

## Orchestra Chair X 13

By HOWARD FIELDING

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THE train from New York due at Bridgeport at 6:20 p. m. ran into the station a few minutes late and with an unusual panting and bustle, as if confessing that it was in a hurry. From the rear platform of the last car there alighted a tall young man who did not wait for the train to come to a full stop. He wore a long, dark gray raincoat, with the collar turned up, and a black alpine hat was pulled well down over his forehead. His general aspect as he dodged around the end of the depot suggested that of one who is hurrying through a smart shower without an umbrella, yet the weather had cleared within the last hour, and, moreover, the man was under shelter all the time.

If it was the stranger's intention to escape observation he failed signally. An exceptionally keen eye marked all his doings. Before his foot was firmly on the boards of the platform as he stepped down from the car this thought had flashed through the brain of a certain young man who lounged near by upon the shady side of a pillar which supported the roof, "That fellow looks queer."

The eye and thought were Stephen Kent's, and Mr. Kent was a reporter on one of the Bridgeport papers, therefore an individual who was glad to see anything or anybody that was queer. He was a youth of quick decision, and he lost no time upon this occasion.

The stranger crossed the street beyond the station in a great hurry and entered the bar of a hotel. Kent went in by the main door and gained the bar in another way, yet almost simultaneously with the object of his interest.

The man in the raincoat took his place by a window and observed with obvious interest, even a measure of anxiety, the crowd which poured out of the building. It may have been a quarter of an hour that he stood there, and meanwhile Kent was sitting beside a small table pretending to read an evening paper.

The light from an electric lamp struck through the window in such a way that the stranger could not avoid it as he looked out. It beat strongly upon his face, revealing to Kent a very interesting matter—namely, that the man in the raincoat was naturally of a fair complexion, though he seemed to be dark because his eyebrows were penciled and his mustache blackened.

Obviously the disguise had been hastily assumed, but the reporter was of the opinion that it must make a radical change in the man's appearance. It was probable that his hair had always been dark brown, and for that reason the gray eyes and very light colored eyebrows and mustache would have been the more notable.

Presently it became clear that the stranger was satisfied with what he had seen—or it may have been with what he hadn't seen—from the window. He turned away and walked across the street into the restaurant which is in the depot.

Few people were eating there, but it seemed that they were too many for the man in the raincoat, and he was about to go away when he observed a flight of stairs leading up to another dining room on the second floor. Five minutes later, when Kent ascended the stairs, he beheld the stranger sitting in a corner with a newspaper held up before his face. Not counting two wait-



THE STRANGER TOOK HIS PLACE BY A WINDOW.

resses and a cashier, there was nobody else in the room except Detective Cyrus Field Bond, who was on regular duty at the depot.

It was a bit startling to see these

two men there together, but the fact had no especial significance, for Bond was the first arrival and could hardly have known that the other was coming. Moreover, in ordinary circumstances Bond always ate in that room at that hour. The detective was a man of such regular habits and his routine was so well known to Kent that the reporter would have been willing to say with confidence not only where Bond had been at any particular hour of that day, but also where he would be during the remainder of it. He would finish his dinner at 7:30 precisely; he would smoke a short cigar of a

certain brand while standing before the door of a certain cigar store (or just within it if it should rain), and then he would go to a theater and occupy a seat on the center aisle in the last row of the orchestra.

Kent was strongly tempted to sit down at the table with the detective, although he knew that this would be a breach of strict professional etiquette.

He sat down in a corner and ordered some dinner. The waitress who served him was a nice girl, but very loquacious, so much so that Kent felt obliged to warn her in a whisper not to say anything that should reveal the nature of his occupation.

"I guess there must be something doing this evening," said the girl, glancing at the stranger out of the corner of her eye. "Mr. Bond gave me the same advice."

Presently the passenger from New York called a messenger boy and sent him out upon an errand. He seemed to be giving somewhat elaborate instructions to the boy, and Kent felt obliged to get some hint of their nature. In this matter the waitress proved to be an adequate source of information.

"He sent the boy up to the Park theater to buy a ticket," she whispered. "He said that he wanted it in the last row of the orchestra."

"The last row in the orchestra?" repeated Kent, glancing at Bond.

It was in the nature of a coincidence, for if the boy should do his errand well the mysterious stranger and Detective Bond were certain to spend the evening very close together.

"Can this be a 'fly cop' from New York?" Kent asked himself. "Have he and Bond got something up? Do they expect to nab somebody in the theater?"

It was a question impossible to answer without more data. But at any rate the case was worth watching. The messenger boy returned with the ticket after a considerable delay, during which the stranger seemed to be somewhat nervous. It was then 7:20, and by all the laws of nature Cyrus Field Bond should leave the restaurant in exactly one minute. He did not do so, and the matter of a big story was no longer in doubt.

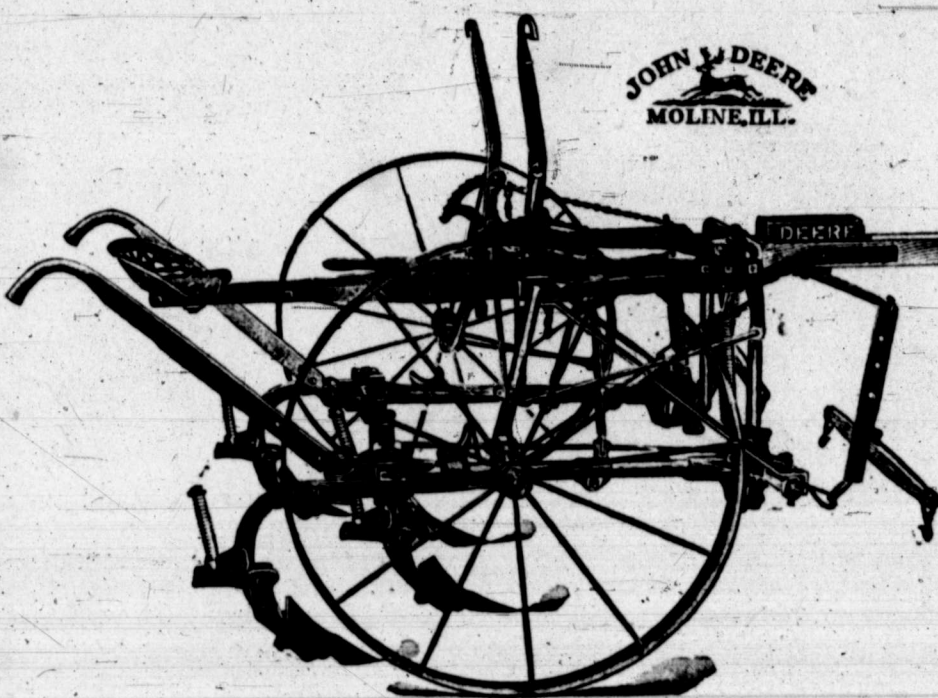
It was ten minutes before 8 when Bond left the room, and he went no farther than the restaurant below, where he leaned against the cigar stand and conversed with the man behind it. He had not been there long when the mysterious stranger paid his check and departed from the depot, quickly attended by Kent, who walked upon the other side of the street.

