

South Plains  
Monument Co.  
Plainview, Tex.  
T. O. Collier  
Prop.  
Est. 1916

# THE CASTRO COUNTY NEWS



VOLUME NO. XVII

DIMMITT, CASTRO COUNTY, TEXAS THURSDAY, JANUARY 6, 1944

NUMBER 11

## Castro County Bond Quota Lowered For Fourth War Loan

### Record Rainfall In This Section In December

December of 1943 ushered in more moisture in this section than any December on record. Of the 16.83 inches of rainfall in 1943, 3.08 fell in December.

The following rainfall report was recorded by the government rain gauge at the home of Mr. Edwin Ramey.

1943  
Jan.-00  
Feb.-00  
March--00  
April--78  
May--2.01  
June--3.26  
July--4.72  
Aug.--93  
Sept.--85  
Oct.--66  
Nov.--54  
Dec.--3.08

Following is the annual rainfall record for the past 24 years:

1920--14.83  
1921--19.42  
1922--16.02  
1923--38.58  
1924--15.90  
1925--21.30  
1926--24.73  
1927--11.73  
1928--21.93  
1929--21.36  
1930--17.68  
1931--16.69  
1932--17.69  
1933--14.76  
1934--14.98  
1935--11.68  
1936--17.49  
1937--15.54  
1938--17.43  
1939--13.17  
1940--12.00  
1941--39.39  
1942--25.88  
1943--16.83

### MRS. FAYE SWEAT SUFFERS SEVERE HAND INJURY

Mrs. Faye Sweat had the misfortune Saturday of suffering a severe cut on her left hand while operating the meat slicer at the Thompson Grocery. A number of stitches were necessary in treating the wound.

### Real Estate Transactions Indicate Brisk Trading

The year of 1943 was a busy one in the Clerks office of Castro County, as is revealed by the following report by Mrs. Ola T. Murphy, County Clerk.

There were 13 marriage licenses issued. More than 300 Warranty and Guardians Deeds were recorded. There has been many Releases of Chattel Mortgages also Deeds of Trust and Vendor's Lien Notes.

There will be a report of each week's Deed Recording in the News.

During the first week of 1944 there was recorded six Warranty Deeds as follows:

Grantor, Joe Gateze et ux to Grantee Rav L. Howell, N. 1/2 Sec. 137, Block M-7.  
Grantor, B. D. Woodlee et ux to Grantor, J. C. Fulfer, 16.2 acres Survey No. 38, Block M-10-A.  
Grantor, J. C. Tate et ux to Grantee, J. C. Fulfer, 16.2 acres, A Survey No. 38, Block M.  
Grantor, R. E. Holland et ux to Grantee, H. A. Parris, 265 A, Survey 142, Block M-7.  
Grantor, Joe G. Duree et ux to Grantee, L. L. Armor, S 1/2, Section 33, Block 10-T.  
Grantor, W. D. Duree et ux to Grantee, L. L. Armor, N 1/2, Section 33, Block 10-T.

### MRS. EDWIN KIMBELL GETS CONVERSATION CHRISTMAS PRESENT

Mrs. Edwin Kimbell was the recipient of a much coveted Christmas present Christmas Eve, in the form of a telephone conversation with her husband, Pvt. Edwin Kimbell, who is stationed in the Hiwaian Islands. As a result of the conversation friends of the Kimbells learned that Edwin is enjoying good health.

### Baptist Church

(Rev. M. J. Lee, Pastor)  
Sunday School 9:45 A. M.  
Morning Worship 11:00.  
B. T. U. 7:00 P. M.  
Evening Worship 8:00 P. M.  
The pastor will preach at the morning hour using as his subject, "Give Thanks to God". And at the evening hour on, "An Invitation that is Beyond Description." We invite you to come to all of the services. "Come Thou With Us And We Will Do Thee Good."

We began last Wednesday night studying the Book of Romans in our prayer meeting. Bring your Bible and meet with us next Wednesday evening at 8:00 P. M., and we believe you will receive a blessing.

