

"BEHOLD, THERE CAME WISE MEN" - MATT 2:1



The Rankin News

Serving the Interests of Rankin and Upton County

VOLUME 28—NUMBER 50

RANKIN, UPTON COUNTY, TEXAS

THURSDAY, DEC. 24, 1953

Upton Commissioners Let Water Contract

Work To Start At Once Water By Early Summer

The Upton County Commissioners Court, meeting on Friday, Dec. 18, awarded the contract for drilling of water wells, laying of pipe and construction of storage facilities, which will give Rankin an unlimited water supply in the very near future.

The contract, awarded in two parts, one for drilling of the wells and the other for the installation of the pipe and storage facilities, went to the Dixon Water System Co., 2309 West 2nd St., Odessa, Texas, and to Clyde Yarbrough, Inc., Box 2123, Odessa, Texas.

These two firms were low bidders from a total of 19 bids submitted, 12 on the pipe line system and seven on the water wells. Bids were received from as far away as Dallas and Houston, with one bid coming from New Mexico. The commissioners felt that this was an excellent response to their need for bids, and giving them a wide field to choose from. All bids were very competitive with very little difference between the lower three or four. The commissioners further felt that they were fortunate in getting low bids from firms located in the same town and so near to Rankin which will make for a more cooperative program when work is started.

These low bids were considerably less than had been expected and will therefore enable the court to carry out the project at a considerable saving to the taxpayers. Present plans call for the drilling of eight wells if necessary, or any number less that will provide the needed water.

Work will begin immediately on this project and is scheduled for completion by early summer. With the completion of this project, Rankin will have all the water needed for use throughout the year.

The Rankin City Council has already made plans to institute what would amount to a lower rate on this water than users are now paying with the possibility of an irrigation rate for the summer.

Several programs for the correct pricing of this water are under consideration and may have to be instituted on a trial basis before a just one can be worked out.

The Upton County Commissioners Court further announced at this meeting the terms of the water lease they have worked out. These terms are that the County pay \$10,000 to Mr. Henry Neal for the water rights on 1,160 acres of land located approximately two and one-half miles east Rankin on Sections 27 and 30. The County is further to pay Mr. Neal 1-4c royalty on each 1,000 gallons of water produced from this property.

This action was taken by the court with the feeling that this was the best possible location for water for Rankin. Other deposits of water to the north and northeast are known to exist but the cost of getting this water to Rankin would have been too great. It was further explained that the present plans can be expanded should the need ever arise for securing even more water.

Big Crowd Welcomes Santa December 19th

An estimated 500 persons were on hand at the Ford Theatre last Saturday, Dec. 19, to enjoy a free comedy show and a visit from St. Nick.

The small fry began arriving at the theatre around 8:30 and were still coming in at 10:30. They all received a gift of candy, nuts and fruit from Santa who arrived at about 10:20.

This was an excellent turn-out which proved a success for the Lions Club-sponsored program. Much footwork as well as organizational effort had been put forth by the Lions to prepare this program for the kids. Donations by local merchants furnished the financial boost without which the fine assortment of candy, nuts, etc., would not have been possible.

Local merchants also reported a good response to the special Trade Days bargains offered for the weekend of Dec. 18-19. Many people took advantage of the specials and shopping went at a brisk pace for the two-day affair.

Future plans for extending this program of having special inducements for trade in Rankin are being considered and possibly will be worked out in the future.

Progress Continues On Arrangements For Live Stock Show Jan. 9th

Further arrangements have been made on plans for the Upton County Livestock Show scheduled for Jan. 9, 1954.

It was announced this week that plans have been worked out for the show to be held in the old gymnasium of the Rankin high school. This will be the same arrangement as last year when 130 animals were exhibited.

The animals to be shown are coming along nicely. Many fine lambs are sure to be shown along with other animals. A very good premium list has been arranged which will make competition spirited. E. O. Nevills, County Agent from Big Lake, is to judge the showing.

Last year's winner in the lamb showing was Quinton Lyles. Archie Higgins, Rankin, won the Hogan Motor Co. trophy as the best first year feeder at the show, while Gene Yocham, Rankin, took a similar prize as the best oldest feeder. Ruth McGill, Rankin, won the reserve championship. Don Murphy, Rankin, exhibited the champion fine wools and Amarylus Harral, Rankin, copied the champion pen of two award.

With a liberal share of the awards going to Rankin entries last year, the local youngsters are looking forward to the show and are putting their best efforts into work toward a repeat of last year's performance.

LIONS SCHEDULE NEXT GATHERING FOR JAN. 4

The Rankin Lions Club held their regular Monday night get-together at 7:30 at the Park Bldg. Due to conflicting activities about town, the turnout was not large. Due to further possible conflicts for next Mondays meet on Dec. 28, it was voted by the club to not meet again until January 4.

The club heard a report that it was tied in 5th place in attendance standings for this district. Efforts will be put forth next month to better this position.

Following the supper a picture on the control of Foot and Mouth Disease was shown.

Mr. and Mrs. Tyson Midkiff and Carolyn of Kerrville are in Rankin for a few days. They will visit Mr. Midkiff's mother in Midland during the holidays.

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Mr. and Mrs. Winston Holcomb of Lamesa were week-end visitors in the home of Mrs. C. J. Holcomb of Rankin.

