

# SANTA WILL VISIT CISCO NEXT SATURDAY

Through the Editor's Spectacles  
By GEORGE

C. Hunter, Abilene, oil has proposed that regions be placed on the ability of men to be Texas. Among them he proposes, through constitutional amendment, to make of state departments able for the governor until two years after terms of office have expired. The obvious purpose of such a restriction is to make it more difficult to elect state offices in building state machines.

With all due respect to good intentions of the proposed constitutional amendment, it would prove about as useful as others of the innumerable ones that have been before the state constitution. The measure would not be from the state department from being organized for any particular candidate. It would merely create a barrier for further subter-

the constitution is going to be changed to further the qualifications of men or women, who are elected governors of the state, it ought to be changed in an entirely different manner.

A fundamental fault in the governorship in this state has too little authority. It is hardly more than that of a glorified clerk. Its texture is that of an advisory social office with no opportunity for usefulness beyond the distribution of appointments, none of which affects to any great extent the fundamental policy of government. State commission appointments are the most important plums at the disposal of the governor and these appointments are made at the mercy of the political pandering organizing rather than executive administration. A state executive with authority still plays politics in the nature of things, but he does not have the means of effecting his policies and proposals into effect without such consideration to the wishes and ambitions of those in positions to scuttles undertakings.

The people of Texas have elected a governor and then they have elected a governor. Either they should restore to the governor's office sufficient authority to discharge its duties in the proper manner or they should adopt a system, such as the French government, which the president, elected for a definite term, is a head, while the real power of governing is vested in a premier and cabinet selected with the approval of the parliament and responsible thereto. Under such a system the constant fighting and cross-tugging between a governor with-

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## Rescued From Gale Off N. Y. Coast



Mrs. Sarah Schenk, 65, is saved by coast guardsmen in a dramatic rescue at West Meadow Beach, Long Island, N. Y., after gale struck North Atlantic coast. Coast guardsman picked up Mrs. Schenk and four men from flotilla of barges, brought them to shore in a dory.

## ALBANY BANK OFFICIAL NEW WCTA PREXY

### Joe Clark Elected at Annual Meeting at Mineral Wells

MINERAL WELLS, Dec. 12.—Joe Clark, Albany banker, was elected president of the West Central Oil and Gas association at an executive session of the directors here Monday, in connection with the association's annual convention. Other officers named were W. J. Rhodes, Breckenridge; J. E. Whiteside, Brownwood, and Harold G. Neeley, Fort Worth, vice presidents, and J. C. Watson, Abilene, re-elected executive secretary. Nine new directors are E. R. Ritchie, Mineral Wells, Henry Andrews, Stamford; Bert Fields, Dallas; C. O. Lupton, Fort Worth; J. E. Matthews, Ranger; V. C. Perini, Jr., Abilene; K. B. Knowles, Abilene; Claude Yeatts, Stamford, and S. A. Guiberson, Dallas.

Frank Buttram, Oklahoma City, president of the Independent Petroleum association of America, and J. C. Hunter, Abilene, president of the Mid-Continent Oil and Gas association and past president of the West Central Texas association, were speakers at a banquet in the evening.

### Four Subjects

Buttram emphasized four subjects which call for united action of the oil industry and the public which aim to see the industry free to continue its role in American life. They were taxes, the Venezuelan trade agreement, the charge of wanton waste and the so-called Cole bill, now before congress.

About the latter, he said: "If we don't see that our job is properly done, then this Cole bill, devilish as it is, is a mere starting point for the conditions and restrictions that will be imposed upon us."

"Let us have less dreaming and more democracy, less government in business and more business in government, less isms" but more democratic principles as practiced by our forefathers, that enabled us in a brief fifty years to reach the highest pinnacle in the history of man," Buttram declared.

With reference to state regulation, Buttram said: "We have from time to time asked for state legislation. When we did that, we asked for a set of traffic rules and policemen to see that they were observed. We do not want the policeman to drive the car for us."

### Efficiency Takes Time

Admitting there has been waste in the industry, Buttram explained it was a relatively new industry and that it took time to develop efficient practices.

"It is quite easy to sit on the side lines and tell how the game should have been played," he said. "Why not turn the tables and hold the present officials who are so critical of our operations and their predecessors in office to account for their failure to develop the energy in the solar rays and in the tides. There is plenty of power and light and heat for all mankind, if they would just make it available. The reason they don't is that they do not know how."

Those attending the meeting included Emmet Morse, Houston, speaker of the Texas house; Gen. Walter B. Pyron, Houston, Harry C. Weiss, Houston, president of

(Continued on Page Two)

Phone 608 for Classifieds

## Red Plane Is Trophy of Finnish Sharpshooting



Finnish soldiers examine wreckage of a giant Russian warplane, brought hurtling to earth after a barrage of anti-aircraft guns routed by invaders, near soviet-Finnish frontier.

## COLE BILL IS OPPOSED BY R. R. COMM'RS

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 12 (AP).—A lengthy exchange between Col. E. O. Thompson, member of the Texas oil regulatory body, and Rep. Wolverton (R-NJ) over price-fixing effects of production limitation featured opening of a congressional hearing Monday on the Cole federal oil control bill.

Thompson and Jerry Sadder, members of the Texas railroad commission, which regulates the petroleum industry there, were only two witnesses today at the hearing, which is expected to last through Wednesday. Both expressed vehement opposition to the bill, claiming state regulatory bodies were "a picture of efficiency" and that federal control would impair state sovereignty.

### Close Questioning

After reading a prepared statement, Col. Thompson was submitted to close questioning by the four congressmen holding the hearing as a subcommittee of the house interstate commerce committee. The group is headed by William P. Cole, Jr., (D-Md) author of the federal bill.

Rep. Wolverton questioned Thompson in detail on the price effects of limiting production.

The Texan agreed in general that such limitation affects price, but added, "the building up of reserve under ground holds up the price as much as above ground."

Rep. Wolverton observed, "if production is limited unduly, this unduly increases the price of the consumer. The market can consume more of a cheaper article."

