

The Weekly Review.

VOL. 12.

SWEETWATER, NOLAN COUNTY, TEXAS, FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 1903.

No. 24.

SWEETWATER.

The Great West Texas Town.

THE COMMERCIAL CENTER OF THE WESTERN PART OF THE GREAT LONE STAR STATE.

Her Commercial, Agricultural, Educational and Religious Interests.

Her Business Interests.

Sweetwater is the county seat of Nolan County and is situated 200 miles west from Fort Worth on the Texas and Pacific railway, which crosses the State from Texarkana to El Paso. She has also secured the Kansas City, Mexico and Orient railway, which crosses the State from the north to the southwest, making this place a junction point for two standard gauge trunk lines of railroad. This enterprising city has a population of 1,500 as energetic citizens as you will find anywhere in the west, always on the alert for anything that will be of interest to them individually or in common. They are freely endowed with that spirit of thrift so common with the western people, never allowing themselves to follow, but lead in any enterprise they may undertake, which fact they have thoroughly demonstrated in placing their city in the front ranks in West Texas.

It has only been a few years back when Sweetwater was simply a small village and its main industry was that of a cattle shipping point, and a few frame buildings wherein its mercantile business was transacted. To-day it is a city with large, commodious brick and stone buildings, wherein her enterprising citizens transact their business, built after the most modern style, and the homes of our citizens are an indication of prosperity, happiness and content, with many of their residences built from the most skillful architectural design.

They fully realize the natural advantages of our city, being located in a fertile country, productive in large quantities of almost anything produced in a like climate, and at the present time having one finished railroad running east and west and only

will have a north and south road, making the field for our merchants in the retail and jobbing business unlimited. And our business people are of that class of which West Texas is noted, loyal to their city, county and State, always eager to advance the interests of their city and county, and the newcomer, who is a law-abiding citizen, is treated as a neighbor and a friend, given to understand that his business and social ability is desired and he is made to feel as though he were at home and he himself is soon possessed with that spirit of enterprise which you always find with the true Texan.

Our citizens, realizing the rapid advancement of our town in a commercial way, have secured an electric light plant that by the time the Review reaches its readers will be giving light to the business and residence portions of our thriving city. We understand there will be in use about 500 incandescent lights in business houses and residences, and upon the public square there will be clusters of incandescent lights on each corner and several other lights on our streets for the purpose of giving light to our citizens in going to and from their homes. This new addition to our city is the result of the work of our Commercial Club, a notice of which will be found in this issue elsewhere.

Our people fully realize that there is a power supreme to man, the Giver and Creator of all things, and they have not forgotten in their struggle for commercial supremacy to erect in memory of Him houses of worship, wherein they gather and render their thanks for His blessings in guiding them to a country within which to live. There is so much happiness and prosperity, where people work hand in hand for the betterment of mankind and where the opportunities to add to their worldly holdings are so great. They have five religious denominations represented here, all of which have their own buildings and are in a prosperous condition. A short history of each organization will be found elsewhere in this issue over the signature of their respective pastors or members to whom we feel greatly indebted.

The people of Sweetwater are thoroughly modern in every respect, and they understand that the present hands which guide the destiny of our city and county will not always remain to perform the good work that they are now doing, and they further realize the necessity of educating and preparing the younger generation in whose hands the guiding reins of commerce and social standing of our city and county will be placed. With this fact in view, they have erected a handsome public school building and have secured the services of the best educators that can be had in preparing these younger people for the great responsibilities which they will some day assume. The building is a three-story structure built of pressed brick and trimmed with our native building stone, which is termed a lime stone. On the first floor there are four class rooms, besides halls and cloak rooms, and the second floor has also four class rooms, cloak rooms, superintendent's office and library room, and the third floor is occupied entirely

as an auditorium. The design of the building is of the most improved and modern architecture, and our citizens feel justly proud of such a monument to enterprise and intellect erected in their midst. The school is well equipped with the latest improved apparatus for teaching up to and including the 11th grade. They have secured the services of Prof. S. A. Maroney as superintendent, who has had many years' experience in the public schools of Texas, and is assisted by an able corps of assistants. Prof. Maroney has charge of the 9th, 10th and 11th grades and Miss Pauline Rushing, who is principal, has charge of the first grade. Miss Jennie Whitefield has charge of the 3rd and 4th grades. Miss Bessie B. Reese, the 5th and 6th grades. Miss Mollie Agerton has under her charge the 7th and 8th grades. The schools are making fine progress under the above management and our people point with pride to the advantages we possess in the educational line, knowing that we stand second to none in this respect in all Texas.

In addition to the neighborly feeling and the united effort upon the part of our citizens in placing our city on a higher plane in a commercial way, we also have a number of fraternal organizations represented here and all are in a prosperous condition.

The question of Sweetwater's supremacy as the commercial metropolis of West Texas there is no doubt. In addition to her natural resources and facilities for becoming the great commercial center of the west part of the great Lone Star State, her people are of that kind of business men that do not know the true meaning of the word "fail," but, on the contrary, they have as their watchword "success," and being liberally supplied with that shrewdness which is such a prominent

they readily see the natural advantages that their city has, and are not slow in placing their inexhaustible supply of energy to work in making Sweetwater their ideal western commercial city.

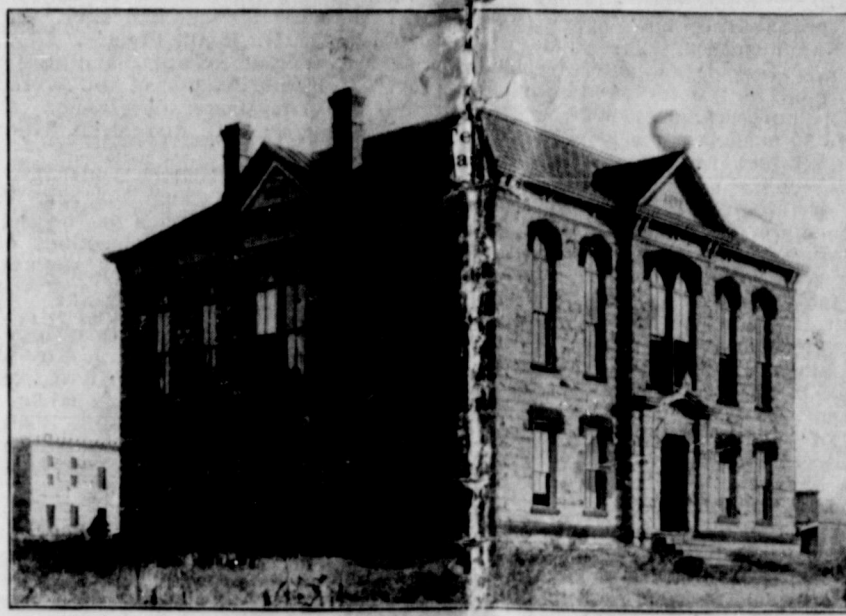
They have just recently arranged for building an oil mill at a cost of \$50,000, and when in working order next fall will be the means of bringing many dollars to the pockets of her business men, not only in the way of a cotton market, but as a feeding point for the cattlemen of West Texas. The cotton being raised in the vicinity of our city, the acreage of which is fast being increased and the amount being grown now is ample to supply an oil mill. While last year was very unseasonable for our farmers with cotton, yet there was a great deal more marketed in Sweetwater than was the previous year.

Having four trunk lines of railroad running east, west, north and south, cattle can be brought here by rail and placed in our fattening pens and prepared for the markets of the world with little expense. They can be shipped to the packing houses of Fort Worth, a distance of 200 miles, which affords a home market, or they can be sent over the Kansas City, Mexico & Orient to Kansas City at a very great saving in time and shrinkage over the old routes. In addition to this new enterprise in adding to our commercial importance, these two great railroads give our merchants easy access to the fertile territory lying to the four points of the compass for their jobbing trade, and at present with our crude methods of access to part of this territory Sweetwater is no small place in this particular line, for her jobbing interests bring many thousands of dollars to our business people each year.

In speaking of Sweetwater's natural resources in becoming the great town of West Texas, she has a lake adjoining the city which will furnish ample supply of water for a city many times the size she is to-day. The lake is nearly a mile in length, and in many places from 35 to 40 feet deep. We also have within two and a half miles of our city what is called Sweetwater Creek, which we could readily utilize in securing water for our city's needs.

Sweetwater's Commercial Club has accomplished many things for which it was organized, and will succeed in many more enterprises. Among the prominent enterprises that our club realized that it would be necessary was a hotel, the architecture and management of which should be up to date in order to receive and entertain properly our guests. So when the matter was presented to our energetic business men its approval was by a unanimous voice, and to-day it is an assured fact that this summer there will be a hotel erected in Sweetwater costing about \$18,000 by Sweetwater capital and business men, and one that will not only be a pride to Sweetwater, but to West Texas.

One of the most important matters that is of great interest to the citizens of Sweetwater and Nolan county is that the Kansas City, Mexico & Orient railroad has decided to make Sweetwater division point, locating their round houses, machine shops, and division superintendent and other offices at this point, thereby making this the



NOLAN COUNTY COURT HOUSE.

most important city upon this great trunk railroad in Texas. This will give a ready market for the truck farmers' products, and place many dollars in the cash registers of our merchants, and in the pockets of our citizens. The Orient people have purchased a beautiful addition to the city upon which they will build their depot, round houses, and machine shops. They have named this the "Orient Addition," and this will consequently open up a greater business field and will require more merchants, mechanics, and, in fact, all classes of business men to handle our immense business. At present real estate in our city is very reasonable, and, according to the rental income, it is a very desirable investment for capital, and at the present time the market is very active. There is hardly a week passes but what some who have heard of Sweetwater's greatness and who have capital, seeking real estate investments, come to our city, and after investigating our resources become citizens and tax payers among us. Prices vary according to location, and business lots can be purchased for from \$350 to \$2000 per lot, size of lot 25x140. Residence lots, which are 50x140, can be had from \$40 to \$200 per lot. This property when improved brings a very fine rental in-

come, and good residence and business property for rental purposes are in great demand at the present time.

Our city is supplied with good local and long distance telephone systems, known as the Texas & Pacific Telephone Company, with headquarters at Colorado.

The climate of Sweetwater is hardly excelled by the climate of any country. Her altitude is 2100 feet above sea level, and the air is pure and invigorating, which is the fountain head of most perfect health, and good health begets energy, thrift and contentment, and with this success is surely yours. To dwell in such a climate and mingle with a class of business people where their countenances portray content and satisfaction, with their lot in life, is worth a great deal, to say nothing of the business opportunities offered by our city. Yet to the wide-awake business man, or to the capitalist seeking investments, the citizens of Sweetwater, broad-minded and liberal, extend to all of these people a glad welcome, assisting them on their arrival a cheerful greeting and a word of encouragement, and request to remain with them and share their healthful climate and assist in transacting the business done in busy, business West Texas town.



SWEETWATER PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDING.

SWEETWATER A HEALTH RESORT.

The Water That Flows From Daniel's Mineral Wells Receives Praise From All Parts of the Country.

The Daniel Mineral Wells, located in the southeast part of the city, which were discovered about five years ago, is becoming well known in almost all parts of the United States for having the most wonderful curative powers, and there is hardly a day passes but Mr. Daniel receives words of praise for the good this water has accomplished for some person who has had some disease that physicians have been unable to check, but by the proper use of this water has been perfectly cured. He has on file hundreds of testimonials, not only from Sweetwater people, but from all parts of the country, including physicians, certifying to its almost magical curative powers.

Mr. Daniel, the owner of these wells, has about nine acres adjoining our town on the southeast upon which he has three wells. Well No. 1 is 18 feet deep and contains 8 feet of water. Well No. 2 is 18 feet deep and contains 10 feet of water. Well No. 3 is 140 feet deep and contains 100 feet of water. These wells are 8 feet in diameter and walled from the bottom with stone and brick. They are located in a small valley dotted with shade trees, and on each side a gradual elevation forming beautiful hills, covered with a thick growth of grass, making it a most pleasant place for rest and amusement. He has a fine bath house containing eight bath rooms, where can be secured all kinds of baths, hot and cold, tub and sweat baths, and dry steam baths, especially for rheumatism. He has machinery especially for giving this kind of bath, so arranged that he can apply the hot steam to any part of the body that is affected. By this method and the use of the mineral water is a positive cure for all rheumatic troubles. The upper part of his bath house is com-

fortably arranged for the accommodation of those receiving treatment, being fitted up with beds and other conveniences.

Out on the lawn he has built a large pavilion to be used for public gatherings and any kind of amusements. The waters that flow from these wells have proven to be a positive cure for dyspepsia, kidney, bladder and liver troubles, Bright's disease, diabetes, nervous afflictions, paralysis, rheumatic afflictions, and many other diseases.

If you are afflicted in any way, by addressing Mr. I. W. Daniel, proprietor of this resort, he will cheerfully give you the desired information as to what this water has done for others and naturally will do for you. He has been a resident of our county and city for many years, and is held in high esteem by our people, and some of them can testify as to the benefits they have received from the internal use and bathing in this water.

He can also refer you to many in different parts of the United States, upon whom this water has made wonderful cures.

ANALYSIS OF WATER.

Dry residue of a gallon of water sent by I. W. Daniel to Prof. Fox. This residue and the figures resulting from this analysis are relative to the water before it was evaporated. To 100,000 parts of water there were:

Suphate of Lime.....	320,530
Suphate of Alumina.....	49,142
Suphate of Magnesia.....	484,326
Suphate of Soda.....	230,131
Chloride of Sodium.....	323,082
Chloride of Magnesia.....	92,291
Carbonate of Lime.....	71,423
Silica.....	8,137
Phosphate of Lime.....	31,233
Organic Matter.....	22,468
Iron, Arsenic, Others.....	2,317

Total matters found directly by analysis.....1,637,990 In 100,000 parts of water there are in all 1,637,990 parts dry matters.

SWEETWATER COMMERCIAL CLUB.

SWEETWATER'S ENTERPRISING BUSINESS MEN.

The Progress of Which is a Sample of West Texas Enterprise.

Its Members.

There are few towns the size of Sweetwater, having a population of about 1500, where you will find so much energy and unity in action displayed as you will find in this city by her business men. It is not altogether that her business men are up-to-date in their respective lines of business, but they have within their midst an organization known as the Sweetwater Commercial Club, composed of seventy-eight of its most enterprising business men, organized for the purpose of concentrated action in building up and advancing the interests of our city and county. Judging from the fruits they have gathered their efforts have been crowned with success. The secret of our city's success is that these gentlemen have had an objective point in view, and with a united effort and a keen intellect with which her people are liberally endowed their success was assured. To say nothing of the natural advantages offered by our city and county to the man with capital to invest, the business man or the homeseeker, it is seldom you see a city of her size with an organization of such a large number of her business men always ready to render their energy and capital for the advancement of their interests in common. But Sweetwater business men are of that class known as the true Texan, and if he is not a native Texan he is so by choice, big-hearted and broad-minded, always ready to join his neighbor in anything that is of mutual benefit, and fully realizing the opportunities our city has to offer the merchant who desires to secure a larger field for his labor and capital seeking a safe and profitable investment, they as a unit extend these people a cheerful welcome.

Where there is so much harmony existing within a city among her business people, there is positive evidence that whatever business you may wish to transact, or whatever investment you

expectations. They have advertised our city so that today Sweetwater is known all over the world, as being the commercial center of the western part of the great Lone Star state, and having more natural advantages and greater opportunities for the business man than any city in West Texas. The members of this club have been instrumental in building a public school building that is a credit to a town many times the size of Sweetwater, and to which our citizens justly point with pride. They have secured for Sweetwater an electric light plant which will furnish power and light for our people. They have also consummated a deal whereby Sweetwater will have an oil mill costing \$50,000, making this the most important cattle-feeding and shipping point in West Texas. They have also arranged for the erection of a modern hotel, costing complete about \$15,000 or \$18,000, which will be one of the finest hotels in this part of the state.

Through their efforts our streets have been improved, and improvements in that line are being continued.

There are numerous other enterprises they now have on tap that will be of great importance to Sweetwater and judging from their past success they have every reason to believe that they will be successful.

The success obtained by this commercial enterprise has been so gratifying that they set apart the 10th of last February as a day of feasting, rejoicing over the progress they had made. On the evening of that day they met in their commodious quarters in the Newman Block and with friends and a few prominent invited guests feasted and toasted to the present greatness of their city, and to its future prosperity.

On behalf of the members of the Sweetwater Commercial Club we extend a cordial invitation to all the business men, the capitalist and homeseeker to come and mingle with us and in a word to say that the club is unexcelled and where the opportunities to get your share of this world's goods are plentiful, assuring you the glad hand of welcome by our citizens.

Club Membership.

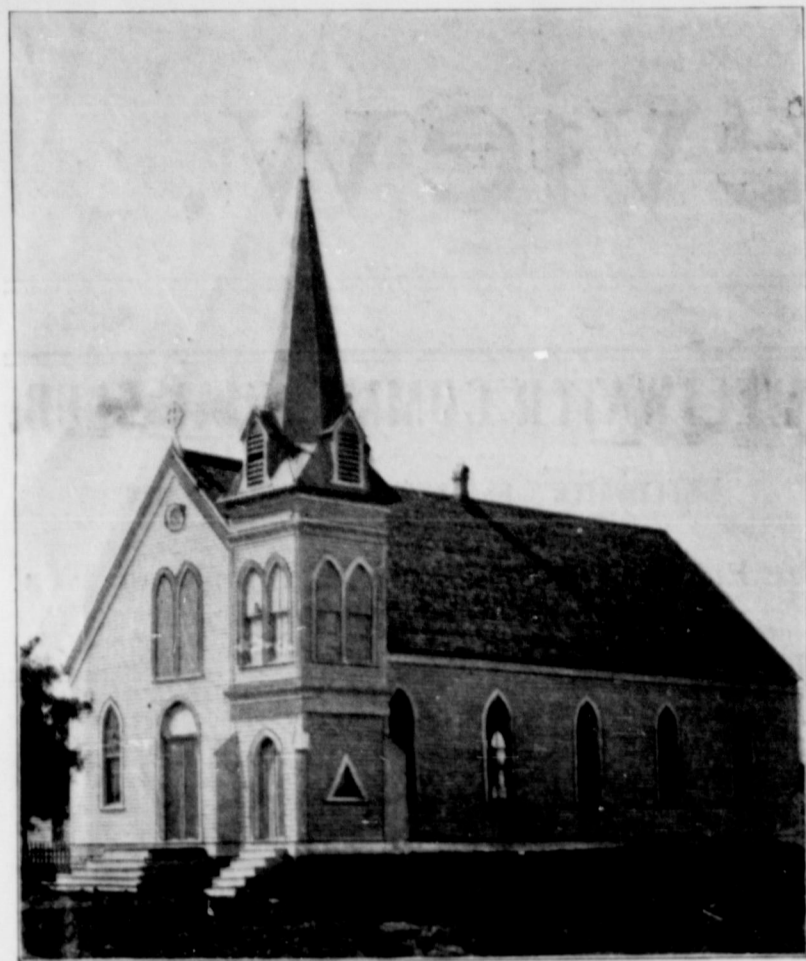
C. N. Atkinson, president of Texas Southern Construction Company and Stock Raiser; D. S. Arnold, merchant; Lang Aycock, liquor dealer; Walter Beall, clerk; O. A. Bass, deputy sheriff; H. C. Brannon, merchant; R. L. McCaulley, banker; J. H. Bond, liquor dealer; G. H. Bunton, stockman; Chas. Beryle, stone mason; W. W. Beall, lawyer; J. H. Beall, lawyer; Pope Beall, merchant; W. T. Berry, merchant; Ed. Bradford, county weigher; B. L. Cooper, jeweler; R. C. Crane, lawyer; J. P. Cowen, merchant; J. R. Cox, jeweler; J. H. Cochran, jr., lawyer; E. Daniels, assistant cashier First National bank; D. L. Durham, county judge; J. S. Douthit, merchant; J. D. Douthit, druggist; J. D. Duane, stockman; E. Durham, clerk; J. H. Freeman, justice of the peace; R. H. Fitzgerald, president of the First National bank; W. H. Fitzgerald, stockman; E. V. Glass, merchant; Lee Glass, merchant; Sam Glass, merchant; A. W. Goble, merchant; W. L. Grogan, attorney; H. C. Hord, attorney; H. C. Hughes, attorney; E. H. Holcomb, secretary and treasurer T. S. C. Co.; E. Keathley, manager telephone; E. H. Kiefer, editor; A. Leander, mechanic; J. R. Lewis, stockman; R. E. Moody, physician; R. A. Musgrove, stockman; L. J. Mashburn, merchant; S. D. Myres, merchant; J. S. Mitchell, merchant; W. F. McCaughy, sheriff; L. L. Medlock, druggist; A. T. Newman, stockman; Frank Newman, barber; S. R. Neblett, painter; J. F. Paret, insurance; R. B. Pyron, stockman; R. C. Patterson, clerk; F. B. Perry, butcher; Newton Prince, clerk; J. J. Pettus, merchant; G. E. Pike, minister; R. A. Ragland, lawyer; P. R. Hamilton, bookkeeper; W. H. Jobs, manager for the J. M. Radford Grocery Co.; A. J. Roy, merchant; Dr. L. B. Robuck, Dr. Geo. Sparks; J. M. Stewart, barber; J. D. Sloan, hotel; J. W. Scott, lawyer and mayor; Dr. H. C. Scott, S. W. Scrutcher, merchant; W. T. Trammell, banker; Thos. Trammell, banker; Ray Turner, lumber; J. W. Warren, cashier First National bank; Wm. Wight, clerk; W. M. Woods, county clerk; Roy Westbrook, mechanic; E. Westbrook, city clerk.