### ELMER C. WATSON JR. RECEIVES COMMISSION

Great Lakes, Ill., Dec. 28—Recent graduation ceremonies at the Naval Training Station for midshipmen on the Northwestern University campus in Evanston, Ill., saw Elmer Calloway Watson, 22, son of Mr. Elmer C. Watson of Dimmitt receive his commission as Ensign in the U. S. Naval Reserve.

Courses in navigation, seamanship and gunnery comprised the three-month training period. The newly commissioned Ensign will now see action with the fleet as a deck officer.

Waldeen Duree of Baylor, Waco, was here for a Christmas visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Duree.

### W. S. C. S. INSTALLATION SERVICES HELD SUN.

The Installation Service for the Woman's Society of Christian Service was held Sunday at 8 P. M. The following officers were installed:

President, Mrs. H. E. Hershey  
Vice President, Mrs. C. O. Byrnes.  
Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. T. E. Harrison.  
Recording Secretary, Mrs. B. M. Nelson.  
Treasurer, Mrs. Homer Newton.  
Secretary of Christian Social Relations and Local Church Activities, Mrs. Joe Gollehon.  
Secretary on Missionary Education and Service, Mrs. Melvin Rankin.  
Secretary of Student Work, Mrs. L. A. Womack.  
Secretary of Young Women's and Girls' Work, Mrs. E. L. Carpenter.  
Secretary of Children's Work, Mrs. M. U. May.  
Secretary of Literature and Publications, Mrs. R. E. Wilson.  
Chairman of Committee on Spiritual Life Work, Mrs. Ural S. Sherrill.  
Secretary of Supplies, Mrs. Mary Wood.

Subscribe for the News

### RECEIVE CARD STATING THAT WAR PRISONER SON IS WELL; IN BURMA

Mr. and Mrs. George Redwine received a card Christmas Eve from their son, Pvt. James D. Redwine, who enlisted in the U. S. Army in the fall of 1939, informing them that he was a war prisoner of the Japs, and was being held in a war prisoners camp at Moulmein, Burma. The card, a printed form, was filled in by James D. and indicated that his health was good and that he was among friends. He was a member of the lost Battalion, and had been missing in action since the fall of Java on February 24, 1942. The card received Christmas Eve was the first definite information received by relatives of Pvt. Redwine since he was reported missing.

### Big Square Added To Dimmitt Circuit

Rev. C. W. Williams was notified this week, by Rev. Will C. House, District Superintendent, that the Big Square Church had been added to the Dimmitt Methodist Circuit, and that he was to conduct services at Big Square Sunday morning and Sunday night. With the addition of Big Square to the circuit, Rev. Williams will pastor five charges others being at Bethel, Easter, Jumbo and Flagg.

Rev. Williams announced that the first quarterly conference of the circuit will be conducted Sunday, February 13, at Big Square, with Rev. House preaching at the morning, afternoon and night services. Quarterly Conference will be conducted following the morning preaching service.

### Culling of Flocks Is Recommended

The government is recommending a heavy culling of laying flocks between December 16th and February 1st according to information received by County Agent M. U. May. The reason for this recommendation is that the feed situation on a nation wide scale is moving rapidly toward a crisis, which could mean that there would not be enough feed in parts of the nation to feed the 1944 baby chicks produced.

Even though this request is made by the government it is good business to cull your hens and take out those that are not paying for the high priced feed they are eating each day, stated County Agent May. Any farmer in Castro County desiring help in culling their chickens should contact the County Agent who stated that he would be glad to assist in culling hens for anyone making a request.

### FATHER OF MRS. EDGAR RAMEY SUCCEUMS

The funeral of W. Y. Buchanan, 87, was held in Plainview Wednesday afternoon. Rev. G. K. Rogers, pastor of the Plainview Presbyterian church, officiated in the rites held at 3 o'clock at the Roy G. Wood Funeral Home. Burial was in the Plainview cemetery.

Buchanan died Tuesday morning in his home in Plainview. He had been in poor health for quite some time.

A resident in Hale county for 35 years, Buchanan was a native of Lee county, Virginia, but moved to Texas with his parents at the age of one year. His parents settled 12 miles north of Dallas and he resided in that section until 1908 when he moved to Hale county, settling twelve miles south of Plainview. He and Mrs. Buchanan, who is among survivors moved to Plainview almost two years ago. He had been a member of the Presbyterian church for 53 years.