Thompson replied: "The price of gasoline and the price of crude oil don't seem to have any relation. Gasoline costs as much when it is 10 cents a barrel as when it is a dollar."

## PIPE LINE IS BLASTED FROM GROUND

WICHITA FALLS, Dec. 12 (AP).—Nearly 40 miles of the Shell company's pipeline running from Wink to Chicago was blasted from the ground today by a series of terrific explosions.

The cause was not immediately determined, but an employe at a pump station said the 10-inch main was being cleaned by a scraper being rammed through with compressed air.

Sections gave way every 30 to 50 feet from 10 miles southwest of Wichita Falls to an undetermined point northward.

The explosions were felt at Burkburnett and Henrietta. Only one person was reported injured.

## Letters to Santa to Be Given to Him Saturday

Letters for old Santa Claus are arriving in numbers at the Cisco Daily Press office now. These letters will be delivered to old Santa by the Daily Press when the Christmas Saint arrives in Cisco next Saturday to greet his little friends and to distribute gifts to them in a big parade.

The letters will also be published in the Daily Press within the next few days so that there will be no chance of Santa's missing a single petition.

Children of the Cisco trade territory who have requests to make of Old Santa are invited to write him NOW, in charge of the Cisco Daily Press. Their letters will be carefully kept and will be given to Old Santa when he makes his appearance here Saturday.

## Recreation Personnel in Training Classes

Training classes for the Cisco recreation project personnel were conducted during the morning hours of each day during the past week. Instructions included arts and crafts, drama, athletics and sports, with a few high lights of social recreation. Most of the shop and group work was conducted in the recreation rooms of the Methodist church, with volleyball and soccer contests on courts provided at Randolph hill.

Several new activities were introduced as part of the regular program, which was continued during the past week and will be continued in the future. These activities were made possible by the addition of three new members of the staff, which included Ray Judia, Bettyrue Logan and George H. Harris.

Special emphasis is being placed on activities most suitable for the winter program in Cisco. This includes, for example, the newly-organized harmonica band of the west ward safety patrol members, and several adult groups of musically inclined participants. Plans for the coming week will include continued training program for staff members, rehearsal of music activities as part of the regular program, and general preparation for Christmas season activities.

Interested readers may consult copies of the Cisco Daily Press for the program of scheduled activities.

Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Little and daughters, Frances and Doris, of San Angelo, have returned to their home after spending a short while with friends and relatives here.

## C OF C OFFICE WILL BE TOY HEADQ'TERS

The Cisco chamber of commerce will be headquarters for the Cisco Welfare association's used toy campaign, it was announced today by Mrs. Philip Pettit, executive secretary of the welfare association.

Used toys to be contributed to the fund for underprivileged children this Christmas may be taken there, where Joe Clark, director of the Cisco recreation project, will take charge of them and have them repaired, Mrs. Pettit said.

She appealed to Ciscoans to contribute used toys to this fund, which will take care of about 250 children, and urged that the toys be turned over now so that there will be sufficient time for putting them in shape before Christmas.

## FFA Teams in Contests Here This Afternoon

Teams in chapter conducting from Future Farmer chapters at Albany, Breckenridge, Ranger, Scanton and Cisco, embraced in the Cisco FFA federation, were here this afternoon for contests starting at the high school auditorium at 1 o'clock. T. G. Caudle, Cisco instructor, is host to the gathering.

These contests are regularly conducted by the federation among the schools of the group.

## Two Cisco Boys Leave For Navy

Mrs. Ed Huestis and Mrs. Frances Little returned Monday night from Abilene, where they accompanied Mrs. Huestis' nephew, J. W. Brandon, and Mrs. Little's son, Roy, to be enlisted in the U. S. navy.

J. W. was named leader of the group of 14 Texas boys, who left Abilene yesterday for Dallas, where they will be assigned to training in either Norfolk, Virginia, or San Diego, California. The Cisco boys did not know when they left where they would be stationed.

## APPEARANCE TO BE MADE WITH PARADE

### Kiddie Float Parade to Be Feature of Event Here

Saturday, December 16, will see the highlight of Cisco's Christmas shopping season celebration as Santa Claus himself honors shoppers with his first public appearance of the season in a downtown street parade. The parade, which will be led by the Cisco Lions club, promises to be, by virtue of its interesting angles, the most attractive of any in many seasons of parade.

All letters to Santa Claus addressed in care of the Cisco Daily Press, a big bundle of them, will be delivered to Santa in person in a regulation mail sack as he rides down D avenue on a truck of the local fire department. Santa will, of course, have plenty of free candy for all kiddies.

In addition to Santa Claus, the Cisco fire department, and the Lobo band, the parade will feature, for the first time in Cisco, a kiddie float parade. In lieu of the usual expensive truck floats, each merchant is requested to decorate any form of toy conveyance, as auto or wagon, and put a child representative in charge. This novel form of float decorations should be an interesting deviation from the usual manner of float representation.

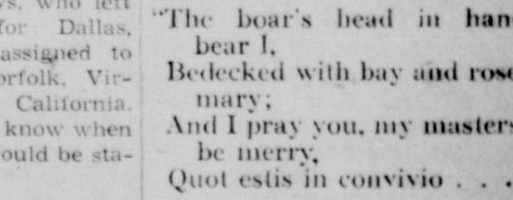
Due to the fact that other towns are using bands in local celebrations it has been deemed unwise to attempt a band contest at this time as announced. As stated, however, the Lobo band will be on hand to add to the attraction of Saturday's show.

It is the intention of the Christmas celebration committee to release to the throngs of holiday shoppers merchandise due bills with firm advertising on gas filled balloons. The cooperation of merchants is requested in this project.

The parade will begin promptly at 2 p. m. starting at 14th street and D avenue, proceeding northward on D avenue to Third street.

## ICKES URGES THIRD TERM

NEWARK, N. J., Dec. 12 (AP).—Lambasting a group of potential republican presidential candidates, Secretary Ickes said last night a third term for President Roosevelt was "the prescription for the preservation of our democracy against the perils that threaten it."



