

Spraberry takes command duties

US Air Force Lieutenant Colonel Hubert O. Spraberry, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hub Spraberry of Dimmitt, has assumed command of the 321st Security Police Group at Grand Forks AFB, N. D.

COLONEL Spraberry is a member of the Strategic Air Command. Prior to this assignment, he was deputy commander of the 448th Strategic Missile Squadron.

A 1948 graduate of Witharal High School, he received his B.S. degree from Texas Tech where he was commissioned in 1952 through the Air Force Reserve Officers Training Corps program.

The colonel's wife, Teddy, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Billins of Lubbock.



HUBERT SPRABERRY

ON WALL STREET



By BOB HILL

A number of our readers have asked about silver ingots, medallions, gold nuggets, gold and silver coins as investments. Let me give you some general background knowledge so that you get the best deal for your money.

GOLD. It is unlawful for an American citizen to own refined gold (other than jewelry and gold coins) unless he uses it in his business or profession, for instance, a jeweler or a dentist. An exception to that is placer gold. These are gold nuggets mined by high pressure water jets which wash away dirt and rock, leaving the gold nuggets. This is not pure or refined gold. Consequently, placer nuggets can be purchased. You often see them used in tie-tacs. That leaves gold coins for investors, if gold is their game. The best known gold coins are the Double Eagle (US \$20 gold piece), British Sovereign and Mexican 50 Pesos. These coins can be purchased from local coin dealers or from a major coin brokerage firm, such as Pacific Coin Exchange. If you purchase these from a major coin brokerage firm, you must purchase at least one "unit". A unit of Double Eagles (20 coins) is currently selling for approximately \$3,800 which is 80 percent over melt value (the value of the gold contained in the unit if the coins were melted down). A unit of Mexican 50 Pesos (20 coins) is selling for approximately \$2,400 or 30 percent above melt value. British Sovereigns (100 coins

per unit) are selling at a 55 percent premium above melt value. So, the investor would get his best value in Mexican 50 Pesos.

SILVER. The price of silver has, like gold, gone up appreciably in the past several years. Prospects are for it to continue to rise, so long as we have an expanding economy. But, make no mistake, silver can drop sharply in price, just like gold has done earlier this year. There is no law prohibiting the ownership of silver. You may buy as much of it as you wish. But, here is where investors pay extraordinary commissions and wind up with an investment that's difficult or impossible to sell. The best and smartest way to buy silver is in coins, not ingots or medallions, etc. Here's why. A bag of US silver coins containing \$1,000 worth of coins having a total of 720 ounces of silver melt value, can be purchased for approximately \$2,260. These bags trade actively, are required by law to have 720 ounces of silver melt value in each bag and can be bought and sold on the telephone. Silver is currently selling for \$3.20 per ounce, so the silver content of the bag of coins is worth, at present, \$2,304. Now, compare this investment with the cost of 500 silver medallions, each containing one ounce of silver, which are being peddled around the area for \$4.55 each. That is \$1.35 more per ounce than the current price of \$3.20. The 500 medallions would cost \$2,250, but the silver content is worth only \$1,600. If the investor were able to sell the medallions, he would receive, at best, only the melt value (the only valid basis of value), thereby losing money on his investment. There is a serious question as to whether he could sell the medallions, since they are not currency and have no practical usage value. The companies selling these medallions and silver ingots to unwary investors are, for the most part, privately owned (Franklin Mint is an exception) and will not furnish a financial statement. They are not regulated by any governmental agency or exchange, their representatives are not licensed and they do not receive any special training except a one day crash course on why silver will always go up in price and never go down. They sell a high markup item with no quoted aftermarket and no assurance that the buyer can sell it once he pays for it. And, the last thing in the world one of their salesmen will tell you is that you can get a much better deal in coins. So, stick with gold or silver coins or with the shares of mining companies which are traded on one of the major stock exchanges.

Bad weather and the Christmas Holidays combined to cause a drop in trading volume last week, while the Industrial Average "moved sideways", closing at 818.73, a net change of -3.08 for the week. The bulk of selling to establish tax losses has already taken place, so investors can expect an improving stock market in the next several weeks while a base is being established at the 800 level. The market has pretty well discounted any unfavorable economic developments which will result from the fuel shortage.

My next column will deal with the 1974 Forecast. You will be in for some pleasant surprises next year.


EVAPORATED milk can be used in place of milk or cream on cereals and puddings — and in cooking, says Frances Reasonover, foods and nutrition specialist, Texas Agricultural Extension Service.

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Bloodmobile to visit Dimmitt

The mobile unit from the Coffee Memorial Blood Center in Amarillo will be in Dimmitt Jan. 30 at the United Methodist Church from 1-3 p.m. At that time, residents may renew their blood insurance or make a replacement for a patient who has used blood.

INDIVIDUALS WHO donate blood may take out an "insurance" policy. The blood insurance pays the complete blood bank charge on unlimited numbers of blood units. The insurance pays over and above all insurance and will pay to the individual or the hospital. Donors are not required to have blood replaced, should they use their blood. No physical examination is required and there is no maximum age limit.

Residents may acquire the blood insurance coverage by donating one pint of blood a year per family. If residents cannot give blood for some reason, they may pay a premium of \$7.50 a year per family or \$5 a year for an individual.

According to Dortha Russell of the Coffee Memorial Center, the price of blood is high and a blood insurance policy could save an individual hundreds of dollars.

Russell urged individuals to help their community by donating a pint of blood.



BILL CLAYTON

Clayton visits, talks revisions

State representative Bill Clayton toured Castro County recently, making stops at Hart and Nazareth before ending his tour in Dimmitt. Clayton visited the county to talk with residents about what they would and would not like to see in a new state constitution.

CLAYTON TOLD listeners at the Courthouse assembly room that the present constitution is "overweighted with statutory language."

"Much of our constitution began as a restriction on carpet-baggers following the Civil War," said Clayton. "Many of the laws enacted were the proper thing at that time but they now create a long wait between the time a law goes into effect and the time it is needed," he added.

Clayton stated that he feels the Federal government is encroaching more and more on state rights, and if the states cannot implement programs in their own ways, the government may come in and do it for them.

"Texas has changed from a rural to an urban state, but we are still an agricultural and industrial state. We don't have a 'peanut government' any more, we spend \$5 billion on our budget. We can sit back and not accept change and let the government run things, or we can do things ourselves," said Clayton.

CLAYTON STATED that he would like to keep the "pay as you go" proposition in the new constitution, saying he would rather keep pace with expenses than go into debt.

He pointed out that by separating constitutional issues on the ballot, people who disagree with certain aspects can vote against these aspects, rather than against the entire constitution.

"Any areas of the constitution which are involved in controversy will be the ones with alternatives. I think all the real hot issues will have alternatives to vote on," said Clayton.

Questioned about proposed new speed limits, Clayton replied, "We need to look at the speed limit, but I don't think we should forever be threatened with cutoffs of Federal funds if we don't act like the Federal government wants us to."

THE REPRESENTATIVE stated that he felt that the new Texas constitution will probably be one of the most important documents that legislators have to vote on.

"I'm not going to vote on a constitution that's pushed through," said Clayton.

"If we get close to a deadline and begin to rush, I won't vote for it, because we must have a good constitution," he concluded.

TURN PERMANENT press clothes inside out before laundering. This helps prevent discoloration along crease lines in garments such as slacks, explains Mrs. Vivian Simmons, clothing specialist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service.

COTTON at 48.5 cents per pound is up 11 cents from a month ago but cottonseed is down \$1.

Abandoned pets can be a hazard

Each year, thousands of unwanted pets are let out of car doors along lonely stretches of road with the hopes that someone will offer the animals "a good home in the country."

THE YOUNG pup or kitten will either starve, be shot by a local rancher, be run over or turn into a killer of wildlife and livestock.

It would be more humane to have the animals destroyed at the local pound than to eventually kill them by dumping.

Writing in the "Texas Parks & Wildlife" magazine, information officer L. D. Nuckles of Rockport says that free-ranging domestic animals in the country also threaten wildlife and livestock in another way.

"Texans by the hundreds are buying and building on small tracts of land in the country," writes Nuckles, "and they often bring their dogs with them."

AS LONG as the dog is with the family he is "domesticated" and under control.

Come nightfall or when the family is away, a dog often joins with other dogs and a hunting pack is formed.

"Running a fat cow is great sport and a calf is an easy kill."

Nuckles also points out that one of our neighboring states has a law which prohibits any dog from running free in the wild during April, May, June and July — the months when wildlife young are in the greatest need of protection.

"GROUND-NESTING birds such as turkey and quail have nests full of eggs or broods of young and, with all their natural enemies, the last thing they need is the woods full of roaming hunting dogs."

As wildlife thins out the dogs turn to livestock and a rancher makes quick work of a calf-killing dog.