Besides Mrs. Buchanan survivors include four children, M.B. Buchanan, Friona; J.D. Buchanan, Plainview; Mrs. Fred Farrell, Fort Worth, and Mrs. Edgar Ramey, Dimmitt.

Pallbearers were Bert Buchanan, Frank Buchanan, Nelson Haun, Newt Wheeler, Oliver Harmel and Charlie Howard.

### Soldier Writes From England

Somewhere in England  
Dec. 12, 1943

To The People of Castro Co.,  
I am taking a few minutes this morning to let you know how much I appreciate receiving the Castro County Paper, and hearing from the folks at home.

Today I received two Castro County papers and the past 30 minutes I have spent in Dimmitt, only to awaken and find myself bogged down in mud.

The mud was ankle deep but now it is knee deep, reminds me of the State Highway Dept., a few years ago.

I wish to say "thank you" to the Bethel people for a Christmas greeting I received from them. Although Christmas day will probably be just another day in England, may it be that we can pause just a few moments on that day and give thanks to our comrades for what they have accomplished.  
Cpl. Cleo. L. Richardson

### CARD OF THANKS

I wish to take this method of publicly expressing my gratitude to the many kind people of Dimmitt who have been so sympathetic and thoughtful during the time I have been hospitalized following my injury.  
Sincerely,  
O. B. Burgess

### POPULAR COUPLE MARRIED DEC. 28

Miss Kathryn Davis and Bill Graham Jr. were married in Lubbock with a single ring ceremony Dec. 23, in the home of Rev. C. A. Beckley. They were accompanied by Berneice Broadstreet and the groom's sister, Dorothy.

The bride wore a navy blue dress trimmed in white with navy accessories and a corsage of red roses.

Kathryn is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Davis of Andrews, Texas. She is a graduate of Andrews High School and attended McMurry in Abilene where she was a member of Wah-Wahtaysee Alpha Theta Nu, W.A.A. and McMurry Maidens. The Groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Graham. He graduated from Dimmitt High and is a farmer-stockman of Castro county.

After a short trip to parts in Okla. they are at home south east of Dimmitt.

### JAMES K. BIRDWELL COMPLETES MECHANIC COURSE

AMARILLO ARMY AIR FIELD AMARILLO, TEXAS, James K. Birdwell son of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Birdwell of Dimmitt Texas has completed his course of studies as an aviation mechanic in this army Air forces Technical training school.

His graduation from this technical school now fits him for airplane maintenance and he will be sent to some air base where he will assist in keeping America's Flying Fortresses in the air for Allied victory.

In addition to completion of the schedule of academic and practical studies as an aviation mechanic, he has been thoroughly drilled in military tactics and defense and a course of physical training that has conditioned him to meet all requirements of an American soldier.

### LAZBUDDY COUPLE MARRIED HERE

Mr. Chester Lee and Miss Bobbie Lee Duram, both of Lazbuddy, were united in marriage December 17, in the home of the officiating Minister, Rev. M. J. Lee, pastor of the Dimmitt Baptist Church.

We regret to report that Mr. C. J. (Dad) Mapes is seriously ill at the home of his son, Mr. C. J. Mapes, Jr. Mr. Mapes, who is over 100 years of age is possibly the Panhandle's oldest citizen.

### Announcements Open Political Campaigns

#### MATH GERBER ENTERS COMMISSIONERS RACE CASTRO COUNTY, PRE. 4

The News is authorized to place the name of Mr. Math Gerber in its announcement column as a candidate for the office of Commissioner of Precinct 4, Castro County, subject to the action of the Democratic Primaries.

In making his announcement, Mr. Gerber declared that he felt that his experience over a period of time in road work and general business qualified him to efficiently discharge the duties of Commissioner, and that in event he was elected he would exert every effort to fairly and impartially discharge the duties of the office. He further stated that he would endeavor to see every voter in the precinct before election date.