### BOAR'S HEAD CAROL

"The boar's head in hand bear I,  
Bedecked with bay and rosemary;  
And I pray you, my masters,  
be merry,  
Quot estis in convivio . . .

This unique carol is sung annually at Queen's College, Oxford when a boar's head is served with Christmas dinner. The story behind this custom is that a student was walking in the country nearby studying his Aristotle, and was attacked by a wild boar. He crammed the book down the beast's throat to save himself. The carol was first printed in 1521.

## 10 Shopping Days Till Christmas

WEST TEXAS: Fair, colder Tuesday; Wednesday fair.  
EAST TEXAS: Partly cloudy, colder in northwest portion Tuesday; Wednesday partly cloudy, somewhat colder in east and south portions. Moderate to fresh southerly winds on the coast becoming westerly to northerly Wednesday.

# The Cisco Daily Press

and CISCO DAILY NEWS  
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STANLEY WEBB, Advertising Manager  
W. D. BRECHEN, Superintendent  
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A home-owned and home-controlled news-  
paper devoted to the upbuilding of Cisco and East-  
land county, independently democratic in politics.

**SUBSCRIPTION RATES:** Within First and  
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Within Other Zones. Weekly Rural Edition, per  
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Any erroneous statement reflecting upon the  
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bility for errors in advertising insertions beyond  
the price of the advertisement.

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## BIBLE THOUGHT FOR TODAY

Come now and let us reason together, saith the  
Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be  
white as snow; though they be red like crimson,  
they shall be as wool. Acquaint now thyself with  
God and be at peace.—Isa. xl. 18; Job. xxii. 11.

There is an unseen battlefield  
In every human breast,  
Where two opposing forces meet,  
And where they seldom rest.  
And when they win that battlefield,  
Past toil is quite forgot.

## Did Someone Mention War Debts?

On Dec. 15, a quaint little ceremony will be  
re-enacted in Washington. The Finnish  
minister will drive to the state department and  
tender the United States government a  
check for \$234,693. Hands will be shaken,  
speeches made, but this time the Finnish  
envoy may not smile.

Finland, as usual, is fully expected to re-  
mit her semi-annual interest payment on her  
World War debt. If present plans proceed,  
the money will be held in suspension by the  
treasury department, and congress will be  
asked to return the money to Finland for use  
in the fight with Russia.

That would be America's way of express-  
ing appreciation to a country that doesn't  
wrench on its obligations, and the United

States would have the whole world know it.  
Cautious even in its generosity, Uncle Sam  
would make certain, first, however, that the  
payment is actually accepted and then turned  
back. Any other procedure might inspire  
crazy notions that the United States doesn't  
want debtor nations to settle up.

**WHAT** may happen to war debts if present  
hostilities continue for long is something  
no one likes to think about just now. The  
expensive game of war isn't played with but-  
tons; and, if debtor nations happen to find a  
few forgotten shillings in the pig bank, the  
money will go for machine guns and such—  
not to settle old accounts. Even during the  
peaceful years that lay between the two wars,  
debtors were not over-zealous about remit-  
ting.

Take a look at the record: Total debts in-  
curred in the United States by the allies dur-  
ing and immediately after the war were \$10-  
350,000,000. The original interest was 5 per  
cent. It was later cut to 4 1/2 per cent, and  
finally the entire debt structure was rear-  
ranged to fix interest on the ability of each  
nation to pay. Thus Great Britain's interest  
today is set at 3.3 per cent while Italy's is  
only 4 per cent.

So far, all the nations have paid only \$2-  
500,000,000, most of which went for interest.  
Because of defaults and interest, the total  
debt has mounted to \$14,500,000,000. Had the  
debtor nations continued to make prompt  
semi-annual payments under the funding  
agreements, reached between 1923 and 1928,  
they would have paid the United States a  
total of \$22,259,000,000 by 1929, the year in  
which all countries would have made their  
final payments.

**T**HE war debt problem has provided politi-  
cal ammunition for all sides since the ink  
was still moist on the Versailles treaty. At-  
tempting to get payments from Europe just  
now would be about as successful as stepping  
into a riot to ask one of the participants for  
the quarter he borrowed last week.

Europe is interested these days only in  
contracting new debts—not paying old ones.  
And about all the United States can do is to  
keep sending dunning notes to the default-  
ers as brusque reminders that you can't fool  
all of the people all of the time.

If the world were a great corporation, we  
might take it into receivership and try run-  
ning it our way until its affairs were straight-  
ened. But it is nothing of the kind, and the  
new debts that prolonged hostilities would  
produce might so complicate international  
relationships that even the United States  
would be forced to throw up its hands help-  
lessly in a state of complete confusion.

## Winter Comes Early in Finland



## Carpenter Honored by SMU Ex-Students

DALLAS, Dec. 12 (Sp.)—John W. Carpenter, president of the Texas Power and Light company, was Thursday presented the Arthur A. Everts-S. M. U. Ex-students association Man of the Year award.

Each year the plaque is awarded to the person who, in the opinion of the directors of the Ex-Students association, "renders the most noteworthy and unselfish service in the stimulation and the organization of lay support behind the university."

Presentation was made in a student assembly by Arthur A. Everts, donor of the award.

Mr. Carpenter was born in Corsicana, Texas, in 1881, and has long served his state in numerous capacities. The public utility executive is also a director for the Bradford Memorial hospital, a member of the advisory committee of the Texas branch of the R.F.C. director of the state fair, member of the Texas advisory committee for the New York fair, chairman of the board for the Gulf States Life Insurance company, director of the St. Louis and Southwestern railroad of Texas, and serves numerous other organizations.

CANADA'S domestic exports in the first ten months of 1939 total-  
ed \$726,741,865, compared with  
\$692,716,799 in the corresponding  
period of 1938.

