

This Is Your Tuesday, February 1st '49 Edition

Bernie Brazzil Nearly Loses Ear: Falls Down Embankment!

Friday night was good fox hunting night, so, Bernie Brazzil and others near Flat went out with the dogs. Walking down the abandoned Temple-Northwestern railroad dump, he came to a place where there was supposed to be a bridge.

Down he went. His boys, just behind him, didn't go. They brought Mr. Brazzil to Gatesville, where it was found he'd nearly lost an ear in the fall and had other cuts and bruises, all of the injuries are not serious, though painful.

WALTER LEE BDOWN, JACK B. HEARNE AND DEAN HOPSON MID-TERM GRADS

COLLEGE STATION, Jan. 29. (Spl.)—Mid-term graduates of the Texas A and M College includes the following from Gatesville:

Walter Lee Brown, BA in Liberal Arts; Jack B. Hearne, BA in Liberal Arts; Dean Hopson, BS in Accounting.

CCN PREACHING AT LEON JUNCTION SUNDAY

Next Sunday, February 6th will be our regular church day at Leon Junction. Sunday School at 10 a. m., preaching at 11 a. m. and 7:00 p. m.

Come worship with us, and make this a good day. A hearty welcome to everyone.

George Siler, Pastor.

Congratulations

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Davis are the proud parents of a baby daughter, Nancy Marie, born on January 25, 1949. Mrs. R. G. Phillips is the grandmother and Mrs. J. F. Tadlock the great grandmother.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Post of Waco are the proud parents of a baby daughter. Mrs. Genella Post is the grandmother and Mrs. John T. Post is the great grandmother.

Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Powell of Rt 1, Gatesville wish to announce the arrival of their grandson, Louie Davis Powell, Jr., born at the Pasadena Laying-in Hospital in Houston, January 29, 1949, to Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Powell of Gatesville and Houston. Mrs. Powell is the former Miss Hallie Jo Blackstock of Arnett.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Crawford and daughters of Waco. Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Baize and sons of Gatesville, were recent visitors in the home of Mr and Mrs. Q. E. Blacklock.

Mrs. Barbara McKelvy, mother of J. C. McKelvy of this city attained the age of 95, January 24, 1949. She spent most of her life in Oglesby, and a resident of Coryell County at the present time.

An early argument against free speech in newspapers was that "a newspaper makes the multitude too amiliar with the actions of their superiors."

CCN—
The Army is growing. It needs more officers, particularly those in the junior grades. See the U. S. Army and U. S. Air Force Recruiting Sergeant at the Chamber of Commerce Building, Gatesville.

CCN—
Attention High School Graduates! If you are between 19 and 28 and can otherwise qualify, you can enlist in the army from civilian life for officer candidate school. Full details at the U. S. Army and U. S. Air Force Recruiting Station, Chamber of Commerce building, Gatesville.

GATESVILLE'S CORYELL COUNTY NEWS

"Fustest With The Mostest"

Gatesville, Texas 5c The Copy Volume Seventeen

—FIRST GATESVILLE
NEWSPAPER WITH AU-
DITED CIRCULATION.
SECOND IN TEXAS.



Member of the Associated Press, Texas Press Association, National Editorial Association and Local Rep. Texas Election Bureau.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1949

NUMBER 12

CORYELL COUNTY

Frank Simmons'

History & Folklore Of Coryell County

(Revised Edition)



HOME OF
WORLD'S LARGEST
MESQUITE TREE

To Be Published In Book Form
At The Conclusion Of
These Articles

"FORT GATES EDITION"

History And Folklore of Coryell County

A revised reprint and enlargement of "History of Coryell County, Texas Centennial Edition, 1936" by Frank E. Simmons.

Publication sponsored by Mat Jones, publisher of The Coryell County News.

The original history book is now out of print, but its popularity continues to grow. This season has brought more orders for the book, and more requests for the story to re-appear in serial, than any like period since 1936, when the story was first published serially in The Coryell County News, and then in book form.

The recent orders and requests, have prompted us to publish the story serially, and then again in a book.