#### MRS. OLA T. MURPHY ANNOUNCES FOR RE-ELECTION, 2nd TERM

Mrs. Ola T. Murphy has authorized the News to announce her candidacy for re-election for a second term as District and County Clerk of Castro County, subject to the action of the Democratic Primaries. A personal statement by Mrs. Murphy will appear in the columns of the News next week.

### Citizens Asked To Raise \$110,000

#### CLAIRE JONES MARRIES ENS. ELMER C. WATSON, JR.

The marriage of Miss Claire Jones, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Elmo S. Jones of Tuscolo, and Ensign Elmer C. Watson, Jr., son of Elmer C. Watson of Dimmitt, took place in Lubbock Christmas night at 6:30 o'clock at the home of the bridegroom's uncle, L. B. Watson, 2117 Thirteenth St., Rev. J. W. Watson of Crosbyton, another uncle, read the single ring ceremony.

The bride wore a light green dress and dark green accessories and an orchid corsage.

Miss Wima Dixon of Dimmitt, the maid of honor, wore a red and white ensemble.

Eugene Watson of Dimmitt served as his brother's best man.

The L. B. Watson's were hosts with a wedding supper honoring the couple after the ceremony and relatives and a few friends were guests. Red roses decorated the table. A Christmas tree lighted with blue lights stood in the living room.

Ensign and Mrs. Watson received their degrees from McMurry college, Abilene, last June.

After a wedding trip Mrs. Watson will return to Midland where she is in the drafting department of the Humble Oil company and Ensign Watson will go to Norfolk, Va., to receive advanced training.

### Home D. Council Meeting Postponed

For various reasons the regular meeting of the Castro County Home Demonstration Council has been postponed from its regular meeting on the second Saturday of the month to the third Saturday, which will be January 15. The meeting is called for 3:00 o'clock and will be in the County Home Demonstration Agent's office.

#### FELLOWSHIP MEETING AT ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH

There will be a fellowship Meeting held at the Assembly of God Church Sunday, January 9. All day services will be conducted with dinner at the noon hour. Everyone is extended an invitation to attend this special service.  
C. G. Roper, Pastor

#### MRS. GIBBS HOSTESS TO WSCS

The W.S.C.S. met in the home of Mrs. Gibbs in a business and social meeting Monday afternoon. The devotional was given by Rev. Sherrill. A pledge service was conducted by the new president, Mrs. Hershey.

#### JOHN C. STORK ANNOUNCES FOR RE-ELECTION COUNTY COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT 4

The News is authorized to announce the candidacy of John C. Stork for re-election to the office of County Commissioner of Precinct 4, subject to the action of the Democratic primaries. A personal statement by Mr. Stork will appear in the next week's issue of the News.

#### ANDY THOMPSON ANNOUNCES FOR COMMISSIONER, PRE. 2

The News is authorized to announce the candidacy of Andy Thompson for the office of Commissioner of Precinct 2, Castro County, subject to the action of the Democratic Primaries.

In announcing his candidacy, Mr. Thompson declared that, in event he is elected to the office to which he aspires, he will diligently discharge the duties of the office, and at all times be impartial in discharging the duties incumbent upon him as Commissioner. He also stated that he earnestly solicits the consideration of every voter in the precinct, and that at the beginning of the campaign he respectfully solicits the influence of his friends and the public in his race for the office of Commissioner of Precinct 2.

According to an announcement this week by County Chairman H. W. Golden, the quota for Castro County in the Fourth War Loan has been set at \$110,000, a reduction of approximately \$36,000 from the Third War Loan quota for the county. Mr. Golden declared however, that it was expected that the quota for the Fourth War Loan would be more difficult to raise because of the difference in conditions now and at the time of the Third War Loan. All citizens of the county are urgently requested to make their bond purchases in the county, so that they will be properly accredited to the County quota.

All sales in the county will be to individuals, with sales of series E, F and G Bonds and Tax Notes C, purchased in the county from January 1 through February 15 applying on the county quota.

Community quotas in the county will appear in next week's issue of the News.

### Womens Missionary Society Meeting

The Woman's Missionary Society of the First Baptist Church met at 2:30 Monday Jan. 3 in an executive and business meeting.

Mrs. Earnest Harmon, Pres. called meeting to order.