## Seven Girls to Be Stock Show Guests

FORT WORTH, Dec. 12 (Sp.)—Seven ranch girl honor guests who will ride at the 1940 South-western Exposition and Fat Stock show were announced today by John B. Davis, secretary-treasurer of the show.

The seven girls who have accepted include Miss Margaret Owens of Ozona, who accepted her invitation when she attended the recent convention in Fort Worth of the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers association.

The honor guests for 1940 are the crop of beauties chosen to represent their sections of the livestock country at the stock show. The ranch girl event was inaugurated at the 1939 show. The girls are: Miss Anna Belle Edwards, Big Spring; Miss Elvina Criswell Throckmorton, N. M.; Miss Mary Ann Green, Albany; Miss Billie Marie Miller, Coleman, and Miss Margaret Stockstill, Pampa, and Miss Owens, who will be representative of the sheep and goat raisers.

The ranch girls will be featured at the world championship rodeo, March 8-17, 1940.

## Albany Bank-- (Continued from Page One)

Humble Oil and Refining company; George Speppard, Austin, state comptroller; Harry Hines, Dallas, state highway commissioner; Senators Clint Small, Amarillo; W. D. Pace, Tyler; W. C. Graves, Dallas, and Wilbourne Collier, Eastland.

Many leaders of the oil industry were here, including H. P. Nichols, Kilgore, president of the East Texas Oil & Gas association; C. B. Mape, Tulsa, general secretary of the Mid-Continent association; G. E. Everett American Petroleum institute, New York; Wallace Hawkins, vice president of Magnolia Petroleum company, Dallas; J. L. Greene, Midland, president of the Permian Basin association; John O'Donohue, Wichita Falls, president of the Petroleum Production association, and George C. Gibbons, Dallas, executive vice-president of the Texas Mid-Continent association.

**RECORD, OR SOMETHING**  
MISSOULI, Mont., Dec. 12 (AP)—Montana State university claims the largest majorette corps of any college in the United States. Eight coeds spin batons in twirling drill between basketball games.

## BRUCE CATTON'S AMERICAN ROUNDUP

**BY BRUCE CATTON**  
NEA Service Staff Correspondent  
WASHINGTON.—The man who is leading up the C. I. O.'s drive to organize the building trades is Dennis Lewis, who looks enough like John L. so that you'd know they are brothers but not enough like him to be classed as his double.

Dennis Lewis is stocky and muscular, like his brother, but is rather less beetle-browed—both physically and emotionally. Born in Colfax, La., 50 years ago, he is an ex-coal miner, a war veteran (six months with the A. E. F.) and from 1924 to 1930 was director of mines and minerals in the governor's cabinet in Illinois. Then he put in three years with the U. S. Employment Service, here, quitting in 1933 to become assistant to the president of the United Mine Workers.

Until he took over the building trades campaign he had served as a liaison man with press and public for brother John. He's of the good-mixer type and is an able speech-maker. To date he has organized 76 locals of the new construction trades union in 29-odd states. That barely scratches the surface, as he figures more than two-thirds of the 3,000,000 building trades workers in the United States are unorganized.

THE navy's top-heavy-destroyer trouble arose not because any particular designer made a blunder, according to reliable information, but simply because the set-up in the department hasn't been co-ordinated.

A design for a new ship comes up and gets approved, and passes through several divisions, each of which may make a minor alteration here and there in the interest of its own special—guns, armor, or what-not.

In the end, these alterations may add up to just enough change in the original design to create such situations as those came to public attention in connection with some of the destroyers. Suggested remedy—co-ordination who could harmonize the alterations with the final design.

ONE of the most influential publishers in the government is the Wage and Hour Administration. Last year it gave 5,000,000 copies of a pamphlet explaining the wage-hour law. October it issued 3,000,000 of a new one which tells what their rights are under law and explains how they're less than the minimum.

Then it ran off 500,000 of a digest for employers. All these were sent out and distributed through the field offices.

In the works now is a pamphlet for union leaders, personal letters, and so on, interpreting law still further.

Wage-Hour people say they're out that raft of pamphlets to workers, not in the hope that a lot of workers would like law but so that workers would know when they're by the law and when they're not.

A lot of the pamphlets administration gives are to workers to whom the law doesn't apply, and the administration would like to get out from under them.

## THIS CURIOUS WORLD

**THE WORLD WAR IN EUROPE CAUSED DUST STORMS IN AMERICA!**  
BECAUSE OF THREE-DOLLAR WHEAT, FARMERS BROKE THE SOIL ON ALL AVAILABLE ACREAGE, AND SET THE STAGE FOR WIND EROSION.



NOTHING is wasted in the use of ivory. Scraps and shavings are carefully hoarded and made into dust for polishing, India ink and even food, in the form of ivory jelly.

**FRENCH** influence, the strong European influence in Turkey, dates from an alliance signed in 1535 between Sultan Suleiman the Magnificent and King Francis I of France.

**A WOMAN** ruled the Byzantine empire for 10 years, beginning in 780 A.D. Her name was Irene and she was originally a poor Greek orphan. She married the emperor, Leo IV.

WHAT IS A GIBBOUS MOON?  
ANSWER: One that is between half moon and full.

## Washington Daybook

By PRESTON GROVER

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—You might as well be posted on the nicknames attached to political stars and starlets because the campaigns are coming and both sides will want to humanize their proteges by "that familiar touch."

President Roosevelt was called "The Boss" by the late Louie Howe, his wise No. 1 secretary. He is called "Mr. Big," fondly by his friends, furiously by his foes. Vice President Garner calls him "The Captain." Everybody knows him by his initials, FDR just like this—Er-Dee-Are.

The runner-up presidential candidates haven't generated pet names for themselves yet. When Hoover was president he was referred to as "The Chief." His friends still use the title.

General Hugh Johnson referred to Secretary Ickes as "Honorable Old." It didn't displace Washington's "Icky the Ick." But when Ickes, in return, called the general "Old Iron Pants," that stuck.

