fifty-five feet in height and will have a gas capacity of 110,000 cubic feet. It is designed for a speed of twenty-five miles an hour.

Size of Italy's Army and Navy.

Rome, June 20.—In view of the situation now existing statistics showing the naval and land strength of Italy are interesting. They follow:

Army.

Infantry—Two regiments of grenadiers, 94 of infantry of the line, 12 of bersaglieri or light infantry and 8 of Alpine chausseurs, 61 regiments of mobile militia (corresponding to the German landwehr) and about 400,000 infantry of the territorials (corresponding to the landsturm). Each regiment of the first line has its reserve unit. Total infantry about 1,320,000 men, all mobilized.

Cavalry—Twenty-nine regiments, each with its reserve unit; 31 squadrons of militia, 30,000 territorials; total, about 150,000 men.

Artillery—Twenty-four regiments of field artillery, 1 of horse artillery, 2 regiments of mountain guns, 3 regi-



© by Pach.
Duke of Abruzzi, Commander in Chief of Italian Navy.

ments of coast artillery, 3 of garrison artillery, 78 batteries of militia and 100 batteries of territorials; total, about 450,000 men.

Signal corps, engineers, medical corps, commissary, etc., about 145,000 men.

Total forces which may be put in the field, 2,065,000 men.

Navy.

First Squadron—Six Dreadnoughts, 5 mounting 13 12-inch guns apiece and 1 mounting 12 12-inch guns; squadron speed, 22.5 knots.

Ten first class battleships (pre-Dreadnought), 4 mounting 4 10-inch and 8 7.5-inch guns; speed, 22.5 knots; 4 mounting 2 12-inch and 12 8-inch guns; speed 20 knots; 2 mounting 4 12-inch, 4 8-inch and 12 6-inch guns; speed, 20 knots.

Five old battleships of small fighting value, 3 light scout cruisers, about 50 efficient torpedo boat destroyers.

For joint service with both army and navy 14 squadrons of 7 aeroplanes each and 10 dirigibles.

DICKENS ITEMS.

Mr. Gladdish was in town Saturday.

Jeff Kennedy is on the sick list this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Waldrop were in town Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Waldrop were in town Saturday.

Walter Jackson from Croton was in Dickens Friday.

W. E. Gates was in Dickens Saturday afternoon.

Sam Potts is spending a few days with his sister, Mrs. Gray.

Mrs. Wesley Wilson of Spur is visiting in Dickens this week.

Mrs. Thacker was in town Friday with a lot of nice peaches.

W. C. Richards' dog and pony show was in Dickens Tuesday.

A. A. Stephens from Afton was in Dickens Saturday afternoon.

W. E. Gates was in Dickens Saturday from his home in Afton.

Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Windom were in town Friday from their ranch on Croton.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Nickels from the Plains were in town Saturday for the ball game.

B. D. Gardner and Hauley Bryant were in Dickens Tuesday from the Pitchfork ranch.

Sam Harkey left Monday for Croton Camp. Sam is going to work in the hay field.

J. R. Rogers returned Friday afternoon from Fort Worth, where he has been on business.

J. B. Connor left Monday for the Baldo Newman Rancho to be present when the branding starts Wednesday.

Saturday afternoon the Shinery Twigs and the Plains baseball team crossed bats on the Dickens ball grounds. They played a good game regardless of the heat. The Plains boys won the game; score 10 and 6.

Sure Corn Cure—Will remove corn for 50c, bunyon for \$1. Satisfaction guaranteed. No cure, no pay.—L. G. Garrett. 28-7tp.

Subscribe for The Texas Spur.

NOTICE OF STOCKHOLDERS MEETING

of the Crosbyton-Southplains Railroad Company, to be held Wednesday, September 1st, 1915, for the purpose of authorizing the directors thereof to issue bonds, etc.

To the Stockholders of the Crosbyton-Southplains Railroad Company:

You and each of you are hereby notified that on the 16th day of June, 1915, at a special meeting of the Board of Directors of said Company a resolution was unanimously adopted calling a meeting of the Stockholders of said Company to be held on Wednesday, September 1, 1915, at offices of the Company at Crosbyton, Texas, at 10 o'clock a. m., for the purpose of authorizing the directors thereof to execute a mortgage upon the property of the Company to issue bonds thereunder to an amount and for a period to be fixed by the Stockholders at said meeting; and to authorize the directors to apply to the Railroad Commission of Texas for authority to issue such bonds; and to take such further and other steps as may be necessary under the laws of Texas for the final approval by said Commission of said bonds; and to obtain the authority of said Commission to register said bonds when issued in the office of the Secretary of the State of Texas.