HE MAY BE HOME FOR CHRISTMAS—

TINY STANLEY McDONALD WHIPS THE TOUGHEST PAGES IN THE MEDICAL BOOKS AT MIDLAND

Christmas will be a big event for little Stanley McDonald, although he probably won't understand what all the fuss is about. Right now, Stanley is one of Midland Memorial Hospital's favorite patients. He's been confined there about six weeks in a fight for his young life.

Stanley, who was six months old just a few days ago, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. McDonald, Jr., 405 Waverly Drive in Midland. The McDonalds are former residents of Rankin.

Stanley first admitted to the hospital on Nov. 1 with a gastric disorder. Stanley has struggled from one complication to another, always on the critical list. The seriousness of his case required the presence of special nurses 24 hours a day, and the little boy has been in an oxygen tent for most of that time.

His physician has said that the recovery of Stanley has been as close to a miracle as any he has seen.

Not long after his admission to the hospital, Stanley seemed to be improving, but suddenly his condition worsened and grew more complicated.

He lapsed into a coma for almost five days, and once he stopped breathing 50 minutes.

On several occasions his heart stopped beating momentarily, and when that happened, his doctor's heart skipped a few

beats, too. Another complication arose in the form of a collapsed lung, and a tracheotomy had to be performed to insert a breathing tube into the child's throat so he wouldn't choke.

But with all that, little Stanley is now making "beautiful progress." He's still pretty sick but his doctor hopes the youngster will leave the hospital before Christmas.

Stanley's father grew up in Rankin, and when the big-hearted citizens of the city heard of the baby's plight, they took it upon themselves to help the family.

They organized the Stanley McDonald Fund, and last week presented Mrs. McDonald with a check for \$471.83, representing the donations of 91 Rankin citizens.

Methodist Congregation Holds Annual Social

Adults of the Methodist Church enjoyed their annual Christmas party at the Park Building Tuesday night, Dec. 15. Dinner was served buffet style at 7 o'clock, with tables in the dining room beautifully decorated with greenery, silver and small Christmas trees.

Following dinner, the guests were seated in a semi-circle in the auditorium facing the stage on which there stood a lighted Christmas tree surrounded by gifts.

A program was presented, announced by Miss Mattie McDonald, including a medley of Christmas carols played by Mrs. J. L. Alderdice, singing of carols by the group, a trio of popular Christmas songs in a piano duet by Mrs. A. E. Ivy and Fred Prentiss, a vocal duet sung by Mrs. Fred Prentiss and Don Cochran, an interlude of Christmas music at the piano by Mrs. Alderdice, a Christmas story told by Mrs. Theresa L. Hurn, and The Holy City sung by Reverend Cochran.

Gifts were distributed to each of the guests and the Cochrans were presented three pieces of matched luggage from the church's congregation. Committees for the party consisted of Mrs. Alderdice, Mrs. Dunn Lowery, Mrs. D. O. McEwen, foods; Mrs. Ivy, Mrs. Prentiss, decorations; and Mrs. R. H. Johnson and Miss McDonald, program.

TEACHER HOSTS CLASS WITH PARTY—DINNER

A Christmas Dinner was given for the Fidelis Matrons class on Monday night, Dec. 11 at 7:30 in the home of their teacher, Mrs. M. J. Edwards.

Turkey and all the trimmings was served to the twenty-two members and guests attending. The hostess presented each member with an apron.

Gifts that were to be sent to Buckner's Orphans Home were brought and sacked at the church following the class party and dinner.

Fruit for the Christmas tree which was held last Sunday at the church was also sacked. A copy of Peloubet's Selected Notes of 1954 was presented to Mrs. Edwards as a gift from the class.

The following were present: Mesdames Zack Monroe, R. L. Pearce, Sam Holmes, R. L. Shannon, A. E. Eades, B. A. Patterson, Ralph Daugherty, Oscar Pettit, Stella Holcomb, C. G. Taylor, Omar Warren, B. A. Rogers, Tom Mitchell, Dave Gentry, F. L. Smith, J. L. Manry Jr., Jack Smith, H. Wheeler, Elizabeth Raines, Grace Zachary, Powe Jacob of Big Lake.

Mrs. M. J. Edwards was hostess.

Mrs. Dora Ella Schlagal, chief operator of the local telephone company, spent Wednesday, December 16 in Fort Worth attending a one day management course.

A WORD OF THANKS

The editor and his family wish to take this opportunity to say "Thanks, Neighbors" for the very splendid way you have received us in your town.

You have supported us with your local news and with your patronage of our advertising space in the paper to say nothing of our office supplies and commercial printing. For all this we are grateful to you and without it we would not have lasted till now—but above that we are just plain thankful that you have made us feel at home here.

We are just plain old country folks and were quite lost when we first arrived in Rankin but with one or two more sandstorms under our belts and with the acquiring of a taste for the fine water we have here, you can just call us Rankinites from here on out.

May the good Lord see fit to bless each of you at this holiday season. Take care of yourself if you are out on the highways. You may be one of our paid subscribers and we don't want to lose you.

GIRL SCOUTERS HAVE CHRISTMAS PARTY MON.

The Intermediate Girl Scout Troop No. 2 met Monday, December 21 at the Methodist Educational Building.

The girls presented their Christmas Program which was as follows: Story, Sammie Steel Piano Solo, Elsie Sharon Wheeler, Clarinet Solo, Glenda Sue Parker; Quartet, "Silent Night" Virginia Harral, Arleta Lee, Dorothy Abernathy and Mary Broyles accompanied by Darlene Workman.