There was a considerable crowd about the entrance of the theater, and indeed, it was not easy to get in, for it was the night of a "first production upon any stage," and both the play and the company had been well advertised in advance. So far as Kent could judge, the stranger was relieved in mind by the sight of the throng of people, for it was certain that he stood small chance of recognition in so close an assembly. Indeed, the reporter had great fear for a minute or two that he had been thrown off the trail; that the buying of the ticket had been a mere ruse, and that the man of mystery had mingled with the crowd merely for the purpose of working his way secretly out again and leaving the theater.

But when Kent had secured an admission ticket—no seats then remaining—and had made his way inside he perceived the unknown seated in the last row of the orchestra, still clad in the raincoat and with the collar turned up around his neck. In the aisle seat of that same line of chairs sat Detective Bond, and it flashed across Kent's mind that if the two men had desired to exchange a few words in such a manner as to attract no attention they would have had an excellent opportunity when the stranger passed Bond on the way to his seat.

Was it possible that they had arranged this matter by secret signals in the restaurant? And, if so, what was the game? Were they so placed in the theater that some person or persons whom they desired to entrap would be seated between them? The stranger was in chair X 13, the sixth seat from Bond's, which was X 1. Of the five seats intervening Nos. 3, 5 and 7 were occupied by people who were known to Kent, people of a very harmless sort who could have no share in this mystery. Nos. 9 and 11 were vacant, and, though Kent knew that the tickets must have been sold, he beheld the places still empty when the house was darkened and the curtain rose. Almost immediately, as if they had been waiting for a signal, two persons appeared, an elderly man and a young and very pretty woman, both strangers in Bridgeport to the best of Kent's knowl-

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## CANYON CITY HARDWARE AND GRAIN COMPANY.

edge and belief. They were ushered into the waiting chairs. As they passed Bond the reporter saw no sign of recognition, but the stranger betrayed himself. Beyond a doubt he knew these people and was extremely desirous to avoid attracting their special attention. He pulled up his collar a little farther on the side toward them and turned his head so that no clear view of his face could be had. Later he managed to assume a not notably unnatural position, with his right elbow on the arm of his chair and his hand sheltering his visage.

It was the young lady who was next to the man in the raincoat, and she seemed to be entirely oblivious of his presence. She kept her attention fixed upon the stage and seemed to take a very deep interest in the performance, whispering frequently to the elderly man beside her, as if making comments and criticisms. Kent, who was very near this group, could not hear what was said, but the man in the raincoat must have heard much of it, and he seemed to be listening secretly.

At the close of the first act, when the lights in the house were turned up, the man in the raincoat sank down still farther into his chair and effaced himself with even greater caution. Presently, to Kent's surprise, Detective Bond arose and strolled out of the auditorium. He went to the smoking room downstairs, and Kent ventured to follow him. No one else was there.

"Hello," said Bond as the reporter entered. "What do you think of the play?"

"Blast the play!" replied Kent. "I've got something else on my mind."

"Have, eh?" was the response.

"Well, so have I."

"Now, look here, Cyrus Bond," said Kent earnestly. "I've always used you well, and you've always found me square. I've never given away anything you've told me until you've said that I could. Isn't that so? Well, such being the case, I ask you to let me in on this game that's going on tonight."

"Game?" repeated Bond.

"Who's that fellow in the raincoat?"

"Blamed if I know," answered the detective, almost as if the confession were a relief to his feelings. "That's on the level. I don't. Only wish I did, for I'm of your opinion, my boy. There's something up. I caught on to that man at the station. He's disguised, and he is mighty anxious to escape observation. He knows those people next to him, and I don't. They're strangers here. They came up on the 5:15 train, and they were 'on the quiet'—a little, not so hard as he is."

"If I was to give a guess," said Bond, "I'd say that that fellow was young Blaisdell, the man who turned the trick at that New York bank the other day, and that the other two are relatives, his father and sister, perhaps. They look a mighty sight like him. Have you caught on to that?"

"I have," responded Kent. "But that fellow doesn't answer Blaisdell's description very well."

"He doesn't," responded Bond, rubbing his head reflectively, "and that's a fact."

Every 50 cents' worth of goods purchased at the Canyon Mercantile Co's. during the month of July will entitle the purchaser to a vote in the hat contest.



"HARRY! YOU HERE?"

But I can't think of anybody else. And he's somebody; you can make up your mind to that."

"What are you going to do?"

"I'm going to keep him in sight."

"He may be leaving at this moment," interrupted Kent. But Bond shook his head with a smile.

"If he was," said he, "you'd see an usher coming down those stairs four at a jump. To proceed, I've sent for a New York man who happens to be in Bridgeport and who knows Blaisdell, but it's a chance if he gets here before the performance is over. If he doesn't, I'll try to hold this fellow somehow or follow him; I haven't quite made up my mind. You stand ready to help me, and I'll let you in on the story. We ought to go back now. I came down here just to see whether the fellow was 'on to me' and would try to get out."

They returned to the auditorium, and Kent resumed his place behind the chairs, separated from the object of his attention only by the rather narrow "orchestra circle." Nothing of importance happened during the remainder of the performance, and, indeed, Kent found it impossible to keep his attention from the play, which was excellent and exceptionally well presented. He was somewhat surprised during a bit of pathos in the last act to observe that the mysterious stranger was deeply affected, even to tears apparently, for he used his handkerchief vigorously.

At the very last, Kent saw a man tiptoe down the aisle and lay a cautious hand upon Bond's shoulder. Obviously this was the New Yorker who knew Blaisdell, the thief. He came upon Kent as an interesting touch of nature that the man in the raincoat, with dire peril so near, should have been shedding tears for the mimic woes of the leading lady of the drama.