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Energy crisis could altar leisure habits

Today's youth is going to get the opportunity to demonstrate how deep its commitment is to turn its back on a materialistic society in the months ahead, according to a well-known Texas A&M University leisure and recreation authority.

DR. LESLIE M. Reid, head

of the A&M Department of Recreation and Parks, said that "as recently as the summer of 1972, young Americans seemed in total agreement that no odds were too great to campaign under the banner of ecology for preservation of natural beauty and to clean-up a soiled, polluted world."

Reid also is a researcher with the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station and an educator with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service.

"If you talked with college students, hard-core dropouts, commune members or just concerned youngsters," Reid said, "the message was essentially the same: We're being strangled in a plastic society. Who needs it?"

Reid added, "The recent interruption of oil imports from the Mid-East seems to indicate that much of the clamor for a clean environment at any cost may have been only a skin-deep commitment. Reversal of decisions on the Alaska Pipeline, on use of high-sulfur coals, planned development of oil sheels, and approvals for additional oil drilling in the Santa Barbara Channel have raised hardly a ripple of opposition."

REID NOTED however, that "our crusading youth has no choice but to play the game; we are all deeply involved in a fundamental re-thinking of our basic way of life."

In any event, Reid pointed out we all may soon have a chance to experience exactly what life in a non-plastic society is like. It is becoming increasingly clear that the fuel shortage is much more severe than the inconvenience involving shortages in gasoline and fuel oil.

"There is serious concern whether enough basic petrochemicals exist for conversion to a galaxy of products. Toy-makers, for example, depend heavily on oil for plastics. Photograph records, automobile an-

ti-freeze, polyester fabrics, auto tires and farm fertilizers are other items expected to be in short supply.

"Firms dealing in production of plastic products are already experiencing shortages as all segments of our society compete more frantically for a share of the available supply of plastic resins.

"The leisure and recreation implication of all this," Reid said "is that as non-essential products increasingly lose out in cutbacks to manufacture bare essential industrial and health-maintenance items, people will be forced to re-evaluate their leisure preferences.

"THE PROSPECT," Reid added, "is that travel for fun may be greatly reduced or eliminated, sports equipment may be no longer available, and replacement parts for expensive recreational equipment may be unobtainable."

Reid emphasized that this country badly needs a chance to analyze its recreation and leisure.

"Today, the leisure and recreation business is a multi-billion dollar a year industry. It deserves protection, yet this crisis is good in that it will make us take time to determine which activities are worthwhile and useful, and which ones are diversionary and destructive in nature.

"The oil crisis can definitely be instrumental in helping Americans focus their leisure tastes and activities in areas that will be uplifting to the individual, useful to society and in balance with our energy supply," Reid continued.

"The young 'plastic-haters' may well have glimpsed the right road for us all; it's up to them and us to rationally assess the leisure choices facing us today," the recreation authority said.

ONE REASON for rising food costs is that we're eating more meals away from home. Commercial restaurant sales have more than doubled in the past decade, points out Mrs. Gwendolyn Clyatt, consumer marketing information specialist, Texas Agricultural Extension Service.

A BLADE or arm bone in meat usually indicates a less tender cut that requires broiling or pot-roasting, notes Sally Springer, foods and nutrition specialist, Texas Agricultural Extension Service.

It Happens in TEXAS!



NOT EVEN the fish are safe from drunk drivers. The Texas Safety Association says that more than 1,500 Texans are killed each year by drinking drivers.

Conservation

Consideration should be given to conservation now

By LARRY O. STARNES
How many times lately have you been reminded that there is an energy shortage? Have you been shopping only to find that the product you wanted is not presently available?

WE MAY have seen a few food items become temporarily short, but we have not seen a time of people going hungry because of food shortage. However, times like these should start many of us thinking about our food resources as well as energy.

How long can we continue to produce expanding food supplies to feed America's growing population? Are we willing to make the necessary sacrifices to conserve what we have in order to leave something for those who follow?

Conservation is a must. Most basic of all our natural resources is soil and water.

From these men receives food clothing and shelter. These

are the essentials of human life.

WE ARE greatly concerned about the current energy shortage and we should be. However, what would be the results of all the soil of the farm of one average size American farm being totally destroyed? Had you stopped to think that the average American farmer feeds approximately 240 people? Now whose concern is conservation? When will you be willing to become an active conservationist?

The Federal Government and local Soil and Water Conservation Districts across the nation maintain a staff of professionally trained conservationists whose job is to assist landowners, land operators, units of government and individuals with soil and water conservation problems. Conservationists recognize that this job is much too large for any single task force and that a job of such magnitude must have the support of the entire population.

Manure being used to help ease fertilizer shortage

Commercial fertilizer may be in short supply in the coming months, but there's another source of fertilizer that could help relieve that shortage — manure.

"MANURE IS more cumbersome to handle and its nutrient content varies, but it can get the job done if the situation warrants," believes Dr. John Sweeten, agricultural engineer specializing in waste management for the Texas Agricultural Extension Service.

Manure contains essential plant nutrients such as nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, iron and zinc and is also valuable in improving the physical properties of some soils, points out the specialist. Consequently, manure use is increasing in such areas as the High Plains where large feedlots have an abundance of the material.

"Most feedlots are now selling all the manure they have and are at least covering the cost of handling it," points out Sweeten. "That's a switch from a few years ago when manure disposal was a real problem."

Most feedlot manure is being delivered for about \$1-\$1.50 per ton plus five cents per ton mile. This covers the cost to the feedlot for pen cleaning, stockpiling, transportation and field spreading. Farmers in sandy areas may be paying higher prices since manure can give maximum improvement to soil structure.

Sweeten believes that attempts to place a dollar value upon manure based on its nutrient content are sometimes misleading.

SOME COUNTY Extension agents are cooperating with farmers in conducting demonstrations to determine the true benefit of manure on various crops and soils.

The engineer cites three studies in the Panhandle where corn silage and grain sorghum yield increases from manure were practically nil to as high as 125 percent compared to plots receiving no fertilizer.

"Physical properties of manure should receive as much attention as nutrient content," points out the engineer. "Manure that undergoes composting in piles may be more desirable than freshly-scraped manure because it spreads more evenly and contains fewer viable weed seeds."

The moisture content can also have a profound influence on

the value of manure. For instance, feedlot manure can contain 20 times more nitrogen per pound of material than liquid dairy manure, diluted with cleaning water.

WHAT IS a generally recommended application rate for most cropland?

Sweeten contends that about 10 tons of feedlot manure can be applied per acre for most cropping situations without problems of soil salinity, forage nitrate accumulations, or water pollution. However, since only about half of the nitrogen in manure will be available to plants the first year, applications can be cut to five tons per acre in succeeding years without decreasing the total available nutrients.

"The best guide to application rates is to match fertilizer requirements for the particular crop and soil with an analysis of the manure, taking into account the limited availability of nutrients the first year," advises Sweeten. County Extension agents can assist with determining fertilizer requirements.

"Manure is a valuable commodity that has not been used efficiently in agricultural production in recent years. With the current energy crisis affecting commercial fertilizer production, manure use may come back into its own," believes the engineer.

