

Runnels Drenched by Slow Two-Inch Rain

At the same time a general rain fell over Runnels county, Tuesday afternoon and night, Ballinger received slightly more than an inch, bringing the total precipitation here to 1.65 inches for the 48-hour period.

Farmers stated Wednesday that the rain was sufficient to meet all needs in this area at present and a period of warm weather would allow new crops to grow and others to be planted soon would place all farms in first class condition. Small grain was badly in need of rain last week and many farmers were worried over the outlook. Many expressed the opinion Saturday that great damage would ensue unless copious precipitation was received within a week.

The drops fell slowly and while no streams were raised to flood stage Wednesday morning, water is plentiful in all creeks, branches and pasture tanks. Non-surfaced roads were reported in bad condition. Dirt grades are slick and almost impassable for motor vehicles.

Road contractors operating in this county were halted Tuesday, and work will probably be delayed for several days.

News dispatches from all sections of West Texas bring information that sufficient moisture is in the ground for all purposes.

Following is the report compiled by the local exchange of the Southwest Telephone Company Wednesday morning:

- Abilene 1.00
- Ballinger 1.50
- Benoit 1.00
- Blackwell 1.00
- Bradshaw 1.00
- Brady .37
- Bronte 2.20
- Brownwood, good rain
- Coleman .97
- Concho, good rain
- Crews 3.00
- Eden 1.50
- Ft. Chabourne 2.50
- Hatchel 1.25
- Leaday 1.00
- Maverick 1.25
- Menard 1.32
- Miles 1.00
- Millersview 1.25
- Norton 1.00
- Olfen 1.00
- Ovalo 1.00
- Paint Rock 1.50
- Pony 1.00
- Rowena 1.60
- San Angelo, good rain
- Santa Anna, good rain
- Stacy, good rain
- Talpa 1.25
- Truitt 1.25
- Wilmeth 1.00
- Wingate 1.50
- Winters 1.50

SHOP-LIFTER ARRESTED HERE SATURDAY; FINED

Cecil Dentler was arrested Saturday by local authorities, and charge of shop-lifting were filed against him. He was fined \$15.00 and costs in justice court, and is now working out his fine on the courthouse lawn.

WYOMING GIRLS APPLY FOR JOBS IN RUNNELS SCHOOLS

Superintendent R. E. White received a letter Monday from Misses Katherine and Gladys Milstead, Chug Water, Wyoming, applying for positions as teachers in the rural schools. Mr. White says this sets a new record for long distance applications.

Local Firemen To School
M. C. Atkins, Chester Cherry and C. L. Armstrong left Sunday for College Station to attend the firemen's school in progress this week at A. & M. College.

New Vacuum Seal for Storage Eggs Hints at Better Prices for Farmers

By Frank I. Weller
(Associated Press Farm Editor)
WASHINGTON, April 23.—A year of depression in the egg market has brought out a new preserving process which is expected to increase the food value and price of storage eggs.

The process is the invention of T. L. Swenson, bacteriologist in the department of agriculture.

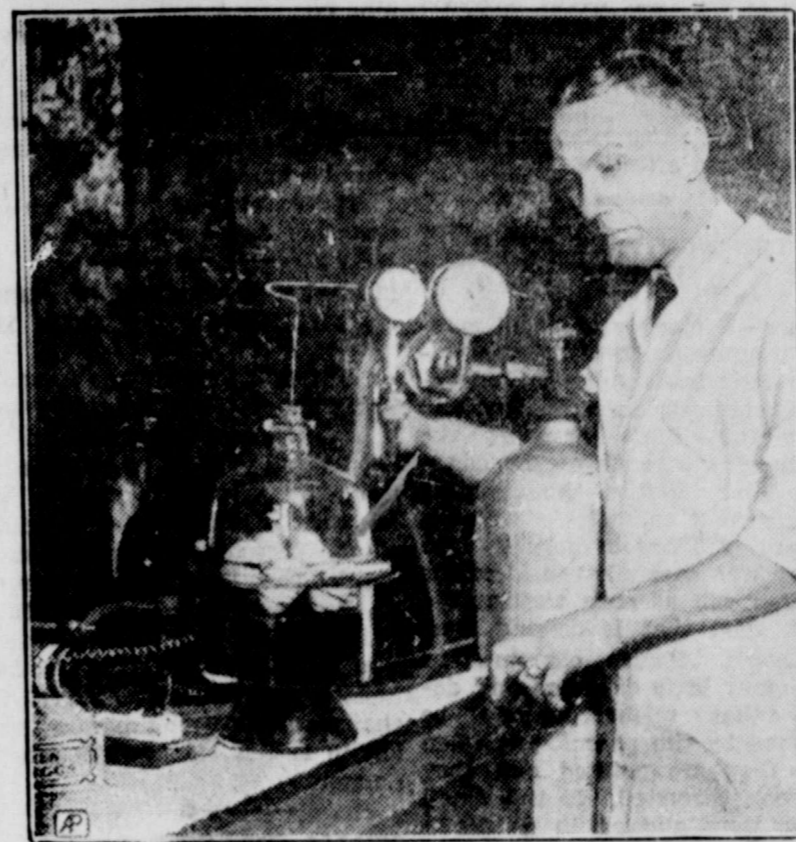
It is simply a matter of dipping eggs into a colorless, odorless and tasteless mineral oil in an airtight chamber, then pumping out some of the air to create a partial vacuum.