Before Bond and the newcomer could exchange more than half a dozen words the play was over. There was quite a tempest of applause. The audience arose. The company was called out upon the stage again and again. As the audience who were far back could see almost nothing, many of them began to leave the house, and Kent succeeded in working his way down among the aisles until he was close behind the stranger. Meanwhile Bond and his acquaintance had alighted in so that they stood beside Kent. Obviously the climax of a real drama had arrived.

At this moment the stranger turned for the first time toward the elderly man and the girl who sat beside him. Kent saw his face clearly in the now brilliantly lighted auditorium. The man had wiped the black from his eyebrows and mustache, and the change in his appearance was simply amazing. It was fairly incredible. Kent stared at him, oblivious of everything else except the wonder of

this transformation so simply effected.

Suddenly the pretty girl turned toward the man of mystery, and she uttered a sound that seemed to combine a cry of terror with a burst of hysterical laughter.

"Harry!" she cried. "Harry! You here? It can't be!"

At this the elderly man wheeled as if he had been struck a blow.

"Why—why?" he exclaimed, unable to find words to express his astonishment.

"S-s-s-h, for the love of heaven!" whispered the young man. "I promised Millie solemnly that I wouldn't come. She'd have fallen in a faint on the stage if she had known that I was in the house. But—but I couldn't stay away. My own first play, and my wife in the leading part! That's too much to ask of any man, isn't it, dad?"

"Well, less than that was too much to ask of us," replied his father. "We promised Millie that we wouldn't come, as you know, but we sneaked down here."

"Sneaked!" echoed the author. "Why, I came in disguise, and I crept around like a criminal. I was afraid some blamed fool would see me on the street and tell Millie. But she'll forgive me after such a success."

Detective Bond laid a hand upon Kent's shoulder and whispered in his ear.

"Which of us," he asked, "is the blamed fool mentioned by our mysterious friend?"

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### Citation by Publication.

THE STATE OF TEXAS.

To the sheriff or any Constable of Randall County, Greeting:

You are hereby commanded to summon H. S. Burnham by making publication of this Citation once in each week for four successive weeks previous to the return day hereof, in some newspaper published in your County, if there be a newspaper published therein, but if not, then in any newspaper published in the 47th Judicial District; but if there be no newspaper published in said Judicial District, then in a newspaper published in the nearest District to said 47th Judicial District to appear at the next regular term of the County Court of Randall County, to be held at the Court House thereof, in Canyon City, Texas, on the 2nd Monday in July A. D. 1904, the same being the 11th day of July A. D. 1904 then and there to answer a petition filed in said Court on the 7th day of May A. D. 1904 in a suit, numbered on the docket of said Court No. 163, wherein Gopher, Hume & Kenyon, a corporation is Plaintiff, and H. S. Burnham is Defendant, and said petition alleging that "on divers occasions from January 3rd 1903 to May 14th 1903 the defendant herein bought from the plaintiff herein numerous articles of coal and feed-stuffs amounting to \$207.59. Plaintiff would further show to the court that at divers times and occasions from July 8th 1902 to August 28th 1903, the defendant herein bought of Wright Gamble & Co. numerous articles of merchandise amounting to \$45.58 which last account for a valuable consideration has been duly sold and transferred to the plaintiff herein. Both of which accounts are owned by the plaintiff, which accounts are both long past due and unpaid to plaintiff's damage in the sum of \$253.17 as shown by verified accounts filed in this cause, and prays for judgment of the court for said amount for costs and for general relief.

Herein fail not, but have before said court, at its aforesaid next regular term, this writ, with your return thereon, showing how you have executed the same.

Witness, J. H. Garrison, Clerk of the County Court of Randall county.

Given under my hand, and the seal of said Court, at office in Canyon City this 7th day of June A. D. 1904.

J. H. Garrison, Clerk, County Court, Randall county.

By C. N. Harrison, Deputy.

A \$10 dress hat is to be given away by the Canyon Mercantile Co. Read their display ad for particulars.



## CANYON CITY NEWS.

GEO. A. BRANDON, Prop.  
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A Weekly newspaper devoted to the interests of Randall county and published at office on West Evelyn St. Canyon City, every Friday.

Papers sent out of the county promptly discontinued at expiration of time paid for.

### SUBSCRIPTION.

One Year.....\$1.00  
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### Announcements.

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For County Judge—  
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G. G. POSTER.  
A. N. HENSON.  
(For Re-Election)  
For County and District Clerk—  
L. J. SCOTT.  
J. A. TATE.  
C. N. HARRISON.  
For Tax Assessor—  
C. H. HITCHCOCK.  
P. H. YOUNG.  
J. T. JOWELL.  
S. H. HEYSER.  
For Sheriff and Tax Collector—  
G. C. LONG.  
E. A. UPFOLD.  
(For Re-Election)  
For County Attorney—  
ALBERT S. ROLLINS.  
For County Treasurer—  
R. G. OLDHAM.  
JOHN ROWAN.  
R. B. REDFEARN.  
(For Re-Election)  
For Inspector—  
R. E. FOSTER.  
(Re-Election)  
W. A. JENNINGS.  
G. R. STRATTON.  
For Commissioner and Justice of the Peace, Precinct No. 2—  
J. B. THOMAS.

Roosevelt and Fairbanks is the national ticket chosen by the Republicans. Next Monday at St. Louis, the Democratic ticket will be named.

There is a gratifying suspicion that Canyon City will dig up a good baseball team for the amusement of Reunion visitors.

"There's too much talk about the 'good times,'" says one of our energetic farmers, "and not enough work to make 'em." But—really, now, the weather's a little warm, and a shade mighty tempting.

One of our County Judge candidates, John Rogers, withdraws from the race, having moved over into Armstrong county.

Clarendon was visited by a waterspout Saturday night. Some 6 inches of water is said to have fallen. There was no loss of life but the damage to farms inside the area visited, three or four miles square and mostly west of the town, was considerable. In the lower portion of the town itself the water was three feet deep.

Thursday of last week C. L. Tallmadge, of Chicago, Immigration Agent of the Santa Fe system, passed down the road with a special train of northern prospectors intending to stop at Hereford, Bovina and Roswell. This summer Mr. Tallmadge expects to handle homeseekers by the trainload and some of them can be had for this place if our people are equal to the occasion.