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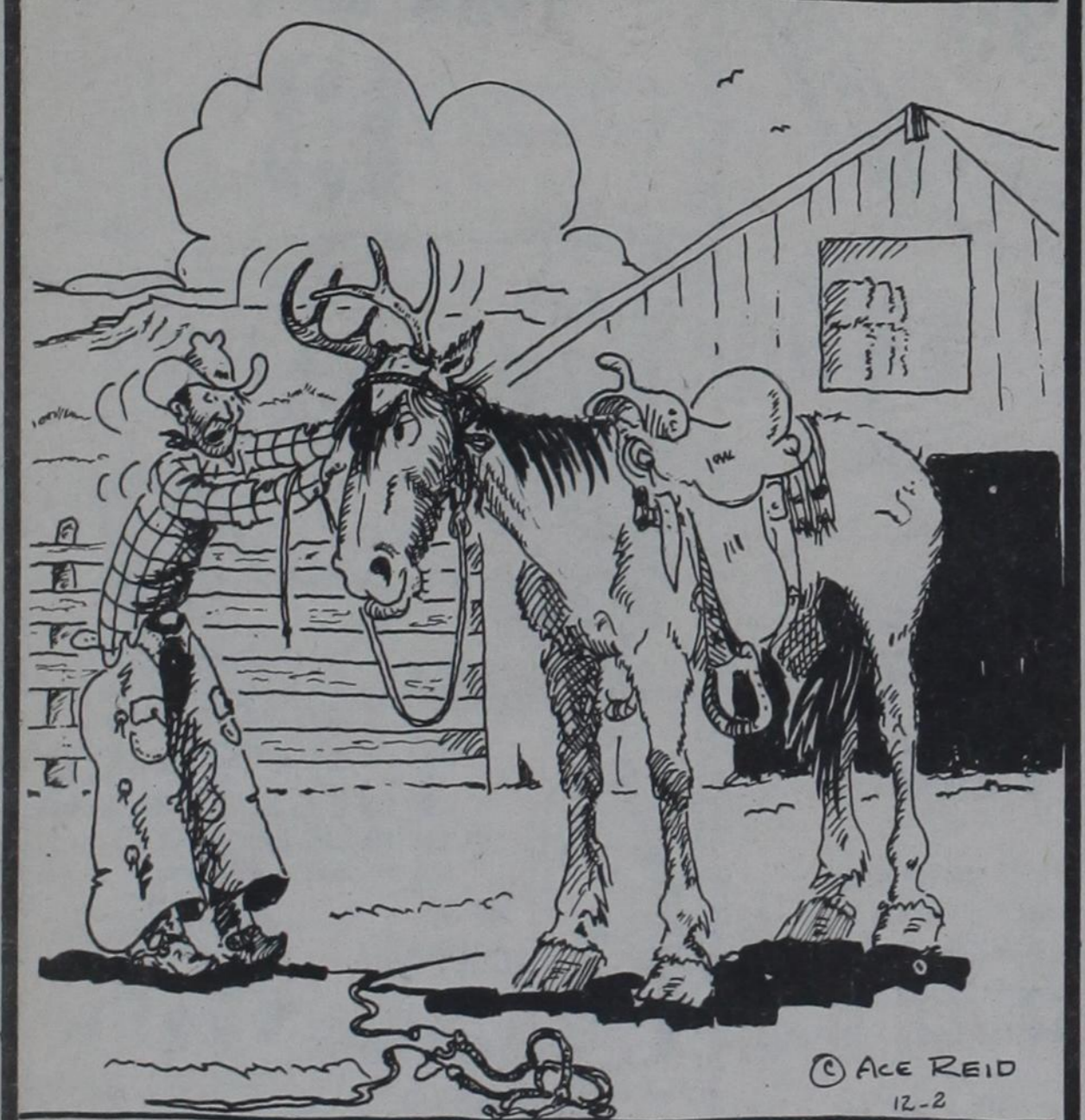
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COW POKES By Ace Reid



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Mule deer sizes vary with areas

The conception many Texas hunters have about mule deer is that they are quite a bit larger than white-tailed deer.

A SURVEY entitled "Deer Production in the United States" made by Professor Sidney W. Wilcox of Arizona State University shows that there is a size difference, but it is not as great as some persons believe. In some states, in fact, whitetails are larger than mule deer.

Arizona reported the largest difference between mule deer and whitetails. Arizona biologists filling out Professor Wilcox's questionnaire listed the average weight of mule deer as 135 pounds and the average weight of field-dressed whitetails to be 80 pounds, a difference of 55 pounds.

Idaho reported a 40-pound difference. Their mule deer dressed out at 120 pounds, average, and their whitetails weighed 80 pounds.

Texas mule deer averaged 106 pounds while the whitetails averaged 73 pounds, field dressed.

HOWEVER, Kansas and Nebraska reported their mule deer weighed less than their white-tailed deer. The Kansas mule deer averaged 118 pounds while the whitetails averaged 125.

In Nebraska, the mule deer weighed 109 pounds and the white-tailed deer weighed 126 pounds.

Montana reported their deer averaged 120 pounds, regardless of the kind of deer.

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The view from your library

By MARY EDNA HENDRIX
Several new families have started using the library since we moved into the new building. We would like for one of your New Year's resolutions to be to start using the library or use it more in 1974!

WE ARE receiving a few new books each week. Some of these are "The Complete Book of Bicycling" by Eugene Sloane and if we have a gas shortage we may all need to read this book, "Tread Softly in this Place" by Brian Cleeve — a novel about Southern Ireland today, and "Cosell" by Howard Cosell.

More donating books: Swain Burkett ordered a new book for us, "ABC and XYZ of Bee Culture" by A. I. Root. We all may need to raise some of our food in the future so raising bees would be something to think about. Thanks, Swain, for this good book!

CHILDREN'S Story Hour: On Friday, Dec. 14 Phoebe Strother read several stories to 18 children and Jackie Spinhurne served candy bars. On Dec. 21 Ann Hays and Carolyn Moke read Christmas stories and served Christmas tree cookies and Cokes to 17 children. Tidd Durham gave each child some mints and candy bars. Katrina Keating gave a reading and Lynette Riels brought her portable organ and played Christmas carols and the children sang. We gave each child a book for their Christmas present.

INTERESTING people in the library: Sylvia (Calzado) Perez and her husband Arnaldo Perez. Sylvia worked in the library for several years during her high school years but she is living in Brownsville now. Mrs. Swain Burkett brought her daughter-in-law, Mrs. Joe Burkett, in to show off our new library. Jim DiCuffa brought his family in to see the new library. They are living in Austin and Jim is teaching and has been coaching in the Junior High School. Buster and Mearle Morgan came in to see the new building and check out some books. Rhonda Welch came in to get some information about India.

eggsheil jersey, with a softly gathered skirt, long sleeves with French roll cuffs and a Peter Pan collar. For the wedding trip to Gatlinburg, Tenn., the bride chose a dress of soft white and gray, with a solid color bodice with long sleeves, a roll collar and gray and white plaid skirt. She wore black accessories and a corsage from her wedding bouquet.

THE COUPLE are graduates of Maynard Evans High School and the bride is a student at Valencia Community College and attended Baylor University. The groom is a graduate of Florida Technological University and is teaching civics and history at Winter Park High School near Orlando.



MR. AND MRS. G. H. LaPLANT

LaPlants observe 50th anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. G. H. LaPlant of Hereford, former Dimmitt residents, were honored on their golden wedding anniversary Sunday with a reception in the Medallion Room of the REA Building in Hereford. The couple married Dec. 29, 1923 at Enid, Okla. in the

office of the county judge. Mrs. LaPlant is the former Myrtle Percy. THE COUPLE farmed near Ringwood, Okla. for some time after their marriage, and moved to Texas in 1946. They lived in Washington for six years, but elected to return to Texas,

Here are week's best food buys

This holiday season finds citrus fruits plentiful. "The price of navel oranges is coming down, so plenty will be available for holiday eating and giving," Mrs. Gwendolyn Clyett, consumer marketing information specialist, Texas Agricultural Extension Service, noted.

"GREATER SUPPLIES of tangelos, tangerines and grapefruit mean lower prices. Lemons also are in plentiful supply — with the new crop coming in from desert areas.

"Other economical produce items include apples, bananas, cranberries, potatoes, cabbage, carrots, celery and mustard greens. Also turnips and greens, corn, dry yellow onions, hard shell squash, cauliflower, broccoli and head lettuce."

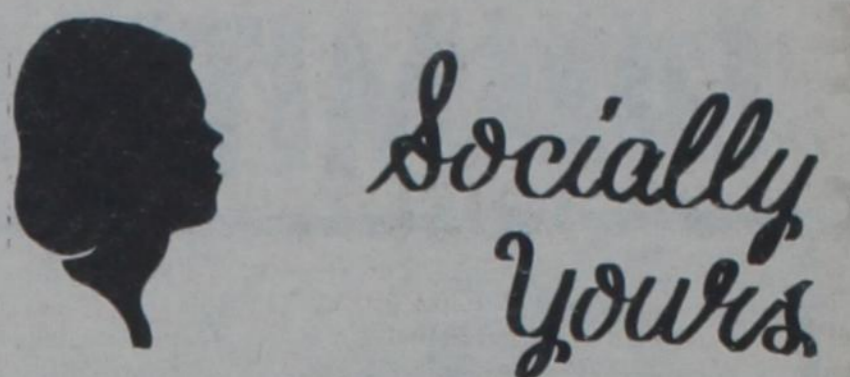
Meat prices, on the other hand, remain about the same as a week ago, the specialist continued.

"AT PORK counters, look for values on Boston butt roasts, end chops, rib end roasts, spare-ribs and semi-boneless hams.

"Some stores feature beef specials on chuck roasts and

and they lived northeast of Dimmitt from 1946-1955, when they moved to Hereford.

They have two daughters and two sons, Mrs. Windell Markley of Dimmitt, Mrs. Pat Bradford of Dumas, Olin of Liberal, Kan. and Virgil of Ephrata, Wash. They also have 15 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.



HD club holds Christmas dinner

The Dimmitt Home Demonstration Club held a Christmas dinner for the members' families, friends and guests recently at the East cafeteria.

GUESTS included Mr. and Mrs. Charlie White and Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Berryhill.

steaks and beef liver. "Egg prices also remain steady with eggs getting renewed attention.

"One dozen large eggs weighs one-and-one-half pounds. So even at 90 cents per dozen, they cost only 60 cents per pound. Versatility and preparation ease are two additional factors in their popularity."

