

TIMES PUBLISHING COMPANY, Publishers RANGER TIMES

211-213 Elm Street, Ranger, Texas Telephone 224 Published every afternoon (except Saturday and Sunday)

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Entered as second-class matter at the post office at Ranger, Texas, under Act of March, 1879

Member Advertising Bureau - Texas Daily Press League F. D. HICKS, Business Manager - W. H. MAYES, Jr., Editor (Editorials by Col. Hugh Nugent Fitzgerald)

SUBSCRIPTION RATES Single copies \$.05 Three months \$ 1.25 One week by carrier .10 Six months 2.50 One month .45 One year 5.00 ALL SUBSCRIPTIONS PAYABLE IN ADVANCE

COMMR. WALKER SOUNDS A WARNING

Land Commr. J. H. Walker knows his Texas. He is a veteran of the land department of the commonwealth. He has reminded Texas senators and representatives, speaking of the oil control bill, that Texas as a state owns 2,000,000 acres of mineral lands and approximately 10,000 leases, on which are 700 producing oil wells, many of which are on small areas.

He has reminded the national solons and their constituents these wells were all drilled under existing state laws and regulations as to acreage, spacing and production. He has reminded the national representatives or lawmakers that Texas became one of the United States by treaties under which it retained the ownership and control of its lands.

He has reminded all concerned that when Texas entered the oil business it subjected itself to its own rules and regulations prescribed for that business and to such inter-regulations as might apply to movement of its product. Now what is the attitude of this very able and bright public servant of the people as to the Thomas bill? Read it: "I fear the Thomas bill as written would impair the rights of many lessees under their contract with the state and seriously affect its royalty receipts for its public school and university fund."

All of which is a reminder that the powers given the administrator under the bill would permit unitization of areas heretofore drilled under the regulations of the railroad commission and Texas law as interpreted by the supreme court and would authorize the administrator, or his representative, not only to fix for each area and each well, which quotas need not be uniform but would be subject to the will of the federal official in charge. Well, this was the conclusion: "There is no way to estimate the possible loss to the school fund by unitization but I am sure it will run into millions. The property rights acquired by independent operators in many instances might be destroyed—course, he referred to the bill as introduced which me seemed to be riding through without any bumps."

It is the hour for the people of Texas to be governed. This is the time for all the people who believe in the rights of the state and a fair deal for all its citizens to realize that the voice of Texas should ring out at the features of the Thomas-Disney bills which have evoked the opposition of thinking men and women everywhere in the Lone Star state. Washington advices are said to be very encouraging. Representatives of Texas in and out of the halls of legislation are very hopeful that justice be done to all the interests involved and that the property rights of the commonwealth (including its immense natural resource wealth) shall not be taken from the hands of the duly elected servant of the commonwealth by the enactment of oil legislation which would inflict incalculable injury to the empire state founded by Stephen F. Austin and won by the sword of Sam Houston, the conqueror of Santa Anna on the historic field of San Jacinto.

RAIL BUSINESS SAID TO BE PICKING UP

According to Washington advices, the loading of revenue freight for the week ended June 9 totaled 615,565 carloads. This was an increase of 37,024 cars above the preceding week. It was likewise an increase of 46,403 cars above the corresponding week in 1933. Really, the people of the ancient republic are showing remarkable signs of coming out of their trance since the son of the Iowa blacksmith went out of the White House and the son of the Knickerbocker Dutch pioneers caught the reins of government.

RIGHT ON THE TABLE



ORGANISTS TO HAVE ETHICS CODE

CLEVELAND.—A "code of ethics" for organists was formulated at a dinner meeting of the northern Ohio chapter of the American Guild of Organists.

SUNDAY FUNERALS BANNED

BARNESVILLE, Ohio.—Don't die in Barnesville, Bethesda, Belmont, or Hendrysburg, Ohio, if you want a Sunday funeral. Ministers of those towns have voted not to conduct obsequies on the Sabbath.

PEAR TREE BLOSSOMED TWICE

GLOUSTER, O.—First blossoms of a pear tree on W. G. Brown's farm were killed, but the tree blossomed a second time.

DONNA of the BIG TOP by BEULAH POYNTER

CHAPTER XLVIII DONNA had waited so long for Bill's telegram, asking over and over again if a message had come for her, that when at last it was put in her hand she was afraid the printed words were a delusion. There were only five words. "Come home first train. Bill."

She had unpacked only a few things from her traveling bag. In less than 15 minutes she had them all back and snapped the lock, paid her bill and checked out of the hotel. It made little difference to Donna whether she had an hour or five minutes to wait at the station for a train. Once her ticket was in her purse, she would feel that she was on her way back to Bill.