Every citizen of the town and county who feels an interest in the coming Reunion should make it a point to call at this office and get advertising literature to send along with private correspondence to friends abroad. Quite a number have already accepted a supply for this purpose and others should do so at once. It costs you nothing and may prove a source of help to the county. What we want is a crowd of good people.

Let everybody pull to make the fifth annual meeting of Camp Stonewall Jackson bigger and better than ever before. It can be done without the question of a doubt. The old veterans deserve a hearty welcome.

One cannot travel over the Panhandle, especially that portion traversed by the Pecos Valley & northeastern railway without seeing evidence that there will be more money in the pockets of the inhabitants along this route than has been the case in many a year. And it is not amiss to state that such conditions are general and have fairly taken possession of Texas. Old mother earth is fairly bulging with the products of the soil.

**Reunion Envelopes.**—You can help advertise the Reunion by using specially printed Envelopes telling the tale. Also by putting a Reunion dodger inside of every letter you write. These dodgers will cost you nothing—the Envelopes, this office will print for you, adding your business card, at fifty cents per hundred. Call and get the dodgers and leave us your order for the envelopes and do it NOW.

Since our last issue this section of the country has again been visited with one of those old-time soaking rains, lasting altogether some twenty four hours. All this spring has been most favorable both for the stockman and farmer, in spite of the fact that the rains were a little backward until spring had advanced considerably. We have all along had just enough rain to keep a good season in the ground and keep it in splendid working order. Of course the weeds are going to grow but it becomes our farmers as agriculturalists to keep them down. But do not despair. Taking the situation as a philosopher, there is really no reason why the stockmen and farmers of the Plains should not be as happy as a small boy with a fighting dog and a stonebruiser.

### REUNION STOCK SHOW.

The Reunion Executive committee is making unusual exertions this year to draw a big crowd from the east. At present there is every reason for believing that this effort will be successful. Why not show these people at the Reunion, what Randall county can do in the way of fine stock? To do this in a creditable manner our stock raisers and breeders must co-operate with the committee—they must take hold, and not only that but begin now.

Earnestly soliciting this co-operation, the executive committee at a session held Monday, selected the following named stockmen as a committee to see about this Fine Stock Exhibit and to provide ways and means for making it a success, to wit:

J. I. Campbell, Ed Harrell, John Hutson, R. E. Baird, Seth Whitman, C. T. DeGraffenreid. It is believed that these gentlemen will take hold of this matter—it is known that if they do success is assured.

The stock interests are once more in the ascendant; stock-raising is now and for several years will be the chief occupation of this portion of Texas; the demand for fine stock will grow as their merits become known to the masses of the people and no better place could be had to exhibit these merits than at our coming carnival.

Aside from a laudable desire to help build up the country and a county pride in this matter of making the fine stock exhibits of Randall county a success, it is clearly to the financial interests of not only the gentlemen named above but of every other

breeder of fine stock in the county and we might add adjoining counties, to make this exhibit what it really ought to be, the leading feature of the Canyon City Carnival.

### ADVANCE OF THE FARMER.

**The Area of the Panhandle Range is Being Reduced by Constant Increase in the Number of Farms.**

That the range country is being annually reduced in area by the constant influx of settlers, not only in the Panhandle, but throughout the entire range country of Texas, is a well known fact. But there are many men engaged in the cattle business who find solace in the belief that the invasion of the range precincts is but temporary, and that succeeding recurrences of drouths and other disasters will have the effect of turning back the tide of immigration and again opening up the country to the use of the stockman. Men who have been in the cattle business for the past twenty-five years point to the fact that many previous efforts to convert portions of the range country into an agricultural community have resulted disastrously, and insist that it will again prove an exhibition of history repeating itself.

It is true that the roads from New Mexico are filled with disappointed people who have found that section did not measure up to the standard of their expectations, and who are profuse in their denunciation of the country as a place of residence. But these people are a type of the same class that tackled West Texas and the Panhandle in the earlier days, and who obtain a permanent foothold nowhere. They are nomadic and on the lookout for an Eldorado which never materializes. It is the class that follows in their wake, constituting the second visitation or invasion, that usually sticks and makes the permanent inroad on the range owners; those who have sufficient means to get some toe-hold, and who are willing to adapt themselves to the country instead of trying to adapt the country to their own peculiar ideas. These are the people who have developed the idea of combining agriculture and the stock business in the avocation of stock-farming, which is being practiced with remarkable success over the entire panhandle and a large portion of the range country, and which promises ultimately to work out the permanent salvation of so much of the West.

The passing of so much of the

range country as such is but the result of natural conditions which are obvious to the person who has kept in touch with the general situation. It is estimated that the population of the United States is increasing continually at an average of 5,000 more inhabitants every day, and that fact means that as more consumers are in evidence there must be a constant increase in the productive capacity of the soil, and more land must be put in cultivation. It is also stated on competent authority that the agricultural exports from this country to all foreign countries are annually increasing, and that we must not only prepare to take care of our own rapidly increasing population, but must figure on still further doing our part toward feeding the world. Conservative statisticians estimate that by the time the year 1950 has arrived the population of the United States, at its present ratio of increase, will amount to 150,000,000, and that means that much of the land now devoted to grass will feel the point of the ploughshare.

Under such circumstances as these, the idea that the land now passing into the hands of the farmer will eventually revert to the range must appear Utopian. The transformation is occurring from the fact that there is no method of averting it, and well posted stockmen are taking due cognizance of the situation by preparing for it through the purchase of the land they know they will hereafter need in their business. From a lessee, the average stockman is fast developing into a land owner, and is becoming just as permanent an institution as the other fellow who is running him such a race for the occupancy of the range. It has settled down to a matter of joint occupancy of the range country, and that fact is rapidly dawning upon the minds of all the parties interested in the situation, in spite of the assertions often made that in time the lands now held by the farmer must revert to old-time range conditions.

### Do Not Wait Until You Need It.

The season is again at hand when diarrhoea and dysentery are prevalent. Do not wait until some of your family is taken with a violent attack, but be prepared. A bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy at hand when needed has saved many a life. For sale by S. V. Wirt, Druggist.

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The Hat selected for the contest is the choicest model of style and beauty of the season's creations and will be exhibited at our store until the winner has been declared. A strict account of each vote cast will be kept by us and the total vote of each contestant will be published each week in the News. Come in and look at the hat.

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I am offering the services of a cross Black Hawk and Mammoth Jack at my barn. Terms: \$7.50 season, or \$10 insured. This Jack can show up some of the best mules on the Plains today.