Each club member prepared food for the dinner and helped in the serving.

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Warren - Pitts vows exchanged

Miss Nila Sue Warren became the bride of John Gary Pitts in a wedding ceremony held Dec. 22 in the First Baptist Church of Pine Hills in Orlando, Fla. Rev. Bill Sutton officiated.

PARENTS OF the bride are Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Warren, and parents of the groom are Mr. and Mrs. John C. Pitts, all of Orlando and all formerly

of Dimmitt. Given in marriage by her father, the bride wore a formal gown of white organza in an A-line empire silhouette. The bodice was detailed with Cluny and imported Venise lace flowers and the yoke was outlined in double lace ruffles. The gown featured a high banded Cluny lace neckline and modified lantern sleeves. The skirt terminated in a chapel length train with the hemline edged in triple rows of ruffled Cluny lace and borders of imported Venise.

Her three tier elbow length veil of silk illusion was caught to a Camelot cap of Venise lace and accented with satin ribbons. She carried a cascade of white carnations, burgundy roses and stephanotis.

Matron of honor was Mrs. Lorre Dewey. Bridesmatron of honor was Mrs. Cinda Arthur, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Mrs. Joy Yerger, sister of the bride, and Mrs. Gail Kuder. Bridesmaids were Pam Pitts and Trish Richardson. Shawna Warren was flower girl.

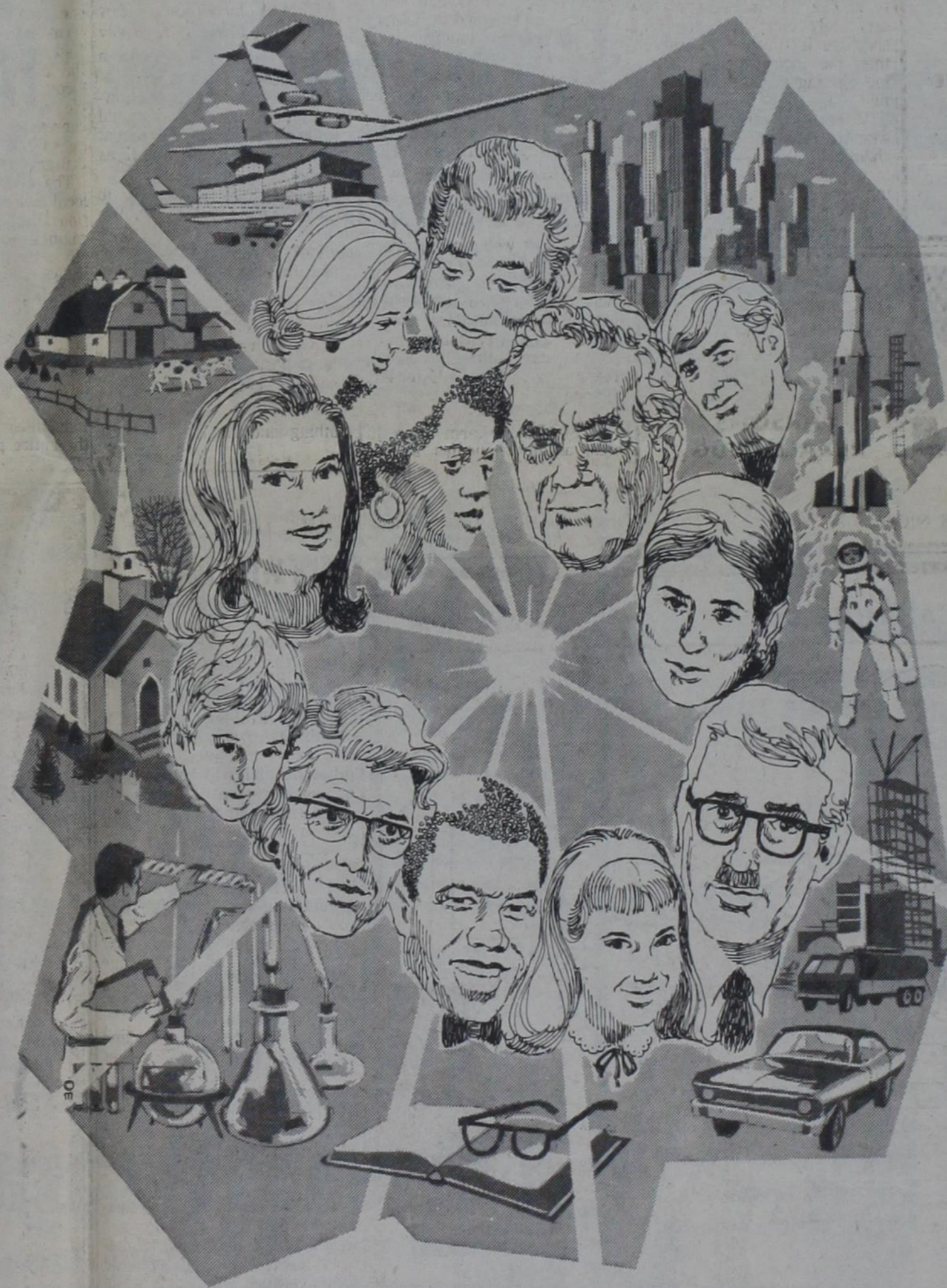
THE ATTENDANTS wore identical gowns of burgundy crepe with bodices of white Cluny lace. The short burgundy puffed sleeves were edged with lace and the bodices were sashed at the empire waistline for back ties. They wore clusters of holly and berries in their hair and carried red lamps with lighted candles.

Best man was Mike Sutton. Groomsmen were John C. Pitts, father of the groom, Skip Sutton, Richard Tuck, Dexter Arthur and Mike Edwards. Kris Yerger, nephew of the bride, served as ring bearer.

For her daughter's wedding Mrs. Warren chose a gown of



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TEXAS' NEW INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS— HOW DO THEY AFFECT YOU?

66,000 More Employers Must Have 'Workmen's Comp' Insurance in '74

(First of three articles highlighting the new changes in Texas insurance laws, rates, etc., that you need to know about. This series is sponsored by Behrends Insurance Agency, the Joe Cowen Agency, and Ivey Insurance & Real Estate.)

If you're a small businessman with less than three employees, you've never had to worry about the Workmen's Compensation Law because you've always been exempt.

But not anymore. Effective Jan. 1, 1974, the exemption for employers with less than three employees has been deleted. Statewide, this action by the Texas Legislature is bringing an estimated 66,000 additional firms under workmen's compensation.

If you come under this new category of employers required to carry workmen's compensation insurance, see your insurance agent immediately. He'll explain the provisions of "workmen's comp" to you, and help you work out a program to meet the state requirements.

This is just one of several significant new changes in our Workmen's Compensation Law. Other amendments to the law were created by the Texas Legislature's passage of Senate Bill 283 in the last session, and most of these changes became effective Sept. 1, 1973. It has been estimated unofficially that the new changes will result in a minimum average rate increase of 22 percent.

Farm and ranch workers have NOT been brought under the Workmen's Compensation Act, nor have domestic or casual employees. One of the original proposals in S.B. 283 would have included these workers, but this provision was defeated.

Here are some of the more significant amendments to the Workmen's Compensation Law made by S.B. 283:

—The maximum weekly benefit for an employee has been raised to \$63, with a minimum of \$15. Effective Sept. 1, 1974, the maximum and minimum weekly benefits will increase to \$70 and \$16. Thereafter, weekly benefits can automatically increase, based on a formula stated in S.B. 283.

—For total incapacity, 66 2/3 percent of the average weekly wage (subject to the maximum and minimum) will be paid for no longer than 401 weeks. For partial incapacity, 66 2/3 percent will be paid for no more than 300 weeks.

—The employee has the sole right to select medical facilities and medical practitioners.

—Partners and sole proprietors as well as corporate officers may now be covered by workmen's compensation. However, self-insurance for private employers has not been authorized.

—Employees of political subdivisions—counties, cities, school districts, hospital districts, etc.—are now required to be covered and may do so either with private insurance or by becoming self-insurers. For a political subdivision with an annual budget over \$750,000, the effective date is June 30, 1974. Effective dates for smaller political subdivisions are June 30, 1975 for those with budgets of \$500,001-\$750,000; June 30, 1976 for those with budgets of \$250,001-\$500,000; and June 30, 1977 for those with budgets under \$250,000.

—State employees (except State Highway Department personnel) come under the law effective as soon as appropriations are made available. Self-insurance is the exclusive method of coverage.

—An injured employee may first proceed at law against a negligent third party without waiving his right to workmen's compensation.

These are just some of the new amendments which will affect your workmen's compensation status, coverage and rates. The Workmen's Compensation Law is complicated, but your insurance agent—if he's licensed to write workmen's compensation insurance—is familiar with all phases of this law, and with the new changes.