Bro. M. J. Lee brought the devotional on "Moral Standings Of Dress Conduct and Speech" using scripture references from Titus and Timothy.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The Treasurer, Mrs. Pete Whitlow, gave her report.

Reports of the standing committees as follows:

Missions — Mrs. W. E. Kirkpatrick.  
Young People — Mrs. O. Stephens.  
Periodical and Publicity — Mrs. J. E. Burch.  
Circle reports — Mrs. E. H. Youts, Mrs. C. G. Maples, Mrs. John Broadstreet.  
Community missions — Mrs. C. G. Maples.  
The Meeting adjourned until next Monday, Jan. 10 in the following homes at 3:00 P.M.:  
Vada Waldrou — Mrs. E. H. Youts.  
Mary Belle Taylor — Mrs. T. Buckmaster.  
Grace Wells — Mrs. C. J. Maples

#### Book Club To Meet Jan. 12

The Book Club will meet Wednesday, January 12, at 3:00 P. M. at the Legion Hut.

Mrs. R. B. Boren will review "Also the Hills" by Francis Parkinon Keys.

This story is swift and the topic timely and both are impregnated with romance. This is the story of the three "Young Farmers" who have left the ancestral home on Farman Hill, each going into different phases of army life.

Anyone who is interested in hearing the review may come by paying a small fee of 25 cents, which will go to the library.

### Tommies Hold Vigil in the Desert



These are not shepherds but British Tommies assembled around the silent glow of a bonfire in the Libyan desert. The Tommies are holding their own Christmas eve vigil far from home under a bright North African moon. An accordionist accompanies them in the singing of their hymns.

**BETHEL**

The Holiday season has been enjoyed by the entire community. There has been a good bit of visiting and a number of our people have had family gatherings. We had a neighborhood program and tree Friday night. Santa was present and there were gifts for all. At this time a miscellaneous shower was given Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Williams and a pounding for Rev. Williams and family.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Bagwell were fortunate in having all their children home during the holidays. Those coming from away were, Mr. and Mrs. Elza Gullion from Tulsa Okla., and Mr. and Mrs. Sealburn Teague and girls from Slaton.

Mrs. J. H. Cryer, Marvin, John, and Dale from Dimmitt had Christmas dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Harry Rothwell. Mr. and Mrs. Moss Howell and family spent Christmas day with Mr. Howells parents at Enoch Tex. Mr. and Mrs. Earl Lust, Earline and Lloyd, Mr. and Mrs. Vern Lust Grace Louise, and Glenn spent Christmas day in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Stiles at Big Square.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray McEntire and Devonna from Floydada and Miss Grace Marie Bagwell and Sergeant Jim Harman from Pampa spent the holidays in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Bagwell.

Miss Earline Lust from W.T.S. T.C. of Canyon is enjoying a 12 day vacation at the home of her parents Mr. and Mrs. Earl Lust.

The Xmas holidays were enjoyed very much for Mr. and Mrs. J.G. Davis as all their children were present. Their daughter, Mrs. Albert Smith from Big Springs. Another daughter, Mrs. Cleo Richardson from Austin and son Lt. J. G. Davis and little daughter Keitha Kay from Roswell. Their granddaughter, Miss Bertie Mary Smith from a nursing school at Abilene was also present.

Fate Shannon from Ft. Sill, Okla. and Mr. and Mrs. Billy B. Sinclair from Liberal Kan. visited in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bryan Sinclair and Mrs. Fate Shannon during the holidays. Mr. and Mrs. McBride from White Deer and Miss Pauline McBride from Panhandle were Sunday visitors also.

Mr. and Mrs. Leland Smith and family and Mr. and Mrs. Ivor Bag-

well and family spent Christmas at Hereford in the home of Mrs. Smith's and Mrs. Bagwell's parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Dunn.

Mrs. Jim Givan and daughter, Mary Elizabeth went to Tulia Friday. Her father, Mr. Lemon returned home with them to spend the holidays.

Mrs. M. D. Rushing and grandson Bobby Smith, visited at Lockney Sunday in the home of her daughter, Mrs. Hamilton and family.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Williams had Christmas dinner at Plainview in the home of his mother, Mrs. W. G. Williams.