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Come to our store if you want Lace Curtains. Prices 75c, \$1.00 and \$1.25 per pair. THOMAS BROS. FURNITURE

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Ground privileges are now for sale and bids will be received at any time.

Call on or write Geo. A. Brandon } Privilege  
or W. C. Baird, } Com.  
Canyon City, Texas.

Our paint is the best—our price the lowest.

CANYON LBR. CO.

Wanted—A copy of the News of April 8, '04.



## Local.

WILSON has Racket goods, look through.

T. H. Rowan returned yesterday from a trip to Ft. Worth.

The Normal at Clarendon opened with fifty in attendance.

Mr. Giles and daughter, of Amarillo, attended the Baptist revival meeting here this week, being guests of L. C. Lair and family.

E. A. Patterson, of Merit, Texas, an old friend of Attorney Rollins, spent several days this week in town.

Mesdames Oscar Hunt and George Reynolds went up to Amarillo Tuesday evening to visit friends a few days.

Prof. W. J. Lackey and family moved last week to Weatherford, Okla. The News wishes them well in their new home.

Painter Cochran is plying his brush and paint to the exterior of Hotel Victoria this week. It looks much-improved in appearance.

No puff is necessary to sell our goods. Those who see them are satisfied they're all right.

THOMAS BROS. Furniture.

L. T. Lester and family returned last Sunday from St. Louis. They were enthusiastic in their praise of the great Fair.

Editor Callahan of the Tulia Standard, was a caller at the News office Tuesday. He was enroute to Amarillo for a "pop" call on friends there.

Miss Nettie Cobb returned last week from Arkansas, where she has been attending school. Before returning home she visited the World's Fair at St. Louis.

C. N. Caler of Ceta, was one of our welcome visitors Tuesday. He reports everything in fine shape—stock, farms, cotton and all else down in his range.

The demand has been so great for Cultivators since the rains that almost every implement house in the Panhandle has exhausted the supply on hand.

John Guthrie, the bachelor, who wears a sunny smile at the "Central" office, left this week for his old home in Erath county, to be gone about a month.

In the rush of last week we failed to chronicle the return of O. C. Davis and family, and T. M. Laster, from the Fair. They had a grand time.

Harry James of the Ceta neighborhood, was a visitor at the county capital Wednesday. He brings a good report of his community, both of the people and the result of their labor.

Oscar Gamble arrived here Monday from Tennessee, and resumed work with the Mercantile firm of Wright, Gamble & Co. He has been away visiting his old home for several months.

Rev. J. T. Franklin has accepted the Presbyterian pastorate of this and Hereford church and moved into our city last week. Himself and family will occupy the W. H. Hicks residence in the southwest part of town.

A recent order from the post office authorities requires the Plainview mail hack to wait here until 10:30 a. m. before departure. This will enable post offices south to receive daily mail from the east when the train is on time.

J. S. Phillips, a photographer, recently from Menardville, Texas, is in town and will probably remain until after the Reunion. He is a cousin to our townsman J. I. Campbell.

Mesdames Smylie and McDaniel, both of Milford, relatives of Mr. and Mrs. F. P. Wilson and family, spent several days here this week. They will visit relatives south of here for a time, returning here for the Reunion.

We do not attribute the amount of business we are doing to our popularity, but to the attractive prices we are quoting. Let us quote you.

CANYON LBR. CO.

Dr. S. B. Tadlock, of Canyon City, passed through Tulia Tuesday enroute home. The Dr. had been down on the canyon east of here prospecting for prehistoric fossils and stated that he found some very nice geological specimens which were very valuable.—Tulia Standard.

Gus Wansley, one of our "eligible" bachelors, received a splintered-fired new buggy this week—and it is a red one. The sisters of spinsters should assemble themselves in convention and pass resolutions with the profound "wherefore" and "whereas" as a beginning of each resolve.

Miss La Rose Bratton returned home last Friday from St. Louis, where she has been attending St. Joseph's Academy, a Catholic school. Her many friends here rejoice to again have her sunny nature and merry laughter in the social circle.

A substantial railroad rumor has been permeating the local atmosphere this week. Several gentlemen whom our authority purported to be railroad builders, got off Wednesday morning's train and took the stage for Plainview where, our authority further avers, they were gaily banqueting by Plainview railroad enthusiasts.

At the special session of the Commissioners' Court held the fore part of the week, 75 persons, all that were notified, were raised on their property valuations. The only other matter of much interest considered by the court was the proposition to divide school district No. 6. This question also involves the removal of the present school house. It was continued for hearing to the next term.

The yearlings shipped from here by Jack Campbell two weeks ago averaged at the market 514 lbs and brought four cents. The animals sold, all through were under twelve months old at time of sale and netted Mr. Campbell over \$18 each.

The brethren of the Christian church anticipate commencing their revival meeting the coming Sunday night. They have made arrangements to have a large tent, erected on the quarter block recently purchased by the church situated one block west of the Presbyterian church. State Evangelist Tom Smith, a man of power, has been secured to conduct the meeting with the able assistance of Revs. Randolph Clark and J. B. Haston. A good singer has also been applied for to conduct the song service.

Great anxiety is felt here among the many friends of S. H. Heyser, due possibly to the report that he had taken an air line from the Fair to old Kentucky, the state which bears the renown of eclipsing all others for pretty women, fast horses and moonshine whiskey. Such an aggregation of attractions may overcome our friend "Sam," but we rather cleave to the opinion that inasmuch as the great Fair did not unsettle his reasoning powers he will yet come out victorious. This is not saying however that his victory would be complete without his denunciation of bachelorhood and succumbing to the charms of this state's reputed pretty women.