Dated this June 16th, 1915, at Crosbyton, Texas.

(SEAL) W. R. LOTSPEICH,
34-2mo. Secretary.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

I hereby desire to protest to the public in general and to Hon. Jno. H. Stephens in particular as to the manner in which the election for postmaster is being held.

Notice has not been posted or publication made as is required by the State Primary Election law, under which rules and regulations the Hon. Jno. H. Stephens ordered this election held.

The voters had no notice only through rumor, and the solicitation of candidates who seemed to have had inside and advance knowledge of when the election was to be held. The voters did not know until Tuesday of this week, and that only through hearsay.

The postmastership is of greatest concern to every citizen, it is a fine plumb for the one getting it, and every citizen should have a fair and equal chance for same.

Very respectfully,
W. A. CRADDOCK.

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS }
County of Dickens }

To the Sheriff or any constable of Dickens County, Greeting:

You are hereby commanded to summon Emmett Jackson, by making publication of this citation once each week for four successive weeks previous to the return day hereof, in some newspaper published in your county, if there be a newspaper published therein, but if not, then in any newspaper published in the Fiftieth Judicial District; but if there be no newspaper published in said Judicial District, then in a newspaper published in the nearest district to said Fiftieth Judicial District, to appear at the next regular term of the Justice's Court of Precinct Number 1 of Dickens County, Texas, to be holden at the Court House thereof, in the town of Dickens, on the fourth Monday of June A. D. 1915, the same being the 28th day of June A. D. 1915, then and there to appear and answer a suit filed in said court on the 19th day of February, A. D. 1915, in a suit, numbered on the docket of said court No. 104, wherein the Hale Hardware Company, a firm composed of O. L. Hale and Fred I. Hale, are plaintiffs and Emmett Jackson is defendant, the nature of plaintiffs' demand being as follows; to wit: Suit upon a promissory note, dated May 30th 1914, for the sum of \$129.00, due November 1st 1914, executed by the said Emmett Jackson, delivered and payable to the Hale Hardware Company at Afton, Texas, and bearing ten percent interest per annum from date until paid, and providing that if said note is not paid when due to pay all costs necessary for collection, including ten percent for Attorney's fees.

Herein fail not but, have before said court on the first day of the next term thereof, this writ, with your return thereon, showing how you have executed the same.

Given under my hand, in the town of Dickens, this 17th day of May A. D. 1915.

A. C. Hyatt,
Justice of the Peace, Precinct No. 1, Dickens County, Texas. 34-4t.

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS }
County of Dickens }

To the Sheriff or any constable of Dickens County, Texas, Greeting:

You are hereby commanded to summon John Allen, W. D. Allen and W. D. Gary, by making publication of this citation once each week for four successive weeks previous to the return day hereof, in some newspaper published in your county, if there be a newspaper published therein, but if not, then, in any newspaper published in the Fiftieth Judicial District, but if there be no newspaper published in said Judicial District, then in a newspaper published in the nearest district to said Fiftieth Judicial District, to appear at a regular term of the Justice Court of Precinct Number 1 of Dickens County, Texas, to be holden on the fourth Monday of June, A. D. 1915, the same being the 28th day of June, A. D. 1915, at the Court House of said County, in the town of Dickens, and then and there to appear and answer the suit of J. D. Harkey, Plaintiff, against John Allen, W. D. Allen and W. D. Gary, being numbered 107 on the docket of said court, and filed on the 10th day of May, A. D. 1915, the nature of plaintiff's demand being in substance as follows;

Being for the sum of \$18.00, being the value of rent cotton, converted to the use and benefit of and by the said defendants and belonging to the said plaintiff, without the consent of the said plaintiff.

Hearin fail not, but have before said court on the first day of next term thereof, this writ, with your return thereon, showing how you have executed the same.

Given under my hand, in the town of Dickens, this 24th day of May, 1915

A. C. Hyatt
Justice of the Peace, Precinct No. 1 Dickens County, Texas. 34-4t.

FOR SALE.

A 5 room bungalow, good well, cistern, sheds, lots and 6 acres fenced and in cultivation, 7 acres in all, also small orchard, 1 mile west of Spur. Consideration \$1,250.00, part down, balance in good notes.—J. E. Day, Grants, N. M. 27-6mo

Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Simmons returned Wednesday from a three weeks' trip through the country to Commerce, Greenville and other points in Eastern Texas. He reports a very pleasant trip.

H. E. Grabner and family, of six miles east of Spur, were in the city Wednesday.

W. J. Hunter was here Wednesday with a load of peaches from his place east of Spur.

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.