If you have any questions concerning these or any other specific provisions of the Texas Workmen's Compensation Law, your insurance agent will be glad to answer them.

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CONGRATULATIONS—Col. Mack E. Baker, left, professor of Aerospace Studies at Texas Tech University, congratulates newly commissioned Air Force Second Lieutenant Bob DuLaney. A December graduate of Texas Tech, DuLaney completed the Air Force ROTC program and was commissioned by the colonel in ceremonies at the university. DuLaney is the son of Thelma Hulsey, of Sacramento, Calif., and Bob DuLaney of Dimmitt.

SWPS to invest \$226 million for improvements says Tolk

More than \$266,000,000 will be invested in new equipment and improvements during the next five years by Southwestern Public Service Company, Roy Tolk, chairman and president of the electric company, announced recently.

NEW GENERATING facilities to be installed during the 5-year period will increase the capability of the system by almost 1-million kilowatts, bringing the total capability to approximately 3-million kilowatts.

One of the new generating stations included in this 5-year program is the addition to the Nichols Plant, northeast of Amarillo. Construction has just recently started and completion is scheduled for June of 1976. It will have a capability of 350,000 kilowatts and will use coal as its primary fuel.

Long-term contracts with the Atlantic Richfield Company have been negotiated for low-sulphur coal from Wyoming, thus assuring an entirely adequate supply of this fuel.

Scheduled for completion in mid-1974 is a 256,000 kilowatt unit at Jones Station near Lubbock. This will bring the total capability of this plant to 512,000 kilowatts and it will become the largest of Southwestern's 10 interconnected generating stations.

"In the latter part of the 5-year period, projections call for another coal-fired generating unit to be built, probably in the north part of the company's service area. It will be in the 350-450 thousand kilowatt range, depending on the load requirements at that time," Tolk said.

"**IN ORDER** to assure a clean environment when using coal as the primary fuel, it is necessary to spend an additional 30-percent of the cost of the unit for equipment to prevent objectionable products of combustion from reaching the atmosphere. The installation of both electrostatic precipitators and stack gas scrubbers will insure that we equal or exceed applicable stack gas emission standards," Tolk said.

"Southwestern's peak load for 1973 was 1,758,000 kilowatts and that is expected to climb to 2,392,000 kilowatts by 1978. The addition of these new generating facilities will more than take care of that increase," Tolk added.

Conservation of the area's water supply will continue to be a prime consideration at Southwestern Public Service Company's electric generating stations. When the two units now under construction are completed, they will save, on the average day, 14,000,000 gallons of potable water through the use of sewage effluent. That's the equivalent of the daily water needs of a city of 100,000 people.

Another important construction project that is a part of the 5-year program and currently under way, is a 230,000 volt transmission line from the Tulo interchange, north of Amarillo, to Nichols Station, northeast of Amarillo. This new line will provide a second 230,000 volt line for the interconnected transmission system and make the movement of power between major generating stations and the areas of greatest use more efficient, reliable and economical. This project is also scheduled for completion in mid-1974.

LOOKING TOWARD the future, Southwestern Public Service Company is continuing its efforts to help make the generation of electricity by nuclear fusion a reality through its membership in the Texas Atomic Energy Research Foundation. Also, the company is actively engaged in an experimental project with the Occidental Petroleum Corporation to produce oil from shale by in situ combustion. The test project 30 miles west of Rifle, Colo. has succeeded in creating permeability in the formation and thus obtaining an oil flow.

"We at Southwestern Public Service Company have great confidence in the future of our country in spite of the problems we are facing at the present time. Our area is growing and new industrial announcements made during 1973 are of great

significance. We have always planned for the future in order to meet our customers needs. We are still planning -- and we intend to see that our customers continue to have the kind of dependable electric service they have had in the past -- even better," Tolk concluded.

TO CREATE cushion furniture, stuff partly inflated inner tubes into covers for cushions. Or, crumple lots of plastic bags and use them as pillow filling, suggests Anna Marie Gottschalk, housing and home furnishings specialist, Texas Agricultural Extension Service.

THE ONLY place success comes before work is in the dictionary, points out Dr. Jennie Kitching, family life education specialist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service.

Six of the 28 fatalities for this time period involved loaded firearms and vehicles. According to officials, most of the injuries were to the upper body of the victim and were caused by maneuvering firearms in limited quarters of using the vehicle as a gun rest.

Carelessness accounted for the majority of vehicle-firearm accidents. For example, many of the victims were shot while they were pulling a firearm by the muzzle from the back seat or gun rack.

Loaded guns in autos dangerous

Hunting from a vehicle on private land may be legal, but it sure isn't safe, according to Texas Parks and Wildlife Department hunting safety officials.

STATISTICS compiled from the "Hunter Casualty Reports" submitted by department game wardens show loaded guns inside or in the vicinity of vehicles accounted for approximately 22 percent of the reported 94 hunting accidents from Sept. 1, 1972 to Aug. 31, 1973.

Nazareth news

Families enjoy holiday get-togethers

By MRS. AGNES BROCKMAN
The weather is still very, very dry and we've been having plenty of wind too lately.

I REALLY don't have much news this week. There have been lots of parties, family get-togethers etc., and all the college students are home and enjoying the holidays. We had our family all together Thursday and had a very nice party and Old Santa was very good to me, don't know if I deserved it or not. Anyway I didn't have too much time to gather much news.

The Venhaus family will meet tonight at the Paul Venhaus home.

The Christmas Pageant went over just wonderfully we thought. We noticed lots of our friends and neighbors here from the surrounding towns and were so glad to have you. The director and everyone that took any part in it and helped in any way did lots of work and everyone appreciated it all.

ly decorated for the Christmas season too, the altars and crib were beautiful and all the services were very impressive.

The Ernie Brockmans left for Houston to attend the wedding of their son, Hal, who is to be married Saturday.

Regina Steffens and family spent Christmas day in Slaton at the Joe Kittens home.

Sister Josefa Birkenfeld is spending the holidays with her mother and the rest of the family.

SISTER Maurine Schmucker is also spending the holidays with her mother Mrs. Margaret Schmucker.

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Wilhelm left for Fort Hood and will pick up their son Dean who is stationed in the service there, then go on to Del Rio to visit their daughter and son-in-law Larry Ringwalds at Del Rio where he is also stationed.

Here's wishing everyone a most blessed Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Veterans' Services

By BEDFORD W. SMITH
More college students have already received educational benefits under the current G. I. Bill than were trained during the entire World War II G. I. Bill program, Jack Coker, VA Regional Office Director, reported in December.

During October nearly 801,000 G. I. Bill college students were enrolled. This surge pushed the cumulative total during the seven years since the newest G. I. Bill was enacted to 2,258,158 trainees. Included in this total are 52,443 veterans served by the Waco Regional Office.

College enrollments during the entire 12 years of the World War II G. I. Bill numbered 2,230,000. The total for the seven year program under the Korean G. I. Bill was 1,158,109.

College trainees under the current G. I. Bill include 91,312 servicemen and 2,166,846 veterans. Military personnel on active duty were not eligible for training under the two earlier G. I. Bills.

THE NUMBER of college trainees in the present G. I. Bill program is expected to far outstrip the World War II col-

lege trainee total in the years to come since Vietnam Era veterans have eligibility for eight years following release from service.

In terms of percentage of all G. I. Bill trainees who trained at the college level, Coker noted, only 28.6 percent of the World War II veterans went to college. That percentage jumped to 50.7 percent for the Korean G. I. Bill, and to date stands at 56.1 percent for Vietnam Era veterans.

A major reason for the big increase in college level training today, the regional director added, is the higher level of pre-service education attained by present day veterans. During World War II only 38.5 percent of servicemen had completed high school. Some 85 percent of the Vietnam Era servicemen were high school graduates and thousands of others were able to complete high school training under military educational programs while in service.