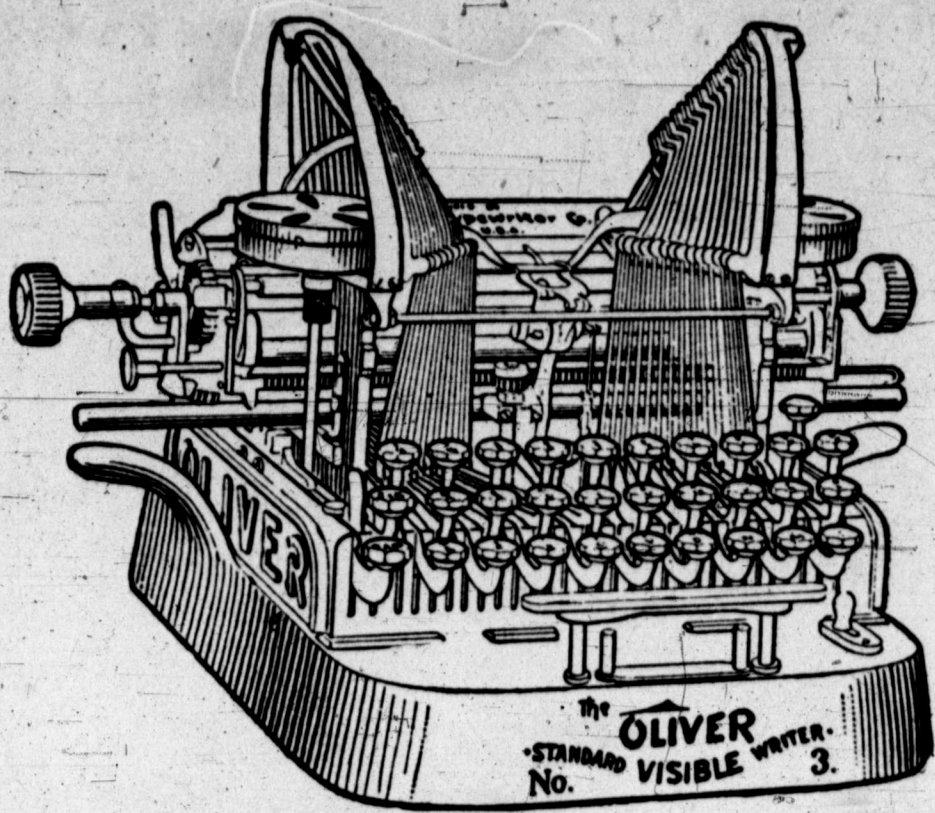
W. H. Firth, General Passenger Agent of the Rock Island Railway, died suddenly at his home in Fort Worth on the 27, of heart failure. This office has a letter over his signature, evidently made a few minutes prior to his decease, in which he grants the Reunion a rate of one fare for round trip from all points to Amarillo, as requested. Mr. Firth was strictly a railroad man and a popular one too.

### Our Gratitude

Is hereby expressed to all who so kindly ministered to us in our recent sad trials. Such help and sympathy during such hours shall not soon be forgotten.

We also wish to thank Dr. Stewart for his medical help and brotherly sympathy. May God bless all.

J. D. Ballard and family.



W. R. BRANDON,  
Local Agent Oliver Typewriter Co.,  
Canyon City, Texas.

DEAR SIR:—We have been using the "Oliver" for the past six months and take pleasure in recommending it to anyone wanting a machine that will do good work, and stand hard usage.

Respectfully,  
D. A. PARK,  
Cashier First National Bank,  
Canyon City, Texas.

## The Oliver The King Of Typewriters

"The Proof Of The Pudding Lies In Its Tasting"  
Following are the expressions of some who have tasted it and pronounced it entirely to their liking:

W. R. BRANDON,  
Local Agent Oliver Typewriter Co.,  
Canyon City, Texas.

DEAR SIR:—I have been using the Oliver Typewriter now over a year and am MORE than well pleased with it. I have never been out one cent for repairs. I much prefer it to any other machine on the market.

Very Truly Yours,  
C. R. BURROW,  
Canyon City, Texas.

W. R. BRANDON,  
Local Agent Oliver Typewriter Co.,  
Canyon City, Texas.

DEAR SIR:—You request my opinion of the "Oliver." I think it the best typewriter on the market, its light touch, small keyboard, accurate impression point, heavy manifold qualities and general excellence make it the machine par excellence for lawyers. I have used almost all the standard makes and find it far superior to any other.

Yours Very Truly,  
R. A. SOWDER,  
Canyon City, Texas.

We are meeting all competition on anything in our line. See us before placing your orders.

### CANYON LBR. CO.

Even the county officials are enjoying the business revival since the great and glorious rains. As evidence of this the News reporter caught Judge Henson, Sheriff Upfold and County Clerk Garrison in the act of slaying the large exuberant crop of weeds which have been declared possessors of the court house yard. Joe Garrison was leaning on the hoe handle in the shade of the court house a part of the time, but then there is always a certain amount of heavy standing around required on a job of this character.

### News Roll of Honor.

Under this heading will be found the amounts received on subscription to the News during the past week, and names of the parties paying. This will serve as a receipt to those of our subscribers forwarding money by mail.

C N Caler.....	\$1.00
T M Laster.....	50
A E Brown.....	1.00
H S Parks.....	50
W F Taylor.....	50
C E Long.....	1.00
T M Rollins.....	50
C T Word.....	1.00
J A Coffee.....	50

### HOFFMAN SIFTINGS.

Rain, frogs, weeds and grass are having their way here now. Just let anybody grumble that wants to because of too much rain and by doing so make everyone hate them.

We are all well here, "thank you." We have started the beef club and just imagine our neighborhood at meal time sitting down to "fatted calf."

We are going to have a picnic July 4th, on the creek. Come and have a good time or stay away and miss half your life.

We have a musical entertainment almost every Friday night. Sometimes, all night, when it rains, and we have to sit up all night. If anyone sees any swelled people from Hoffman they may know what is the matter.

Mrs. Burnham gave us a supper and musical and my! how we did eat and enjoy ourselves.

Mrs. Johnson will be home July 10 from visiting relatives in Kentucky.

School at Hoffman is moving along fine, and everyone come to our entertainment Thursday night, July 21st.

Mr. Hoffman has painted his house. It looms up.

We wonder why some folks will not be at our picnic July 4.

TASSIE.

Lee Shifflett will pay in cash for the next thirty days 12 cents per lb. for fryers, 6 cents for hens, 7 cents for turkeys, 11 cents for eggs and top price for hides. First house east of the Bank, Canyon City, Texas.

Steffen-Bretch Co. Cream is best, Wilson keeps it.

### COUNTY COURT.

This court convenes July 11. The jurors for the term are:

M. F. Slover  
W. F. Taylor  
G. C. Kilbourn  
W. H. Hicks  
E. A. Cartwright  
F. M. Brown  
J. L. Prichard  
R. W. O'Keefe  
T. M. Laster  
John Dean  
J. W. Barrett  
J. A. Tate  
L. C. Lair  
S. V. Gentry  
John Knight.