BARGAINS IN REAL ESTATE.

Six hundred and forty acres of black waxy land, ten miles west from Sweetwater, two west of Roscoe; two hundred in farm, well improved, with nice cottage, barns, surface tanks, wells and windmills. Price \$11 an acre. Owner has bought ranch farther west. Roscoe is a beautiful little city, with splendid church and school facilities. Also 1280 acres, red sandy loam, eight miles southwest from Sweetwater, on line of Orient. This place is well watered, by tanks and springs. Eighty acres in cultivation, houses, barns, orchards, etc. Price, \$6 an acre. Owner has more cattle than land will run, and wants to go further west. Address, W. L. GROGAN, Sweetwater, Texas.

"First—To secure immigration.
"Second—To secure the construction of needed and suitable business houses.
"Third—To secure the construction of a modern and adequate hotel.
"Fourth—To enlist investments in Sweetwater and surrounding country.
"Fifth—To secure factories and plants of manufacture consistent with the products and resources of the country, and to do any and all things which will bring more people and money to Sweetwater and surrounding country, by advertising, by the use of local means, and by any and all measures which may be determined feasible by the president and executive committee."

We are glad to state that the success that these energetic business men have gained is equal to or beyond their



M. E. CHURCH, SWEETWATER, TEXAS.

M. E. CHURCH.

The Methodist Episcopal Church, South, has been organized in Sweetwater something over twenty years. For several years there was a hard struggle to maintain the charge, owing to the repeated drouths, the small membership and the fact that so few people came into this country. But as in all places where God has a people, the faithful few trusted in God and kept working, and that, with the help given by the Board of Missions of the Northwest Texas Conference, and the work of earnest pastors, sent from year to year, the Church is now on a safe footing with property worth, perhaps, \$3,000, and a membership of nearly two hundred.

The charge this year is a three-quarter station, giving one Sunday in each month to Roscoe, a splendid little town about nine miles west of us. Our Church here is thoroughly organized with a board of seven stewards, representing the leading business men of our prosperous little city, the president of said board being the president of the First National Bank, also a splendid Epworth League, the president of which is the post master

here, and one of the most wide-awake Women's Home Mission Societies in the conference, with a membership of more than thirty-five. This society is alive to all the interests of the Church, making the parsonage, the comforts and conveniences of the pastor's family, some of the chief objects of their tender care. Another strong arm of our Church is its Sunday-school of nearly one hundred and fifty members, with one of our leading druggists as superintendent. Our town is alive with full of enterprise on all lines, and Methodism intends under God's grace, to keep up with the procession, so that all Methodists, in less healthful climes and more pent-up spheres, "desiring a better country" where they can certainly do well and feel well, may have the assurance that they can find a spiritual home in Sweetwater, among as generous, hospitable, friendly, homelike folk as can be found on the face of the earth. To all such, pastor and people say, come, and breathe our pure atmosphere, spiritual and otherwise, enter into our abundant labors, rejoice in our possibilities and be glad as long as you live, you came to Sweetwater and cast your lot with Sweetwater Methodism.

C. A. EVANS, Pastor.

NOLAN COUNTY.

Nolan County has an area of 2,000 square miles and is situated just west of 100th longitude and north of 32d latitude. It is bounded on the north by Fisher County, on the east by Taylor, on the west by Mitchell and on the south by Runnels and Coke Counties. The average rainfall is about twenty-five to thirty-five inches per annum, and during the latter years this average has been greatly increased. Our county has a court house built in 1891 at a cost of \$15,000, located at its enterprising county seat, Sweetwater, and the county in general is in a very prosperous condition.

The general aspect of the country is that of gentle, undulating prairies, broken at intervals by water courses, which form narrow to wide valleys, or by ranges of low hills generally of uniform height, separating the valley from beautiful and most fertile table

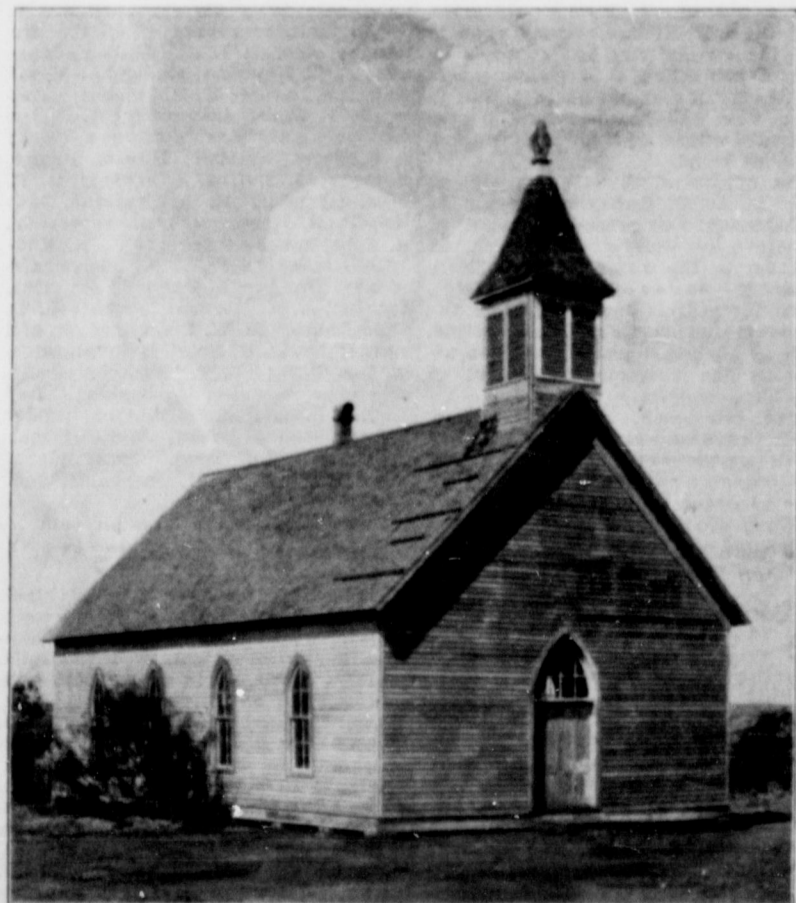
lands which abound throughout the county. The soil is generally sandy and black waxy, and produces in great quantities of anything that can be produced in a like climate, and 75 per cent of it can be cultivated to an advantage. However, only about 10 or 12 per cent at present time is being cultivated, but the success that our agricultural men have had during the latter years has convinced them of its remarkable fertility and ease of cultivation. Our county is rapidly becoming noted for its stock farming and agricultural qualities. The soil of this county has what would be termed a clay subsoil, and being of a sandy loam its ability to hold moisture can not be excelled in any county. The ease with which it can be cultivated is another point greatly in favor of this country, for one man and his team can cultivate at least twice as much land as his eastern cousins can, and on land that

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

The Presbyterian Church of Sweetwater was organized in 1885, with the small membership of five, but they were earnest workers and their membership has gradually increased. The Church was reorganized in 1889 and today has a membership of 25, all of whom are active workers. The organization is in prosperous and good working condition. They have a Ladies' Aid Society that is doing good work

and their Sunday-school is in a growing and healthy condition. They have a very handsome church building located upon a corner lot in the best residence portion of our city.

Rev. R. M. Hammock, who resides at Colorado, is at present giving part of his attention to this congregation, until they secure a regular pastor. The pastors who have had charge of this Church since its organization are: Rev. J. A. Creighton, Rev. J. H. Zivley, D. D., Rev. C. C. Anderson and Rev. J. L. Meadams.



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, SWEETWATER, TEXAS.

is worth more per acre, but not any more productive. The land that is not in cultivation and that includes about 90 per cent is covered with native grasses, in which our cattle graze. Nolan County has produced some of the finest steers as was ever placed upon the market and brought their owners the top prices for either beef or for breeding purposes.

Our county is well supplied with water and, in addition to the numerous little streams, water can be had at a depth of 50 to 150 feet. Among the principal crops produced in this county at the present time are: cotton, which will yield from 1.3 to 1.5 bbls per acre; Kaffir corn and milo, which are produced in large quantities for feeding purposes. The yield in the crop is very large, and is considered equal to the Indian corn for feeding purposes. Oats will yield from 20 to 30 bushels per acre, while wheat will produce from 15 to 35 bushels. This county seems to be the best of anything that grows on a vine. Grapes are produced here equal to the California variety, and sweet potatoes and water melons are of the finest. In fact, if it were not for the late frost it would be hard to tell when they would stop growing. Fruits of all kinds and with the best flavors yield in this country in great abundance. To those who understand the art of tilling the soil, this country is his ideal country and Nolan County is the banner county of this part of Texas. For stock farming it can not be excelled.

The price of lands in this county ranges according to the character of the land and location. Lands suitable for grazing purposes are from \$2.25 to \$3 per acre, and for farming, from \$3 to \$8, and improved farms from \$4 to \$15 per acre, owing to location and improvements.

In this edition of the Review we have endeavored to give the true state of affairs in Sweetwater and Nolan County, and on behalf of her enterprising citizens we extend a cordial invitation to the citizens of the industrial world to write our Commercial Club if they desire further information, or come in person and become one of us and share with us the pleasures of developing our numerous resources, and live in a climate where there is most continuous sunshine.

The following are the names of their officers: W. M. Bradford, W. M.; L. Mims, S. W.; A. T. Newman, Jr. W.; R. E. Moody, Treasurer; H. C. Hord, Acting Secretary; W. J. Cook, Sr. D.; J. D. Dulaney, Jr. D.; J. H. Fowler, Chaplain, and C. L. Beyrie, Tiler.

KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS.
The Sweetwater Lodge No. 307, of the Knights of Pythias, was organized September 11, 1902, and has a membership of 30, and is in a good working and prosperous condition and holds its meetings Tuesday evenings of each week in the Trammel & McCaulley building on the west side of the public square. Its officers are: L. B. Robuck, Chancellor Commander; R. C. Patterson, Vice-Chancellor Commander; J. H. Beall, Prelate; J. W. Scott, Keeper of Records and Seal; E. H. Holcomb, Master of the Work; B. L. Cooper, Master of Finance; A. L. Brownfield, I. G. and M. B. Howard, O. G.

WOODMEN OF THE WORLD.
The Sweetwater Camp No. 525, W. O. W., holds its meetings on the second and fourth Monday evenings of each month in the Trammel & McCaulley building on the west side of the square with a membership of 75, and its officers report the camp in splendid working condition. Mr. A. J. Roy is Council Commander; I. L. Willey, Adviser Lieutenant; J. R. Cox, Banker; W. Waldie, Jr., Escort; Walter Beall, Sentry, and W. M. Haley, Watchman. **INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS.**

Sweetwater Lodge No. 559, I. O. O. F., was organized about one year ago, and they now have a membership of 33, and the lodge is in a good working condition. The following named gentlemen are its officers: Walter Waldie, N. G.; D. I. Durham, V. G.; L. B. Robuck, Secretary; J. S. Douthitt, Treasurer; H. C. Hord, P. G.; and L. J. Mashburn, Warden. They hold their meetings every Friday evening in the Trammel & McCaulley building.

SWEETWATER, TEXAS.

Sweetwater (Nolan Co.), Texas, September 25.—This prosperous little city is the county seat of Nolan County. It has a population of nearly 1,500 inhabitants, which is rapidly increasing. It is distant 202 miles west of Fort Worth, on the Texas & Pacific Rail-



CHRISTIAN CHURCH, SWEETWATER, TEXAS.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH.

The Christian Church was organized in Sweetwater over twenty years ago. It has enjoyed the privilege of having able men in the pulpit. From the list of ministers who have served the Church, are the names of R. O. Charles McQuiddy, of Tennessee, A. J. Bush and Baxter Goughly. Last year Elders Goughly and Frederick F. Wyatt held a meeting, which resulted in much good. The present pastor, Grant E. Pike, was called to serve the Church about six months ago. Action of commercial prosperity in Sweetwater the Church has been taking on new life. In less than a year the Ladies' Aid of the Church has raised over \$800; a lot has been purchased and a parsonage will be erected the coming summer.

During the past six months the voluntary contributions to missions have been over \$250, or more than \$3 per member. The Sunday-school and prayer-meeting have taken on new life and the Church is doing good work. The Church believes in missions—aiding those at home as well as those at a distance. During the past winter through the ladies of the Church, those who needed temporal relief were sought out and ministered unto.

The Church stands for charity, chastity and benevolence in the name of Christ, that His kingdom may be enlarged on earth. In this delightful climate of Western Texas and the wonderful development of the material resources at this place the Christian Church invites all strangers who come to Sweetwater to find with her a religious home.

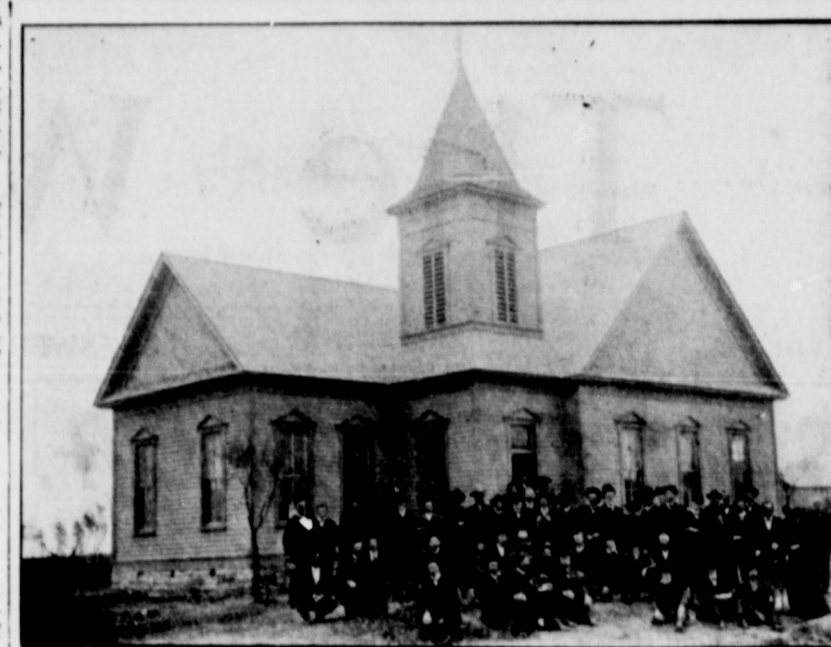
GRANT E. PIKE, Pastor.

SWEETWATER'S FRATERNAL SOCIETIES.

The Sweetwater Chapter of the Royal Arch Masons No. 236 was organized August, 1902, and received their charter last December from the Grand Chapter, consisting of a membership at that time of 14, but at the present they have a membership of 31, and the chapter is in a prosperous condition. They hold their meetings in the Masonic hall on northwest corner of the public square the first Monday night of each month. The following is a list of their officers: R. C. Crane, High Priest; S. D. Myres, King; W. L. Grogan, Scribe; L. B. Robuck, Secretary; J. V. W. Holmes, Treasurer; L. Mims, Captain of the Host; R. A. Ragland, Royal Arch Captain; A. T. Newman, Guard; H. C. Hord, W. T. Berry and J. J. Pettus, Grand Masters of the Vells, and J. H. Beall, Chaplain.

MASONIC BLUE LODGE.
The Sweetwater Blue Lodge No. 571, A. F. & A. M., has a membership of about 60, and is in a prosperous condition, holding their meetings in the Masonic hall on Saturday evening, on or before the full moon of each

way, and is to be the headquarters of the Panhandle & Gulf Railway, which is the Texas corporation for the Kansas City, Mexico & Orient Railway, which is being rapidly constructed from Kansas City, Mo., through Kansas, Oklahoma, Indian Territory and Mexico to Port Stillwell on the Gulf of Lower California. Trains are now in operation for about fifty miles in Kansas and Oklahoma, while the grade of the road is finished from Sweetwater to the north line of Oklahoma, with the exception of about fifty miles near Benjamin, Tex., on which a large force with steam graders is now at work with the expectation of filling the gap by the first of next year. In Mexico nearly 200 miles of the road is completed and in operation, and the grading and laying of rails is being pushed northward and southward from Chihuahua, and north from Port Stillwell, as rapidly as work can be done and material procured. During the present summer about 150 cars of rails for the Mexico work passed through Sweetwater on the company's own cars, and it is expected that the laying of rails from Sweetwater north will be commenced as soon as rails and other material can be procured. The entire road is being built as fast as men and money can do it.



CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

THE CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

Was organized Dec. 25, 1881, by the Rev. A. J. Haynes, with 13 charter members, 4 of whom are still members, viz.: J. H. Fowler and wife and W. D. and J. H. Beall. The Church was reorganized in 1887 by the Rev. A. Baker, who served as pastor for a few months. Rev. Alpha Young then served for a short while, then for a few months Rev. W. H. Edwards was pastor. In June, 1892, Rev. J. L. Elliott became pastor and continued to preach to the Church a part of the time till March, 1900, when he resigned. Under his ministry a lot was secured and the erection of a church

house begun and carried on. The present pastor, the Rev. W. F. Kerby, became pastor January, 1901. Under his ministry the church building has been finished, furnished and the indebtedness all paid. The house is of modern design, the auditorium is seated with circular oak pews. The building is well located on a beautiful corner lot. The property is worth \$3,000. The membership has been doubled in the past two years, there being now 50 enrolled. Peace and harmony prevail and the Church is growing. A live, active Sunday-school is kept up. The Ladies' Aid Society is also active and has been very helpful in establishing the Church. W. F. KERBY, Pastor.