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Thursday -- SMYER, HERE

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8:00—Varsity Boys



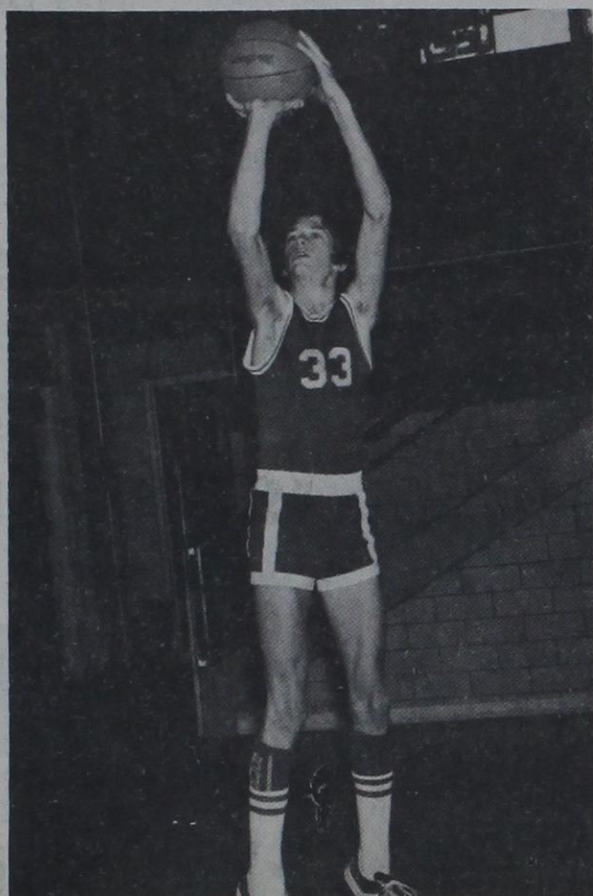
Friday -- CANYON, THERE

5:00—B Team Boys
6:30—Varsity Girls
8:00—Varsity Boys



Tuesday -- LOCKNEY, HERE

6:30—B Team Boys
8:00—Varsity Boys



DARRELL BUCKLEY — Senior Forward



WAYNE MCKEE — Junior Guard

VARSITY RECORDS

Bobcats:

84, Muleshoe 39
84, Abernathy 63
75, Tulia 60
Plainview Tournament:
85, Ralls 39
73, Post 31
76, Lockney 53
(Championship)
73, Canyon 62
91, Farwell 41
Tulia Tournament:
68, Muleshoe 44
104, Slaton 51
75, Tulia 54
(Championship)
78, Tulia 45
60, Muleshoe 50
60, Lockney 50
63, Levelland 65
Caprock Tournament:
65, Post 29
58, LCHS 52
46, Morton 76
(Second Place)

Bobbies:

44, Farwell 42
50, Frenship 38
20, Muleshoe 17
45, Tulia 52
Friona Tournament:
51, Vega 59
45, Farwell 43
38, Muleshoe 26
(Consolation)
28, Canyon 72
48, Farwell 36
Tulia Tournament:
43, Slaton 78
49, Frenship 54
37, Tulia 47
33, Muleshoe 53
50, Lockney 34
Amarillo Tournament:
59, Memphis 39
47, Follett 50
41, Hartley 16
51, Kress 36
(Third Place)

REMAINING SCHEDULE

Thursday, Jan. 3	SMYER, HERE
Friday, Jan. 4	Canyon, There
Tuesday, Jan. 8	LOCKNEY, HERE
Friday, Jan. 11	FRIONA, HERE
Tuesday, Jan. 15	LITTLEFIELD, HERE
Friday, Jan. 18	Morton, There
Tuesday, Jan. 22	Olton, There
Friday, Jan. 25	Plains, There
Tuesday, Jan. 29	Friona, There
Friday, Feb. 1	Littlefield, There
Tuesday, Feb. 5	MORTON, HERE
Friday, Feb. 8	OLTON, HERE
Tuesday, Feb. 12	LEVELLAND, HERE



CINDY DYER — Junior Forward



KERRY BRODERON — Freshman Guard

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Big T Pump Company
Driver Mobil Service
Dimmitt Safety Lane
Don Hargrove, Contractor
Arrowhead Drive In
Chem-Tex Farm Supply
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Farmers Supply Co.
Flagg Grain Co.
Western Ammonia
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Dairy Queen
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Dimmitt Shell
Y&B Electric
W&C Grain
Von's Cafe
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Sunnyside news

Morgan undergoes bone surgery

By TEENY BOWDEN
Lesla Morgan was home from Dimmitt last Sunday. She and Mrs. Debbie Waggoner of Lubbock had Christmas dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Bili Mergan and Steve Christmas day.

STEVE MORGAN was admitted to a Lubbock hospital Thursday and underwent bone surgery on his leg Friday to correct an old injury.

Mr. and Mrs. Hershel Wilson and family spent Wednesday night and Thursday in Ropesville with her parents and attended the funeral services Thursday for a family friend who passed away unexpectedly on Christmas Day.

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Starnes and girls left last Friday to spend the holidays in Stephenville with her family and in Morgan Mill with his family.

Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Brown and boys had an early Christmas dinner with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Brown in Lubbock last Sunday and Christmas supper with her sister and family, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Swinney and Dawn also of Lubbock, last Sunday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Cox and children had Christmas dinner with her family, the M. B. Odoms in Dimmitt Christmas eve.

MR. AND MRS. Dean Gray of Dennison, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Odum and children of Dimmitt, Mrs. Nancy Kirby and boys of Hereford, Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Cox and children and Charles Self and Larry Cox of Lazbuddie had Christmas dinner with Leslie Louder on Christmas day.

MR. AND MRS. Carl Bradley and boys had dinner Christmas day with Mrs. Jess Mallock and all her family except Bill and his family.

MR. AND MRS. Carl Bradley and boys of Flagg, Mr. and Mrs. Lowell Westmoreland and children of Littlefield and Mr. and Mrs. Doug Louder and children had dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Alton Louder on Christmas eve.

MR. AND MRS. W. T. Autry had an early Christmas dinner in Frederick, Okla. with her sister last Tuesday. They had Christmas dinner in Dimmitt with Mr. and Mrs. George Bowen and Steve, Linda and Eddie Hutton of Dallas.

MR. AND MRS. E. R. Sadler and Mr. and Mrs. M. H. Fowlkes of Lubbock left Monday for Fort Worth to spend the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. Tommie Fowlkes and boys.

J. B. HENSLEY of Hale Center spent Christmas day with Mr. and Mrs. Gale Sadler and girls.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Duke and family and Edd Duke spent the afternoon Christmas day with Mrs. Edd Duke in South Hill Manor in Dimmitt.

Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Klain and Cody left last Saturday for Seguin to spend the Christmas holidays with their parents and other family members.

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Henderson and family of Colorado Springs arrived last Saturday to spend the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Holbrooks, and the Hendersons in Dimmitt.

Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Holbrooks and family arrived from White River Lake last Saturday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Tiny Walling and boys of Bovina spent the day with them Christmas eve when they had their Christmas dinner.

Mr. and Mrs. John Gilbreath and boys had Christmas dinner with her family in Olton Christmas eve.

MR. AND MRS. Ray Jee Riley and boys spent Christmas eve with Mr. and Mrs. Ray Riley in Dimmitt and Christmas night in Hereford with Mr. and Mrs. Ira Scott and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Jon C. Little and family of Phoenix and A. E. Davies arrived last Saturday to spend the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Little and her family in Olton.

Mr. and Mrs. John Gilbreath and boys had Christmas dinner with her family in Olton Christmas eve.

MR. AND MRS. Ray Jee Riley and boys spent Christmas eve with Mr. and Mrs. Ray Riley in Dimmitt and Christmas night in Hereford with Mr. and Mrs. Ira Scott and family.

Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Little and her family in Olton. Kathy flew back to her work Wednesday, the rest of the family started home Friday.

MR. AND MRS. John Gilbreath, and boys had Christmas dinner with her family in Olton Christmas eve and dinner with his family in Dimmitt Christmas day.



COMPLETES COURSE—Charles Vaughan, left, of Dimmitt, recently completed a concentrated 5 1/2 day course in Real Estate in San Antonio. Vaughan, one of a group of students from throughout the state, was presented his diploma by Roy L. Haynes, president of the college.

Fish farming conference set

Discussions on profitable fish-out operations and how to beat the cost-price squeeze in catfish farming will highlight the annual Fish Farming Conference and Annual Convention of the Catfish Farmers of Texas at Texas A&M University Jan. 3-4.

ACCORDING TO James T. Davis, fisheries specialist for the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, the program will be conducted in the J. Earl Rudder Center. Registration will begin at 8 a.m. the first day.

The first session at 10 a.m. will concern the problem of pesticides in waters as it affects fish farmers in Southeast Texas. Discussions on harvesting and hauling fish will highlight the afternoon program.

The Catfish Farmers of Texas will meet at 8 p.m. A wide array of speakers will discuss new species and new crops as they relate to catfish farming during the morning session on Jan. 4.

Talks will concern the production of crawfish, fresh and salt water shrimp, mullets and other fish. A talk on hydroponics will deal with the issue of using the waste water from fish farming operations for vegetable production.

The Friday morning program will also feature discussions on new developments in fish farming, such as a closed system in operation at the Texas A&M University Agricultural Research and Extension Center at Gerton and a new meat and bone separator.

THE AFTERNOON program on Friday will deal with the development and maintenance of successful fish-out operations plus discussions on reducing feed costs and obtaining higher prices for fish.

According to Davis, research scientists, culturists, fish farmers and others will be on hand to provide information of interest to all in the fish farming industry.

THE annual conference is being conducted by the Texas Agricultural Extension Service and the Texas A&M Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences.