Mrs. U. S. Gober and children, of Canyon City, who have been visiting the family of J. L. Cantrell, returned home Tuesday.—Tulia Standard.

Coal tar, 1x16 clear & in. popular at Burton-Lingo's.

### Bargain in Registered Hereford and Shorthorn Bulls.

I have some good individuals, both Hereford and Shorthorn, from one to four years old that I will sell or exchange for other cattle. Time will also be given if required. Bulls can readily be seen.

J. I. Campbell,  
Canyon City, Texas.

### Democratic Convention Call.

I hereby call a Democratic county convention to convene in the court house in the town of Canyon City, on July 16, at 2 p. m. for the purpose of electing delegates to represent Randall county in the State Democratic convention to be held in the city of Houston, on the 2nd day of August, 1904—also for the purpose of selecting delegates to the various other Democratic conventions, Congressional, Representative, Judicial etc., in which Randall county may be entitled to representation, and for the transaction of all other business that may properly come before said county convention.

R. A. Campbell,  
Chr'm. County Dem. Ex. Com.

Programs are out for the annual meeting of the B. Y. P. U., which convenes at Hereford, Wednesday, July 20th at 2:30 p. m. Every Union in the Association is urged to send representatives, accommodations for which have been provided for by the good people of that town. Mrs. A. H. Thompson, of this town, has been assigned a paper on the program on the subject "The Law of Greatness." Mrs. Thompson has won considerable renown for her excellent papers on various topics.

List your land, if in Randall county, with Brandon at the News office. He will have some purchasers here before long. See him about this.

### RANDOM THOUGHTS.

G. A. B.

At an arbitration conference recently held in New York reference was had to the following scriptural quotation: "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth." Later on in the proceedings, Baron Kentaro Kaneka, a former cabinet minister of Japan, alluding to this quotation suggested a doubt of the accuracy of the translation and pertinently submitted the question, that if correctly given, what part of the earth shall the meek inhabit?—Replying to this weighty interrogatory, Random Thoughts, guided by the lights of past and present history, would most respectfully suggest as conclusive answer the following: All of the earth, according to the scripture, but, under the sod.

### TRY US

Before sending off for Letter Heads, Note Heads, Envelopes, Type writer paper, Bill Heads, or any other class of printing, try the News office on quality and price.

We need the work and will do our very best to meet competition. Only give us the same order you give the foreign house and ten to one we can meet the price.

We carry a full stock of material. Give us the same chance we propose to give you—This is all we ask.

The Texas Almanac, published by the Dallas-Galveston News, a copy of which can be seen at this office, is just out. It is a work of 456 pages containing well told facts about our great State. Texas and her tremendous resources are treated concisely in a general way, and then in directory form comes the names of the State officials, towns and postoffices with populations and much other information of the same character all of and about Texas. Our churches, schools, societies, politics and the general character of our laws also come in for such mention as the scope of the volume will admit of. One of the best features of this 1904-Texas Almanac is a write up of each of the counties of the State in which the distinguishing points are given. That of Randall county is by County Judge Henson. Lots of information in this department, especially to the "outsider." As a reference book alone it is worthy of a conspicuous place in every home in the Lone Star State.

Every 50 cents' worth of goods purchased at the Canyon Mercantile Co's during the month of July will entitle the purchaser to a vote in the hat contest.

Old papers for sale, 20 cents per hundred. At this office.

### THE USE OF APPLES.

Dietetic Value of This Common and Best of All Fruit.

One medical writer says: "The more mellow apples one eats the better, provided they be taken at mealtime. It is best of all to eat fruit before meals, and freely as you like."

This will prevent loading the system with a heavy weight of less digestible foods. The no breakfast fad tells us that we must not only go without the morning meal, but that we must live much more largely upon fruit. Some of its disciples insist that the apple may be taken in the place of the ordinary breakfast. John Wesley once referred to apple dumplings as an illustration of the alarming advance of luxuries in England. Charles Lamb quotes a friend who says that "a man cannot have a pure mind who refuses apple dumplings," and Dr. Johnson speaks of a clergyman of his acquaintance who brought his family up almost altogether on this Anglo-Saxon combination. We have recollections of dumplings which might accord with the opinion of Lamb, and then we have recollections of other dumplings which might have been the origin of Calvinism. It must be borne in mind that the ideal apple is one that is fit to be eaten raw, yet the glorious old Spitzenburg is only fit for the cook, in whose hands it becomes the very perfection of pie apples. The nineteenth century went out with a marvelous evolution of new sorts of fruits of all kinds, but there was nothing in the list to exceed the delicious juices of the Northern Spy, the Macintosh Red, the Shannan or the Stuart's Golden.

There is nothing in the world to exceed the beauty of the apple blossom, while the air is laden with an exquisite perfume that has charmed a hundred generations, has added to the poetry, the love and the comfort of Greek, of Roman and of Briton. But if there be anything more beautiful than the apple in blossom it is the same tree loaded down with crimson and golden fruit. Then it is that the apple touches human nature and wakens in the housekeeper the highest conceptions of the science and the fine art of dietetics.—Independent.

50 YEARS' EXPERIENCE

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Our Cuts Talk

## THE WILLIAMSON HAFNER ENGRAVING CO.

DENVER



# THE FIFTH ANNUAL RE-UNION Camp Stonewall Jackson U. C. V., West Texas Cowboys' Association

## AND Randall County Fine Stock Show JULY 26, 27, 28, 29, '04 AT CANYON CITY, TEXAS.

Bigger  
And Better  
Than Ever Before.

Among the features will be Music, Orations by leading speakers, Parades by Veterans and Cowboy sports, such as "broncho busting," and roping contests, Baseball, Racing, horse, foot and bike, and Fine Stock Exhibits, Etc.

This will furnish an opportunity for the tired and sweltering citizen of the East to spend a few days of rest, recreation and amusement in our pure and invigorating atmosphere, where miasma and extreme heat are unknown and the cool and pure breezes equal those of "Kool Kolorado"

**COME** as all the railroads have granted a rate of One Fare for the Round Trip with a Fifteen Days Limit to return. Come and see our Country. Respectfully,

B. FRANK BUE, Chairman  
W. C. BAIRD

GEO. A. BRANDON, Secretary  
S. H. HEYSER

J. D. GAMBLE, Treasurer  
Dr. D. M. STEWART

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

### STRINGFELLOW-HUME HDW. CO. Stringfellow-Hume Hardware Co.

Dealers In

Hardware, Implements, and all kinds of Farming Machinery, Wagons, Buggies, Harness and Saddles. Eclipse wood and Steel Star Windmills, Pipe, Casing and Cylinders, Barb Wire and Nails. In fact everything that is kept in a first-class hardware store. Best line of Queensware and Glassware ever brought to Canyon.