The general offices, machine shops, round house, and divisional headquarters would, under the circumstances, be located here, and with such a condition it is confidently expected that the city inside of five years would have a thriving population of at least 5,000 people. Business opportunities in many lines are now open to investors of means and energy. The city has recently been reincorporated, and is still without a water supply and is also in need of a modern electric lighting plant. The real boom which is expected to come with the nearing of the completion of the Orient Railroad has not, as yet, set in, and town property can be had at very reasonable rates, while lands in the country for stock raising and agricultural purposes can be bought at from \$3 to \$8 per acre, according to quality and location. The far-seeing investor has opportunities here not often presented. This portion of the State was, until a few years ago, the cattleman's country, but conditions have changed, and he has gone into the stock farming business, and the country is rapidly coming to the front as a farming section. Cotton, especially, is being as successfully raised here as in any other section of Texas, which for Sweetwater means the early establishment of a cotton seed oil mill, and this proposition has already been investigated by some of Sweetwater's most progressive citizens. The improvements that have taken place in this city since last December are something marvelous. Both residence and business buildings constructed of wood have been replaced by substantial and imposing rock and brick structures which would

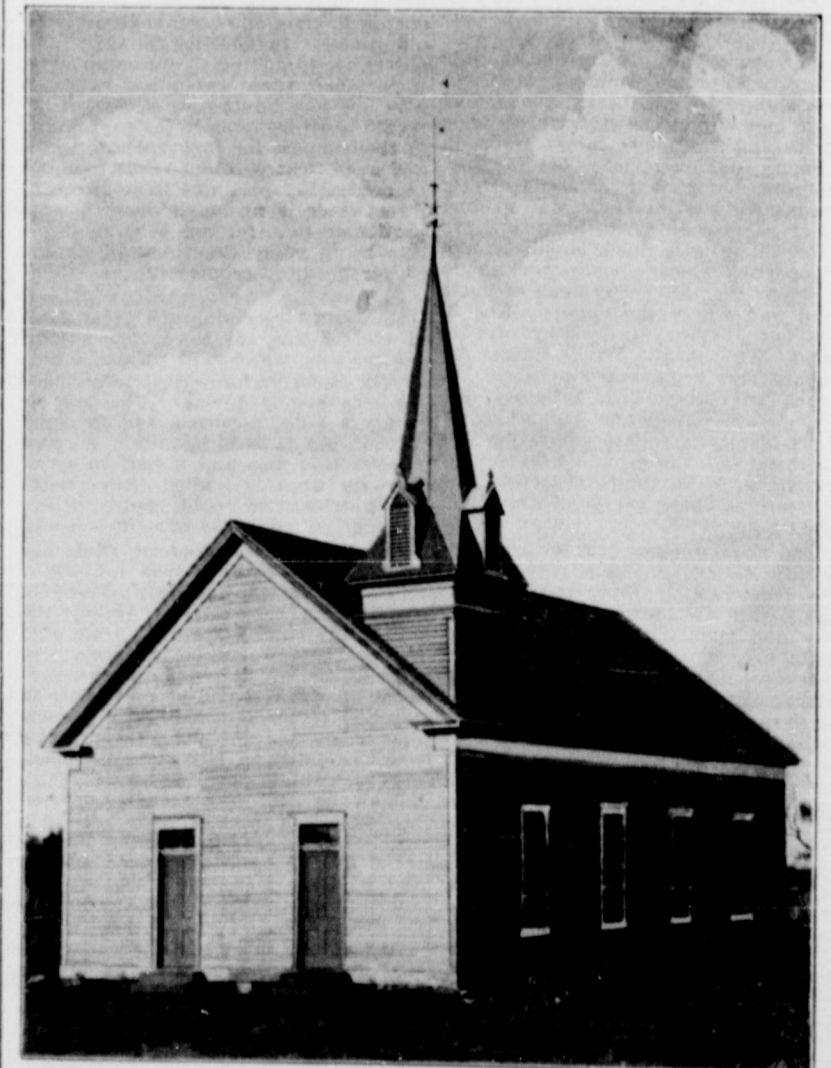
do credit to cities of greater pretensions, and the good work still progresses with no abatement. The city has just completed a handsome two-story brick school building, costing \$12,000. Nolan County abounds in a superior quality of white limestone rock and red sandstone, both of which make excellent building material. At a depth of from 300 to 400 feet the great salt stratum which is now successfully worked at Colorado, lies beneath the surface in this section. The altitude of Sweetwater is 2,100 feet above the level of the sea, and is entirely free from malaria or miasmatic influences, and the health of the community is exceptionally good and free from contagion. The soil is rich, and very productive, producing from 15 to 20 bushels of wheat and from 50 to 80 bushels of oats to the acre. Five churches are thoroughly organized, and all maintain substantially constructed houses of worship. Both fraternal and social organizations maintain lodge rooms, and hold stated meetings. The morals of the community are of the best. The water obtained from the mineral springs is said to be the equal of any in the State. A beautiful lake of water is conveniently located within a mile of the city, which is expected to be improved, and some day a beautiful park will be located near its water's edge. The merchants are organized into a Commercial Club, which is offered by brilliant and enterprising gentlemen. A club room is maintained for meeting purposes, and the entertainment of visitors. Further information regarding this location may be had by addressing the secretary.—Texas Trade Review.

THE SWEETWATER BAPTIST CHURCH.

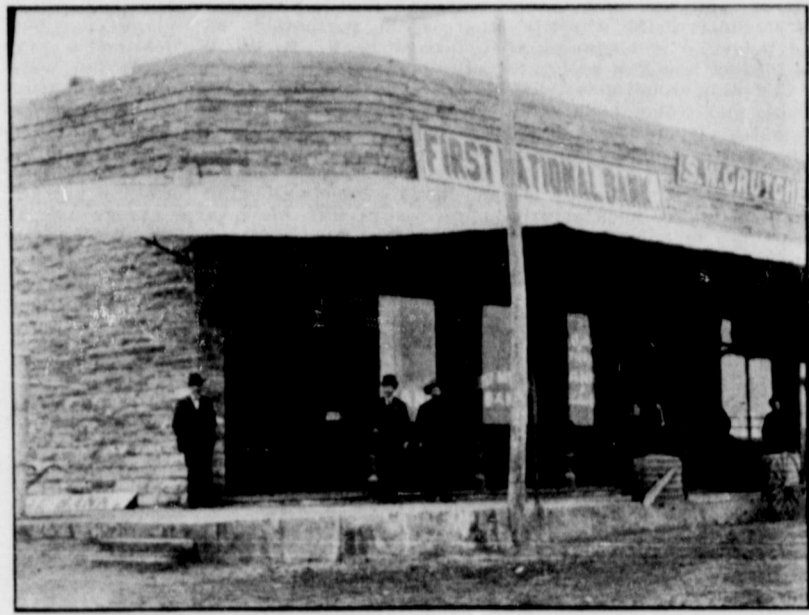
Was organized on the second Lord's day in February, 1882, by Elds. Peter Turner and M. C. Clark, with six constituent members. Eld. Turner was the first pastor. In the fall of 1882 the Church resolved to build. Dr. O. C. Pope, superintendent of missions for the Baptist State Convention at that time, securing them a donation of \$250 from the Home Mission Society of New York. The house was dedicated in April, 1883. The first revival in the Church was conducted by Elds. W. H. Whittle and B. Hatcher, and Eld. G. W. Baines did some very effective preaching in it. It resulted in 26 additions. This was in August,

1883, but quite a good number had joined before that.

During the 21 years of the life of this Church, it has had the usual ebbs and flows, some times prosperous, some times otherwise. Right now, under the pastorate of Rev. Robert Taylor Hanks, D. D., the Church is taking on new life, new members are joining at nearly every service; the attendance upon the prayer-meetings, Sunday-school and congregations are growing, and their house of worship is soon to be put in thorough repair, and made as neat as a pin. For the present their days of meeting are the first and fourth Sundays. They are soon to hold a protracted meeting, and will have the use of a large gospel tent. A MEMBER.



BAPTIST CHURCH, SWEETWATER, TEXAS.



FIRST NATIONAL BANK BUILDING.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK.

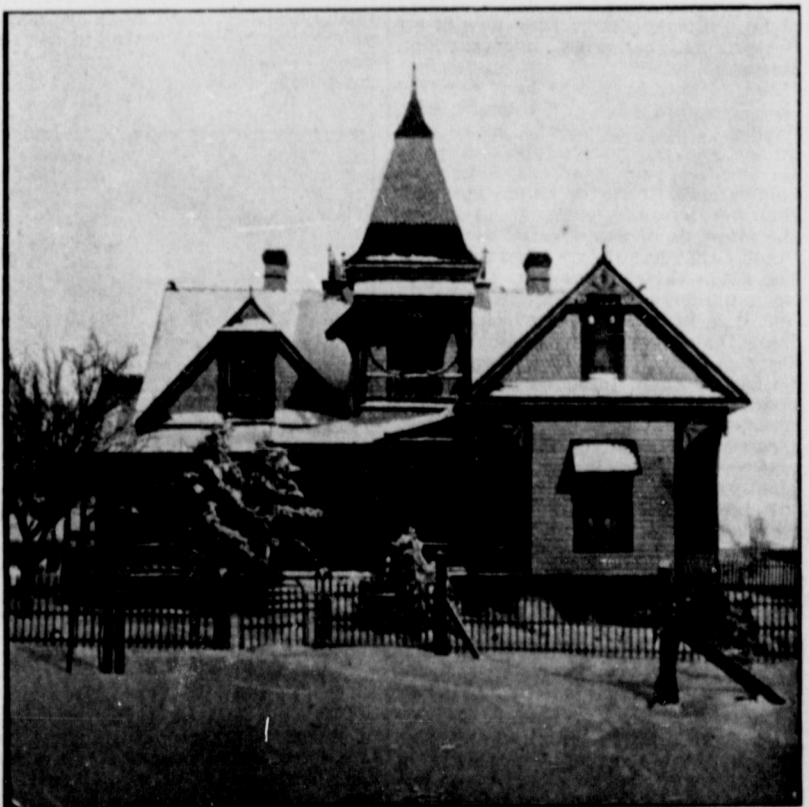
Banks of a city act as a thermometer, registering the healthy or otherwise condition of its commercial interests. If a bank is conducted upon a sound financial basis, through its reports can be seen the conditions of the business men of the city. It is the central station with its financial wires extending to the cash drawers of the different commercial enterprises of the city within which it may be located and the key board at central station records the magnitude of the business that is being transacted by the different business firms. The First National Bank of Sweetwater, and the only national bank in the county, was organized in May, 1901, with a capital stock of \$25,000, but increased to \$40,000 July, 1902, and the progress that this financial institution has made is in keeping with our city's progress and while it is not yet quite a two-year-old, it has rendered handsome dividends to its stock holders, enjoys the confidence of our people, and ranks among the successful banking institutions of West Texas. Its stock holders and officers are among the leading solid financial men of this part of Texas, and their reputation as successful business men is well known throughout the State.

The president of this most prosperous West Texas financial institution is Mr. R. H. Fitzgerald, who needs no introduction to the business world of the State. For many years he has conducted a successful cattle business in different parts of the State, and made for himself a reputation of being a shrewd, keen financier of no small note in the commercial field of Texas. He is a Texan by birth, and if you know what that implies, you will understand that he is a man with liberal views, conservative in his business transactions and filled with that energy and push so characteristic with the true Texan that any city would be glad to claim him as a citizen. Such men are today placing Sweetwater on the high plane of the most important commercial point in West Texas and making this part the greatest stock raising and agricultural country of the west.

In addition to his banking interest, Mr. Fitzgerald is owner of one of the largest and best improved ranches in West Texas, having a ranch in this county containing about 4,000 acres, stocked with high-grade cattle and fine horses.

Mr. John Warren, cashier of this solid institution, is a man of wide experience in financial affairs. Prior to his becoming a citizen of Sweetwater he was located at Terrell, Texas, and was extensively engaged in the grain business, being president of the Warren Grain Company at that place. He has always taken an active part in local matters that would be of interest to our city and county.

In addition to the handsome dividends that this institution has paid the stock holders, they also have quite a nice sum of undivided profits, and the stock holders of the First National Bank appreciate the fact that they have as their cashier a man who has the financial ability and energy that they have in Mr. Warren. Mr. Warren was interested in our county for some time before he took up his residence here in the way of cattle raising, and being a man of no small business ability and seeing the numerous undeveloped resources that our city and county had to offer, took advantage of them



RESIDENCE OF R. H. FITZGERALD PRESIDENT OF THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK.

and was instrumental in establishing an institution of which he is cashier, and to which our people point with great pride.

Mr. E. Q. Daniels, who is vice-president and assistant cashier, has been a citizen of Sweetwater for the past six years, and has constantly been identified with the financial interests of our city. He has always taken an active part in all public enterprises, and his services in our commercial industries and toward placing our city in the rank that she holds among the cities of the west, has been appreciated by our citizens who hold him in high esteem as a successful and conservative business man.

In addition to the above named gentlemen, the directors of this financial institution consists of some of Sweetwater and Nolan County's most successful business and professional men, among whom is Judge J. H. Beall, one of the ablest attorneys in West Texas, also W. F. McLaughy, our present sheriff, who is also extensively engaged in the stock raising business, and our well known citizen, J. W. Meadors, one of our most prominent real estate owners.

You will note from the above facts that the First National Bank is in safe hands, which is evident from the progress it has made. Since its organization and under the management of men of finance of no small ability and our people are proud that we have among us such a moneyed institution, and its destiny under the watchful eye of representative men of such business ability.

They have as their book keeper, Mr. E. L. Hopkins, a young business man who commands the highest respect of our people, and has been connected with this institution since its organization. Mr. Hopkins has been a resident of Sweetwater for the last twelve years, and prior to his connection with the First National Bank was deputy county clerk, which position he held with credit to himself and our people.

That our readers may form a better idea of the condition of this institution has made in so short a time, we give a statement of condition condensed from report to controller at the close of business Friday, Feb. 6, 1903:

RESOURCES.	
Loans and discounts	\$ 96,246 85
U. S. bonds and prem's	10,700 00
Banking house fur. & fix.	8,746 57
Due from U. S. Treas.	500 00
Cash in vault & with banks	26,126 03
Total	\$142,319 45
LIABILITIES.	
Capital stock	\$40,000 00
Surplus and profits	3,663 79
Circulation	10,000 00
Rediscouunts	3,000 00
Deposits	85,649 66
Total	\$142,319 45

AN ACRE

of Nolan or Fisher County dirt, with reasonable seasons, will produce:
 One bale of cotton.
 Thirty bushels of corn.
 Sixty bushels of oats.
 Thirty bushels of wheat.
 Eighty bushels of Kaffir corn.
 Twenty tons of sorghum.
 You can't beat this anywhere in the wide, wide world, without resorting to artificial means.
 The climate is perfect and such health!

SWEETWATER'S TELEPHONE SYSTEM.

Sweetwater is amply supplied with telephone facilities, in addition to her local system furnished by the Texas and Pacific Telephone Company, this same company furnishes her a long distance system west along the T. & P. road and north to Roby and from there connections are made whereby our people can secure telephone connections with the towns in the north-west and out on the plains to the principal towns and ranches and west as far as Midland, and east as far as Abilene. The Roberts Telephone systems also has connections in our city and at Abilene they connect us with their system east to most any point, consequently our people are well supplied in this respect. The Texas Southern Construction Company, who have the contracts for building the Panhandle and Gulf railroad, the Texas part of the Orient, own and operate a private line of a distance of about 100 miles to their different camps along the line of this road. Sweetwater in her telephone facilities is somewhat metropolitan like all other commercial enterprises, she is to the front.

TEXAS SOUTHERN CONSTRUCTION CO.

In order that our readers may fully realize the importance of our city as a commercial center for West Texas, as well as headquarters for prominent Texas corporations, we gladly refer to the above named construction company. It is classed among the largest companies of its kind in the west, and the most progressive.

The birth of this Texas corporation dates back to January, 1902, with a capital stock of \$50,000, and for its officers such enterprising and public-spirited men as our worthy citizen, Mr. C. N. Atkinson, as president, and F. C. Allen, vice-president, and E. H. Holcomb secretary and treasurer.

Upon the organization of this company they assumed the contracts of Mr. C. N. Atkinson, for the construction of the Kansas City, Mexico and Orient railroad through Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas, and are now rapidly pushing to completion these contracts. However, Mr. Atkinson, the president of this company, had prior to the organization of this company completed the construction of the roadbed of the Orient from Anthony, Kansas, to the Cimarron river in Oklahoma, and from the Fort Worth and Denver crossing to Crowell, Texas. Since the organization of this company, they have completed the construction of the grade of the Kansas City, Mexico and Orient railway from Crowell to Sweetwater, and just as soon as the rails and timber can be placed upon this road bed Sweetwater will have a north and south trunk line.



NEWMAN BLOCK.

THE ORIENT.

There is probably not a man in Sweetwater that is better and more favorably known than Mr. J. H. Bond, proprietor of the Orient Saloon and Pool Room, located in the Newman block on the public square. While Mr. Bond was born in England, he came to this State when he was but a few years old, and since his mature years has been identified with our interests for many years in different parts of the State. He has been engaged in raising cattle until recent years, when he entered the liquor business, and to-day he conducts a saloon and pool room in our city in a manner that he enjoys a fine trade among the best people of our city and county. He is one among many of our citizens who has inherited that liberality so common with the Texas people and when it is even hinted that he

F. B. PERRY.

The pioneer meat market in our city is conducted by Mr. F. B. Perry, who has supplied our people with the best of meats for the last eight years. He is well prepared for this kind of business, having his slaughter house located about three-fourths of a mile south from town, and a well arranged shop located in a central part of our city. Mr. Perry's long experience in this line with our people, understands that they are lovers of the choicest meats, and the experience he has had in raising and butchering cattle enables him to furnish them the best that can be had. The fact that he has endeavored to give them the best has secured for him a very lucrative trade, not only among private parties but every hotel in our city he supplies with his meats; also the section men and the steel laying crew on the Texas and Pacific railroad.

Mr. Perry is a man that takes great interest in anything that is of public interest and our people are glad that we have with us such a valuable citizen.

This company is well qualified for their line of business and they now have in operation 45 teams with all the necessary machinery, including four excavators and one traction engine with one and one-half mile of track for handling dump cars, of which they have 30 odd in number and about 60 wagons. They have their own merchandise supply house, from which they supply their many employees with food, and wearing apparel, this establishment being located at Benjamin, Texas, on the line of the Orient.

The gentlemen composing this corporation are men of wide experience in the construction and operating of railroads, and their ability in this respect stands unquestioned. Our people are proud that they have, with headquarters in our city, a corporation whose business is the construction of railroads that carry with them such a high reputation in their line. The president of this well known Texas enterprise, Mr. C. N. Atkinson, has been a resident of Sweetwater for over a year, having come here from Kansas City, where he was also engaged in the railway business. He held the important position with the Kansas City, Pittsburg and Gulf railway as superintendent of telegraph and transportation for five years prior to his moving to this city. However, he has been actively engaged in operating and constructing railroads for the last 30 years, and his experience and ability in this line has won a reputation for him co-extensive with the United States.