MORE THAN a third of the 1974 wheat crop in Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas has sufficient forage to support grazing, but only two-thirds of that acreage is being utilized.

Advertisement for NYLENE Seven-Year Lead-Free Coating, Bruegel & Sons Elevators, Exclusive Authorized Dealer.

Advertisement for DR. C. M. NEEL, Optometrist, announcing his retirement effective December 31, 1973.

Large advertisement for abi "SERVICE TO INDUSTRY" featuring a cartoon character and promotional text.

Book review set for Wednesday

The Dimmitt Book Club will hold its first meeting of the year Wednesday afternoon at the Rhoads Memorial Library.

MRS. J. W. Walker of Plainview will review David Halberstam's "The Best and the Brightest".

A short business meeting for members will begin at 3:30 p.m., followed by the book review at 4 p.m.

Mrs. Carole Farris and Mrs. Oleta Gollehon will be hostesses for the social hour.

All interested persons are invited to attend the review.

TO INCREASE rust resistance and make cleaning easier, apply a metal-wax coating to wrought iron furniture twice a year, suggests Patricia A. Bradshaw, housing and home furnishings specialist, Texas Agricultural Extension Service.

Subscription form for abi newspaper with fields for Name, Street, City, State, ZIP.

Photography by MARGIE HUGHES

WEDDINGS AND ALL OCCASIONS KRESS, TEXAS

Advertisement for CASH FOR YOUR CLEAN USED CAR OR PICKUP, WE BUY, SELL OR TRADE SCOTT'S HI-WAY AUTO SALES.

Large advertisement for HAYS IMPLEMENT CO. featuring a cartoon character and promotional text.



QUICK JUMPER—Dimmitt's Beth Cleveland goes over a Follett guard as she tries for two in last Thursday's tilt in the Amarillo Civic Center. Dimmitt took the lead late in the fourth period but couldn't hold on as the Bobbies fell 50-47 in their second game of the Holiday Tournament, sponsored by Amarillo's Hanson American Legion Post 54. The Bobbies won third place in the tourney.

New farm fuel system planned

Farm fuel for 1974 will be based on annual rather than monthly allocations. This was decided by an agricultural advisory committee to the Federal Energy Office, Dec. 18, in a Washington meeting.

FARMERS MAY receive up to 125 percent of the fuel they used in 1972, providing it is available, an FEO spokesman said.

A. W. (Dub) Anthony Jr. of Friona, president of Grain Sorghum Producers Association, is a member of the agricultural advisory committee and attended the Washington meeting with Jack King of Lubbock, GSPA research director.

"We told the federal people that the monthly allocation system set up several months ago simply will not work in agriculture," Anthony said on his return to Lubbock.

"The FEO people assured us they will set up a new system for the distribution of agricultural fuel based on 1972 consumption," Anthony said.

THE GSPA president explained that farmers may receive up to 125 percent of their 1972 fuel "if it's available, and that's the big question," but Washington officials are predicting a fuel shortage of 17 to 25 percent.

Farmers will have draw ahead privileges under the new system to take care of seasonal changes in fuel requirements, Anthony continued.

Diesel fuel is critical for most American farmers, Anthony pointed out.

More about:

SHEFFY'S



(Continued from Page 2)

CURTIS AND Marie Tate spent the holiday in Amarillo with their children, Pat and family and Jim and Judith. The grandsons Tal and Brent came home with them for a few days. Judith visited her mother Zonell Maples when she came down for the boys. Her dad is C. G. Maples.

Gary and Cindy White and baby spent the holiday with their folks in Amarillo. Went to Pampa on business another day.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Ringo, son Kenny and Cindy and Debbie spent Christmas day with her parents Mr. and Mrs. Orin Crowell at Canyon. Keuny is in school at WT and lives with his grandparents. Ruth has been commuting and taking extra courses. I guess to help her teaching career.

SHORTY AND Pat Barlow, Christi and Claude Richard have bought and moved to the J. E. Williams farm. It is two miles north and 4 1/2 miles west of Earth over near Bonnie Haberer's place. Shorty comes back to Dimmitt to work at the Post Office. The kids ride the bus to Earth Springlake School.

Maude Street of Littlefield has been visiting her son Bro. Street, Dorothy and girls Becky, Kay and Sharla. They took her home Friday. John Street is pastor of the First Baptist Church.

Mrs. Earnest Sustemeier and children Lois Ann and Musk are visiting her brother George and Pat Bagley and family.

They live at Corona, N. M. Pat's mother, Mrs. Katie Crow, is here visiting the George Bagleys this holiday time.

MR. AND MRS. H. A. Lynn and family went to Justiceburg below the Caprock from Post to spend a few days with Mrs. Lynn's mother, then on to Bokchito, Okla. to visit Hank's folks. The little daughter Lucydne fell from the bed while there and broke her arm. She is fine. The Lynns are school teachers here.

Ralph and Amy Glover went to San Antonio for a holiday visit with their son Darrell and his family. You know Amy is

a golfer and he is a Southwestern Public Service guy.

Emmett Broderson went to Dallas to be with his mother who has been in the hospital. The mother lives at Electra. Emmett is also with the school system here.

FAYE KENMORE was host to her family last week. Hershel and family came in from Duiches, Canada, Hoyt and family from Tempe, Ariz., Mr. and Mrs. George Ray and children from Grand Junction, Colo., also Mrs. Ray Sr., Oscar Carceres of San Antonio, Mrs. Minnie Cummings, Dorothy Bostick, Mildred Bostick all from Brownwood, Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Bostick of Olton and Joe Thomason of Canyon. They were celebrating all the December birthday people, which was nearly half the crowd.

Mr. and Mrs. L. V. Cole went to Fort Lauderdale, Fla. to visit their daughter Barbara and Don Waiknis. Their son Lee went down Monday, will come home Wednesday. School starts again.

Fannie Mahan was a birthday lady Jan. 1, 1974. Fannie lives at South Hills Manor and is the sister of Sid Sheffy.

BETH JONES and children have been in Arkansas for a week visiting her mother Mrs. Bridgers, home now because school started Wednesday.

Mark and Sarita Cleavinger of Dallas were holiday guests of M. E. and Marge and Charlie and Monte White.

Dr. Jack and Genita Dunn and children of Kansas City, Jimmy and Donna Aldridge of Tahoka, Jim and Melba Aldridge of here, Ray and Mecca Aldridge of Lubbock were holiday guests of grandmother and mother Mrs. Mary Bocher.

JETTIE SHEFFY was released from the hospital in Plainview for the holidays at home with her family. A daughter Mrs. Bob Montgomery from Midland, her son Jeff, and a son Glenn Bradley and wife, Sharon, came to be here a few days visit with the family.

Lawrence Aldaco from San Pedro, Calif. also visited. In Ray and Jettie's home during the holidays. He has been here to see his dad and mom, the Joe Aldacos. Joe had been in the hospital a few days but now is home recuperating nicely.

Ferne and Troy Fulton of Hereford were evening guests in the home of Ray and Jettie Sheffy Saturday. Pie and coffee were served with lots of good conversation. It's so nice to have friends drop in for a visit, holiday or not.

ON CHRISTMAS day the Sheffys grandchildren, Sherry, Julie and Terry Smith who live in Houston, called and talked to the grandmother, Jettie and the mother, Flo Montgomery, wishing them a happy Christmas day and much happiness for a bright New Year. Sherry lived with Ray and Jettie last year and attended South Plains College. She also worked a while with Jettie at the Nif-T-Store.

Mrs. Ozro Stephens, Karen Luke and little daughter Kristy from Amarillo were guests of the Harold Stephens during the Christmas holidays.

Mrs. J. W. Walker of Plainview will be guest reviewer for Mrs. Harold Stephens when the Dimmitt Book Club meet next Wednesday afternoon Jan. 9 at the new Rhoads Memorial Library at 4 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend.

Mrs. Dora Johnson was hostess to her family, Jimmy and Merle Johnson, Steve and Becky, and Carl and Beverly Russell and sons, and Debbie and Darrell Smith, all of Lubbock. Bill and Rowan Crader and Jim and Cody of Durango, Colo., Roland and Maurine Shepard of Hart and C. J. and Omega Johnson and son Russell were also present.

NEVER underestimate the rapid rate of a baby's physical, mental and social development. It increases, literally, while your back is turned, notes Dorothy Taylor, family life education specialist, Texas Agricultural Extension Service.

Water development is needed
Briscoe tells Austin task force

Governor Dolph Briscoe addressed the first meeting of the newly created Texas Water Resources and Conservation Task Force in Austin recently. The Governor told the Task Force that "There is an urgent need for an affirmative action program that will place needed water development firmly on its way."