The City Garage

GENERAL REPAIR WORK

Cylinders Rebored for Over-Sized Pistons.

All work guaranteed.

Oil and Gas

ICE!

Witt Springer

YOUR CAR Gets Peaved, just Same as you do.

IT NEEDS A DOCTOR--AND I'M THE ONE!

My Opeations are Quick, Thorough and Painless and produce Lasting Results. Bring your 'invalids' along and let me perform. It will not be in the "wheezing" class when it leaves my hospital.

PROFESSIONAL FEES ARE VERY MODEST

L. H. GILBERT GARAGE, Spur, Texas

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

All Things Work Together for Good

This passage is applicable to those who work together for the prizes in the Pony Contest.

These merchants offer you the best ---they offer you nice prizes; they offer you the best service; they will sell for the lowest prices.

WATCH THE CONTEST

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

SPUR, TEXAS

J. P. SIMMONS..

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

LET THE TEXAS SPUR PRINT YOUR STATIONERY



Do Not Hesitate

to ask our advice on any business problem that confronts you.

It's our business to help you if we can, and every facility of Our Bank is

Always at Your Disposal

The Spur National Bank

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

Chas. Jaye, of Dickens

Handles Binder Twine and Machine Oil, Ice and Cold Drinks, Groceries, Notions and Enamelware, Confections, Tobacco and Cigars.

TRADE WITH HIM AND SAVE MONEY

FARMERS NEED A GIN AND BLACKSMITH SHOP

C. D. Pullin came in Tuesday from the Lee county settlement on the plains and reports that crops continue to do nicely in that section. He reports that farmers of that section are greatly inconvenienced in the fact that there is no blacksmith shop in that country and they have to travel from twenty to thirty miles to get blacksmith work. It is the same with reference to a gin. The people of that section now have a post-office, and by all means they should have the conveniences of a gin and blacksmith shop.

BUYS SPUR PROPERTY.

A deal was recently consummated wherein J. B. Morrison sold his residence property in Spur to W. H. Putman who will make his home in the city in the future. The residence is the former R. S. Holman home and is one of the nicest residences in Spur. Mr. Morrison and family, we understand, will remove to their ranch home twelve miles southwest of Spur.

W. H. Putman and family left last week for the San Francisco Exposition, making the trip through the country in an auto. It will take ten days to make the drive and they will probably be gone one or two months before returning to Spur.

Miss Winnie Roberts, of Roar-Springs, returned home Wednesday after spending several days in Spur with Miss Kate Ellis and other young lady friends.

L. N. Riter and J. A. Koon recently made a trip through the country to Fort Worth. They are now driving a new Overland auto which takes the place of their Ford.

LOOK! LISTEN!

We have something to tell you about the cream business its a good thing, and our's the place to bring it. We will give you all that there is in it. And we have been handling cream long enough to understand it. It pays your grocery bill, and we have the groceries at the right price, and want to sell them. Give us a chance to prove it. You need the groceries and we need the business.

We handle fresh fruit, and a nice line of candies all the time.

Make our place headquarters for ANY THING TO EAT. We have nothing else to offer you but groceries, therefore we feel like you should give us your grocery business. If you do so, we assure the best quality and price.

Remember we have the very best flour that can be bought. "Gladolia". Looking for a fresh car every day now. Fresh comb honey, now ready, its fine too, don't fail to get a bucket.

Thanking you in advance for anything you can do, for,

BRANNEN BROS COMPANY.

ABUNDANT FRUIT PRODUCTION.

S. W. Rather was in town Thursday from his Cat Fish farm and ranch home. He brought in some fruit from his orchard and sold to the townspeople. Quite a number of people from the surrounding country are now bringing in fruit and berries from their orchards. The fruit crop this year in the Spur country is good, and although orchards may be few and small the crop production is abundant. There is no question but that some day the Spur country will be recognized as one among the greatest fruit sections of the state.

M. E. Manning is now driving a "Detroit", one of the finest and most luxurious cars of the country.

CITIZENS GIN AND POWER COMPANY ORGANIZED

At a meeting held in Spur Saturday was completed the organization of the Citizens Gin and Power Company with a capital stock of twelve thousand dollars. E. Luce was elected president, Eb Johnson of Hubbard was elected general manager, Walter Carlisle secretary and treasurer, and C. D. Copeland, S. R. Bowman, G. H. Fore were among those selected as directors.

Land has been leased from the railroad company on its right-of-way near the Farmers Gin Company and the construction work of the new gin plant will begin just as soon as the smaller details are satisfactorily arranged. The new plant will have five stands of 70 saw equipment and one hundred and twenty five horse power engine.