Reading, Ann Chandler; Accordion Solo, "Jingle Bells", Evelyn Howard; Song, "Away In A Manger" by the entire group accompanied by Mrs. Ross Wheeler.

The scouts gave a rising note of thanks to all the mothers present and to Mrs. W. A. Hudson who is president of the Girl Scout Council. Mrs. Tommy Parker, Jr. and Mrs. Glen Parker served refreshments to the girls.

BRIDGE CLUB HOLDS REGULAR WED. MEET

Twelve members of the Rankin Bridge Club were on hand Wednesday night, December 16 to enjoy the usual game of skill at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Pollard of Rankin.

High score honors went to Mrs. Dan Lowery with Mrs. Pearl Rankin winning second high.

Fruit cake and coffee were served to the players who will have their next get-together on Wednesday night, December 30.

Mrs. Wallace Gary and Nancy of Kerrville are visiting Mrs. Gary's mother, Mrs. W. M. Hill of Rankin.

Bill Hurn from the University of Texas is home for the holidays with his mother Mrs. Herbert Hurn.

Visiting in the Fred Prentice home are his mother and father of Kansas City.

First Methodist Youth Council Will Hold Its Annual Watch Party

The Youth Council will hold its annual watch party at the Methodist Church, Dec. 31, from 7 to 8:30 p. m.

Herbert Hurn, President of the MYF, will be this year's master of ceremonies.

Rev. R. L. Shannon will bring the message, following the singing of hymns.

Miss Mary Anderson will present organ numbers as the group arrives. She will begin to play at 6:45 p. m.

Refreshments will be served. All the youth of Rankin and others interested are cordially invited.

STUDY CLUB HAS LAST MEETING FOR THE YEAR

The Rankin Study Club met Thursday, Dec. 17 at 4:00 o'clock at the Rankin Park Building.

Fourteen members were present for the last meeting before the Christmas holidays.

Mrs. W. A. Hudson led the program which opened with the group singing Christmas carols, accompanied at the piano by Mrs. Nancy Daugherty.

The theme of the program was "Women Who Won." Mrs. Jack Skiles gave events in the life of Ruth, Mrs. J. B. Lair reviewed the life of Esther and Miss Patsy Taylor told the story of Mary.

Mrs. Hudson then reviewed the reasons why these three women had won and how their lives might guide us in our daily living.

Hostesses for the afternoon were Mesdames Clint Shaw and C. G. Taylor.

Cookies and coffee or tea were served as refreshments.

METHODIST MENS MEET ENJOYS FILM ON ARABIA

The Methodist Mens Fellowship met Thursday night, December 17 to see a film shown by Mr. Joe Utley.

Mr. Utley served from 1948 to 1950 in Arabia as construction superintendent for Fluor Corp. Ltd. It was film of the different places he had seen while on this tour of duty that was shown. According to those in attendance this was a most interesting film covering the people, their customs, homes etc. as well as excellent views of cities, ports and places of interest.

The men of the Methodist Fellowship were greatly impressed by Mr. Utley and his film.

Next meeting will be Thursday, January 21 at 7:30. All men are invited to attend these fellowship meetings at the Methodist Church.

Visiting in the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Schlagal, Sr. is their son and family, 1st Lt. R. C. Schlagal, Jr. Lt. Schlagal is attending the University of Michigan at An Arbor where he is studying guided missiles. The younger Schlagals are the parents of a fine baby daughter, Trudy Gayle born December 1.

Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Bell and son of Snyder were visitors in the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Bell over the week-end.

Rankin H. D. Club Has Christmas Party

The Rankin Home Demonstration Club enjoyed their Christmas party Dec. 14 at 7:30 p. m. at the Rankin Park Building.

Games were directed by our agent, Miss Myrna Holman. Active games pertaining to the Christmas season were much enjoyed by all members and their husbands.

Gift exchange and refreshments of pie and coffee climaxed the party.

Those present were: Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Bushong; Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Bushong; Mr. and Mrs. Chris Bieri; Walter Bieri; Mr. and Mrs. Sammy Hodges; Mr. and Mrs. Rich; Mrs. D. O. McEwen and Miss Myrna Holman.

SCHOOL SEEKS INFO ON ALL BOARD MEMBERS

The following names are past or present living members of the Rankin School Board. If you know any person who has served as a Board Member and is not on this list, please notify Mr. Dunn Lowery or Mr. J. L. Alderdice.

R. L. Harmon, Cap Yates, J. W. Robbins, David Elder, Chas. Smith, B. F. Howell, Hamp Carter, C. G. Taylor, Fred Carner, R. N. Stephenson, B. H. Nolan, C. L. Burris, J. D. Josey, T. N. Taylor, Joe E. Conger, E. C. Higday.

R. L. Bell, H. E. Hill, Marbury Morrison, S. H. Boyd, L. J. Young, Jake Dameron, M. K. Moore, Tom Richardson, Maurice Black, Hack W. Cathey, George Atkins, Nenny F. Neil, E. G. Branch, Stanley Eddins,

M.Y.F. Has Annual Christmas Party

The Youth Division of the Rankin Methodist Church, including Intermediate and Senior Sunday School classes, the MYF and the Youth Choir, held its annual Christmas party in the Education building of the church Wednesday night, Dec. 16.

It was a gala affair with 34 young people and four sponsors present.