When Mr. Atkinson decided to make his home with our enterprising people he was prepared to shoulder his part of the burden in fighting for the commercial supremacy of Sweetwater in West Texas, and well has he done his part. His keen business ability soon made plain to him the many undeveloped resources that our city had to offer to the man with energy, thrift and capital, and being one that is liberal and endowed with at least a share of energy and not wishing to gather all the sheaves, he immediately offered his services and joined hands with our people in an effort to advise our more unfortunate eastern cousins of the many advantages that we have to offer them. He is one of the leading members of our Commercial Club, being its vice-president, and is always ready to give his time, money and energy toward anything that will be of benefit to our people in common. To show his faith in the future of our city, he has built a handsome residence and erected three other dwellings for rental purposes. When we say we are proud that Mr. Atkinson decided to become a citizen of Sweetwater, we voice the sentiment of our whole people, for it is the work of such men as he that is making Sweetwater's importance felt all over the country as the future metropolis of West Texas.



BANKING HOUSE OF THOS. TRAMMELL & CO.

THOS. TRAMMELL & CO.

The banking house of Thos. Trammell & Co. is composed of Thos. Trammell and R. L. McCaulley, two of Sweetwater's most prominent citizens. This moneyed institution is not only the oldest in Sweetwater, but among the pioneer banks of West Texas, having commenced business in 1883, thus having conducted a successful business for the past twenty years. This banking firm's reputation, as successful financiers and bankers, covers no small territory, for their twenty years of successful career in West Texas has won for them a name that ranks high with the banking institutions of the west, and one of which they may justly feel proud. For many years the financial interest of our city and county has been trusted within their care, our people having the utmost confidence in their long experience, ability and integrity, and they have proven themselves worthy of that great trust. Under their management and guiding hand, our financial and commercial interests have never encountered any troublesome seas, and have always been anchored upon a solid foundation. They are men who may justly claim the title of being the genuine Texans, big hearted, liberal in their ideas upon any subject, yet conservative in business, neighborly with their neighbors and always taking an active part in advancing the commercial interest of the city and county in which they have for the past twenty years been one of their financial pillars. They have done much toward placing our city and county in the high rank they hold today among those of West Texas.

The personal liabilities of this banking house are over \$300,000, and in addition to their banking interests here they have also a branch banking house at Roscoe, in this county. Their name in this and adjoining counties among the merchants, farmers and stock men as bankers is a household word. They are also State representatives for Texas for the United States and Mexican Trust Company, with American headquarters at Kansas City. This trust company has charge of the lands and town sites of the Kansas City, Mexico and Orient railroad, and the management of this business in Texas has been placed in the hands of Thos. Trammell and R. L. McCaulley. This shows in what esteem this firm is held by the financial world. Their experience in their respective business and the high rank which they have attained among the financiers of the State and the confidence with which the people have in them successfully engineering any enterprise, have been fully realized by the United States and Mexican Trust Company.

Thos. Trammell, senior member of the above named firm, came to Sweetwater in 1881 from Navarro County, this State, where he had been engaged in the cattle business. At that time Sweetwater contained but very few houses, and the county was purely a cowman's country, and the reason of his coming here was to secure a larger field for this line of business. Since his residence here he has been classed among the leading cattlemen of the west, and to-day owns fine ranches in this and Borden Counties, and several large ranches in New Mexico. On his Borden County ranch he makes a specialty of breeding high grade and registered Hereford cattle, and is considered among the leading breeders of West Texas.

Mr. Trammell has proven himself



RESIDENCE OF THOS. TRAMMELL.

R. A. MUSGROVE.

Among our leading cattlemen and enterprising citizens will be found Mr. R. A. Musgrove, who has been identified with our city and county's interests since 1881 and is now one of the earnest workers in advancing the interest of the city. He established the first newspaper published in Nolan County and through this medium was an earnest advocate of our many resources and was the means of doing much toward building up our county. Of recent years he has given his attention to that of raising graded cattle for the market, but however, taking an active interest in the affairs of our city and county. He is now secretary of our commercial club and is doing

a very valuable citizen for West Texas, and especially Sweetwater and Nolan County, for it was not long after he came here until his business tact convinced him that the opportunities and future of the then little village and Nolan County were unlimited. Being a thorough westerner, he knew that it would require grit, energy and money to take advantage of these opportunities and develop her many resources, he took hold with giant determination to make Sweetwater the commercial metropolis of West Texas, and Nolan County the greatest stock farming and agricultural county in the west half of the Lone Star State. Today the foundation that he was one of the prime movers in laying, and the castles which he had built still stand, and his fond hope are becoming realized. Sweetwater is the most important commercial and railroad center in West Texas. In 1883, Mr. Trammell and his present partner in business, Mr. R. L. McCaulley, seeing the necessity of the little town, that it might successfully combat with its rival towns for commercial supremacy in West Texas, organized the firm of Thos. Trammell & Co., and to-day our people point to this banking house as a financial monument as to what can be accomplished by thrift and energy.

R. L. McCaulley is also formerly of Navarro County, and came only a few years later than his friend and partner in business, Mr. Trammell, having located here in 1883, and engaging in the cattle business and forming the partnership with the above named firm. Mr. McCaulley is recognized in Sweetwater and West Texas as a man of great financial astuteness, and has done much in advancing the interest of our city and county and through his prestige and efforts have many things been accomplished that have proven of great benefit to us all. He is one of those enthusiastic yet conservative business men full of public spirit, never tiring of pushing any enterprise to completion that has a tendency to better the condition of the people where he lives. He is the organizer and founder of our Sweetwater Commercial Club, the channel through which much good has been done for Sweetwater and is known as the most enthusiastic and energetic organization of its kind in the west. Mr. McCaulley has been a very faithful and hard worker in accomplishing the purpose for which it was organized.

This gentleman is also first vice-president of the Panhandle and Gulf Railway Company, the Texas part of the Kansas City, Mexico and Orient railroad, which is now being rapidly completed to our city, and it has been through his efforts, assisted by our enterprising citizens, that these concessions have been secured, whose value to Sweetwater can hardly be estimated. In conclusion, the Review will state that the firm of Thos. Trammell & Co. has been in close touch with the business interests of our city for many years. They understand our true commercial condition and the opportunities offered by our city and county to the merchant, capitalist or the stock raiser, agriculturalist or any one desiring to change their location in business or seeking investment. These gentlemen owing to their knowledge of our affairs are prepared to give you the desired information by communicating with them and they will do so with the same spirit and energy that they have worked for the advancement of our city and county.

E. V. GLASS.

The young business men of Sweetwater take an active part in making our city felt in the business world, and there is no exception to this rule with Mr. E. V. Glass, who handles a fine line of confectionaries and fancy groceries. He also serves cold drinks in season and has one of the latest improved peanut roasters and corn poppers, constantly going during the winter months. Mr. Glass is also a member of our Sweetwater Commercial Club.

CHRISTOPHER & CARY.

The above named gentlemen have just opened up what is called the White Swan Bakery and Lunch Room, and are turning out some very fine bread, cakes and pies of their own product, and their trade is fast increasing. They also serve a very fine lunch on the short order plan, and these gentlemen being experienced men in this particular line, have given perfect satisfaction to their customers.

JOHN H. COCHRAN, JR.

The subject of this sketch is one of Sweetwater's most prominent young lawyers and real estate men. He is city attorney of Sweetwater and is making a record as a fearless prosecutor of those who transgress. In addition to his law practice he has a very extensive real estate, loan and insurance business. If you should need anything in that line, he will give your business close attention. As a reliable, thorough-going business man we commend him to all who may peruse this issue of the Review.

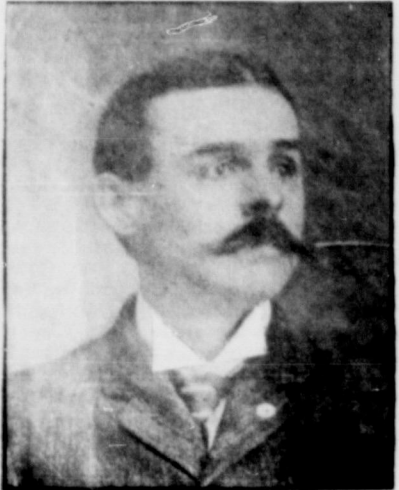
THE WEEKLY REVIEW.

W. L. Grogan, Proprietor.
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JUDGE D. I. DURHAM.

Among the rising young attorneys of Nolan county is D. I. Durham, our present county judge, who was elected to hold that important position last November.

Judge Durham is a native of Jackson county, Alabama, at which place he started in life as a school teacher, and was county superintendent of public instruction of his native county from 1892 to 1894, also held the position as professor of mathematics and history in the Scottsboro College, of Scottsboro, Alabama, in 1894. He dates his residence in Texas back to January, 1895, and from that date until 1897, taught school and studied law, when he was admitted to practice in Nolan county. It was not long until our people saw in him a young man freely endowed with energy and thrift, and with that determination to climb

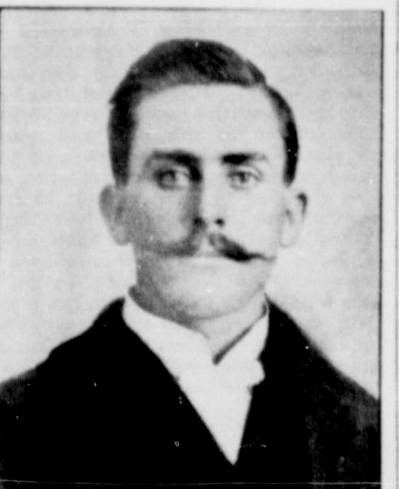


COUNTY JUDGE D. I. DURHAM.

higher in his profession. So in 1898 they elected him to fill the important office of county attorney. He filled this office satisfactorily to our people and with credit to himself. At the expiration of his term he again entered the general practice of law and is making progress in building up for himself a reputation as a young lawyer of no small ability. In 1902 the people of Nolan County in looking over the legal talent to represent them for county judge, selected attorney D. I. Durham as their standard bearer, and elected him by a handsome majority. Judge Durham, like all Sweetwater and Nolan county citizens, never forgets his duty in using his efforts in advancing the interest of the town and county in which he lives.

COUNTY CLERK MANSE WOOD.

Nolan county prides itself that her business and official affairs are in the hands of some of her most trustworthy citizens, among whom is our county and district clerk, Manse Wood. Mr. Wood has been identified with the interests of Sweetwater and Nolan County for the last ten years, and during his residence here has shown great interest in our city and county affairs, and our people as a reward for his active work chose him at the last November election to fill the office as above mentioned. He is a native of Parker



COUNTY AND DISTRICT CLERK MANSE WOOD.

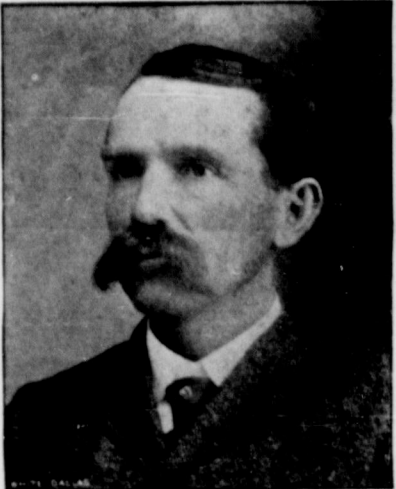
county and is proud of the fact that he is a native Texan. Prior to having been elected to the office of county and district clerk, he was engaged in the mercantile business, and while so engaged was always a faithful and hard worker, as he is today, for the advancement of our city and county, and he, with our citizens, rejoices over the successes achieved in this respect. Mr. Wood, while yet a young man, has proven himself to be a man of no small business ability, and the people of Nolan county have the utmost confidence that the affairs of our county transacted in his department, will be well protected by his watchful eye, and business ability.

B. D. BROWN.

The above named gentleman is a native of that state where it is claimed that you have to "show them" or rather from Missouri. However, he has been shown that Sweetwater is one of the best towns in West Texas for his business, which consists of a general line of groceries, and he is catering to the trade in that line. Mr. Brown came to this city from Weatherford, Texas, where he had been engaged in teaching in the public schools for a number of years, at which profession he has spent twenty years of his life. Seeing the opportunities for the mercantile pursuits in Sweetwater he has chosen that line of business. The people of our city, as they always do, have extended to him the glad hand of welcome and as a result Mr. Brown is enjoying a very prosperous trade.

SHERIFF W. F. MCGAUGHY.

It is with pleasure that the Review, in making mention of Sweetwater's and Nolan county's most enterprising and trustworthy citizens to make note of our popular Sheriff and Collector, W. F. McGaughey. Our people could have looked West Texas over without finding a better man to fill this office.



SHERIFF W. F. MCGAUGHY.

and of which fact they well know and have demonstrated their confidence in his ability and integrity in performing the duties of this office by re-electing him by a large majority at our last November election. Mr. McGaughey, you might say, is now serving his third term as Sheriff and Collector for our people; however, his first term was an appointment to fill a vacancy, and at the expiration of this appointed term was elected last November, as above stated. He is of that type of man you would term a true westerner; big hearted, broad-minded and liberal in his views, not forgetting that he is an officer of the law and a servant of the people, and realizing his duty as such honestly and fearlessly performing the same with credit to himself and Nolan county.

While he places his birth-place in North Alabama, he has been in Texas since he was seven years old, and has constantly been engaged in the cattle business, or, rather as he expresses it, "cow punching," and is to-day interested in that line of business. He always takes an active interest in public enterprises, and has done much toward advancing the interests of Sweetwater and Nolan county. In addition to his interest in this county he is also one of the organizers and directors of the First National Bank of our city—an institution that is making great progress in the financial world of West Texas. Our people in selecting as one of our county officers Sheriff McGaughey have done themselves great credit, and they point with pride that this department of our county affairs is administered by a man possessed of such executive ability.

HALSTED BROS. & HEAD.

The above named firm is a first class livery, feed and sale stable and have some very fine teams and buggies and their experience in this line of business is evidence that they will render you good service. They are especially arranged for the accommodation of the commercial trade and are up to date in every respect.

HARRIS & HALSTED.

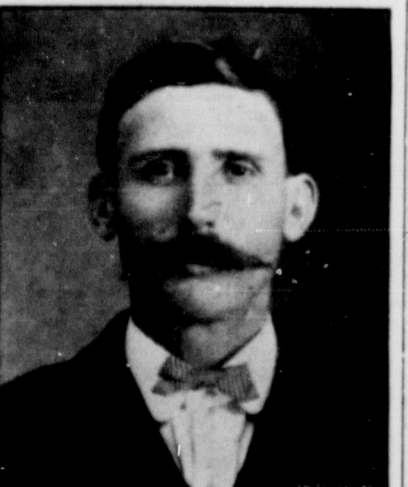
The above named gentlemen are conducting a short order restaurant, which is kept open night and day, being located near the depot of the T. & P. railroad. They enjoy quite a trade from the railroad men as well as from our people and the traveling public. They are good cooks and serve the best lunches day and night.

J. B. STARR.

When you arrive in Sweetwater and desire to drive out in the country and see the beautiful farms that are being made by our farmers, or if you are a commercial man, and want to make any of our nearby sister towns, call on Mr. J. B. Starr, who conducts a livery, feed and sale stable in our city. This stable has just recently been built and he has some of the finest turnouts that you will find in this part of the State. He is specially prepared to handle the commercial trade and the Review will assure you of satisfaction.

COUNTY ATTORNEY J. J. FORD.

J. J. Ford, a likeness of whom appears above is County Attorney of Nolan county, to which office he was elected without opposition. He is a young man of sterling character and exemplary habits; a hard student of the law, he will one day take high rank in his chosen profession. Though young in



COUNTY ATTORNEY J. J. FORD.

the cause as a prosecutor, he is already the terror of evil-doers in this section, and he is winning golden opinions in the discharge of his duties in this responsible position.

RAGLAND & CRANE.

R. A. Ragland and R. C. Crane, composing this well-known law firm, are among Sweetwater's most progressive professional men, and their legal ability is well known throughout this entire section, where they enjoy a very lucrative practice.

In connection with their law practice, they are conducting a very extensive real estate business, having disposed of during forty-five days of November and December of last year over 20,000 acres of land in Nolan and Fisher counties. They are well prepared to render satisfactory services in this line of business to all parties concerned. Being the owners of the oldest set of abstract books in Nolan county, books that have been prepared and grown up with the progress of the county, and their knowledge of the values and conditions of our



ATTORNEY R. C. CRANE.

real estate is of great value not only to the seller, but to the investor. They are also local representatives of some of the best old line fire insurance companies, and have quite a patronage in this particular line. In the real estate line they enjoy quite a large list of resident and non-resident clientele, and are also local representatives of the Texas & Pacific and Houston & Texas Central railway lands, and the lots owned in our city by the first mentioned railway. They have purchased and now offer for sale the lots recently owned by the Franco-Texan

Company. This company was the Texas & Pacific Railway company were formerly owners of the original town site.

These gentlemen, realizing the rapid advancement of our county and adjoining counties, have recently opened an office in Roby, the county seat of Fisher county, and have formed a partnership at that point with

their field of labor the firm of Ragland & Crane of Sweetwater, or Ragland, Crane & Wright of Roby, as men who are thoroughly posted on the many resources and opportunities which our city and county and adjoining counties have to offer to the energetic and thrifty citizen who desires to change his or their location to a country like ours, where the burdens are made lighter. These gentlemen will gladly furnish you the desired information, and the business that you may place in their trust will prove a pleasure and an advantage.

They have done much toward developing the many resources of our city and county, never failing in encouraging and assisting any enterprise that will be of material benefit to our people. They are active members of the Sweetwater commercial club, and while Sweetwater has many enterprising firms, yet it is with special pride

she points to the firm of Ragland & Crane.

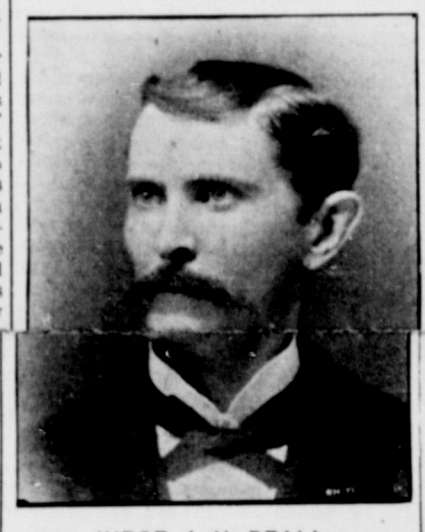
Attorney R. A. Ragland, the senior member of the above firm, first staked his tent in Sweetwater in 1882, as "R. A. Ragland, Attorney at Law," and having his share of that pluck and energy that most men had who came west in the early days, he was not long in establishing the fact with the few people that were then in Nolan county that he had come for the purpose of making a new home, and would share with them the hardships that one endures in building up a new country. They address their business to their county attorney to fill an unexpired term, and when this term expired he was elected and served the people of this county in that capacity for another term. At the close of this term he again entered the general practice of law, and added to his law practice that of real estate agent. He has been a great factor in developing

the same and immediately placed his shoulder to the wheel of progress and today he is beginning to realize his fondest hopes of seeing Sweetwater the commercial metropolis of West Texas, and Nolan county one of the foremost agricultural and stock-farming countries of the west. He has proven himself a valuable citizen, and his efforts in behalf of our city and county have been greatly appreciated, and he enjoys the respect and confidence of our people. Mr. Crane's reputation as an attorney is not confined to Nolan county alone. He was graduated at the State University in the law department in 1886, and in the same year was admitted to practice by examination before the state supreme court. He is also a graduate of Baylor University, which is now located at Waco. Upon receiving his diploma for the practice of law he located in Roby, the county seat of Fisher county and had soon secured his share of the practice. The people of Fisher county wanted a county attorney, and he had not resided there long until they elected him to that position, which he held until 1888, and declined a re-election. In 1897 Gov. Culberson, in looking over the 39th judicial district for a suitable person to appoint as district attorney to fill a vacancy, saw in Mr. Crane the man desired, and without solicitation he was appointed. In 1898 he was elected to fill that place without opposition, but resigned this office in 1899 to move to Abilene.