Since Fort Gates was settled in 1849, this year, will be the first Centennial year of the founding of Fort Gates, and the first permanent settling of Coryell County by white Americans. This new book will be known as "The Fort Gates Edition."

Again, we must say that this publication is due to the continuing popularity of the work, and zeal of those of us to preserve the history and folklore of their native county.

Sincerely yours,
Frank E. Simmons.

(Editors Note: The preface, foreword, and other formalities in publishing this book will be left out of the "serial" articles, but, will be included in the book, along with a number of pictures of historic points pertinent to the book.)

THE LAND OF CORYELL

(Continued on page 4)

Dr. Jack L. Walker and son Bill of Cameron made a short visit in the home of his mother, Mrs. Ida E. Walker, early this week.

Miss Frances Davenport, niece of Mrs. Huckaby has been a visitor from Mason here with Mr. and Mrs. Huckaby.

No Preachin'; No Mail;
No NEWS, Only SNOW!
Toosday Out Friday!

The Byline of
Dependability

"Little Jack Frost, Go 'way Go 'Way" is the title of a new song we heard one of these past snowy nights. Boy, oh, boy, is that OUR theme song. 'Course, it' and it's moisture was welcome, but it coulda left its troubles 'way!

Talked with Rev. W. B. Holmes, Presbyterian pastor here and he said, "No Services last Sunday night, also there was no mail Monday, til late". We said, no Toosday paper til Friday, and he said, "Well, why not!"

There was a reason, alright. Operator lives is Crawford, Mr. Compton, that is, and he couldn't even get out of the 8 inches of snow in his driveway. The same, he said, by LD Phone, Tuesday noon. So, since it takes men to make newspapers, and, his being a key man, we're givin' you a double-header Friday!

Yep, Uncle Sam says we can't miss one, and we don't aim to. You'll still get your 14 for 200 cents, that is, if you don't let it run out, which we can't help, and which the auditor says: "No, No!" If you're left on our list, and didn't pay. It just can't be done these days, any more'n your light bill. You just gotta!

Not appologizin' for the snow, but just hope it comes in smaller doses, hereafter

CCN—
Joe Boone is much better after being conveyed to the local hospital with pneumonia.

CCN—
Joe Rene Millsap is back in school after another trip to the hospital in Temple.

CCN—
The young daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Rufus McKinney of Lampasas is reported better following an emergency operation.

CCN—
Donald Flentge of Texas University is spending a few days with his parents here.

Most Disastrous Freeze In Rio Grande Valley

By The Associated Press
The Rio Grande Valley reports one of the most disastrous freezes in history today as the cold wave brought record below-zero temperatures far south of San Antonio. Twenty-two deaths were attributed to the storm since last Friday.

Valley tomato and potato crops were reportedly a total loss and ripening fruit was heavily damaged, and citrus men fear the trees were damaged. Cameron County Agent Frank Brunneman estimated the Valley vegetable damage alone was higher than \$15,000,000. The temperature at Laredo and Brownsville was 23 degrees. Llano, near Austin recorded six below, (Gatesville's was too); four below at Waco, three at Bryan, two below at Sherman, Austin, Ozona, Kerrville, Bandera, Fort Worth, a half a degree below in San Antonio. The Fredericksburg area livestock was hard hit after the heavy snow, and two below temperature.