The group sang popular songs and carols, led by Rev. Don Cochran, with Mrs. J. L. Alderdice, the choir director, at the piano. Rev. Cochran then directed games, after which the group gathered around the large tree which had been beautifully decorated by Herbert Hurn, president of the MYF.

Herbert, assisted by Bobby Wheeler and Tommie Thigpen, passed out the colorful packages which were piled under the tree.

Rev. Cochran was presented Vol. I of the Interpreter's Bible by the group and there were gifts for Mrs. R. H. Johnson, Superintendent of the Department, Mrs. Alderdice and the other teachers and young people present.

Favors were Santa Claus corsages for the girls and key rings for the boys.

Mrs. D. S. Anderson, Mrs. R. H. Johnson, Mrs. J. L. Alderdice; Misses Amarylus Harral and Genevieve Poage served refreshment plates of sandwiches, Christmas cookies, cocoa and candy canes.

Hudson Youngsters Holiday Visiting

Tommy, Bobby, and Gail Hudson, children of Mr. Herman Hudson of Rankin will be in Carthage, Texas for the holidays. They plan to visit with their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hudson of that city.

Walton Harral and Amarylus in Lubbock Monday Visiting Mr. Harral's Mother, Mrs. Fred Hokit.

Walton Harral and Amarylus were in Lubbock Monday visiting Mr. Harral's mother, Mrs. Fred Hokit.

Allegorical Parades Mark Mexican Yule

THE people in Mexico build elaborate floats for allegorical parades during the holiday season. For eight evenings before Christmas there is a religious procession at the head of which the figures of Joseph and Mary are borne. On the ninth evening entrance is permitted and a religious ceremony conducted about the straw-filled manger of the Babe

True Christmas Spirit Is Found in Sharing

FOR a really satisfying and meaningful Christmas, share yours with the old and feeble, the ill and shut-in, the bereaved whose sorrows you might lighten. Unfortunately, all the flurry and preparation associated with Christmas are apt to make parents as well as children overlook the real significance of the coming birthday of Christ.

Greetings
TO YOU and YOURS
Elizabeth L. Rains
Upton County Treasurer

Merry Christmas
BOGG'S GROCERY & MARKET
PHONE 3 RANKIN, TEXAS BOX 72

Christmas January

By Lorna Boone

NEVVY WISHED his worn shoes wouldn't make so much noise on the cobblestoned alley. In the darkness, he saw the discarded Christmas tree standing tall beside a trash barrel and even the rank odors of the alley couldn't drown out the faint fragrance of pine needles.

Nevvy shivered, taking his hands from the dubious protection of his pockets to pull his one mitten on. The tree, his tree! (Just as he hefted it, he heard a shout.)

For an eleven-year-old Nevvy was fast, but the shout came again and then hard, pounding steps. Then, abruptly, he stopped as a large hand grasped his shoulder.

The grip on Nevvy's thin shoulder tightened as a loud voice demanded, "Where're you going with our tree?"

Nevvy twisted around to face a husky boy in a letterman's sweater. "You threw it out."

"Does that mean you can take it? You alley kids start in young."

"It wasn't stealing," angrily, Nevvy heard his voice shake. "Tomorrow the trash man would have got it."

The light from a neon sign spotlighted them. "You are young," the boy said, letting him go.

"Thirteen," Nevvy spoke quickly.

"Don't lie," the older boy countered sharply. "Look, this is my tree."

"All right, so I'm eleven and I know it's your tree."

"But today's the third of January," the boy said, in a friendlier voice.

Nevvy wanted to say "You couldn't understand," but then he looked at the tree, still green and fragrant even if the needles were shattering, and spoke carefully. "We haven't had Christmas at our house yet and . . . and we need a tree."

"That's tough," the boy said, "how come?"

"Reasons."

"Tell me why or I won't give you this tree."

NEVVY let the tree go, watched it rock back and forth on its standard, and, thinking of his mother, hardened his voice. "Reason we didn't have a tree is we couldn't afford it. No job for my

dad, no dough. And the reason we didn't have any Christmas sooner was because of my mother. She was in the hospital having a baby. Then they let my mother come home, right before New Year's, 'cause there wasn't anybody to keep care of the little kids 'cept me when my dad was job hunting."

"Tell me the rest," the boy said.

"Not much to tell. Only the hospital kept the baby 'cause it's pre-

mature and they aren't sure it's going to live. But the little kids—there's five of them—we promised them Christmas and we're gonna have it. I was going to take this tree home for a starter. Me and my dad have been making presents, but my gosh, you gotta have a tree! Even they know that."

The boy was quiet a long time. Then, "Your brothers and sisters still believe in Santa Claus?"

"Oh sure. I gave them a story about Santa Claus waiting until my mother got home to come to our house. They're beginning to wonder though."

"Listen," the boy's voice was eager, "let me be Santa, will you? We have a suit I could wear with some pillows. How about it?"

Nevvy felt the boy's enthusiasm. "Sure," he answered, off-handedly.

Nevvy knew then that the boy really wanted to do it. "Heck no," he said sincerely, "they'll love it. Look, I'll give you the address and you come down in an hour—I'll leave the toys outdoors for your pack. Oh, and I'll have the window—the front one—open for you. It'll take me awhile to get the tree up."

"Swell," the boy sounded excited. "Merry Christmas," Nevvy called after him and picked their Christmas tree up, not caring how much noise his shoes made as he ran down the alley.