Some air escapes from the eggs also. Swenson then turns carbon dioxide into the vessel. The eggs, once more surrounded by gases at normal pressure, draw some of the oil into the pores of the shell to form a complete seal.

Carbon dioxide probably is carried in with the oil, which accounts for the marked improvement in quality said to follow its use. The appearance of vacuum-dipped eggs when opened after 10 months in storage compares favorably with that of a 2-day-old egg, Swenson says.

It is the loss of moisture and carbon dioxide, he explains, which reduces the weight and impairs the quality of eggs in storage and results in lower prices for them. When the pores in the shell of an egg are sealed by the Swenson process the egg loses only one-tenth of one per cent of weight in 10 months.

Only 30 per cent of open-dipped eggs fall into the special and extra grades after 10 months,



T. L. Swenson, department of agriculture bacteriologist, processing eggs in his new apparatus for ciling eggs under vacuum.

whereas vacuum-dipped eggs are said to average 46 per cent.

Since 12 per cent of the total annual egg production goes into storage, the possible benefit of the new process is apparent.

Storage operations exert a large influence on prices, because eggs now are not carried over from one storage season to another. They move into storage during March, April, May, June and July,

at the season of peak production, and out of storage during the other months.

If the new process, which Swenson believes can be installed for commercial uses at nominal prices, were to improve the food value of storage eggs, and consequently their ultimate price, it is considered probable that producers might be paid a higher price in the spring.

Work Order Received On Highway 23 Spans

Resident Engineer G. M. Garrett received a work order from the state highway department Thursday at noon for the bridge contracts on highway No. 23 between Ballinger and Talpa. This contract was let last fall to the Austin Bridge Company, Dallas, at the same time the contract for grading was awarded White Brothers, San Angelo. The bridge work had been held up for some unknown cause and did not arrive with the order for commencing grading.

The contract for the eight structures on this road call for expenditure of approximately \$42,000. Four of the spans are good sized bridges and the others are multiple box culverts, all of reinforced concrete. The first bridge will cross Long Branch a short distance from Ballinger. The second is four miles distant, crossing a deep ravine. The third is one of the small culverts, 6 miles from town, and the fourth will be the largest bridge, to span Hog Creek near Benoit. Four

structures are between Benoit and Talpa and two of the larger ones will span the west and east forks of Mustang Creek. Two structures will be on the Roberts and Cusenbury ranches near Talpa.

Marshall Moore, district superintendent for the Austin Bridge Co., has been in Ballinger a number of times recently and indicated that the company was ready to commence operations as soon as the work order was received. No machinery has been shipped here yet but local highway officials expect gangs to be organized and work to be started within the next ten days or two weeks.

The work order gives the contractors 175 working days from May 7. Mr. Garrett estimated that slightly over four months would be required to complete the eight spans. Smaller drainage structures were included in the grading contract and these have all been completed and will be ready for use when the grading is finished and the road opened. These largest of the bridges to

be built on the contract to the Austin Bridge Company will be approximately 175 feet long and all will be high enough to make travel safe in times of sudden waterspouts. All present contracts on this portion of highway 23 are expected to be finished about the same time, and later when the grade is completely settled the contract for hard-surfacing will complete the road.

Californians Return Home

Mr. and Mrs. Cecil McMinn left Monday for their home in Hollywood, Calif., after a visit here with Dr. and Mrs. J. W. Blasdel. They were accompanied as far as Colorado, Texas, by Dr. and Mrs. Blasdel and from there they were to go by Carsbad Caverns.

Miss Louise Morgan returned Sunday afternoon from Dublin where she spent the week-end with her parents.