CCN— House Speaker Ready To Name House Committees

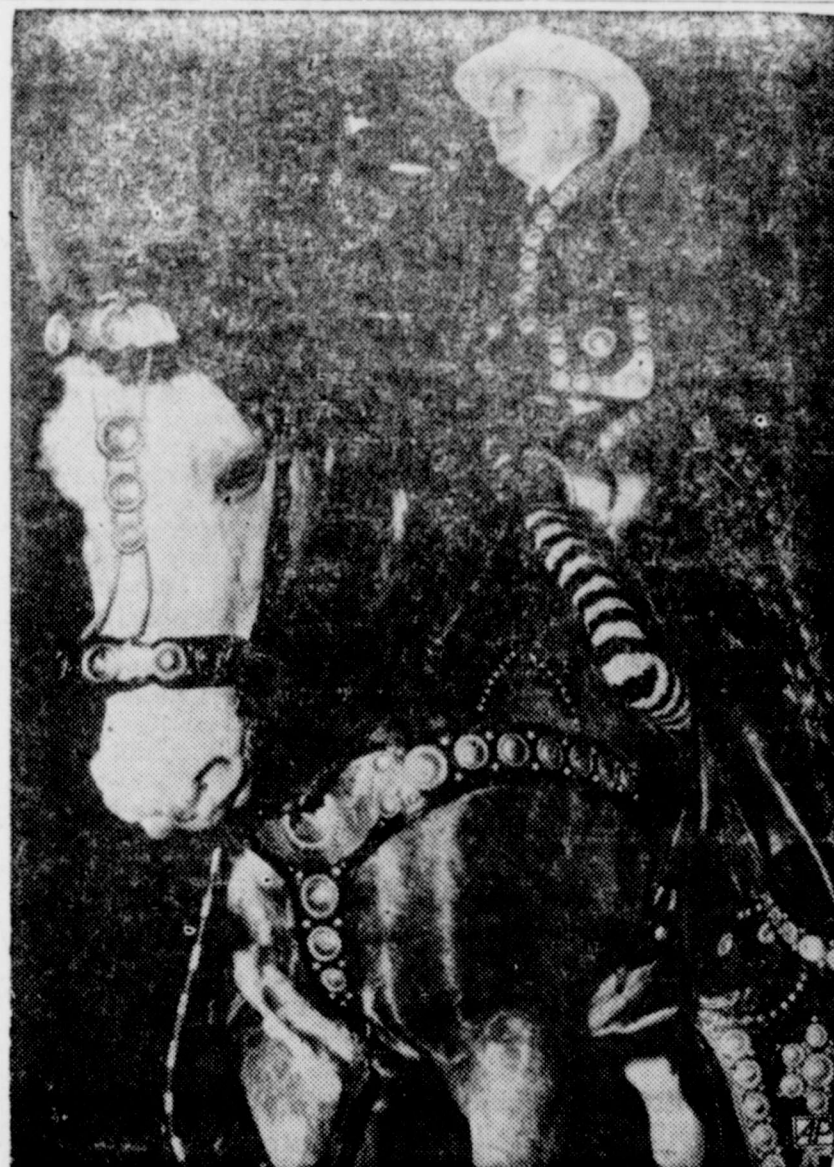
AUSTIN, January 31. (AP)—Speaker of the House Manford said today he was ready to announce appointments of the House Committees tomorrow. Both houses adjourned today after brief sessions.

CCN— Hsueh Yuen To Battle Commies In S. China

CANTON, China, January 31 (AP) General Hsueh Yuen, new governor of the Kwangtung Province, said today he would lead China's four Southern Provinces in battle against the Communist. Hsueh succeeded T. V. Soong, recently.

CCN—
Mrs. Ida Richardson is in the hospital in Temple.

CCN—
J. P. Pate and son are better after a few days illness.



JESTER THE COWBOY

Governor Beauford Jester leads the grand entry opening of the

53rd Annual Southwestern Exposition and Fat Stork Show in Ft. Worth. (AP) Wirephoto.

The Texas Poll The Statewide Survey of Public Opinion

By JOE BELDEN,
Director, The Texas Poll

AUSTIN, Tex., Jan. 29.—What do the folks back home want the Texas Legislature to do? Ask a cross section of adults in all parts of the state and you will find that the legislative problems uppermost in the public mind are education, cost of living, ownership of the tidelands, and housing.

However, only five out of every ten adults have any idea what the major legislative problems might be. Only half of the people seem to be interested in legislative affairs.

These findings came from the latest statewide survey of The Texas Poll. A cross section of 500 adults, representing correct proportions of the population by sex, age, race, socio-economic level, and place of residence, was interviewed.