Just as he hefted it, he heard a shout. Someone was coming down the path.



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Of Saying Thanks To You----
Our Friends and Neighbors**

**The Best of Everything
To You In '54**

The First State Bank

RANKIN, TEXAS
Member F. D. I. C.





Merry Christmas
AND A
JOYOUS NEW YEAR

In the spirit of
friendship may we
extend best wishes
for a happy holiday
to all our good friends.

G. H. "BUD" FISHER
County Judge



We send you this cheery
Holiday Greeting and hope our
paths will cross during the coming
year.

McKELVY GROCERY
AND MARKET
Rankin, Texas



T. D. "Tom" Workman,
Jr., and Family



MERRY
CHRISTMAS

HIGHWAY GROCERY AND MARKET

Mr. and Mrs. A. J. McDonald



Christmas
CHEER

MITCHELL DRUG



Merry Christmas
AND A
HAPPY NEW YEAR

Christmas would not be complete
without expressing our
deep appreciation for your
patronage and wishing you
and yours Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year to
all...

THE RANKIN FOOD
MARKET

MERRY CHRISTMAS



Certrude Hall and all Employees of MION CAFE



Our greeting is an
old one, but Christmas
is the time for old
songs, old wishes and
old friends.
So again we say, Happy Holiday.

Wishing You The Very Best
SAM HOLMES



Greetings

Our brightest wishes for a
Joyous Christmas Holiday and a Prosperous
New Year filled with the blessings of peace
and happiness.

PORTER & GREEN GULF SERVICE



WE WISH YOU HEALTH
AND PROSPERITY—NOW
AND ALWAYS



IF YOU ARE SICK—DON'T SHOP

GO to your Registered Drug Store for all cold or cough preparations, and the best health tonics.

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| ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES | SUNDRIES |
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"HAPPY NEW YEAR"



INVENTORY PADS 100 TO PAD—75 —NEWS OFFICE



JOHN MANIFEE, County Attorney



We wish for you and yours the very merriest of Christmases. And we hope our friendship will grow stronger throughout the coming year.

T. L. Stephenson

Filler by J. B.

It was my privilege to be on hand when the commissioners court awarded the contract for the new water system that will mean so much to Rankin. I had heard that there was some disagreement among members of this group about the water system. This might have been true during the planning stages but it is definitely not true now. The commissioners court showed every sign of having the best interests of the county and the taxpayers at heart when they were discussing this proposal. They checked thorough on just about every angle that could be checked at this stage of the project.

They all showed a concern for getting the very best deal possible and still getting a system that would provide all the water needed with plenty to spare. They have put out considerable work on this project. They have given it much thought, spent a large amount of time studying all the data gathered, and have gone all-out to put the project over once the voters have proved they wanted it. From this corner it is hats off to each member of this body for a job well performed. Now let's have a drink of water.

The big success of the Christmas party staged last Saturday at the Ford Theatre under the sponsorship of the Rankin Lions Club should prove what can be done when folks all pull together. The large number of children from just about all parts of the Rankin area is ample proof that, given something to encourage their coming, folks will sure make it to Rankin. The good bargains offered by the local merchants also helped add to this occasion. A left-over Christmas tree should go to the members of the Lions who put forth all the work and effort on this worthwhile project. Chairman of this group and deserving a lions share of the credit for the success of the affair is Mr. Allen Moore. Allen spent a great amount of time and effort getting things set for this show. Ted Hogan probably had more fun than anyone else. Saturday morning he was out in the street in front of the theatre stopping cars with children in them and urging parents to bring the kids in to see Santa. Mr. Bell and the folks at the theatre are also to be commended along with everyone else who had a part in making this Christmas just a little extra for lots of kids, about 450 of them in fact.

While we're in a good frame of mind toward our fellow men, I would like to tip my hat also to the employees at the Post Office. Ordinarily people who work for that rich uncle of mine do not go out of their way to be nice to the taxpayers. I know because I used to work for the said uncle. But in the case of our people at the post office, I have never found a more helpful bunch. They have no end of patience with jokers like myself, and even work things out where it looks like we knew what

BIG
New Years Eve
SHOW
Thurs., Dec. 31

"SUSPICION"

STARRING:
CARRY GRANT AND
JOAN FONTAIN

—STARTS 11:30 P. M.—

DON'T MISS THIS ONE
FORD
Theatre
RANKIN, TEXAS

DR. C. I. TOUT, D. O.
Physician & Surgeon
Office
Ford Theatre Bldg.
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Rankin, Texas

CLASSIFIED ADS
Hemstitching, 10 cents a yard at Eades Beauty Shop.
FOR SALE: Heavy, wooden type writing desk, has three drawers. In good shape. See it at Dr. Gossett's office.
FOR SALE: 2-Bed room home and lot. Nice F.H.A. Loan, 1 block of hospital, 3 of schools. By owner, J. W. Hearon Ph. 164-W, Box 1428, Rankin. ttc
If you wish to subscribe to the San Angelo Standard Times call 164-W after 6:00 o'clock or contact Mr. J. W. Hearon at McDonald Laundry. tfc

Dr. Q. Z. Martin
OPTOMETRIST
Hours 9-5, Closed Monday
Telephone 141

Holiday Schedule For Area Catholics

The Sacred Heart Church of McCamey has announced the following Christmas schedule:
December 24, Confession, 4-6 p. m. 7-9 p. m.
December 25, Midnight Mass, preceded by Christmas Carols at 11:45 p. m.
St. Thomas Church, Rankin, 10 a. m. Mass, Dec. 25.
Crane Community Hall, Mass at 8 a. m. Confessions before Mass on December 25.
On January 1 the following schedule will be carried out:
Rankin, 11:30 a. m., Mass.
McCamey, 8 a. m., Mass.
Crane, 9:45 a. m., Mass.