Mr. Crane is a member of the executive board of the Sweetwater commercial club and in that capacity has been of great value to the club and to our citizens in giving to our city the prestige she has among the commercial cities of the west. He is a man who is held in high esteem by his fellow men, and greatly admired by his neighbors, and can always be depended upon in using his time, money and energies in the betterment of the commercial interests in the city within which he lives.

BEALL & BEALL.

The law firm of Beall & Beall needs no introduction to the people of West Texas, for their business extends over the entire west half of the Lone Star State, and they hold that lofty position of commanding a larger practice than any law firm between Fort Worth and El Paso. It is seldom you find a law firm that is kept as busy as they are, and where their legal talent is in such demand over such a large territory as Messrs. Beall & Beall. But they



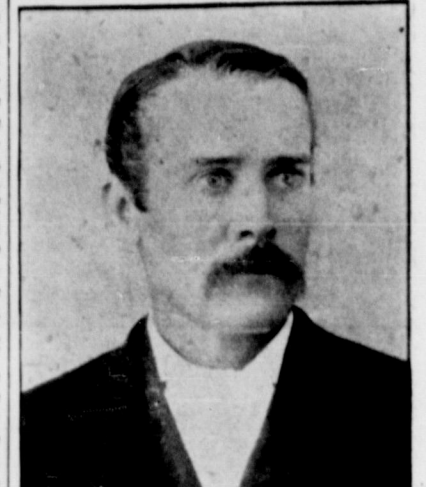
JUDGE J. H. BEALL.

are men who have that disposition and determination to conquer and lead in any business or profession they may undertake. Some years ago when this country was the cowman's paradise and when the courts were seldom called upon to settle disputes and there were but few to settle in any manner, these gentlemen chose the profession of law as their life's work. They knew the time would be when this country would become more thickly settled, and that disputes over land titles and other matters of civil law would become more frequent and of a different character than they are now, also as our country became more populated, that the people in their rush for this world's goods would forget the law of our Supreme Ruler and perform acts of a criminal nature that would require the attention of our courts, and the defender and prosecutor of these crimes would require the best of legal talent. They prepared themselves for these matters as the country advanced, so that their services might be in demand, and as a result the call upon these gentlemen to impart their legal advice in civil and criminal matters in West Texas is second to none of any law firm west of Fort Worth. Their time now is entirely taken up with important land suits.

While their business has required their constant care and thought, they have secured a sufficient time to take an active part in any public enterprise for the betterment of our city and county, and whenever called upon for their services and energy in advancing the interests of Sweetwater and Nolan County they have never been following, but as in their profession, they have been numbered among the leaders, and it is gratifying to our citizens to know that we have with us such an enterprising firm as these gentlemen. Owing to their immense practice in connection with land titles and the number of clients they have so largely interested in land, they have a set of abstract books of Nolan County principally for their own convenience.

Judge J. H. Beall, who was the first member of this firm to locate in Sweetwater, came here in 1881, but did not commence the practice of law until 1885, and since that time has served our people one term in the State Legislature with credit to himself and our district. However, he has given most of his attention strictly to the practice of law. In 1902 our people insisted upon him making the race for district judge, which he did, and was defeated by a very small majority; in fact, the vote was so close it was not certain who was elected for several days, but some of the extreme western counties giving his opponent a small majority caused his defeat. In 1896 Attorney W. W. Beall, who had been practicing law in Fisher County,

moved to Sweetwater and they formed the partnership as it is to-day, Beall & Beall. Mr. W. W. Beall had a large practice in Fisher and adjoining counties and had served as county attorney, and also had been elected district attorney of the thirty-ninth judicial district two terms, and during his second term resigned to remove to Sweetwater and form the partnership with his brother, Judge J. H. Beall.

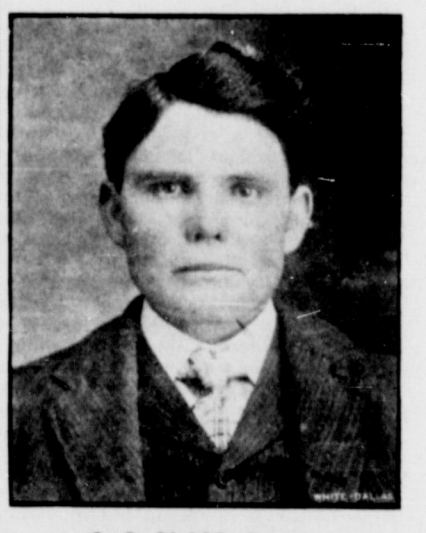


ATTORNEY W. W. BEALL.

Attorney W. W. Beall has proven himself a very valuable, progressive citizen for Sweetwater and Nolan County, always taking an active part in public enterprises or anything that would better the commercial or social conditions of our city. Being a man who is endowed with an unlimited amount of public spirit, our people have chosen him as a member of our board of school trustees, also as a member of our city council, having the utmost confidence in him looking after the interest of educating our children and managing the affairs of our city in a manner that it would continue to hold that high rank among the cities of West Texas as the "Great Texas Town."

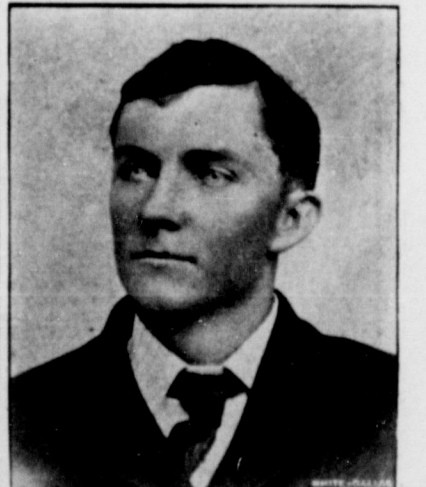
GLASS & GOBLE.

The above named firm ranks among the leading enterprising business firms of Sweetwater, and Nolan county. They are men who keep pace with the progress of their line of business and carry one of the most complete stocks of staple and fancy groceries in this part of the state. Their store is located in the Newman block and the manner in which they have their goods arranged is evidence of their knowledge of the business and in keeping with the energy of our people. They have in stock at the most reasonable prices, anything that is kept in an up-to-date grocery store. By their courteous treatment of their many customers, they have built up a very extensive business, and this trade is not confined to Sweetwater alone, but over Nolan and adjoining counties. In addition to these gentlemen supplying our people with their share of groceries consumed, they also handle ice in Sweetwater. Mr. S. C. Glass is a native of Alabama, but has been a citizen of Sweetwater and Nolan county for ten years, and is an untiring worker for the betterment of our county and town, being an enthusiastic member of the Sweetwater Commercial Club, and in any public enterprise takes an active part.



S. C. GLASS, Grocer.

A. W. Goble has only resided in Sweetwater a little over two years, but being a native of Texas is evidence of his loyalty to the city and county within which he lives. He is also a member of our commercial club and during his short residence here he has never been found following in the rear when his services are demanded for the public good.



A. W. GOBLE, Grocer.

These gentlemen are business men whom any town would be glad to claim as citizens, and our people are proud of them. They are doing their part in making Sweetwater the commercial distributing point of West Texas.

Nothing tires a man like being worked by others.

Try buttermilk for the removal of freckles, tan and butternut stains.



J. M. RADFORD GROCERY CO.

J. M. RADFORD GROCERY CO.

Many of the enterprising business firms of Texas have realized Sweetwater's importance as a distributing point for the jobbing trade, and one which is taking advantage of the opportunities is that well-known jobbing house in West Texas, J. M. Radford Grocery Company, with headquarters at Abilene. This house has been quite an advantage to the many merchants of West Texas in making prices to them on groceries that will compete with Eastern houses, and thereby saving them considerable on freight rates. They have a number of branch houses in the western part of the State, and are commanding a very large business in their line, having done business with the retail merchants in this part

of Texas for a number of years. They enjoy the confidence of the merchants who handle their line of goods. They have done much toward advancing the commercial interest of West Texas, and wherever they have a branch house they take an active part in any public enterprise. This West Texas jobbing house is composed of the following named gentlemen, who are well known in this part of the State as progressive business men: J. M. Radford, president; E. G. Batjer, secretary, and J. F. Handy, treasurer—all of Abilene. Their local manager at this point is our most enterprising young business man, Will H. Jobe.



W. H. JOBE, MANAGER J. M. RADFORD GROCERY CO.

prominent distributing point for the jobbing trade of West Texas. He is an active member of our Commercial Club, and takes much interest in the betterment of our city in a general way. Our citizens are thankful to the Radford Grocery Company in placing as manager of their business at this point such an enterprising young business man, and indebted to Mr. Jobe for the interest he has shown in making Sweetwater the great commercial center of West Texas. With the completion of the Orient, this progressive firm will control the jobbing business over an area extending 100 miles every way from Sweetwater.

There is probably not a man in Nolan County who commands a higher degree of respect from his neighbors and the citizens of Sweetwater and Nolan County than does, as he is commonly called by his friends and acquaintances, "Bob" Pyron. To know him is to appreciate his company, socially and from a business standpoint. He has been identified with the interests of West Texas for a great many years, and has done much toward developing our resources. At present he is extensively interested in this section and the Panhandle of Texas in the cattle business, and his stock always brings the top of the market.



RESIDENCE OF R. P. PYRON.

R. P. PYRON.

Mr. Pyron is a valuable citizen of Sweetwater, taking an active part in any public enterprise and when there is anything to be done for the betterment of our condition in a commercial or social way, our people always know that he is ready with his time and money, for you will always see "Bob" Pyron when it comes to a question of making Sweetwater a more prosperous and better place to live, among the front ranks with our leading business men. It is men like this gentleman who have made for Sweetwater the reputation she has to-day, as being the greatest town in West Texas.

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COMING TO SWEETWATER.

Long-Bell Lumber Company.

Advices have been received by their representatives, Attorneys Ragland & Crane of our city, that the Long-Bell Lumber Company of Kansas City with a capital stock of \$500,000, who recently purchased ground in Sweetwater, will be open for business here within thirty days with a large stock of lumber and building material. This is one of the largest lumber companies in the country and has been in the lead for many years in western progress. The fact that this company is locating its business at this point is sufficient evidence of our city's commercial importance, and that she will be the trade center of West Texas. This company, we understand, is interested in several financial institutions with President Stillwell of the Kansas City, Mexico & Orient railway, which is a sufficient hint to the investment seeker. We congratulate the Long-Bell Lumber Company upon the good judgment displayed in coming to our city.

WILL VAUGHN.

Sweetwater is favored with quite a number of young business men, among whom is Will Vaughn, a most enterprising young man who conducts a notion store, also handles confectioneries, cigars and tobacco and stationery. He makes a specialty of handling a very fine grade of box candies, chocolates and bonbons. The young enterprising business man handles almost everything in his line and at prices that will astonish you.

SWEETWATER MERCANTILE CO.

Sweetwater has many business firms which towns much larger than ours would have cause to be proud of, and especially is this true of the Sweetwater mercantile Co., composed of our highly-esteemed citizens, Mr. J. J. Pettus, and Mr. S. A. Lillard, of Decatur, Texas.

These gentlemen conduct a general merchandise store and have one of the largest stocks between Fort Worth and El Paso. Their trade extends throughout a radius of many miles of Sweetwater, and this firm's name in this and adjoining counties is well known by the general public. They purchase their goods in the best Eastern markets, and in quantities that enables them to meet all competitors as to prices and quality.

They have been in business in our city a little more than two years, and during that time, by the manner of their dealings with the people of this and adjoining counties, they have made many business friends, and the result is that their trade has grown to great

water and surrounding country, we will state that Mr. Pettus has secured the services for this season of Miss Della Bell, of Sulphur Springs, who is an expert in the line of millinery and ladies' furnishing goods, and they are now opening up the most elaborate and up-to-date stock of goods in this line ever brought to West Texas.

This firm has in its employ a corps of clerks who are well posted in their respective lines, and are most accommodating and courteous to their many customers, and show the many new patterns and styles that they have just received for spring wear. They are up-to-date and something that will be appreciated by the enterprising people of our section.

Mr. S. A. Lillard, member of the above named firm, resides in Decatur, Texas, where he is interested in the merchandise and millinery business, and is president of the City National Bank of that place, is a man of great value to any city in which he may be interested, and our people are glad that while we may not claim him as a citizen, that he is interested in such



SWEETWATER MERCANTILE CO.'S BUILDING.

magnitude, the volume of which will equal any house of its kind in West Texas.

The kind and class of goods these gentlemen carry consists of the very best grade of goods in the way of clothing, dry goods, millinery, hats, ladies' and gents' furnishing goods, groceries and grain. B. F. Avery & Sons farming implements and blacksmithing coal. In fact, anything that is kept in a first-class general merchandise store, and at prices that defy competition.

This firm freely endowed with that western spirit of enterprise and determination never to follow but to lead in their respective line, have placed upon their counters goods that when quality and price are taken into consideration, they can not be undersold.

They especially cater to the ranch trade, and this fact is well-known by the ranchmen of West Texas, and from this source they enjoy a very fine trade.

For the benefit of the ladies of Sweet-

water and surrounding country, we will state that Mr. Pettus has secured the services for this season of Miss Della Bell, of Sulphur Springs, who is an expert in the line of millinery and ladies' furnishing goods, and they are now opening up the most elaborate and up-to-date stock of goods in this line ever brought to West Texas.

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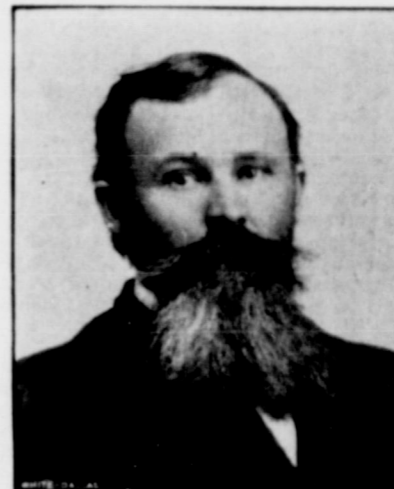


O. L. WILKIRSON LUMBER YARD.

O. L. WILKIRSON.

One of the pioneer lumber dealers of Texas is O. L. Wilkerson, with headquarters at Grandview, Texas, who has a yard located in Sweetwater and is doing a fine business. It is the oldest lumber yard in Nolan county, having been established in 1882; however, the present owner is successor to A. J. Roe. Mr. Wilkerson has a number of yards located in this part of Texas, and his name is well and favorably known throughout this part of the State. He handles the best grade of

the lumber business in Texas for the past twenty-six years, understands what is needed by our people. Mr. Bradford came from Weatherford to Sweetwater, when it was only a small village with a few houses, and during his many years of residence here, has been one of the leaders in pushing our city and county to the front. He has always been among the foremost of our citizens in any public enterprise that would be of benefit in common to us, and his name is well and favorably known throughout this part of the future of our city and county has been demonstrated in the fact that he is a



J. A. J. BRADFORD, MANAGER O. L. WILKIRSON LUMBER YARD.

hard and soft lumber, also carries a large stock of lime, cement, and builders' hardware. He has been of great assistance in building up this western country, by supplying our people with the best of building material at the most reasonable prices. This gentleman has in charge of his business in this city our worthy and enterprising citizen, Mr. J. A. J. Bradford, who has been connected with this yard since its establishment, a man who has been in

heavy real estate owner, among which is one of our fine brick business houses on the public square, and also interested to some extent in the cattle raising business. It is with pleasure that our people refer to O. L. Wilkerson's establishment as a representative business house of Sweetwater, and we are glad he keeps in charge of his business a man who has proven himself to be such an enterprising and valuable citizen.

PHOTOGRAPHY.

J. L. Elliott, the oldest, most up-to-date and best equipped photographer in Nolan County, is prepared to meet all demands in his line. Studio northwest corner public square. Elliott keeps abreast the times on all the latest styles; does general photographing, copying, enlarging, raising or reducing in all sizes; keeps a great variety of picture frames in all sizes; has albums, medallions, color photos and many other attractive picture novelties.

STEREOSCOPIC DEPARTMENT.

The finest perfected scopes; fine variety of views from all over the world and the best West Texas set in existence. Operates a first class viewing department. An all-round complete studio.

SIMPSON MEAT MARKET.

Mr. S. L. Simpson has been many years a resident of West Texas and prior to his engaging in the meat business in this city was engaged in cattle raising in this and adjoining counties. He handles the choicest of meats and enjoys a very good patronage from our people, for they know that his

motto is the best of meats that the market affords. He is a member of our Commercial Club and is much interested in the betterment of our city and county.

MEDLOCK & MANER.

Among the enterprising firms of Sweetwater is Medlock & Maner, who conduct a first class drug store and in connection with their drug business they carry a fine line of stationery, toilet articles, paints, oils and window glass. These gentlemen have been in business in our city only a few months, but have established a very fine trade in their line.

Mr. L. L. Medlock is recently from Atlanta, Ga., where he graduated in Atlanta College of Pharmacy, and this firm makes a specialty of the prescription business, and in that line they enjoy the confidence of our physicians and citizens of being competent druggists.

Mr. L. T. Maner has been in our county for the past five years, formerly located at Roscoe, this county, and enjoys the respect of our citizens as being a competent and enterprising business man.

Gently I took that which ungently came, and without scorn forgave; do thou the same.—Coleridge.



INTERIOR VIEW OF BERRY HARDWARE CO.

BERRY HARDWARE CO.

It is with pleasure we call the attention of our readers to the Berry Hardware Co., a Sweetwater corporation, and the largest of its kind in West Texas. The appearance of this company's store is an indication of prosperity; the high grade of goods that is kept by them and the manner in which they are arranged is evidence that they are men who understand their business.

The company's capital stock is \$20,000, with our most enterprising citizen, Mr. W. T. Berry, president and treasurer; Geo. S. Berry, of Merkel, vice-president and secretary. These gentlemen handle one of the largest and most up-to-date stocks of shelf and heavy hardware that you will find in this part of the State, and of a very high grade class of goods. They also handle a fine line of cutlery and china and glassware, something that is of interest to the ladies. Also they have the noted Charter Oak stoves and ranges, John Deere harvesting machines and farming implements, the Eclipse Windmills and the celebrated Studebaker wagons and buggies.

The large stock and fine grade of goods that this company has is a credit to a town many times the size of Sweetwater, but it proves the importance of our city as a commercial point for West Texas.