**Mergenthan Too**  
The sad face of Secretary Mergenthan prompted the president to call him "Henry the Morgue." His name helped a bit. Since then a half dozen parallels to that have grown up, such as "Harry the Hop" for Secretary of Commerce Hopkins, "Tommy the Cork" and "Benny the Cohen" for the redoubtable brain twins.

Don't overlook "Fanny the Perk," the Secretary of Labor. It

is also "Ma" Perkins. She doesn't like either one.  
However, "Pa" has hung familiarly to Brigadier-General Watson, the president's secretary, ever since his West Point days.

Vice President Garner has been known as Cactus Jack, or "Texas Jack," for a generation. Postmaster General Farley is variously called "Gentleman Jim," "Sunny Jim" or "Big Jim." Some call him "Ginral" with that Irish touch.

Every boll weevil south of the Mason-Dixon line knows Senator Smith of South Carolina as "Cotton Ed" but in the senate gallery he is often called "Ips Dixit." He uses it often in speeches to mean that "the thing speaks for itself."

The nearest thing to a nickname for Senator Carter Glass is the hopeless effort of non-Virginians to imitate his way of saying his own first name, Cyalthe. "Mr. Big" calls him "the unconstructive rebel."

Speaker Bankhead of the house sometimes is teasingly called "Tallulah" after his famous actress daughter. Senator Borah was once known as "Wild Bill" and more lately as "The Sage of Idaho," but neither is really a nick name. Imagine shouting down a senate corridor, "Hey, you, Sage of Idaho." His wife calls him Billy and tortures him once in a while with a sweet-toned Willie in front of company. It kills him. She is called Little Borah.

Col. J. Monroe Johnson, assistant secretary of commerce, is "Rowboat," and Herbert E. Gaston, assistant secretary of the treasury, has become "Admiral" since he took up coast guard work.

Colonel Harrington, WPA administrator, is called "Pinky." It has to do with his complexion, no doubt. Mrs. Hull calls the secretary of state "Judge," but at the state department the title usually refers to R. Walton Moore, department counselor.

**McNutt Gag**  
When Senator Henry F. Ashurst sprouts forth a lengthy speech, which is rare because he keeps them short, his colleagues playfully remind him that his second name is Fountain. Shiny-pated Representative Doughton, chairman of ways and means (taxation) committee, is called "Old

## ALLY OOP

HAVING NEGOTIATED A SERIES OF MINOR MISADVENTURES, OOP AND DR. BRONSON GET STARTED IN PURSUIT OF OOLA, WHO IS A PRISONER OF ULYSSES



THEATER OF ACTION, 1500 B.C.



## RED RYDER

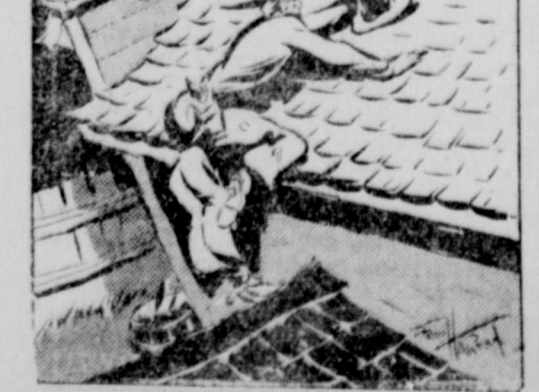
I SHOULD BE RUNNIN' DOWN TH' CROOK THAT STOLE OLD MAN WITHERS' MONEY BUT RIGHT NOW I'M MORE INTERESTED IN LUCKY DRAKE!



THERE'S A LIGHT IN DRAKE'S ROOM NOW—I CAN BRACE MYSELF AGAINST THIS CHIMNEY AND—



AHH, THERE THEY ARE, OOP! I TOLD YOU IT WOULDN'T TAKE US LONG TO OVERTAKE THEM!



YEAH—BUT IF I'M ANY JUDGE OF TH' WEATHER, WE'D BETTER MAKE IT SNAPPY!



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## SERIAL STORY 5 WOULD KILL

BY TOM HORNER

**CAST OF CHARACTERS**  
**ARNOLD BENTHORNE**—Five persons wished him dead.  
**HELEN BENTHORNE**—His charming young wife.  
**WILLIAM ALSTON**—Benthorne's father-in-law and business associate.  
**JOEY DI TORIO**—Night club owner and gangster.  
**ARA JOHNSON**—The mystery girl.  
**JOHN DOUGLAS**—A young mining engineer, in love with Ara.  
**CAPTAIN DAWSON**—A detective who likes to listen.

Yesterday, Mrs. Benthorne admits ownership of the cat, explains her actions and the portion of Benthorne's note mentioning the cat. After she admits quarreling violently with her husband, Dawson accuses her of plotting to kill Benthorne, to make it look like suicide. While he traces her possible actions, a shot shatters the stillness of the room.

**CHAPTER XXIV**  
"In here! In here!" Flynn yelled as he leaped toward Alston's door. Dawson pushed past Helen Benthorne and followed.  
There was a thin, blue wisp of smoke over the bed as they crashed through the locked door. Alston lay there, face down, as if asleep, just as Dawson had seen him before. His right arm hung down to the floor, and his finger-tips rested on a small, blue-black revolver. A vivid stain spread over the white pillow as blood flowed from a wound in his temple.

Dawson bent over Alston, pressed his ear close to the old man's back, but it was a futile gesture. As he straightened up, he noticed a paper, tightly clenched in Alston's left hand.  
"There's nothing we can do, now, Flynn," Dawson said in a low tone. "Call the coroner."  
It was not necessary. He was standing directly behind Helen Benthorne, in the doorway. As Dawson turned away from the body, Alston's daughter rushed toward the bed, but Dawson caught her in his arms and led her gently, to a chair.