When completed this will be one of the finest gin plants in all of Western Texas and will place Spur in a position to satisfactorily care for every demand of every cotton farmer of this territory.

GRAPE JUICE PICNIC.

Tuesday evening a party composed of Misses Gladys Stafford, Bessie Counts, Delia Johnson, Minnie Lee Springer, Winnie Roberts and Myrtle McClure, and Messrs. George Springer, Henry Clay, Lawson Hyatt, Arnold Attebury, Oldy Harrington, Loyd Barber, Leonard Randolph, and chaperoned by Mrs. McClure, enjoyed a moonlight picnic over the hill north of Spur. Various games were played, among which were "drop the handkerchief", "marching round the levee", "London Bridge", "snap", etc. At the conclusion of the games "grape juice", the famous and refreshing drink recommended by world powers in prohibition promotion, was served, after which the guests of the evening reluctantly departed for their various homes.

MOVES TO SPUR RANCH.

J. C. Selman and wife were in the city Wednesday from the Spur Ranch headquarters where they are now making their home, Mr. Selman being one of the bosses of that part of the White-Swearingen ranch interests. Mr. Selman has been with the Half Circle S Ranch during the past six years and has many friends here who are glad to welcome he and Mrs. Selman as resident citizens with us. While here Mr. Selman handed us a dollar and had his name added to the Texas Spur subscription list for which he has our thanks.

DIED.

Mrs. Rogers died Tuesday at the home of her son, J. W. Gaddy of the Lee County settlement on the plains. The remains were interred Wednesday in the Dickens cemetery. Mrs. Rogers came to this section from near Avoca and had been making her home with her son only a short time. The Texas Spur joins their friends in extending sympathy to the bereaved family and relatives.

Judge Jay, of Clairemont, was in Spur Tuesday on business and shaking hands with friends here. He reports crop and cattle conditions as fine as could be in Kent county at this time.

Mrs. J. E. Morris left Sunday for Haskell where she will spend some time visiting her parents and other relatives and friends.

After the Celebration
I know
where to
go.



Too many people are careless about dressing even slight wounds. Use our antiseptics and dressings, and you'll be sure to have no fatal blood poisoning.

When we furnish your medicines and drug store things, you know that you get the best.

Red Front Drug Store

We give you what you ASK for.

Every Effort



We are making every effort to give you the best value and service possible in our particular line.

If you would prove our efforts, let us figure with you on your next lumber bill.

P. H. Miller, Spur, Texas

The Dixy Telephone Company

T. F. DIXON, Mgr.

Successors to Luzon Telephone Co.

We are repairing telephone lines, placing our telephone system in first class shape, securing new employees and preparing to give our patrons a superior service and second to none. We ask the general public to give us due consideration, and we will appreciate a share of your telephone business.

BARN AND FEED STUFF DESTROYED BY FIRE

Sunday the barn and contents on the E. B. McLaughlin farm in Lee County settlement on the plains was completely destroyed by fire, the origin of the fire being unknown.

In the barn at the time were one thousand bushels of threshed kaffir corn and several thousand bundles of fodder and other feed stuff, the total loss amounting to no inconsiderable sum.

DOES YOUR COW COME UP?

If not feed her Monarch Milk Maker and Bran and you will find her with her head over the fence at milking time.—Spur Grain & Coal Company.

L. J. Elsby and daughter and Miss Morgan, of the plains country, were in Spur Wednesday. Miss Morgan has been one of the teachers in the Prairieview School the past term and left Spur on the afternoon train for her home in Sulphur Springs.

Dock Edwards was in town last week from his farm home in the Croton country and spent some time here on business and trading with the merchants.

T. S. Lambert was in town Wednesday with a load of peaches from his orchard near Tap. The peaches were readily sold to the townspeople.

H. C. Eldredge, of the plains country, was in Spur Tuesday trading with the merchants and looking after other business matters.



You Think
You Like Ice Tea

No doubt you do—but if you really want to find out how much you can like ice tea, drink the kind that's made with

**White Swan
Tea**

It's so much better than what you're thinking of now—cold tea with ice in it—that you'd not know it for the same beverage. You'll like it for its rich flavor, its smoothness, its deliciousness.

Most All Grocers

sell White Swan Tea—four sizes in air-tight tins—10c, 25c, 40c and 75c. Should your grocer be one of the very few who don't carry it, send us 75c for a pound—sent postpaid.

WAPLES-PLATTER GROCER CO.

(Wholesale Only)

Denison, Ft. Worth, Dallas, Amarillo, Bowie, Brownwood, Chillicothe, Dublin, Gainesville, Greenville, Hamlin, Marshall, Stamford, Tex.; Ada, Okla.