W. T. Berry, the president and manager of this West Texas enterprise, is one of our most admirable citizens, and one who has done much for the benefit of our people in common in the way of taking an active part in public enterprises, being a member of our Commercial Club and in that capacity is an earnest and hard worker. He is a man who has proven to be one of no small business ability, and in his particular line is well known throughout West Texas, having been in the same business for 20 years in Abilene prior to his coming here about two years ago, and our people appreciate the efforts he has and is now putting forth in behalf of our city and county.

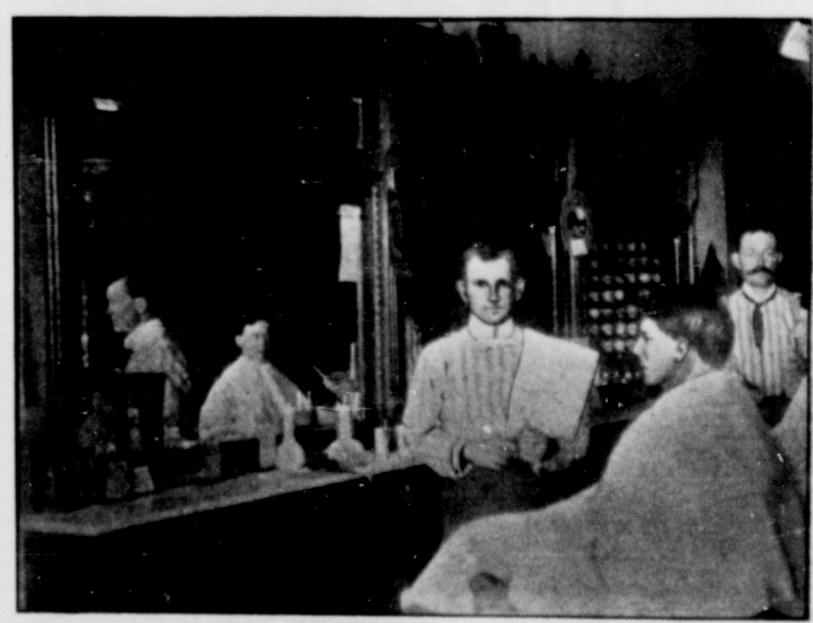
Geo. S. Berry, vice-president, is at the head of a prosperous banking institution at our sister city of Merkel, and is one of the leading financiers of West Texas.

SWEETWATER'S NEEDS.

While Sweetwater has secured a great many new enterprises within the last six months, there are many other things she needs and which would pay a handsome income on the capital invested. She needs more business houses within which to transact her business, more residences and cottages for rental purposes, a steam laundry, wholesale furniture house, an ice plant, an opera house. These are a few of the important things needed in Sweetwater at the present time and if any of our readers have any capital to invest in any of the above mentioned enterprises they will find it to their interest to communicate with our Commercial Club.

BEN HALSTED'S PLACE.

Among our enterprising business men is Ben Halsted, who conducts a saloon and pool hall. Mr. Halsted was formerly in the stock farming business, but seeing the advancement being made by Sweetwater decided to move to our city and engage in the saloon business. Mr. Halsted has the reputation of giving his customers the best liquors and beers that can be had in any country. He handles those well known brands of whisky such as Camel's Milk Bourbon and that famous Brand, Hill & Hill, distilled by the Rock Springs distillery of Owensboro, Ky., also Martin's Best and Old Kentucky Comfort. He also handles Anheuser-Busch celebrated Budweiser bottle beer and the bottle beer of the Texas Brewery Company of Ft. Worth, Texas.



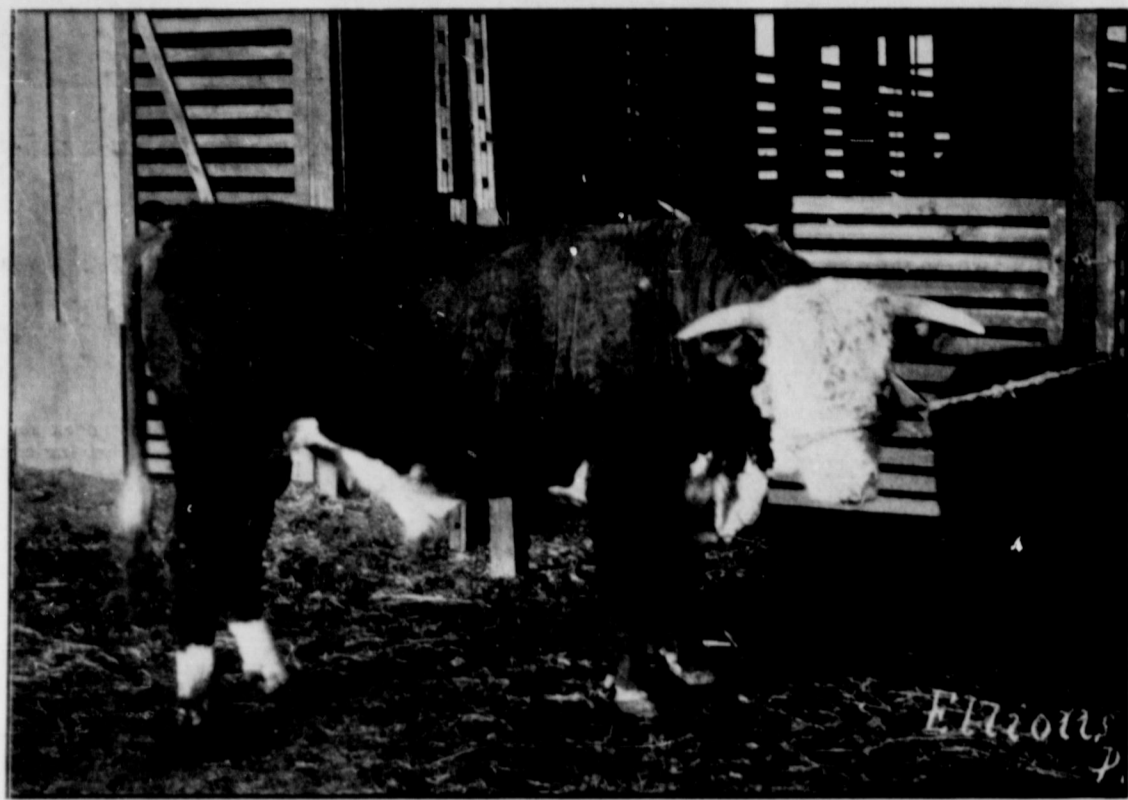
INTERIOR VIEW OF J. M. STEWART BARBER SHOP.

CITY BARBER SHOP.

Among the enterprising business men of Sweetwater will be found Mr. J. M. Stewart, proprietor of the City Barber Shop. Mr. Stewart has had fifteen years' experience in this line, and is an artist at his trade. While he has been in Sweetwater only about two years, he is thoroughly enthused over the rapid growth of our city. The furniture he has in his shop is of the latest improved pattern, and consists

of three chairs, large plate glass mirrors, and other furniture in keeping with these, which makes it a very attractive place. He employs only the best artists in the barber line, having at present assisting him Mr. Will Rone, a young man of considerable experience, and one who has given satisfaction to his many customers.

Mr. Stewart is not only an up-to-date man in his profession, but is a very progressive citizen, and one that our people are glad that Sweetwater may claim.



HERD BULL, BELL BOY NO. 128024 OF C. N. ATKINSON'S RANCH

RANCH OF C. N. ATKINSON.

The above named gentleman, who is president of the Texas Southern Construction Company, and vice-president of our enterprising Commercial Club, has recently become interested in the breeding of high-grade Hereford cattle. He has purchased a ranch from R. L. McCaulley containing 2,000 acres, located 8 miles northwest of our city, and is as fine ranch property as you will find in this part of Texas. The ranch is highly improved, being well fenced and with the necessary buildings and the natural grasses grown upon this ranch cannot be excelled. He has two large surface tanks which will hold a year's

supply of water; two living springs which give forth pure, sparkling water for his stock, and in addition to this, he has three deep wells that have an abundance of water, provided with three windmills. This gives him more than an ample supply of water for stock purposes, and his grazing land being very productive with native grasses. Besides, two hundred acres of this beautiful land is being cultivated for the purpose of producing a sufficient supply of feed for his fine herd of cattle. This ranch is said to be the most conveniently arranged and productive ranch of its size in West Texas. If Mr. Atkinson uses the same enterprise in breeding high-grade cattle as he has displayed in other enter-

prises in which he is interested, and there is no doubt that he will, for it would be against his nature to do otherwise, Nolan County will still retain her reputation as being one of the best fine stock breeding counties in the State. Mr. Atkinson has in his herd, the finest blood of the Hereford families, his herd bull being Bell Boy, No. 128,024, a picture of which we produce in this issue, bred by that noted Hereford breeder, B. L. Nutter, of Lexington, Kentucky.

Mr. E. B. Neblett is foreman of this ranch and his reputation among our stockmen for handling fine stock is good, and he will take care of Mr. Atkinson's interest on the ranch.

BRANNON & ROY.

Among the leading hardware firms of West Texas is Brannon & Roy, of this city. They carry a complete line of goods and, in addition to their shelf and heavy hardware, they also carry a very fine line of vehicles of all kinds, the Star and Leader Windmills, and farming implements of every description. They handle the celebrated Garland stoves and ranges, and a fine line of china and queensware, and are local representatives of the Plano Harvesting machines. These

gentlemen have one of the largest stocks of goods in this part of the State, and enjoy a very fine trade, which is constantly increasing as our city and county advances. Being of that class of men who thoroughly understand their business, when it comes to a matter of public interest they are always found in the front ranks.

Mr. A. J. Roy has been a resident of Sweetwater and Nolan County since 1882, having come from Austin, this State. While he has been in his present business only four years, he has been identified with our cattle

industry prior to that date, and has done much toward building up our city and county.

Mr. H. C. Brannon, who has only been a citizen of our city two years, is a man who is up-to-date in his line of business, having been engaged in this line for the past 11 years. He is one of those big-hearted, liberal-minded fellows, always ready and willing to do that which would be of benefit to his neighbor and himself, and since his residence here has taken an active part in anything that would be of benefit to our people in common.

S. D. MYRES SADDLERY.



S. D. MYRES SADDLERY.

S. D. MYRES.

Among the establishments of Sweetwater to which our people point with pride is Mr. S. D. Myres' saddlery and harness manufacturing establishment, which would be a credit to any city. The goods this gentleman places upon the market are in demand throughout West Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico. His force of expert workmen is kept busy turning out goods to supply his immense trade and he has connected with his establishment the best workmen in their line that you will find in any country. Mr. Myres served his apprenticeship in this line of business himself, and is careful that there is nothing that goes to the trade but what contains the best grade of

leather and the workmanship can not be excelled. This fact he has taken great pride in, and the users of his goods know that when they purchase a saddle or a set of harness manufactured by S. D. Myres they are getting a first class article in every respect. Mr. Myres has been in business in Sweetwater for the past six years, and has made a specialty of making goods for the cowmen and cow boys, and those who own a saddle made by S. D. Myres consider they have the best that is on the market. When his goods are once introduced there is always a ready market for them, and this manufacturing establishment located in Sweetwater is constantly growing, and to-day Mr. Myres is the largest manufacturer in this line of goods west of Fort Worth. The sad-

dles and harness manufactured by this enterprising citizen of Sweetwater are in great demand over the entire west and east as far as central Texas.

He also manufactures a fine line of art leather goods, such as pocket and bill books. These goods are certainly the work of an artist, and he enjoys a fine trade in this line. It is with pleasure that the Review has mentioned the above Sweetwater enterprise, not altogether that it has been so prosperous and is turning out the finest quality of goods and the assistance it has been in advertising our city, but its proprietor, Mr. Myres, is one of our most highly esteemed, enterprising citizens—one of those fellows that is always ready and willing to render his services in bettering the conditions of our town and county.

J. S. MITCHELL.

The furniture dealer of our enterprising city is J. S. Mitchell, who has a first class furniture store and is doing a very fine business. In addition to his furniture business he conducts an undertaking establishment. He also carries a nice line of carpets, window shades and in fact anything that is carried by a first class furniture store. He is also member of the Commercial Club and is quite active in anything pertaining to the advancement of our city.

PRICES OF FARM PRODUCTS.

To give our readers an idea of what the products of the farm are worth we quote below prices given to us by our enterprising house, the Sweetwater Mercantile Company:

Eggs per doz	15c
Butter per lb	20c
Chickens per doz	\$2.25 to \$3.00
Sweet potatoes per bus.	\$1.00 to \$1.25
Wood per load	\$2.00
Sorghum per ton	\$5.00 to \$6.00
Milo Maize per cwt	65c
Kaffir Corn per cwt	65c
Oats per bus	60c
Cotton Seed per ton	\$15.00

WINDSOR HOTEL.

Sweetwater at present is not up to date in fine, substantial hotel buildings, but as to their culinary department these hotels are not excelled in West Texas, and especially is this true of the Windsor Hotel, of which Mrs. E. J. Dailey is proprietress. The Windsor Hotel is the only hotel in Sweetwater that is strictly conducted for the accommodation of the commercial men which these gentlemen, always jolly and liberal fellows, especially to their inner man, well know and when in Sweetwater they know that at the Windsor Hotel they will receive a glad welcome and the best of accommodations in the way of good clean beds and everything that the market affords for the inner man, especially prepared for their coming.

Mrs. Dailey has been for a number of years in different parts of this western country feeding the traveling public, and she well knows that if there is any class of people in the world that can enjoy a well prepared meal and a good, clean and comfortable place to sleep, it is the commercial traveler, and being an artist in the culinary art herself, she personally supervises the preparation of their meals, not forgetting that when they retire after their day's travel or work that their sleeping apartment is one within which they secure a good night's rest.

Mr. J. J. Dailey, son of the proprietress, and clerk of the Windsor Hotel, has been connected with some of the largest hotels and cafes in our larger eastern cities, and thoroughly understands the wants and needs of the commercial men, and endeavors to make matters as pleasant for their guests as is possible. While Mrs. Dailey has only had charge of this hotel since last September, she has built up quite a fine trade and the Windsor Hotel of to-day is well and favorably known by the commercial and traveling men who make West Texas.

L. J. MASHBURN.

On entering the general dry goods establishment conducted by Mr. L. J. Mashburn of our city, one is impressed with the neatness and general appearance of his place and the high class of goods and the immense stock he carries and if not having thorough knowledge of the class of people of which our little city is composed he will naturally wonder what he does with such high grade goods and so much of them. However, Mr. Mashburn has been doing business with our people in this part of Texas for many years and well he knows that the citizens of Sweetwater and Nolan County and adjoining counties are up to date people and use nothing but first class goods.

This gentleman has one of the largest stocks of dry goods, clothing, shoes, ladies' and gentlemen's furnishing goods and millinery that you will find in any West Texas store, and his clerks are kept busy waiting on his many customers. He has just recently returned from the eastern markets, where he went to purchase his spring goods and they are now beginning to arrive and the ladies and gentlemen of our city are looking forward to the time when he will have his spring goods upon the market, with pleasure, for they well know they will be agree-

ably surprised in the way of new patterns and styles for their spring suits, for Mr. Mashburn always gives his patrons the latest in his line, and, being a heavy purchaser and in the best markets, at prices that cannot be excelled.

He has in charge of his millinery and ladies' department Mrs. M. Parker, who is well known to the ladies of Sweetwater as an artist in her line and in this department his purchases of spring goods have been larger than former years.

Mr. Mashburn has been doing business in our city for the last two years, however, has been in business in adjoining counties a number of years, having come here in 1889, most of his time, however, having been spent in the cattle and sheep business. He is enthusiastic over our city's future and has done much to advance her commercial interest and our people are glad to claim such an enterprising gentleman as a citizen.

KANSAS CITY, MEXICO & ORIENT.

The people of Sweetwater will soon have an opportunity to extend the hand of welcome to this great railway and it will work a new era in the commercial importance of our city. They will make Sweetwater their most important point in Texas, by making this a division point, locating their shops, round houses and general offices for this section of the road in this city. The Panhandle & Gulf, the Texas part of this great railway system, now has their offices located at this point.

The grading of the road is practically completed to Sweetwater and the bridge spanning gang will be in Sweetwater by the time this issue of the Review is received by its readers. Its track laying crew is working north and south from the Rock Island in Greer County. They are working north to connect with their completed line in Oklahoma and south to Sweetwater.

They are now running their trains from Kansas City in to Oklahoma, and pushing the completion to Sweetwater as rapid as men and material can do the work.

The benefits that Sweetwater will receive from this road can hardly be estimated. It opens up a new and undeveloped field for our merchants and will add greatly to our local trade for the pay roll that they will have at this point will amount to many thousands of dollars per month.

BYNUM, MUIR & SELLERS.

The above named firm, with offices in this city and Abilene, are engaged in the real estate loan and insurance business. They represent the British and American Mortgage Company, one of the largest of its kind in this country, and are prepared to make you a loan on your farm at a very reasonable rate, and their facilities are such they can make you a loan on short notice. They also represent a building and loan association and can furnish you money to build your home. Mr. R. L. Sellers, of this city, has charge of their office at this point, who is well and favorably known by our people.

W. L. GROGAN,
Attorney-at-Law.

SWEETWATER, TEXAS.

Special attention given to Land and Commercial Litigation. Land agent and Abstractor.

BEN HALSTED'S
Saloon and Pool Room

Finest Wines and Liquors.

The Celebrated Budweiser and Fort Worth Bottled Beers.

Special attention given to mail orders. Address BEN HALSTED, Sweetwater, Texas.

BEFORE THE BOOM!
GET IN ON THE GROUND FLOOR BY BUYING
Your Lands and Town Property
in and near
SWEETWATER, TEXAS.

We make a specialty of land and commercial legal business passing on and overhauling land titles, and preparation of abstracts of title.

We own the oldest and most complete set of abstracts of the land titles of Nolan county in existence, and the only complete and up-to-date set in existence for Fisher county.

We have Sold Over 20,000 Acres in the last Four Months. If you want to buy or sell lands in Fisher or Nolan counties call on or write to

Ragland, Crane & Wright, or Ragland & Crane,
Roby, Texas. Sweetwater, Texas.

The Sweetwater Mercantile Co
SWEETWATER, TEXAS
Dry Goods, Clothing, Shoes, Millinery,
GROCERIES, IMPLEMENTS

And EVERYTHING that is Handled in a First-Class General Merchandise Store.

We have just received a large stock of goods, and you can save money by buying your entire bill under one roof.

Courteous attention to our trade and the Best Goods at the Lowest Prices is the ticket on which we ask for new trade and to retain old customers.

SWEETWATER MARBLE WORKS.

The Sweetwater Marble Works is a recent addition to our enterprising town, having located here for the accommodation of their increased trade and the betterment of their shipping facilities. Mr. W. K. Shipman, the proprietor, needs no introduction in West Texas, in this line of business, having done business in this part of the State for a number of years, and the class of work he turns out has made for him a reputation in the marble line second to none. Last year this gentleman received orders for his work as far west as New Mexico and into Kansas and Louisiana. He has contracted for the services of the well known marble cutters, Mr. B. F. Allen, for this year, and Mr. Allen stands at the head of his profession in this country. Mr. Shipman is an up-to-date business man, and our people are glad to class him as one of our citizens.