Nola Boyd is at home with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Boyd for the Christmas holidays. She is a student at Texas University.

We were doing all the time. I like them. Remind me to send them an old Christmas tree, too.

DEAR SANTA,
I'll leave you some food in the sack, two apples, one banana and some chicken feed. Don't forget to come to town. Don't forget the little poor children and bring us something too if you have enough. What I'd really like is a space hat, a ray gun and a suit just like yours.
Love,
Mikie Whalen

Sally and Jean Swofford of San Marcos Baptist Academy are visiting in the Walton Haral home. Sally and Jean are of Tela Honduras, Central America where their father is employed by a fruit concern.

Mr. and Mrs. Al Owens and Mr. and Mrs. Roy Lee Bell, Jr. of Austin, Texas attended the Odessa-Lamar football game in Houston Saturday. While there they visited in the home of Howard Bell.

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IN A HURRY AT
THE NEWS OFFICE
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WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR MANY FAVORS AND SINCERELY WISH
YOU AN OLD FASHIONED YULETIDE AND A NEW YEAR
ABOUNDING WITH SUCCESS, GOOD LUCK AND HAPPINESS

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ALFALFA HAY

Shipping choice alfalfa hay from California - on Drought Emergency Program - Call us for our prices, as drought rates end Dec. 31.

Also available new feed grinder and molasses mixing machine to grind and mix your Government feed.

Molasses available for livestock in barrels of truck lots.

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HOGAN MOTOR CO.



Merry Christmas

RANKIN GAS CO.

Egyptians Made Elaborate Dolls For Children

No one knows for sure who made the first doll, but it can be assumed the earliest figures were sacred—gods and ancestor images. These doll-like forms were not toys for the delight of children, but solemn religious figures that preserved the tribe from harm.

Then, somehow, somewhere, a change took place. Dolls became a toy for girls and the most popular Christmas toy of them all.

Dolls have been discovered in Egyptian tombs and ruins, some even had real hair; some were ivory, carved by craftsmen for a king's daughter; others were made of straw by an overworked mother in a peasant's hut.

In ancient Greece dolls were played with and cherished by little girls until they were ready to be married. Then (their dolls were taken to the shrine of a favorite goddess) and, often with tears, presented to her. The Roman children played with dolls, too, but after the fall of the Empire there came a long period in which there is no record of dolls.

Not until the thirteenth century when dolls were made in Nuremberg and dressed in the fashions of the times did little girls again play with dolls. They were here to stay.

By and by in Europe, the French fashion dolls became all the rage, not for children to play with but as models from which fine ladies could pattern their own modish costumes.

In America, the Indian children had dolls of their own made of rawhide and feathers and wood. Pioneer children had dolls much like these, and some were made of braided cornhusks, or nuts, or corncobs, or rags, and were dearly loved in spite of their plainness.

Much later, lifelike dolls were imported from Germany, where the doll industry had reached enormous proportions. These dolls had fine china heads with carefully painted faces and kid bodies that were jointed at the arms and legs. Later there came the Japanese-made dolls, which were inexpensive enough for almost any child to own. Then the American-made dolls began to appear—the special dolls, the kewpies, billikens, Buster Browns, teddy bears, Patsy dolls and Shirley Temples and phonograph dolls, with all the host of others that have followed and which are still to come. For dolls always will be part of childhood and part of Christmases as long as there are little girls and boys to play with them, and parents and fond folk to buy.



MERRY CHRISTMAS

We all wish to extend to you Christmas greetings and good will, and may boundless Holiday cheer be yours. To our ever-widening circle of friends we are especially grateful this year.

WESTERN CAFE



Along with the countless greetings you will receive during this Wonderful Yuletide Season Here's a wish we'd like to send . . . May this be the nicest Christmas That you have ever had.

Mrs. Ralph Daugherty
Rusty and Jan



HOGAN MOTOR CO. and EMPLOYEES



Merry Christmas Folks

Lowery & Workman Insurance

Early Yuletide Thought Pagan By Christians

CHRISTMAS, like any other blessed institution has had to fight its battles. The first great enemy of Christmas was the Roman empire whose pagan emperors determined to blot out all kinds of Christian rites.

Then when Roman Emperor Constantine Christianized the empire other enemies of Christmas arose. One course of contention was: Is December 25 really Christmas? Some said Christ was born on January 6; others held for March 29. Some set April 21 as His birthday. Nobody knew with complete confidence just when to celebrate Christmas. At last, in the fourth century, Pope Julius I settled the matter in favor of our present date. His decision was accepted.