J. W. Byers, Winters, was in Ballinger Monday attending to business.

Rural Schools Closing; 183 to Get Diplomas

Two are Arrested On Liquor Charge

Jack Futch and his wife, Bille Futch, were arrested here Tuesday night about 9 o'clock by Deputies Carl Henson and Harp McFarland on charges of violating the liquor laws. Wednesday afternoon they were taken to San Angelo and turned over to federal officers.

Early Tuesday evening local officers were called by federal authorities at San Angelo to be on the lookout for two automobiles coming this way that were suspected of transporting liquor. Messrs. Henson and McFarland were driving about keeping a watch on highways when the Futch car passed them. They followed the car into town, lost it for a while, but later located it at the home of B. U. McQueen, according to a statement by officers.

The officers approached the car and arrested the driver and his wife and took ten one-half gallon jars of liquor and two were broken before the arrests were made.

MAN FINED FOR SWINDLING ON BOGUS CHECK CHARGE

R. R. Whitaker was tried in justice court here Friday morning on charges of swindling by bogus check. He was found guilty, and assessed a fine of \$25 and costs. Being unable to pay this sum, Whitaker is continuing to make his residence in the county jail.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Goss and Mrs. Marion Dodge and daughter, Abilene, visited here Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Troy Simpson.

Youthful Hero is Guest of Hoover

WASHINGTON, April 29.—Bryan Untiedt, boy hero of the Colorado blizzard tragedy when five children were frozen to death in a school bus, arrived at the White House today and was received by President Hoover.

The boy was assigned to the blue room, where he will sleep while he is guest of the president. Bryan had breakfast at the White House. The lad is here as the president's honor guest.

The king and queen of Siam arrived in Washington soon after the boy hero, the royal party paying an official visit to the president.

The Crews grammar school held its closing exercises Friday night with large attendance. A delightful program was given with practically all the school children taking part. No diplomas were issued Friday night as the Crews school will take part in the county-wide graduation program here on Sunday, May 10. The term ends at Crews three weeks hence.

A number of schools in the county have already closed for this year. Those reported as closed by the county superintendent's office are Dale, Cochran, Dry Ridge, Blanton, Oak Creek, and Independence. The Red Bank and Millar schools were to be closed Friday night of this week, programs being held at this time. Nearly every week for the remainder of the next month will see one or more finishing the year's work. The last rural school in the county to close will be Drasco, the term ending there about the middle of May.

Independent district schools under supervision of the county superintendent will remain open about one more month or about a week longer than the Ballinger schools. In most cases these schools began late and must continue until late in May in order to complete a nine-month term.

Most teaching positions in the county have been filled for the ensuing year, but a few boards will complete naming faculties within a week or ten days. Supt. R. E. White said Friday that few changes would be made in the teaching personnel for next year. Some teachers have changed positions but most of them will be found in this county for the 1931-32 term.

Plans for the county-wide commencement in Ballinger on Sunday afternoon, May 10, are about formulated and many reports naming graduates have been received from the schools. Last year less than a hundred were given diplomas here at the first county-wide commencement, while 183 have been certified to date this year. Mr. White believes this number will about cover the graduates of all school cooperating in this program, and will comprise the largest graduation class ever assembled in this city.

The program will be open to the public.

TIRE THIEVES ACTIVE HERE ON THURSDAY

Seven automobile tires were stolen in Ballinger Thursday night. Three of them were the property of the Broadway Dairy and the others belonged to Marvin Turner. No traces were found as to the identity of the thief.

ONE-HALF OFF FOR SAFETY

The past few years have shown the loss and hardship that accrue to our farmers by over-production of cotton, and under-production of feed, under-production of home gardens and under-production of live stock.

It's time to right about face and to share in the profits that are being enjoyed by the men who are devoting at least one-half of their land to a balanced program of farming, and thus are living independent of the main crop.

With the wisdom and foresight of our farm customers and the assistance and encouragement of this bank we are looking forward to the carrying out of plans which will mark the beginning of a new era in the agricultural life of this section.

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Harold Lloyd in **'FEET FIRST'** PALACE

3 Days Starting Sunday

Get in on the double "kick"—Lloyd laughs and Lloyd thrills! A roaring comedy romance that skims the clouds for the merriest joy-moments you have ever had. You will shiver. You'll shake. You will hold onto your seat while your hair bristles. And you'll laugh while you're holding your breath. You don't believe it can be done! Then see Harold Lloyd prove it in "Feet First."

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