"Dad!" she screamed, again and again, then wept, hysterically.  
The coroner entered on Dawson's unspoken order, made a brief examination of the body. He removed the paper from Alston's hand, read the address and

handed it to Dawson. "It's for you, Captain."  
Krone, the coroner's deputy, filed into the room and Ara and John, still handcuffed, followed. All were watching Dawson as he read Alston's message. Mrs. Benthorne's sobbing was the only sound in the room.  
Dawson bent, whispered to Mrs. Benthorne. Her sobbing subsided a little. He cleared his throat. "You all are interested in this letter Mr. Alston has left for me. It concerns all of you."  
"Dear Captain Dawson," he read. "I trust my decision to solve your case for you will not upset too many of your excellent theories. It was inevitable that you should ultimately reach this final conclusion, and I have taken it upon myself to anticipate you."  
"I killed Arnold Benthorne."  
"Any man who strikes my daughter forfeits his right to live."  
"Helen's happiness has been my sole aim in life, since her mother died, and if killing Benthorne will remove a cause of unhappiness, I am glad I was able to do it."  
"It was not difficult. I came in the rear entry, went directly to Benthorne's study, killed him and then ran up the rear stairs. I was in the upper hall as Helen went down the front steps."  
"Much of the time I was supposed to be asleep. I spent in Arnold's room, directly over the study. Your voices over the door, the others were easily heard—Arnold had special openings for that purpose—so I knew far more about the progress of your investigation than you guessed. What you did not know, or possibly overlooked, is that there is a communicating bath between Arnold's room and my own. That simplified matters considerably. It would have been easier if I could have entered Helen's room by the same route, but her door was always kept locked."  
"And by the way, Captain, if this case has given you any headaches, please try those sleeping pills I gave you. You'll find they are just ordinary aspirin. I will have a long and peaceful sleep now."  
"My bank will attest my signature. I am sound in mind, and

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By Williams



ed just in time to prevent my putting it there.  
"You've been searching all over for the gun that killed Benthorne and di Torio. It will be found in my hand with three of its five shells fired."  
"I had hidden it in a most convenient location immediately after I killed Benthorne... The laundry chute. Your man didn't find it when he searched through the clothes because I hung it within easy reach inside the chute. Even if he had looked up, from the bottom of the chute, he could not have discovered it, unless the door on the second floor were open—and I paid particular attention that it remained closed. He might have seen it had he flashed his light up, but I doubt it. Anyway, that was one of the chances I had to take. You would have found no fingerprints on it, at any rate."  
"How did I hang it there? I thought you might guess when you saw me with the wire clothes hanger in my hand. Simply insert the hanger upside down diagonally in the laundry chute, push it downward, well out of sight. The spring of the wire keeps it from slipping down. Then hang the gun by the trigger guard on the hook of the hanger."  
"It was simple to get the gun out, shoot di Torio and return it after you had gone downstairs. If I had been caught, I would have said I was merely disposing of a used towel."  
"But I've been afraid, through some trick of circumstantial evidence, that you might try to blame Helen for killing Arnold. That is why I chose this way out."  
"Full control of Alston Motors will revert to Helen. Perhaps she will forgive me, as she has always insisted she already has, for suggesting her marriage to Benthorne. I urge her to make some restitution to the girl and boy for the damage Arnold has done them."  
"And by the way, Captain, if this case has given you any headaches, please try those sleeping pills I gave you. You'll find they are just ordinary aspirin. I will have a long and peaceful sleep now."  
"My bank will attest my signature. I am sound in mind, and

know what I am writing."  
"WILLIAM ALSTON."  
Dawson was back at the desk in the study when Ara and John entered.  
"How about taking off these bracelets?" Douglas asked, laughing.  
Dawson smiled at their happiness.  
"I'll give you the key, Ara, at the city hall, when you're Mrs. John Douglas. Then, if you're afraid you'll lose him, you can throw away the key." And as they turned to go, he called after them: "You'll find Nick Smith and his cab out in front. Make him take you down-town." He stepped to the window to watch them go out the front gate, out into the sunshine. He smiled again as he saw Douglas kiss the bride as the taxi sped away.

"Well, Captain, that winds up another one," Flynn said, as the front door closed behind them. "I stand a chance in court, but personally, I'm not convinced that maybe I'll get that vacation. But you know, Flynn, this one had me puzzled. With the suicide and written confession, we'd never stand a chance in court, but personally, I'm not convinced that Alston killed Benthorne."  
**(THE END)**

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SOCIETY and CLUBS

CATHRYNE RUSSELL, Editor
Phone Numbers 344 and 608

Octava Jones Is Dinner Honoree

Mmes. Bill Childers and R. L. Jones were hostesses at a surprise dinner Saturday evening at the Childers' ranch home, honoring Miss Octava Jones on her birthday.

A yellow and bronze color scheme was carried out in floral decorations. At the lace covered table, centered with a bowl of attractively arranged autumn leaves, places were laid for Misses Octava Jones, Dorothy Childers, Kathleen Alexander, Messrs. Bill Donohoe, Holland Nix and Blake Stephens.

Grammar PTA To Meet Wednesday

The Grammar School Parent-Teacher association will meet at the school Wednesday afternoon at 3:45 with the Cisco Ministerial alliance in charge of the program. All members and parents of grammar school pupils are urged to attend.

OES OFFICERS MEET

The officers for Cisco chapter 461, OES, are instructed to meet at the Masonic hall this evening at 7 o'clock for practice.

THOMAS JEFFERSON, one of America's great democratic leaders, died some of his democratic concepts from his father, Peter Jefferson.

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The Notebook

Wednesday The Music Study club will meet at the clubhouse at 10 a. m.

Thursday The Thursday Forty-Two club will meet with Mrs. G. M. Stephenson at her ranch home at 3 o'clock.

The Loyal Women's class of the First Christian Sunday school will have a Christmas party at the home of Mrs. Minnie Hill, 701 I avenue, at 7:30.

The Parent Education class will meet at the Nursery school at 1:30. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Friday The Althean class of the First Baptist church will have a Christmas party at the home of Mrs. W. D. Brecheen at 7:30.

Personals

Mrs. Guyie Greynolds and children, Helen Louise and Guyie, Jr., spent Monday in Abilene.