### IN SHELF HARDWARE

Our stock is complete and we can supply your wants at a saving to you. Call for what you want in this line--we have it. We can't enumerate the whole line, but suffice to say we are setting the pace for the great Plains country, especially in Price and Quality. What you need to do is to come into our place and let us convince you.

Now is the time for you to think about putting your home in order for the spring and summer. If your house is not fitted with screen doors and windows, you are not in a position to enjoy the balmy breezes, free from the molestation of the flies and hailstorms. We have 'em, in green and galvanized.

The time for farming is near at hand--let us fit you up with the machinery that will make it a pleasure to work. We will take pleasure in showing you our stock.

STRINGFELLOW-HUME HDW. CO.

**REAL ESTATE AGENCY.**  
For Canyon City property and Randall County Lands only.  
Property listed with me will be advertised in ways that cannot fail of bringing purchasers. My connection with the Texas Real Estate Exchange, gives me unusual facilities in bringing this about.

**NOTARY PUBLIC IN OFFICE**  
Call in and see me and let me tell you what I propose to do.

GEO. A. BRANDON,  
Office—Canyon City News Building.

**ROGERSON HOTEL**  
JOHN ROWAN PROPRIETOR.  
\$1.00 DAY HOUSE

As good hotel as can be found on the Plains—nice Up-Stairs Rooms.

**W. W. MERRILL,**  
PRACTICAL TINNER  
Manufacturer of  
Tanks, and  
All other Galvanized Iron Works.

SHOP ON S. EVELYN ST.

**J. R. HARTER,**  
PIONEER BLACKSMITH:  
Dating from January 1st we cut prices for spot cash on all blacksmith work. Only the very best of material used. Come in and see us, we will treat you right.

**PROFESSIONAL CARDS.**  
THOMAS ODELL, D. M. STEWART.

**ODELL & STEWART**  
Physicians and Surgeons.  
Office with Thompson Drug Co.  
Calls promptly answered night or day

**GEO. A. BRANDON,**  
LAWYER.  
Eighteen years experience in the courts of Central Texas.  
Office—Canyon City News Building.

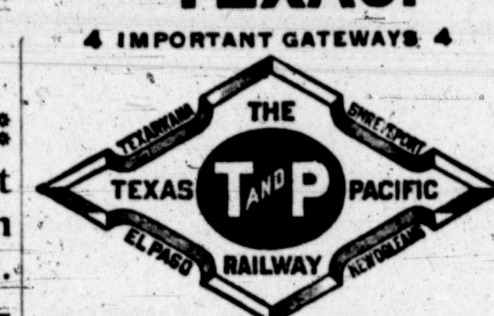
List your land, if in Randall county, with Brandon at the News office. He will have some purchasers here before long. See him about this.



**WIDE VESTIBULED, ELECTRIC LIGHTED TRAINS FROM**  
GALVESTON, HOUSTON, SAN ANTONIO, DALLAS, AND FORT WORTH TO

**ST. LOUIS KANSAS CITY**  
AND THE NORTH AND EAST  
Choice of Routes via Paris or Denison—Observation Dining Cars and Harvey Dining Halls all the way  
W. A. TULEY, G. P. A.  
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

...Best...  
**Passenger Service**  
"TEXAS."



"No trouble to answer questions."  
**2 FAST TRAINS DAILY 2**  
to St. Louis, Chicago and the East...

SUPERB PULLMAN VESTIBULED SLEEPERS, HANDSOME NEW CHAIR CARS (Seats Free).

**FASTEST TIME TO NEW ORLEANS**  
(COMPARE SCHEDULES).  
ONLY LINE RUNNING THROUGH COACHEES AND SLEEPERS WITHOUT CHANGE.

INCOMPARABLE PULLMAN SLEEPER AND TOURIST CAR SERVICE TO  
**CALIFORNIA.**  
POSITIVELY NO CHANGE.

Reclining Chair Cars (Seats Free) Daily to ST. LOUIS, MEMPHIS AND EL PASO.

See any Ticket Agent, or write  
H. P. HUGHES, Trans. Passenger Agent, FT. WORTH, TEX.  
E. F. TURNER, Trans. Passenger Agent, DALLAS, TEX.

### STOP AND THINK!

Before you purchase your tickets for Points North, East, South or West.

**THE SOUTHERN KANSAS RY. OF TEX.**  
Is the only direct route to Kansas City, Chicago, St. Louis and points beyond and

**THE PECOS VALLEY LINES**  
Penetrate the heart of the far-famed Pecos Valley, justly reputed to be the finest fruit growing district in the U. S., connecting closely at Pecos, Texas, with the Texas & Pacific Ry. for El Paso and all points in Old Mexico.

All of our trains make close connection at Amarillo with the Ft. Worth & Denver City Ry. trains both north and south, eliminating the necessity for stop-overs enroute for passengers traveling over that line.

Write your friends in the East to ask their local railway agents regarding homeseekers' rates to the Panhandle and Pecos Valley via the Santa Fe System.

A full line of descriptive literature of the Panhandle and Pecos Valley always on hand which may be obtained free by application to this office. **DON A. SWEET, TRAF. MAN., AMARILLO, TEXAS.**

### IT MAY INTEREST YOU TO KNOW

that during June, July and August, each season, sixty to eighty thousand summer visitors are entertained in "Cool Colorado," for which there is ample reason.

Limited space forbids mention of even a small fraction of its many varied delights, but among them the

**GREAT COLORADO CHAUTAUQUA ASSEMBLY**  
AT BOULDER.

is suggested as a principal, affording at minimum expense, as it does for thousands annually, weeks of Musical, Intellectual and Miscellaneous Entertainment by the cream of the nation's talent.

Develop your curiosity enough to ask us for Complete Program and other particulars, and you'll be surprised.

**A. A. GLISSON,** Gen'l Passgr. Agt.  
INQUIRE ABOUT THE NEW "THE DENVER ROAD," TRI-ANGLE TICKET VIA ST. LOUIS!  
FORT WORTH, TEXAS.