From the first there had been among Christians a certain hostility toward the Christmas festival. The celebration of birthdays in general was considered heathen-



CHRISTMAS Greetings

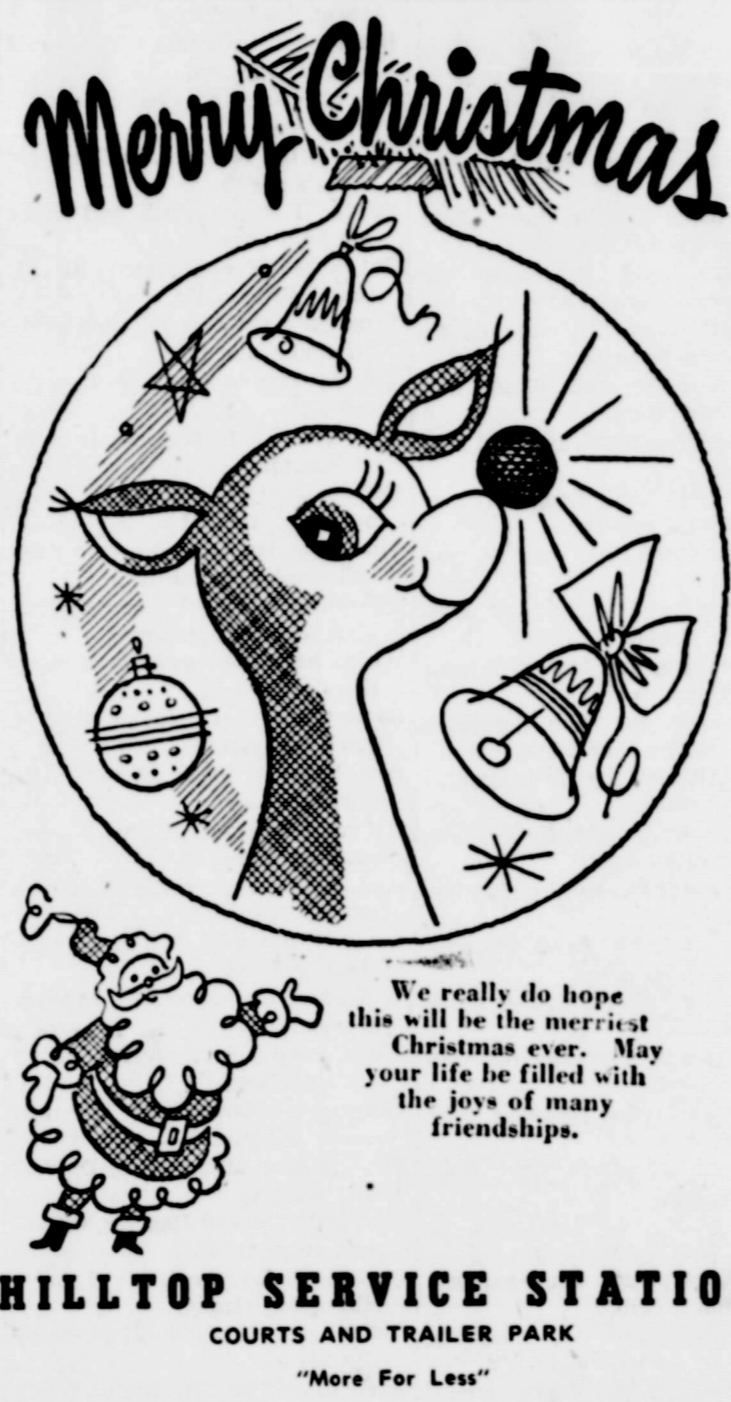
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MERRY CHRISTMAS



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Merry Christmas



We really do hope this will be the merriest Christmas ever. May your life be filled with the joys of many friendships.

HILLTOP SERVICE STATION
COURTS AND TRAILER PARK
"More For Less"



Merry Christmas to You

CLARK CLEANERS

Merry Christmas

... to all of our many friends we wish Season's Greetings, with the hope that our friendship will increase during the coming year.

RANCHERS WOOL & MOHAIR ASSOCIATION

Merry Christmas



May you find among your presents on Christmas morning the priceless gift of health, happiness and prosperity. And we hope to add to your comfort by offering faithful service throughout the New Year.

WALLACE LUMBER CO.
Ivy, Jack & Sonny

MERRY CHRISTMAS

AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

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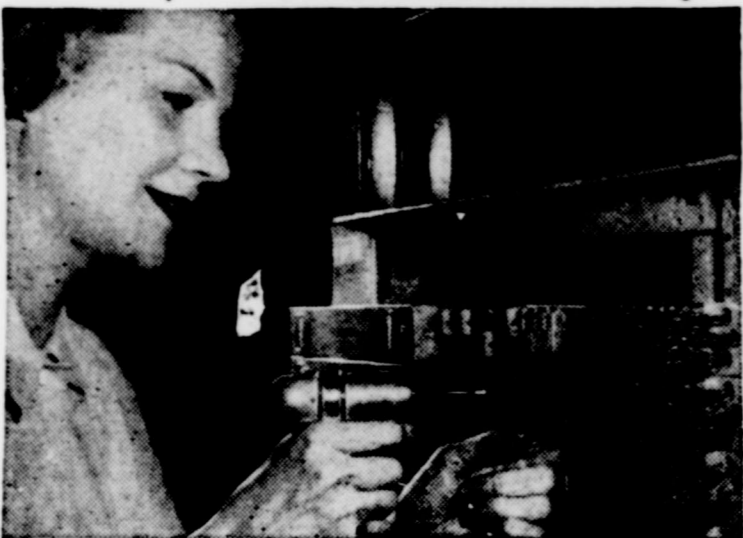
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POEM WRITTEN FOR DESK AND DERRICK CLUB