Ray Burnside attended the Masonic Home-Dallas football game in Fort Worth Saturday.

Mrs. W. F. Hunterman and daughters, Marie, of Cisco and Kate of Albany, and Mrs. John Holland of Albany spent Monday in Abilene.

Gen. Oylor of Moran is transacting business in Cisco today.

Mrs. Marcus Ward and daughter, Mary Ellen, of Moran, spent Monday here.

Mrs. Mary Townsend of Moran transacted business in Cisco this morning.

ABDUL MEDJID, a progressive sultan of Turkey, forced his subjects to wear the fez in place of the turban, which was regarded as a symbol of conservatism. The progressive republic of Turkey forced the people to adopt western headgear in place of the fez, a symbol of the past. However, Turkish peasants still wear hats resembling the long-prohibited turban.

Look in the Classified First.

Russia Given Last Chance to Halt Invasion

GENEVA, Dec. 12 (AP)—The league of nations last night gave soviet Russia a "last chance" offer of 24 hours to halt her war on Finland and submit the dispute to league mediation.

What action the league might take if Russia refused to mediate still was uncertain, but it appeared rejection of the offer would mean allied arms and munitions and Latin-American food and oil for the embattled Finns.

Following the call of the Finnish delegate, Rudolf Holsti, for "all practical support possible," a league committee on the Russian-Finnish question sent the Russian government a telegram of four points, informing it:

1.—That the council had sent Finland's appeal for league action in the dispute to the assembly.

2.—That the assembly invites both Finland and Russia to suspend hostilities and begin peace negotiations under league mediation.

3.—That Finland immediately accepted mediation by the league.

4.—That Moscow's reply was expected within 24 hours.

At Great Britain's suggestion, the committee decided it must have "no illusions" on the Russian reply, despite soviet reports in Geneva that there was a 50-50 chance Moscow would accept.

During the day's negotiations it became apparent that Great Britain was assuming leadership in the league.

British sources went so far as to say that if Moscow refused to cease hostilities and accept league mediation, the British-French allies would support the Argentine move to oust Russia from the league and give Finland the aid she asked.

Holsti, the white-haired Finnish delegate, drew heavy applause from 40 nations when he made his dramatic plea for aid to Finland.

"We cannot protect the Finnish people against aggression, bullets, hand grenades and gas with international resolutions," he declared.

"Gentlemen, do your duty," Holsti concluded, "the Finnish people is doing its duty toward the entire civilized world and it is paying with that most precious thing of all, its own blood."

Specs---

(Continued from Page One)

out authority to act and a legislature which cannot act without the governor would be eliminated and force and effect given to the will of the people through the legislature.

There should be no reason to resort to any such system in this country, and it is not to be recommended, but at least it would be better than the mess we now have.

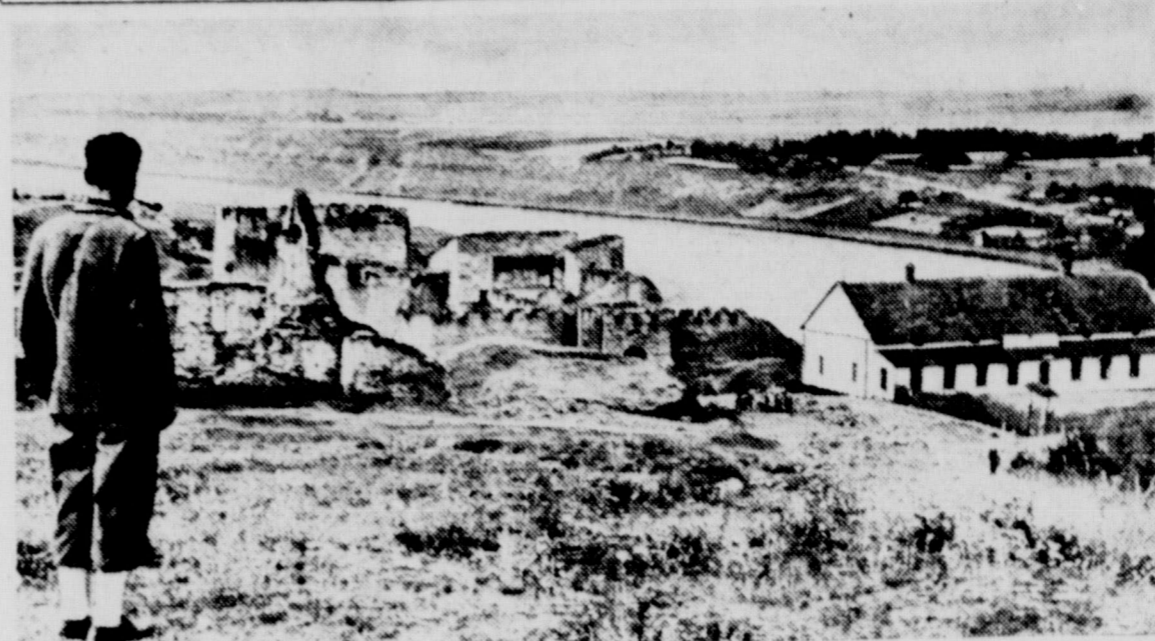
PRESSURE DROPS

AUSTIN, Dec. 12 (AP)—The precipitate plunge of bottom-hole pressure in the east Texas oil field apparently has ended, at least temporarily, railroad commission officials said today. They stated that tests of 69 wells showed an average pressure drop of only 5.11 pounds the past month.

BACKACHE CAUSED BY...

Backache may be caused by sluggish kidneys. If excess acid and other wastes are not regularly eliminated it may also lead to getting up nights, burning, sandy or frequent flow, leg or rheumatic pains, headache or dizziness. Get a box of Tablets from any drugist. Your 25c back in 1 day if not pleased. Locally at DEAN DRUG CO.

Route of the Soviet to the Balkins



Border post on the Red-Rumanian frontier. Russian troops would meet no resistance here.