The late Baron Humbug left \$15,000. And it wasn't stage money, either.

The wife of Bishop Potter is a plumber. The Potters have a large fortune.

Massachusetts is trying to save the lobster. Meantime the inland lobster is thriving.

A Missouri man has invented a trap to catch fleas. But he will have to show the dogs.

Marconi's first wireless newspaper, printed at sea, was not a success. It had no funny column.

For the nine millionth time a report that Mrs. Maybrick is to be released has been officially denied.

An Ithaca, N. Y., man has swallowed a physician's thermometer, and now his temperature has gone down.

France needs more money, according to a Paris correspondent. Most of us can sympathize with France.

Shamrock III is pronounced the "most promising" one yet. Another breach of promise in prospect, probably.

There are cynics who declare that the good woman is even as the evil, but such people are only fit to be sorry for.

Turkey's Grand Vizier, Said Pasha, says in effect that Turkey is trying to be good. She evidently finds it hard work.

"Eat a lemon" is the advice now being freely given. If you are despondent, it will give you something else to think about.

If the packers put in wireless telegraph connections with their branches will we still be compelled to eat priceless meat?

A Chicago minister contends that the devil is out of date. His theory is, no doubt, that Chicago has distanced all competition.

An authority on words says that "anywhere" is correct. Just drop it in anywhere to show that your conversation is up to date.

There is no use growing excited when a man calls you a liar. If you are one, you knew it before he told you; and if you are not, you know he is.

Emperor William has concluded to be independent of the beef combine by purchasing a controlling interest in a private packing concern at Hamburg.

China is smuggling arms to her troops in violation of the treaty with the powers. A little thing like a protocol doesn't bother the dowager empress.

It is remarked that men and crustaceans both turn red when they get into hot water. Perhaps that is why so many men are considered to be "lobsters."

Now a Chicago university professor has declared in favor of stock watering. President Harper should squeeze some of the water out of his professorial outfit.

Dr. Laponi says that all the pope needs is rest—which is true of a good many people who call in medical advice, although the doctors don't always say so.

Because her husband wanted her to live in Pittsburg, a New York woman asked for a divorce. Yet house-cleaning is said to be a favorite pastime of women.

Dr. George Sauerwein, a German philologist, writes poetry in thirty-eight different languages. Dr. Sauerwein may as well be given up. His is evidently an incurable case.

Rubino gets a life sentence for missing the King of Belgium three times. We shudder to contemplate what might have been his deserts had he fired a few more shots in the same place.

Of course, they're all love matches, but somehow or other the foreign nobleman has a way of controlling his affections to the point of not falling in love with an American girl who is poor.

The Russian army is said to be ready for whatever happens in the Balkans. And the Russian peasant continues to go stoop-shouldered under the burden which this constant readiness imposes.

CLEVER ACTS LAID BARE IN THE UPPER REGIONS

English Writer Tells How Many Illusions, Which Have Long Mystified the Public, Are Accomplished—The "Beheading" and "Levitation" Tricks

Interesting Experiments Planned by the Weather Bureau at Washington For Studying the Atmosphere—To Wrest Secrets From Nature.



The Sheep in Winter. In sheep husbandry there is one thing that must be observed and not overlooked, and that is thrift, writes Jacob Ziegler. Thrift means health, gain in quality, quantity and productivity, hence profit, and profit is what we are after. It should always be the object of the flock master to keep his sheep in a thriving condition. The quality of the wool as well as its quantity and the general productiveness of the flock demand this system. Now the question is, what are the essentials of thrift? I say good feed, water, shelter and close attention of the shepherd. It is the worst possible practice to allow the sheep to fall away in flesh as the grass falls in the autumn. The increasing wool conceals the shrinking carcass much to the disappointment of the careless flockmaster. Better confine them in the yard than to allow them to ramble about in some field in search of food, which furnishes a little green feed but too light to be of any real value. For winter fodder there is nothing better than fine early cut clover; cut when in bloom and well cured. Hay from old meadows consisting of a variety of grasses is very good. Sowed or thickly drilled corn for fodder, cut and well shocked in good season, is also splendid feed. Good corn stover is a good and cheap feed. A feed of bright oats straw two or three times a week can be given to a good advantage, and the leaving of the straw and stalks makes a splendid yard and a good absorbent of the manure. Bright sheaf oats fed once or twice a week in racks is also an excellent feed. It answers for both grain and fodder.

Feeding Alfalfa to Horses. At the Wyoming station the amount of alfalfa hay required to maintain farm horses performing little work and driving horses at light work was studied by F. E. Emery, the alfalfa being supplemented by some oat straw. The work horses were occasionally harnessed, but did not work much. They were fed alfalfa only in the stable and ordinarily were allowed to run out of doors and have free access to water and a straw pile, but were given no grain. It was found that they maintained their weight on an average when eating 13.5 pounds of good alfalfa hay per day per 1,000 pounds live weight. In addition to some straw. The amount of straw required to balance the alfalfa ration was next studied, and it was found that the daily ration eaten was 13.75 pounds alfalfa hay and 2.25 pounds oat straw per 1,000 pounds live weight. A similar test made with a driving horse required to perform a moderate amount of work. He was driven 6 miles a day at a pace which was nearly the limit of his road gait. It was found that his weight, 1,170 to 1,200 pounds, was maintained on a ration of 21.25 pounds alfalfa hay and 3.4 pounds oat straw, or 17.71 and 2.83 pounds, respectively, per 1,000 pounds live weight. According to the author there was every reason to believe that the ration was sufficient to maintain the horse although he did not gain in weight. These tests are especially interesting since they furnish experimental proof of the feeding value of alfalfa for horses.

Reason for Selling Half Fat Cattle. From Farmers' Review: One of the reasons for the rushing of half-fat cattle to market is this: In the year 1901 crops failed. Farmers had not figured on that and some of them had borrowed money to buy feed, depending on the resulting crop to help them out. The crops failed and the farmers sold all the salable stock on the place, keeping the young stock because it was not salable. They succeeded by careful feeding and little feeding in keeping their stock till they were sure of another crop. Then when the stock was anywhere near good enough to sell they let it go. They could not buy feed, as they were too far behind on their bills, and it took all the money they could raise to keep the sheriff off. Borrowed money had to be paid back, grocery bills had to be cancelled, the doctor and the blacksmith refused to wait longer, and each man wanted every cent coming to him. So the half-fat cattle had to go as soon as possible. I cannot see any other reason. I know that was the case here with our men. —R. M. Roberts, Osage County, Kansas.

Feeding Soft Corn. From Farmers' Review: We have been buying some corn that contains more than the usual amount of water and possibly it might be classed as "soft corn." However the season is a little later in Kansas than it is in some of the northern states and I presume that the so-called "soft corn" is not so markedly soft in Kansas as further north. We have been feeding the corn to 100 head of steers and have been obtaining excellent results with it. The corn that we have fed this year seems to give as good results as any we have ever fed and we have heard no reports of trouble resulting from feeding this year's corn. You ask, "how does this corn compare with soaked corn?" To my mind there is no comparison whatever as the corn that we have used resembles ordinary corn very much more closely than does soaked corn.—D. H. Otis, Kansas Agricultural College.

The poorer the soil the greater the necessity for diversifying the crops.

WRITING in the Strand an expert gives a clear expose of the many marvelous and popular illusions, the secrets of which have been obtained by years of practical study.

One of the most popular is a decapitation act, in which a lady is beheaded in full view of the audience. At a wave of the performer's hand, a lady appears, and hands to him her own greswome means of execution, a large glittering saber, which he takes and with one swing cuts her head clean off where she stands. Catching the head as it falls, he places a pair of wings at the back of it, when it becomes a flying cherub, and immediately soars all about the chamber, finally returning to his outstretched hand. He then removes the wings and replaces the head upon the lady's shoulders, restoring her to life, for which kindness she quickly embraces him and vanishes.

The whole of this takes place in darkness, obtained by the chamber being draped in black velvet and the floor covered with black felt.

In the decapitation act there are two ladies, one dressed all in white, the other standing behind her dressed in black, with her head covered by a black hood. When the performer swings the saber the assistant covers the white lady's head with a black velvet hood, at the same time pulling the hood quickly from the other lady's



Fig. 3.—"Decapitation"—Showing the Girl's Head Covered With a Black Hood—The Girl Acting for the Head Falling on Her Knees.

head, who immediately falls to her knees (see Fig. 3). The illusion looks perfect—a body apparently standing without a head and the head apparently falling. When the wings are put on she flaps them by means of a wire and runs around the chamber, stooping at intervals so as to take an irregular course. The beheaded lady is restored by exactly the reverse method, and she disappears behind the screen.

In another trick the performer's costume is of silk and the skirt contains many yards of fullness, which admits of much being concealed beneath it without in any way appearing bulky. The picaninny (sometimes there are two, produced one at a time without the performer leaving the stage) is placed in position behind the performer under his costume, and hangs on to rings specially placed in the performer's waist belt, his feet resting upon the straps, which are now hooked together (Fig. 5). When the performer stoops, the "little darkie" steps out between the performer's legs and stands behind the silk rug.

The illusion of "levitation"—raising a person and leaving him suspended in mid-air without any apparent



Fig. 5—Methods of concealing the picaninny.

means of support—is one of the most marvelous ever invented, seemingly defying all laws of gravitation. An assistant is introduced, laid upon an ottoman, and then sent off into a hypnotic trance. The performer takes an ordinary fan and fans the body while it rises slowly about four feet in the air, where it mysteriously remains for any length of time desired. A large solid steel hoop is then given for examination and after the audience is satisfied as to its genuineness it is passed over the body from head to feet, behind the body and over it again, at once dispelling the idea of wires or any other tangible support being used, the body, as it were, journeying through the hoop each time.

This seeming impossibility is performed by the aid of a cranked bar (A Fig. 8) and a pulley to raise it, the bar being pushed through from the back at the moment when the performer is "hypnotized" the subject, and in the act of placing a light covering over him he guides a clamp (B, Fig. 8) and fixes it to the top of

the ottoman upon which the subject rests, and which rises, unseen, with him, the edges being obscured by the covering. The bar being the same color as the back scene cannot be noticed, and resting upon a stand behind the scenes the same height as the ottoman it is kept firm by the aid of strong supports. Being also double the width (D, Fig. 8) at this



Fig. 4—Production of live picaninny.

part greater leverage is obtained to hold the board upon which the subject rests secure from tilting either way. By means of a pulley arrangement the assistant behind raises and lowers the body, looking through a small hole in the scenes and timing the performer's movements with exactness. Fig. 8 almost explains itself. It shows the method of passing the ring over the body. By putting it on at (1) and passing it as far as the center of the bar (A) it can be brought around and off the body at (2), apparently having passed right over it, although not free of the crank; it is then passed behind the and across the body. The sleeping body as far as (3), when it can be again placed over the end (1) and drawn across once more, this time being, of course, quite free, having made an apparent circle right around subject is now lowered, and in the act of being "dehypnotized" the performer slips the crank off, which is immediately drawn in from behind,

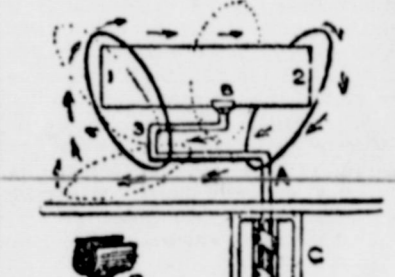


Fig. 8—"Levitation"—How the hoop is passed over the body.

the subject and performer sharing the applause.

SUFFER BY THEIR GREED.

Capacity of Many Animals Lures Them into Death Traps.

It may be doubted whether those of us who are able to obtain sufficient food without difficulty can appreciate the craving for sustenance experienced by sea birds and other animals which have often, by the force of circumstances, to fast for long periods. Gulls will eat until they cannot fly, and when they find pilchards on board a boat will continue their feast until they can only lie down and gasp. A superfluity of food comes at such long intervals that when it does come the avian intellect reels at the prospect, and what seems a horn of plenty brings dire disaster. Seeing that gulls and gannets know no better, we are not surprised to hear of a John Dory, stuffed to the very mouth, floating helplessly on the surface of the water, unable to escape from a flock of sea birds which have deprived it of its eyesight and will quickly take away its life.

A snake which thrusts its head through the palings to seize an unwary frog and finds itself unable to draw back again with the frog in its throat has wit enough to disgorge the amphibian and to deftly draw it through by the leg so as to swallow it on the safe side of the palings, but probably a snake which happened to be on the wrong side in company with a frog would consume it on the premises and so render itself incapable of wriggling through the bars.

Snakes in the Philippines. Above the length of nineteen or twenty feet snakes in the Philippine islands increase greatly in bulk for every foot in length, so that a snake nineteen feet long looks small beside one twenty-two feet long.

Will Preserve Graves of Soldiers. Every piece of ground in South Africa containing the graves of soldiers who fell in the war has been taken over and is to be maintained by the British war department.

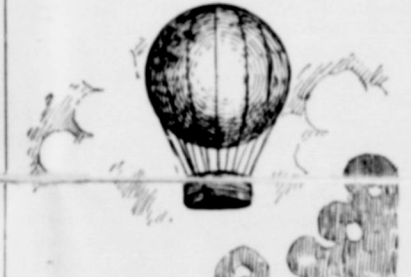
To Do Away With "Tipping." In Berlin an anti-tip society has been formed, and branches are to be started all over Germany. The object is to do away with "tipping."

Salaries of Southern Governors. The governor of Georgia receives \$3,000 a year salary—\$500 less than the governor of Florida.

THE summer flocks of rubber balloons, carrying self-recorded barometers and thermometers, are to be sent up by the Weather Bureau at Washington, for the purpose of studying the region of the upper atmosphere, concerning which comparatively little is known at the present time. They will be about three feet in diameter, and will be much like the toy balloons one sees on the streets, except that they will be filled with hydrogen gas. The instruments to be sent up will weigh only two pounds for each balloon, which being set free, will rise until it bursts, owing to the pressure from within, and the rarefaction of the surrounding air.

Each rubber balloon will be provided with a parachute, in order that, when the little gas-bag bursts, the instruments may not be dashed to destruction in falling. It is expected, however, that use will be made in similar fashion of paper balloons, which will require no parachutes, because, when they explode, they lose their gas slowly, and thus come down in a gradual and dignified manner. Each paper balloon will be about six feet in diameter, filled with hydrogen and coated with paraffin varnish to render it gas tight. One advantage of such balloons of paper and rubber is that they are quite inexpensive, so that the experiments made with them need not cost so much.

Such balloons are called "sounding balloons," because the Weather Bureau means to use them for making soundings in the great ocean of air, on the bottom of which human beings crawl about. Just as the deep sea fishes dwell on the floor of the aqueous ocean, the atmospheric ocean, instead of being composed of water, is a mixture of gases, and lately folk have become anxious to find out something about it—how deep it is, and what it is like as to temperature, density, etc., in the upper levels. Curiosity on this subject is so great that within the last few years many adventurous men have risked their lives in trying to make their way as far skyward as possible—a most perilous kind of enterprise, inasmuch as the thinning of the air



SENDING UP A "SOUNDING BALLOON."

makes breathing difficult at three miles above sea level, and a little further on no human being can survive for any length of time. Up to date only a very few individuals have succeeded in passing the four-mile limit.

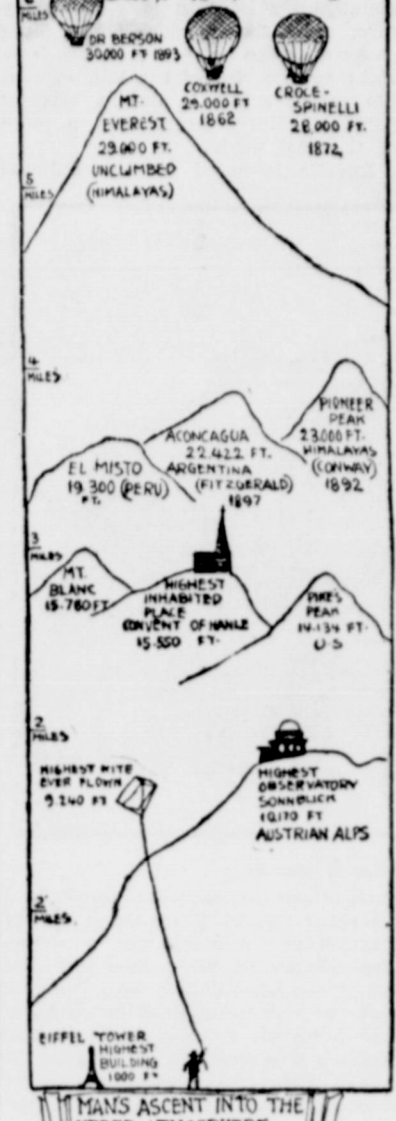
The famous Eiffel tower at Paris, which is probably ten times as high as the Tower of Babel, is the tallest structure ever erected by human hands, attaining an elevation of 1,000 feet. A kite has been flown from the hill, near Boston, at a height of a mile and three-quarters. The highest place permanently occupied as a residence by human beings is the Convent of Hanie, in Tibet, 15,500 feet above the sea; but the village of San Vincent, in the Bolivian Andes, is only 500 feet lower. It is observed that dwellers at such altitudes are always physically weak, the atmosphere at 15,000 feet being of only one-half the normal density and supplying an insufficient amount of oxygen to the lungs.

Up to the present time the loftiest point on the earth reached by a human being is Pioneer Peak, in the Himalayas (nearly 23,000 feet), which was ascended in 1892 by W. M. Conway. The next best record is held by E. A. Fitzgerald, who in 1897 conquered Mount Aconcagua (22,422 feet), in Argentina, which is supposed to be the highest summit in the western hemisphere.

Mount Everest, in the Himalayas, is five and a half miles high, the loftiest peak on the earth, and more than a mile higher than Pioneer Peak. One may assert with confidence that it will never be climbed, inasmuch as no human being could survive for even a few minutes on its summit. Nevertheless, men have gone as high as that, and even higher—in balloons. In 1862 two enterprising English accountants, Cowell and Glaisher, reached an altitude of five and a half miles in a balloon in safety, though both of them became unconscious and nearly died. Ten years later, in France, Croce-Spinelli, Sivèl and Tissandier got up in a balloon to within 1,000 feet of the same level, and the first died for lack of air. But the final achievement, which as yet remains unequalled, was that of Dr. Berson, in 1893, who, with the help of a tank of oxygen, nearly attained

the six-mile level, where the highest clouds, supposed to be composed of snow crystals or icy crystals, float. He found the temperature 54 below zero.

There is no telling how high the



HIGHEST CLOUDS.

weather bureau's sounding balloons will go before they burst, but it is confidently expected that the instruments they carry will record many facts of value to science in regard to conditions of moisture, temperature, etc., in the upper levels of the atmosphere.

The temperature at ten miles, it is already known, is 65 below zero, and at twenty miles it is probably 90 below. At fifty miles it must be near the absolute zero of space, the temperature of the dark side of the moon, which is 461 degrees below the zero of Fahrenheit.

Heights far exceeding even the altitude attained by Dr. Berson have been reached by free balloons carrying automatic instruments. One of these, the Aerophile, was sent up in France several years ago, and, as shown by the barometer in its basket, got up as high as ten miles above the surface of the earth. Of course, it had no human freight.