Mrs. Vivian Guthrie and daughter from Muleshoe spent Christmas day in the home of her parents and brother, Mr. Herman Lane, and family. Those enjoying a dinner party at the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Rothwell Sunday were Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Nowell and Jaquitta of Morton, Mr. and Mrs. Junior Rothwell, Carolyn and Sharon, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Rothwell and Marlene, Marvin and John Cryer.

Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Davis, Mrs. Cleo Richardson, Mr. and Mrs. Vern Lust and family visited in the Earl Lust home Sunday.

**'I Resolve'**



The speculative attitude of this young lady is ample proof that she is taking her New Year's resolutions seriously. She isn't going to take a chance on making a resolution she won't keep. Perhaps she has determined to study harder or to be of greater help to her mother—but at least she is going to keep her word.

**Stripped for Action**



This young son of a coast guardman stationed at Boston is shown as he greets the New Year. True to traditions of the coast guard, he is "stripped for action" as he wishes you a happy New Year.

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Conner and Mrs. Edwin Kimbell visited friends and relatives at Quitaque and Turkey during the holidays.

Mrs. Jimmie Snipes returned home Wednesday from Roswell, N. M., where she had been at the bedside of her sister, Mrs. Leonard Jones, who had been seriously ill.

Mrs. Ola T. Murphy was informed in a letter, received Tuesday, from her son, John P. Murphy, that he had arrived safely in Hawaii.

Mr. E. A. McCollum was called to Junction Friday due to the critical illness of his father.

Mrs. Cleo Richardson, who recently moved from Austin to Dallas, was here for a Christmas visit in the home of her parents, Mr and Mrs. J. G. Davis.

Mr. Fate Shannon was home from Ft. Sill for a week's visit with Mrs. Shannon and other relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Reece and family of Brownfield, Mrs. R. C. James and children of Plainview and Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Donnell of Clovis were holiday visitors in the G. H. James home.

Ensign Elmer C. Watson was home from Chicago, Ill., for a holiday visit with home folks.

Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Dixon had as their guests for Xmas dinner, Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Dixon, C. W. Dixon of Friona, Elmer Dixon and family, Mr. and Mrs. O. H. Dixon and family of Amarillo. Another son, W. H. Dixon, of Texon was unable to attend the gathering Christmas Day, but was here for a visit with his parents Sunday, Dec. 19.

**Notice**

I Have Purchased The

**Dimmitt Hatchery Equipment**

and have moved it to the building next door to my Grocery and will

**Begin Operating Immediately**

We will be in position to supply you with your early Baby Chicks from blood-tested flocks that will assure you quality chicks for early producers. We will also appreciate your custom hatching. Book your baby chicks early.

**Walter Griffith**

**JUMBO**

Announcement was received here last week of the birth of a baby boy on Dec. 14, to Mr. and Mrs. Albert Schofield of Crockett. The baby was named Edwin Michael. Mr. and Mrs. Schofield are former teachers in our school.

Another letter from former teachers was received last week from Mr. and Mrs. Roy Thruston. They are teaching in the Olton school, where Mr. Thruston is High School principal, and they send greetings to all their friends here.

The following young people were home for the holidays:

Virginia and Margaret Simpson, student nurses at St. Anthony's Hospital in Amarillo.

Bernard Wilder, engineer with an oil company in Tulsa, Okla.

Aviation Cadet Wayne Sparkman of Deming, N. M.

Lawrence Matthews, who is attending a school of undertaking in St. Louis, Mo.

Mrs. Howard Bishop, who is teaching at Roy, N. M., and divided her holidays between visits with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Matthews here, and her husband and his parents at Killen.

Miss Mary Ann Baird, teacher of public school music in the Vernon schools left Saturday to return to her school after a week spent in her home here. Visitors in the Baird home Wednesday night were Mrs. Ann Holman and Mrs. Fred Baird of Hereford and the S. M. Hunter family.

Mrs. Addison Hunter and children went to Arney Saturday to spend a few days with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Burks. Mrs. Hunter is slowly recovering from an operation she underwent several weeks ago.