War in Balkans Hinges on Reds Move on Rumania

By THOMAS M. JOHNSON NEA Service Staff Correspondent

If Russia means it about seizing Rumania's province of Bessarabia, we are likely to see a tremendous politico-military razzle-dazzle, and Europe's war spreading to the Balkans and the Near East.

But perhaps we shall merely see Russia walk in on Bessarabia. For one apparently weird aspect of a weird situation is that the red army can have Bessarabia for the taking.

The Rumanian general staff would fight there only a delaying action, making real resistance on the Pruth river, backed by the hills that the Bessarabian steppes lack. The Rumanians are today fortifying along this river, which was virtually the Russo-Rumanian boundary before the World war when Bessarabia was a (forcibly annexed) Russian province. So, why any shooting at all?

RUMANIA SQUATS BEFORE ENEMIES

First, Rumania is in the Balkans, where it takes only one shot to start a barrage; second, Rumania's shape is round, like a spot. On that spot she squats, surrounded by the finest assortment of enemies confronting any nation in Europe—Russia, Bulgaria, Hungary—each full of vengeance and vehemence.

To give in to one without giving in to all is a trick even for agile King Carol. If he must give up Bessarabia when war starts, his game is to prevent it starting.

If war should start, he might lose not only Bessarabia, but his shirt—and Rumania's.

So Carol marshals his resources, including a prayer and an army—the greater of which is not, in military opinion, his army.

His army wears prettier uniforms than any European army and lately was slowest to mobilize; its officers use makeup and have to be reorganized; its soldiers are the most numerous in the Balkans (1,700,000 potential) and the worst equipped, and some are of doubtful loyalty.

Which helps explain why Rumania is on a spot.

MINORITY INDIGESTION AFFECTS RUMANIA

It's the old European complaint, minority indigestion. Too many Hungarians and Slavs governed by Latin Rumanians. True, their right to govern is better than those good neighbors, Hungary, Bulgaria and Russia claim.

Bessarabia has more Rumanians than Russians, Transylvania more Rumanians than Hungarians; Roubudja has some of everything. But, why does a farmer covet his neighbor's acres? Especially if he once had them—no matter how he

got them. In Europe politics is mostly history and power.

Hungary and Bulgaria lack the power now, for Rumania's twenty millions outnumber them combined. But if Russia marched, through only to the Pruth, that would keep much of the Rumanian army busy and give Hungary and Bulgaria a chance. Then what?

CAROL MIGHT LOSE ALL

Perhaps their blast of concerted revenge would leave King Carol in his socks. But perhaps it would bring a rushing mighty wind that would blow down the whole card-house of Balkan peace and whirl it into the cyclone of general war.

For in the Balkan game all the big shots have stakes, and are playing with knives in their boots. Not just Russia but Germany, if only for Rumanian oil; Italy, for trade, power and safety from communism for herself and her protegee, Hungary; Russia, for Bessarabia, perhaps not merely as lost acres, but as stepping-stone to move red revolution in the Balkans and via Stalin's rather trembling protegee Bulgaria, to Russia's historic goal, warm water at the Dardanelles.

But there stands Turkey, still Russia's professed friend though now an ally of Britain and France—who also have guaranteed Rumania against aggression.

CAROL'S PRAYER IS EXPANSIVE

Circling King Carol's spot, we arrive at his prayer—that if he must be the boy on the burning deck, yet, ere his ship of state sink, help may come. Help against Russia might come from Italy, Yugoslavia, perhaps remotely, even from Germany; or if Germany casts lots for his shirt with Russia, then still, help from Italy and from Britain and France, Yugoslavia and Greece.

It could come quickly if Turkey opened the Dardanelles to a British and French expedition; more slowly if that expedition must land in Greece and reach Rumania overland. But such help has been prepared by Foch's old right hand, Weyand, just back from strengthening French garrisons in the Near East and advising King Carol about his army.

That lone-time playboy must play a game now that makes numbers or pinball look straightforward as mumbletypeg. The possible combinations would puzzle Einstein. What will Stalin do? Hitler? Mussolini? Today Carol is trying to appease Hungary and Bulgaria by better treatment of their minorities.

Shall he even give back parts of Transylvania and Dobrudja? Shall he without war give Russia what he must give her with war? or shall he, if forced, risk war hoping for help that will enable him to retain Bessarabia? This far he has sat tight, on the hottest spot in Europe—which is getting hotter every minute.

Mattress Making Demonstration

There will be a mattress making demonstration at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jess Hagan of the Pleasant Hill community, Thursday, December 14, starting at 10 a. m. The meeting is open to the public and any one interested in mattress making in the home is invited to attend.

"In the mattress making campaign, or the 'Use More Cotton' campaign in Texas, we are recommending making the mattress at home, only when the families can't go the factory or the store and get a mattress of the same quality they can make at home," said Miss Ruth Ramey, Eastland county home demonstration agent, in charge.

Education Class Meets Thursday

The Parent Education class of the Cisco Nursery school will meet at the school Thursday, December 14, at 1:30.

The meetings are held once monthly, and the general public is always welcome.

THE PRINCIPAL ports of Ulster, Ireland, are Belfast, Londonderry, Coleraine and Newry. Belfast is the most important of them.

Cisco Debate Club Elects Officers

Officers of the Cisco Debate Club were elected yesterday as follows: Winell Jones, president; James Flournoy, vice president; Frances Edwards, secretary; Winona Milner, treasurer and Billy Fox, reporter.

The members of the club have visited a number of schools this year for debate tournaments and are planning to go to Austin Thursday to a debate institute to be held at Texas university.

Mrs. E. L. Hazlewood is sponsor.

THROUGHOUT the north temperate zone may be found about 20 species of iris. North America contains about 20 varieties.

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ONE OF THE FEW ever seen in Texas was this year by a game warden in Gillespie county. He was through field glasses and reported it appeared pure albino with pink eyes.

THE TERM Islam is derived by Mohammedans from the word Allah.

Mrs. Leonard Surles and land is the guest of her Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Yarbrough.

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