'Twas a few days before Christmas when all through the town excitement was high, the news got around that the D & D Club was having a meeting; "A party, a party," was cried with each greeting. A big Christmas party, planned with great care, and everybody wished that they could be there. None wanted to stay home, all snug in bed, for sugarplum visions, dancing in head. They wanted to don their prettiest glad rag and come out and see names on a bell tag. So we asked a few guests, without too much clatter and most of them accepted to find out the matter of a Desk and Derrick party in honor of St. Nick; those who found it impossible sure missed a kick. We see many faces, some old and some new; husbands, bosses, and friends so true. Later your hostess will introduce you; we're happy you're here, hope you're happy, too. But more rapid than eagles, the members they came, and like Santa his coursers, I'll call them by name. Here's Dorothy and Hazel, now Alice and Margie; now Margaret, now Faye, and here is Marie. Then Mabel and Imogene, now Helen and Doris, now Mary and Nila, then Jo, and now Lois. Then Opal and Lelia, and then there's Bobbie, then Barbara, and last, of course, there's me. These are our club members, all dressed to our teeth, with Christmas joy encircling us like a wreath. Dorothy, our president, in long tresses gleaming, gives of her best, so our club has meaning; presides at each function, with wit and good grace, and sees with club duties we never are late. Hazel works up programs for each of our meetings; she gets such good speakers, they can't be beat; and we all but wonder, their talks are so good, if she resorts to blackmail, or would if she could. Margaret keeps the bank balance, high for a club. We are proud of our treasurer, and glad she's no dud. As she also plans dinner, menus and table, we wouldn't fare so well if she weren't so able. Jo's a good secretary, even though newly married; she gets the job done without being too harried. We have seven directors, these

four and three more: Nila, Barbara and I—we make up the score. The six gals from Rankin—our pride and joy, all; they help us climb over the Mc-Camey-Rankin wall. A club meeting with them is packed with good pleasure. We get food, entertainment, in more than full measure. The other club members all have their job, too; I wish I had rhymes to give each her due. But at being a poet, I was never quite quick; at making words rhyme, I know when I'm licked. But we have fun in this club, and life's filled with mirth as we learn many things about our good old earth; and the oil it produces, the how-come, why and where, makes us dream of being a multi-millionaire. Yes, we all pull together, 20 members in hand, there's no better working gals in all of the land. But I wish right this minute we'd hear on the roof the prancing and pawing of each little hoof. Of 8 little reindeer, pulling old Santa's sleigh, to thrill your hearts and make joy hold sway. But I bet if old Santa with his round little belly, came in right this minute, we'd all shake like jelly. Yet, we have to admit, we love the old elf; and, I'd like to see him in spite of himself. But old Santa was busy and could not come tonight, though he knows you've been good and done your job right. Though we can't fill your stockings with toys from his pack, we do have good wishes—of them there's no lack. So we thought up a scheme to bring you some you, and have for each here a little Christmas toy. It's yours to open, play with—pretend you're a kid. And, when the party's over, we ask that you did leave it and we'll that some poor child with big eyes will get it for his own as a Christmas surprise. We planned you a program, we all did our best; one part's before dinner, and then comes the rest. First, before dining, Mrs. Driskill will bring her pupil, Dolores Hagerty, Christmas songs to sing. And just before we leave, if you're still going strong, they'll lead all who will in a merry sing-song. After dinner Mr. Grossman of Halliburton will bring an enlightening discussion on hydrofracing.

He brought Mr. Thornton some pictures to show, what Halliburton does so the better we'll know. But right now let's remember, as we have fun and mirth, that the Christmas season celebrates Jesus' birth. And don't forget those who have big burdens to bear; let's each be so grateful our blessings we share. And we have turkey with fixin's, all you can eat. Food by the Legion Auxiliary, just can't be beat! If anything's lacking, you just have your say; for this party must go off in a great big way. So, with a wink of my eye, and a twist of my head, for each D & D member I'll act in her stead. Here's our proclamation, can you hear me alright? "Merry Christmas to all, have fun here tonight."

COMMERCIAL PRINTING IN A HURRY AT THE NEWS OFFICE

CHURCH CALANDER

First Baptist Church
 R. L. SHANNON, Pastor
 SUNDAY
 10:00 A.M. Sunday School
 11:00 A.M. Morning Worship
 6:30 P.M. Training Union
 7:30 P.M. Evening Worship
 MONDAY
 9:00 a.m. Lottie Moon Circle
 W.M.S.
 1:30 p.m. Ruth Circle W.M.S.
 WEDNESDAY
 7:30 p.m. - Mid-week Service
Rankin Methodist Church
 DAN COCHRAN, Pastor
 Sunday School 10 a.m.
 Morning Worship 11 a.m.

Youth Fellowship 7 p.m.
 Evening Worship 8 p.m.
 Choir Practice Wed 7:30 p.m.
Church Of Christ
 LEON KESLER, Minister
 Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
 Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.
 WEDNESDAY
 Mid-week services 7:00 p.m.
Church Of Christ
 L. L. CALVIN, Minister
 Bible Classes 10:00 a.m.
 Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.
 Evening Worship 7:45 p.m.
 WEDNESDAY
 Mid-week Services 7:45 p.m.

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"Merry Christmas



From the Red River to the Rio Grande, your friends and neighbors at your electric service company wish you and yours a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

West Texas Utilities Company

and Happy New Year!"