All of the seas and other waters on the earth were once upon a time part of the atmosphere, being held in suspension, but with the cooling of the crust of the globe much of the



PARACHUTE DESCENDING WITH RECORDING INSTRUMENTS.

moisture became condensed.—New York Press.

The Manila Telegraph Cable. The most hazardous section of the Manila telegraph cables is that completed between San Francisco and Honolulu, in which the sea bed is precipitous, with valleys 31,600 feet deep. The next two sections, extending to Guam, will cross level plains of mud at a depth of about 18,000 feet, while the last section is over a series of mountains.

Woman Given Public Office. A curious recognition of the right of women to hold public office has, with little gallantry, been made in Pike county, Pa. Porter township has so few voters that Mrs. Sarah Miller was placed on the Democratic ticket for school director, there being no other available candidate, one Democrat being the nominee for three local offices.

Origin of Tissue Paper. The flimsy paper called tissue paper was originally made to place between tissue, cloth of gold or silver, to prevent its fraying or tarnishing when folded.

THE SOUTH OF ITALY

Beautiful Land "Where Summer Sings and Never Dies"—
Medieval Antiquities and Ancient Works of Art
to Be Found on All Sides.

(Special Correspondence.)



NAPLES presents a striking contrast to Rome, the dignified, stately, slow and serious-minded city. Naples seems to act up to its title of "new city"—neapolis—and its people, though living under a warmer sky, have more life and vigor and push than the more solemn Romans.

This is but a stopping place in the search for sunshine. Farther south lies the land "where summer sings

upon the remains of the antique grandeur. From Amalfi the traveler visits the little town of Ravello, perched high upon the hillside. The view from here is beautiful in the extreme, for the sailing vessels on the sea in the distance far beneath look like tiny toys, and the inequalities of the rocks near the shore are hidden from sight by the rise of the hill, so that the whole scene is like a brightly painted picture, rather than a piece of the real world.

Ravello is noted for its medieval



Theater of San Carlo, Naples.

and never dies." Pompeii is passed, with its unearthed temples and basilicas and theaters, and houses all roofless and empty, which, after being hidden beneath the ashes of Vesuvius for seventeen centuries, have been evoked from their vast sepulchre for the instruction of our time. Other little towns are passed, and finally La Cava del Tirreni is reached.

Driving from Cava to Amalfi, the sea comes into view in the approach to Vietri. The softness and warmth of the south now begin to be felt.

There on the left is the aqueduct of Vietri, and here to the right the shoulder of the hill, green and spring-like in shrubs and plants and trees. The little city shines white on the shore of this ever smiling sea, and there is a joyous brilliancy that Nolan county people say that her

seems to pervade the air is delicious; and the little open carriage proceeds along this most picturesque of roads, the influence of the scene comes home to one, and we remember the words of the now well nigh forgotten American poet who said: "God made all the world for man; but he made Italy for himself!"

Amalfi, it has been said, is one of those places which are better understood from the rudest drawing than from the minute description. In some parts it seems a town in terraces, where the people on the ground floor in a back street look out over the rooftops of the house in front of them, and where the ordinary street communication is by staircases. And then in front of all, forming a mirror to the town, in which blue sky and green hills, and white houses are all reflected with unusual brilliancy, lies the tranquil sea, that lovely Mediterranean sea.

Amalfi and Atrani, which you pass before reaching Amalfi, were once on

antiquities. Its cathedral pulpit is a marvel of delicate workmanship in marbles and mosaics, and is attractive enough to bring lovers of the art of the later middle ages from all parts of Europe to revel in its beauties and study its ornaments. It furnishes a fine specimen of the achievements of the "marmorarii" of marble workers of the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries.

More of this work we will see at Salerno; but even the specimens that Salerno possesses are, perhaps, better understood and appreciated after a study of that in Ravello.

Salerno is regarded generally as a stopping place on the way to Paestum; yet it has a historical and artistic importance of its own. In its cathedral lies the body of the famous Pope Gregory VII.—Hildebrand—who died in exile in 1085, uttering the famous words: "I have loved justice and hated iniquity; therefore I die in exile."

The cathedral in itself is an architectural gem, and it is dedicated to an apostle, like its neighbor, Amalfi, St. Matthew being the patron of Salerno. Its pulpit and other works, in which marble carving and mosaic are judiciously introduced as ornaments, are also celebrated.

Paestum, however, draws us to it. The ruins of the temples that adorned the lost and ancient Poseidonia constitute the most complete examples of Greek Doric architecture that the olden times have bequeathed to us.

Perhaps there is nothing lovelier like to be seen anywhere than the temples of Paestum standing a short distance from the low shore where the gently murmuring waves break like a silver fringe on the golden sand. The desolation of the plain around is appalling. Imagination



National Museum, (Naples.)

a time united as one town. It is not easy to think so now, for they are separated by a considerable distance. The town, small and confined as it is to-day, was at one time inhabited by a flourishing and famous people, among whom science, law, art, navigation and commerce were vigorously cultivated, but, as the voluminous historian of the city and duchy of Amalfi relates, after the vicissitudes and catastrophes which the passing of the centuries piled up upon it, it scarcely preserves even its name

runs riot in such surroundings, and you might readily imagine yourself the sole inhabitant of an abandoned world left here alone with these massive yellowish brown—old gold-colored—columns and architraves. Once the roses bloomed luxuriously in this place; now barrenness and desolation brood over the place. The people who dwell at the railroad station that bears the great name of Paestum are shrunken and yellow with malarial fevers. Nature as well as art has gone to ruin here.

HOLY CITY OF RUSSIA

Moscow the Spot in the Vast Empire of the Czar of Which
the True Muscovite Is the Most Proud—Where
the Coronation Ceremony Takes Place.

(Special Correspondence.)



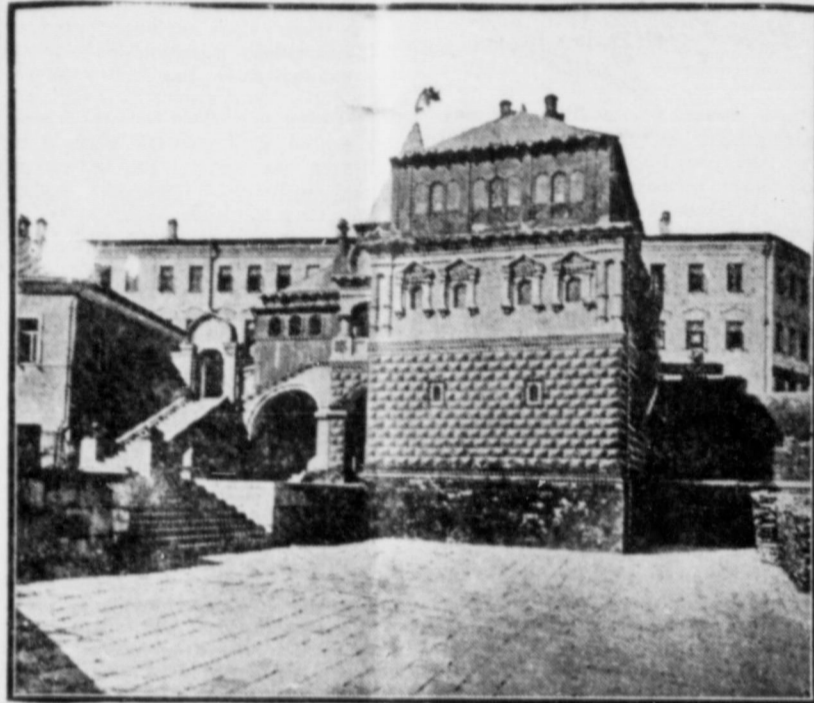
MOSCOU! Who has not heard of Moscow—that "brilliant entanglement of Asia and of Europe," as the Conte de Segur called it, with its far-scattered complex of palaces and cathedrals, of mansions and of hovels, upon which in 1812 Napoleon's grand army gazed down from the Sparrow hills, struck, upon its first view of the city, with mingled admiration and astonishment, yet destined to recoil from its fascination in suffering indescribable, and in a ruin at which the world has never ceased to shudder?

The inspection of Moscow by a foreigner properly begins with the Kremlin, or fortress of the city, in which are gathered many imposing monuments of its historic past. This stands on rising ground, facing a bend in the river Moskva, and is surrounded by a high wall with five

Nicholas I. at a cost of \$6,000,000. The plans were those of Prof. Thon, and the work of construction occupied ten years—from 1839 to 1849—the dedication taking place in the spring of 1849.

Forming the west wing of the "Great palace" of the Kremlin is the Treasury palace, built by Nicholas I. in the years 1849-51. It contains an enormous collection of the art products of Russia and of western Europe. Thrones, crowns, carriages and sceptres of the Czars, including the crown of Peter the Great, with its 825 diamonds, and the sceptre of the Czar Alexis Mikhailovitch; weapons from all periods of Russia's history, among them the sword of the national heroes, Minin and Pozharsky; and many relics of Peter the Great.

So much, then, for the Kremlin—its white stone walls with their picturesque towers and gates, its palaces, cathedrals, monuments and public buildings. The visitor who has



House of Romanov Czars.

gates; at intervals along the wall there are picturesque towers, some twenty-one in number.

The three great cathedrals in the Kremlin are the Uspensky, or Cathedral of the Ascension; the Archangel, or Cathedral of Michael, the Archangel, and the Blagoveshchensky, or Cathedral of the Annunciation.

The ceremony of the coronation takes place within the Uspensky. After the ceremony in the Uspensky cathedral is over, the procession makes its way to the Archangel's cathedral, the burial-place of all the early rulers of Russia, from Rurik up to the predecessor of Peter the Great. Here they rest in the sarcophagi—forty-seven of them—the remains of each covered with a red cloth and provided with an inscription giving the name of the deceased ruler, as well as the date of his birth and death.

The third church which the coronation procession must enter is the "Blagoveshchensky," or Cathedral of the Annunciation, the edifice to which the ancient monarchs of Russia were taken for baptism and betrothal. It dates from the year 1327, the original structure having been of wood; renewed by Ivan III. in 1484-89, it was elaborately restored soon after the coronation of Alexander III. in the years 1884-1895.

Another characteristic feature of

the Kremlin is the "great palace" in which the Czar resides whenever he is in Moscow. After several disasters to the palace which preceded it, the present structure was erected by

historical museum, Iberian Gate, trading bazaar and Kazan cathedral. Of these the Cathedral of Basil the Blessed, over 150 feet high at its highest, is probably the most striking. Its fantastic towers, suggesting half a dozen different styles of architecture, were found only recently, through the discovery of the archives of the cathedral, to be the work of two Russian artists who planned the whole building. This negates the story according to which Ivan the Terrible put out the eyes of the Italian architect of the cathedral in order that he should not be able to build another like it.

In addition to the features mentioned above, Moscow is well supplied with theatres, picture galleries and museums. Her public monuments include one to Pushkin, the great Russian poet, and another to Lomonosoff, the first Russian litterateur. The celebrated "Arch of Triumph," too, is one of the most beautiful and imposing of the public buildings, and the "House of the Romanov Czars" is one of the interesting sights of the



Arch of Triumph.

city. The University of Moscow, with over 3,000 students, is an institution known for the thoroughness of its work and the fame of many of its alumni all over Europe.

LEGENDS OF THE RHINE

Noble River Has Always First Place in Song and Story—
Every Mile of Its Banks Rich in Historic Interest
and Folklore—The Best Known.

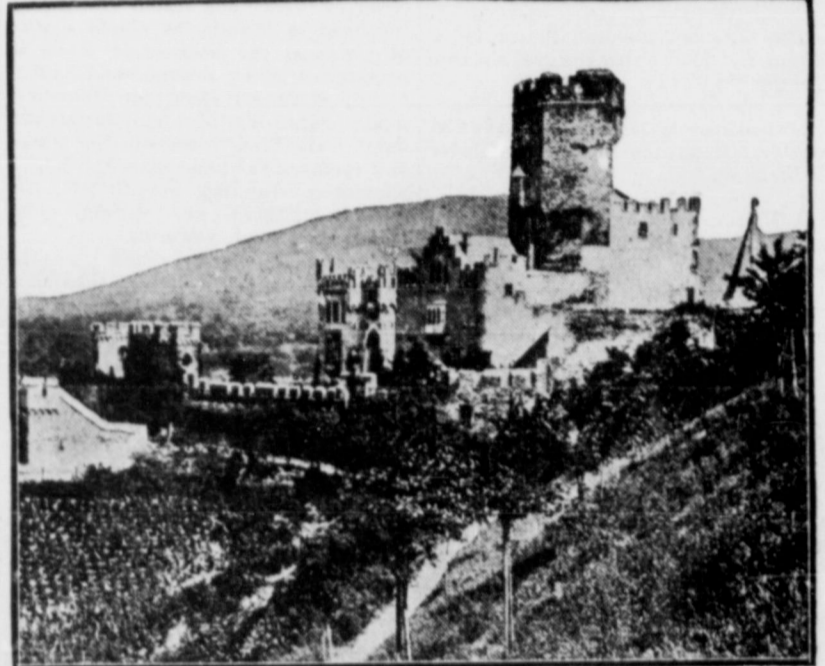
(Special Correspondence.)



HERE is no other river in all Europe with such varied beauty of scenery and such romantic associations as the Rhine. The very name conjures up visions of vineyard covered banks, impregnable fortresses, ruined castles and quaint old villages. The legends about them, in some cases authentic, but for the greater part

brought to his king the welcome message of deliverance. Through the love of Mathilde, the beautiful daughter of the gauler, he opened the dungeon doors, and his king was free. All escaped together to England, where Mathilde became the honored wife of Blondel, and upon them the king showered his royal favors.

The Drachenfels, or Dragon's Rock, commands one of the most superb views on the Rhine. It is now one of the most famous of the many ruined



Castle of Lahneck.

traditional, give the Rhine a place in song and story that can never be usurped by any other river.

From lovely Lake Constance to the rapids of Schaffhausen, from the Rheinfall at Neuhausen on through the wild ravines of the Schwanzwald, the famous slopes of the Wiesenthal and Lell, through the fertile valleys and narrow chasms and cattle-crowned heights past the frowning fortresses of Coblenz and Ehrenbreitstein and the lacy spires of Cologne, to the flat shores of Holland, where it merges with the Zuyder Zee, every mile of this wonderful river is rich in historic interest and folklore.

Centuries ago many of the Rhenish castles were occupied by bands of lawless knights called Raubritter, or robber knights, who levied blackmail on boats going up and down the river, abducted beautiful maidens and despoiled not only every one who came their way, but one another as well, if possible.

So dissolute and bold had they become that, at the end of the 13th century the Diet of the empire condemned their castles to destruction. The knights themselves were too much taken up with their own quarrels and jealousies to hold together and protect their fortresses, so most of the castles were stormed and laid in ruins by the forces of the League and of the Rhine.

But the Raubritter have left behind them a legacy of legends that makes of the river a rich fund for literature. Among the most charming of these that cluster around every town, castle and ruin, is the legend of the Mouse tower, a picturesque tower standing on an island in the Rhine just before the landing at the city of Hingen.

The most romantic legend of all is

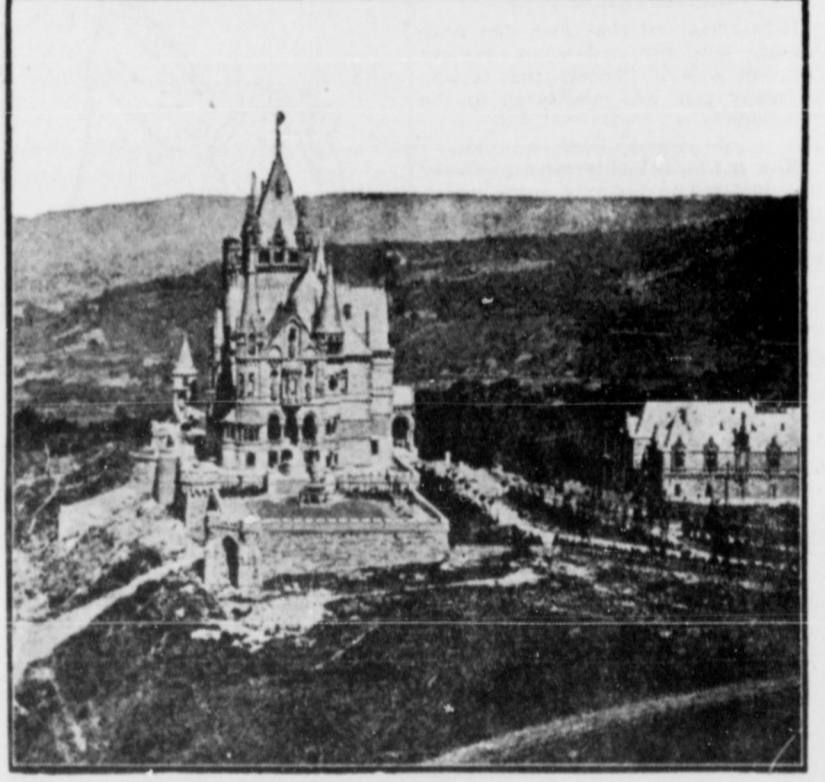
castles, and the wine from the vineyards on its slopes is called "Dracheneblut." There is a cavern among the vineyards, about half-way up the hill, which is said to have been the lair of the dragon slain by Siegfried, who bathed himself in its blood and became invulnerable.

Among the most attractive of the ruins of old-time castles that still entice the traveler from every land are the castles of Drachenberg and Lahneck, which also have their legends and traditions of interest.

There is a familiar legend of the "Foot on the Wall," connected with the castle of Stanfenburg, which was founded in the 11th century by Otho of Hohenstaufen, bishop of Strasburg. There is that of Genovefa, connected with the Frauenkirche, near Laach, which is said to have been

founded by Genovefa, the beautiful wife of Palatinate Count Siegfried. Another still is that of the castle of Lorche, near Assmanhausen, which dates back to the time of the crusades, for Gilgen, who lived in the castle, had fought with Bromser of Rudesheim in the Holy Land.

There is also the beautiful legend of St. Gertrude, who built the convent of Gertrudesberg and vowed her life to charity and delivered the soul of him who loved her from the snares of the devil. There are, too, the stories of "The Swords of Solinger," "The Oak Trees of Dinwald," the apparitions that appeared to the architect of the great Dom or Cologne cathedral; the fascinating tale of "Hermann Josef and the Christ Child"; "Ursula and the 11,000 Virgins"; "Frei del and Meunz"; or the Hunchbacked Violinist of Aix-la-Chapelle; "The Hidden Treasures of Lapp," and exquisitely poetical tale of chivalry and sincere love; that of "Rolandsee; or, the Love of Roland



Drachenberg Castle.

that of the Lorelei, a beautiful and enchanting water nymph who dwelt upon the Ley, a precipitous rock hundreds of feet high, near St. Goarhausen, and in memory of her sad story called "The Rock of the Lorelei."

The Castle Trifels is dear to all who honor devotion and bravery. Here it was, in 1193, that Blondel, the faithful, sang his home song under the window of Richard Coeur de Lion, who was imprisoned by Emperor Henry VI., and thereby

for Hildegarde"; "The Love and Marriage of Guta of Falkenstein and Richard, Emperor of Germany," and the naming of the castle of Gutenfels.

The "Nibelungenlied," the Rhine's greatest legend, Wagner has immortalized, and in the original German it is contained in twenty manuscripts.

And it's Hard to Find. Success is the only road on the map that leads to prosperity.