Mr. R. W. Baird is home after a few days spent in the Deaf Smith County Hospital suffering from an attack of pneumonia.

Subscribe for the News

**New Year's Day Around the World**

By MISS ABBIE CONDIT  
National Recreation Association.

A New Year's party based on the customs of other countries will provide an appropriate theme for your celebration this year. Send out invitations decorated with an hour glass or the Old and New Year, inviting the guests to come in the costume of some country. Ask each to bring a "white elephant" possession, securely wrapped, for as tradition has it in Scotland, a package in the hand of the guest insures the host a bounteous year. (These gifts will be exchanged later in the evening as one of the party activities.)

Colorful decorations are in order for the party. In the Orient, dark green pine branches and light green bamboo stalks are hung on the gate posts, and tangerines and tangerine-like fruits are indicative of long life and happiness. Bright red lobsters and crabs are hung over doorways.

In China on New Year's day everyone puts on brand new clothes and goes visiting; so at our party there may be a grand march with judges, of course, to award prizes for the prettiest, funniest, and most unique costumes.

'May Joy Be Yours.' At the end of the march each person is given a card and a pencil. On signal each tries to obtain as many signatures as he can. He approaches someone, bows in Chinese fashion, saying "Kung Hi, Kung Hi" (I humbly wish you joy), and the other replies "Sin Hi, Sin Hi" (May joy be yours). Then each writes down the other's name. At the end of five minutes the person with the largest number of names receives a trivial award.

In Belgium we hear of a "Sugar Uncle," a "Sugar Aunt." All the keys disappear from the inside doors in the houses before New Year's Day. Then, when an unsuspecting aunt or uncle goes into a room alone, the children rush to lock the doors on the outside and do not permit the aunt or uncle to come out until he or she has promised ransom with which the children will buy sugar plums and candy. Divide the group into a number of circles with 10 to 20 players in each. A leader is given a key or a bunch of keys. He walks around the group nodding at players who fall in line behind him. When about half the members of the circle are trailing along, he drops the key and all dash to find places. The one left out pays "ransom" by being "it."

'First Footer' Relay. The circles may be easily straightened out into file formation for a "First Footer" relay. In Scotland it is considered good luck to be the first to step into a house after midnight, so there is a mad dash from house to house after the stroke of 12. Each team is a would-be "first footer." The leader counts to 12 and on "12" the first member of each team dashes to a goal and back, touching off the next player. The first team finished is the lucky one and receives a prize of cookies or tiny cakes, as was the custom.

Boys and girls of Russia have a rather strange custom. On New Year's Day they go about throwing peas and wheat at passers-by. The peas are thrown at enemies, while the lighter wheat is reserved for friends. Wheat grains are too small to handle conveniently, so give everyone eight or ten beans of one kind and eight or ten of another kind. Do not designate which is "enemy" or "friend." Guests are to trade beans with one another and at the end of five minutes the one with the fewest enemies and the most friends is given a prize.

In France the children used to leave their wooden shoes out at Christmas time for presents, but the adults exchange gifts at New Year's time. In accordance with this custom the "white elephants" may be brought out and distributed in any manner you like—by drawing or in grab bag style. All the presents should be opened on the spot as an appropriate climax to the party.



We make a Prediction  
And a Wish  
As the old year wanes

\*\*\*

**Our Prediction: 1944 is going to be a very bad year for the Japs.**

**Our Wish: That 1944 be especially favorable to you... chockful of health happiness and prosperity.**



**Castro County News**



ON THE THRESHOLD OF 1944 IT MAY BE APPROPRIATE TO ENVISION A BETTER WORLD... "A WORLD WHICH SHALL AFFORD TO ALL NATIONS THE MEANS OF DWELLING IN SAFETY WITHIN THEIR BOUNDARIES, AND WHICH WILL AFFORD ASSURANCE THAT ALL MEN IN ALL LANDS MAY LIVE OUT THEIR LIVES IN FREEDOM FROM FEAR AND WANT." MAY GOD SPEED THAT DAY, WE PRAY, AS WE SEND YOU OUR NEW YEAR'S GREETINGS.

**Dimmitt Wheat Growers**