Fortunately she did not have long to wait. There was just time to buy the ticket, telegraph Bill when the train would arrive, and then scurry through the gates. On the long trip she rehearsed over and over in her mind how she would tell him her story—how she had deceived him about the real Madeline's death and the purpose of Con David's visit to Lebanon. Bill had not believed that she had eloped with Con. He might have thought she had been married to Con, but never that she had run away with him.

Why had he waited so long to send for her? It must have been on account of the will! Bill had read the will and knew that the property was hers now. The train wheels spun around and around, carrying her nearer to the climax of the drama. Bill met her at the depot. He had become an austere, grim-faced stranger who took her luggage without a word of greeting and then walked briskly to the little car, permitting her to get in with-out assistance. His silence, his rigid lips and uncompromising attitude gave Donna no help in starting her confession. Twice during the ride over the snow-caked road she tried to tell him how grateful she was because he had sent for her, but the words stuck in her throat. She managed at last to say, "Of course Grandfather is buried."

away with him. First, let me tell you that Grandfather left the farm and all the money he possessed to me. "Oh, I'm glad!" Donna cried. "I'm so glad!" "Doesn't it strike you as curious that he should do that?" "I don't know. But if he hadn't died so soon I was going to insist that he must change his will. If the farm is yours—why did you ask me to come back? I hoped it might be because you loved me but I know it isn't. You act as if you hate me."

"No, I'm waiting to hear the truth. I'm willing to accept any explanation if you can give me one. Madeline. Or should I call you Donna?" She drew back. "You—you know?" "I know part of it. Here, read this!" From his pocket he drew a folded sheet of paper and handed it to her. The handwriting ran obliquely, was uncertain and at times difficult to read. "Dear Bill," Donna made out. "As we forgive our debtors so are we forgiven. When you read this, my boy, I shall be gone and you will be suffering a double pain, but if I can understand the motive that prompted the deception and take into my heart and home the deceiver how much easier it should be for you who have made her your wife!"

"She's a dear, sweet girl, my boy. And she loves you. The reason she deserted us doesn't matter much since she gave me more than she could have asked. At first I thought the property might be an attraction but I soon knew that wasn't true. Just realize, my boy, that you've a wife above many. Love her and cherish her and be happy. "I have deeded the farm to you since the real Madeline, caring nothing for it or for me, is not entitled to it and the masquerading Madeline could not hold it in court. "Your loving Granduncle, Amos Siddal."

"Oh!" Donna sobbed. "He knew he knew and he didn't let me even suspect it." "And this," Bill went on, "was addressed to you." THE second note began thus: "Little girl whose real name I do not know (although I believe you must be Madeline's partner, Donna Gabriel), I am writing this to thank you for the happiness you gave me in my last days. At first I didn't know that you weren't the grandchild who left me in my old age and cared so little for me that she would not even spare a few hours to make an old man happy. I thought that time must have made the changes in your voice and features, yet from the day you came into the house I felt some-thing—an added softness and a tenderness that Madeline did not have. "Gradually, with the slight God gave me to take the place of the one I had lost, I saw you. I saw another girl who, for some reason, had chosen to play the part of my grandchild. "And I loved you. I am thankful and grateful for the companionship and affection you have given me

St. Petersburg is Having Land Boom

By United Press ST. PETERSBURG, Fla.—St. Petersburg is suffering from the growing pains of another mounting real estate boom, as realtors enjoy their best business in more than four years. From Jan. 1 to May 31, property valued at \$2,575,800 has been sold here. Few business buildings and hotels are listed in this turnover, the great majority of sales being confined to winter homes and apartment houses. Every 10 years for four decades, St. Petersburg has launched into a heavy real estate boom, the first getting under way in 1894 when the first railroad was built through the heart of the then fishing village. Another got under way in 1904. The World War breaking in August of 1914, nipped a roaring land boom and the third coming in 1924 and lasting into 1926 made and broke millionaires. The present furor started in the gulf island village of Pass-a-Grille, 14 miles southwest of St. Petersburg, spreading northwards to Treasure Island and Madeira Beach, then leaping across Boca Ceiga bay to the mainland. Prices on down town properties within three months have risen 25 per cent over distress values as every available skilled workman has been absorbed in making repairs and improvements in remodeling the older structures and in building new homes and apartments.

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—A crucifix brought to American from Spain by the first company of Jesuits to arrive after Columbus discovered the continent is among the rare heirlooms of Noel Popping, noted St. Louis musician and composer. It dates back to Reign of Terror in France.

ANCIENT CRUCIFIX IN COLLECTION

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The Newfangles (Mom 'n' Pop) By Cowen



ALLEY OOP



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