The Task Force is chaired by James M. Rose Director of the Governor's Division of Planning Coordination. Rose received reports from three committees chaired by Walter J. Wells, General Manager of the Brazos River Authority; Joe Carter, Chairman of the Texas Water Rights Commission; and David Brune, General Manager of the Trinity River Authority.

The Task Force reported that the greatest financial problem facing Texas at this time in water development activities is the Federal trend to abandon the field of water projects. Accordingly, the State of Texas and local governments will have the burden of financing more and more water project costs.

The Task Force also reports that the days of cheap water supplies are things of the past. Making the public aware of methods to conserve water, of the environmental benefits of sound water development, and of reusing water are high priorities of the Task Force.

Weather modification to produce precipitation and desalination of sea and brackish water seem to be showing great promise as a means of helping water supplies, according to the Task Force.

The Task Force also believes that a regional water authority should be considered for the

High Plains of Texas. The water authority could aid in trying to replace the dwindling ground water supplies of that area.

The Task Force will meet the second Wednesday of each month.

On the Go

Beral Hance spent Christmas week in Dallas with daughter Linda Compton, Tracey and Paige. She came back to Lubbock last weekend and stayed with grandchildren Ron and Susan Hance while their parents Kent and Carol went to Jacksonville, Fla. for the Gator Bowl Game.

WHILE most people are aware that the stock market has taken a plunge, only a few realize that farm prices, too, have taken a downward turn.

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WAPPY NEW YEAR

We want to join you and your family in welcoming the New Year. Let's start with a toast to health and happiness. And we want to pledge our sincerest effort to serving the entire community to the utmost. Thanks, loyal friends.

HIGGINBOTHAM-BARTLETT CO.

Cats get brutal lesson in Caprock tournament Friday

One of the reasons for pre-conference tournaments is to let the players get their early-season mistakes out of the way and learn some lessons about pressure and poise.

BUT COACH Kenneth Cleveland and his Bobcats got a much more brutal lesson than they — or anyone else — expected at the hands of the classy Morton Indians Friday night in the Caprock Tournament championship game at Lubbock.

Everything went right for the Indians and wrong for the Bobcats, and the scoreboard ended up tilted at 76-46.

And nobody — not even Morton's partisan fans — could believe what they were seeing.

It was only the second loss of the year for the Bobcats, but was one of the worst in Cleveland's career.

THE BOBCATS — who had been tagged as the tourney favorites — jumped to a 6-0 lead, but then lost both their poise and their aim and could never regain either in the face of the Indians' intimidating attack. Before the Bobcats could

get their fourth basket of the night, the Indians rang up 19 points and the second quarter was well underway.

The rest of the game was more of the same as the Indians clicked with near-perfect play and the Bobcats committed unexplainable errors.

The Bobcats, who normally average 51 percent on their field shots, dropped to 28 percent against the Indians. And the usually formidable Dimmitt defense accounted for only four points on turnovers all night.

Paul Langford bucketed 18 points for the Bobcats during the bout, but the only bright spot offensively for the Bobcats came at the free-throw line, where Dimmitt managed 18 of 20.

"WE JUST didn't play basketball at all," said Cleveland as he summarized the Dimmitt-Morton game. "It was one of the worst games we've played in a long time."

The shock of Friday night's loss was made even more poignant by the fact that the Cats creamed Post in their debut in



PLAYERS SCRAMBLE FOR LOOSE BALL ... During Dimmitt-Morton championship game

the tourney, and took a come-from-behind win over a determined Lubbock Christian High School team.

Paul Langford led the Cats in a 65-29 romp over Post with 26 points, followed by Bill Gregory with 12. Dimmitt led at the half 34-6, and eight players scored for Dimmitt as Coach Cleveland emptied the bench.

Thursday night's game against Lubbock Christian might have been a premonition of things to come for the Cats as they were forced to scramble in order to down a hustling LCHS team, 58-52. The Cats trailed at the end of the first period 13-10, and went to the dressing

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More about:

About Dimmitt
(Continued from Page 1)
office of the land.

Then the matter of energy shortage, which translates into petroleum shortage, is another puzzler that happened in 1973. The natives are waiting, and not too patiently, for an explanation.

1974 is here with whatever problems and blessings it will bring, but there is still a big backlog of happenings in 1972 and 1973 that demand a solution.
Happy New Year.

New brucellosis regulations are official Jan. 15

Beginning Jan. 15, new brucellosis regulations will go into effect for Texas according to H. Q. Sibley, executive director of the Texas Animal Health Commission.

THE NEW regulations governing brucellosis were adopted unanimously by the Texas Animal Health Commission at an official meeting in Laredo Oct. 15, and will affect cattlemen throughout the state.

The regulations will bring the Texas Brucellosis Program into compliance with the National Uniform Methods and Rules which are considered minimum standards.

Under the regulations it is required that all breeding cattle two years of age and over that change ownership be brucellosis tested.

Breeding cattle may be tested on the farm or ranch or at an auction market. Slaughter type breeding cattle may be sold through livestock markets without test until sampled on the kill floor.

THE BRUCellosis test will be good for movement purposes for a thirty day period provided the animal is ear tagged and accompanied by a test certificate.

The regulations will be in full force and effect after Jan. 15.

IF YOU are one of 75,000 Texas agricultural producers who have received, or will receive, a crop and livestock questionnaire from the Texas Crop and Livestock Reporting Service, be sure to fill it out accurately and return it promptly.

BEEF cattle average \$39.10 in Texas as of Nov. 15, down from the \$42 of Oct. 15.

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Top 10 stories of 1973 listed

An ideal crop year with record high prices made the biggest news in Castro County during 1973.

MOST OF the news in '73 was comparatively peaceful. Only one crime made the "Top 10" story list for the year.

Here are the county's Top 10 news stories of the year, ranked by the News staff as the most significant events affecting the most people:

1. The best crop year in recent history, with ideal weather, top yields, excellent quality and record prices. Wheat averaged 40 bushels per acre, corn 150 bushels, milo more than 7,000 lbs., and vegetables similarly high. Cotton yield reports aren't in yet, but quality is reported the best in years, with top prices.
2. **LEASE OF** Dimmitt's \$10 million corn milling plant Feb. 1 to the Amstar Corporation by Dimmitt Agri Industries, Inc. The plant had been operating in the face of an adverse market since its completion in 1970.
3. Rejection by Dimmitt Independent School District voters Dec. 4 of a proposed \$1.65 million school upgrading program.
4. New residential construction and commercial expansion, highlighted by the \$550,000 South Hills Manor nursing home, completed in March; the \$225,000 Rhoads Memorial Library, completed in November; the \$185,000 Ruskin Circle Apartments and Swim Club, completed in September as the initial phase of the first Planned Unit Development in any Texas city under 5,000 population; dedication of the city fire station and remodeled city hall in January; expansion of the TG&Y Store, completed in July; expansion by several local elevator companies, farm service businesses and downtown businesses; and highway construction in the Dimmitt, Hart and Tam Anne areas.
5. **DECLINE IN** fat-cattle prices during the second half of the year to below the breakeven point, in light of higher feed costs, following a period of record-breaking high prices for finished cattle.
6. Massive vandalism Jan. 18 at Dimmitt High School, with damage estimated at \$4,000.
7. Incorporation of Nazareth as a city.
8. **THE CREATION** of hail suppression boundaries in the spring by Better Weather, Inc., and the Plains Weather Improvement Association, bringing 75 percent of the county's land area under cloud-seeding programs for hail control.
9. New records in both entries and sales in the 1973 Castro County Junior Fat Stock Show in February. Entries totaled 376 project animals, and the auction following the show set a new sales record of \$83,774.75.
10. Legal action by protesting city property owners during the spring which stalled and later killed the city commission's proposal to complete

city paving through assessments, state championship in athletics (tennis); and four state championships by Dimmitt High School's industrial arts students.



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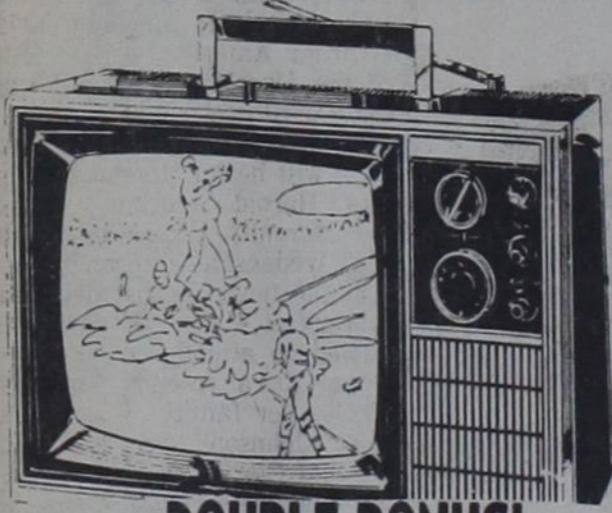
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Big 94¢ Pkg.

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