Atchley-Harris Marriage Took Place in Hamilton

Miss Margie Atchley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Atchley of Evant, recently became the bride of Elmer W. Harris, son of Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Harris of Devine, Texas, in a single ring ceremony solemnized in the home of Rev. John D. West, the officiating minister.

Mrs. Harris wore a lovely suit of blue and gold with black suede accessories. The couple was attended by Colleen Doyle of Hamilton and Jack Harris of Devine.

The bride is a graduate of the Evant High School with the class of '48 and has been employed at the Hamilton Pharmacy prior to her marriage. Mr. Harris graduated from the Devine High school with the class of '46 and is now assistant driller for the Petty Geophysical Engineering Company stationed in Hamilton. They plan to remain in Hamilton as long as he is stationed here.—The Hamilton Herald.

butane shortage, rural improvement, and peace.

Fifty percent said they had no opinion what the Legislature should do. The great majority of these were from the lower educational levels.

Each person also was asked: "If you were a member of the Legislature, what new laws would you try to pass? What present laws would you try to do away with?"

Almost half of those interviewed proposed some form of new law: everything from raising school teachers' salaries to making it compulsory for everyone to visit a veterans' hospital at least once a year. Educational measures ranked first in number; old age pension laws, second; traffic safety laws, third; tax laws, fourth; price and rent controls, fifth; veterans bonus, sixth; liquor laws, seventh; civil rights, eighth; labor, ninth; and election laws, ten.

Only one third of the persons interviewed had something in mind they wanted to abolish. The poll tax ranked first; racial segregation second; other types of taxes, third; and liquor, fourth.

Among the miscellaneous laws suggested was one to keep out "wives from foreign countries," one to prohibit short wave radio amateurs from operating within city limits, a law to forbid riding bicycles in town, and a law "to make it so a man can't desert his family and get away with it by leaving the state."

A stock farmer in South Texas, pointing out the need for road building, was highly critical of public officials. "I would pass a law", he said, "that the city, county, and state officials have no outside interests while in office. Our county road commissioner is so busy with outside interests that we can't get our roads fixed. The roads are so rough that if your teeth were false, they would jar out when you ride on these roads"

A typical comment on teachers' salaries came from a machinery salesman in Fort Worth: "Let's pay teachers at least as much as a carpenter or a bricklayer makes."

In Coleman County, a farm wife suggested that the Legislature enact "laws so a farmer will get more for his products and others not make so much off of them."

A 72-year-old Houston woman thought the Legislature should "outlaw all old laws and make a new set o laws. The way it is now we have 199 laws and then we pass 299 laws to overthrow the 199 laws."



FEBRUARY						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

**LOOKING
'AHEAD**
by GEORGE S. BENSON
President—Harding College
Searcy, Arkansas

JUST ROUTINE TACTICS

The "good" Communist is sworn to lie. (Unfortunately, all the liars are not in Russia, nor even in the Communist Party in this country. Life would be much more simple if they were.) However, among our so-called liberals, and even the fellow-travelers, there are those who are waking up to the fact that disdain for plain old honesty and integrity is one of the chief characteristics of Communism. I know only one answer to the problem of the lie, and that is: truth.

If there were only one Communist in the world, folks with truth in their lives could isolate him easily enough. But when you admit the tactics of lying into international relationships, things begin to get complicated. It is indeed a real problem to deal with nations which lack moral integrity, and my sympathies go out to our statesmen who have to meet the Communists on international issues.

Nothing On Merit

To illustrate. Shortly after President Truman's message to Congress on European recovery, the Moscow radio announced: "The essence of the Marshall Plan is war." Marshall, the radio said, was out chiefly to assist American monopolies. Marshall was called the "intimate friend of Wall Street big wigs." It seems that to represent Secretary of State Marshall as imperialist, monopolist, oppressor, and warmonger is just routine Communist tactics.

Secretary Marshall is not an imperialist, and he is not trying to conduct a program in Europe in the interest of American monopolies, and so on, which fact everyone knows. Even the Russians who were saying those things knew the statements were untrue. Their method of defeating the Marshall Plan at that time was to misrepresent it. They didn't dare criticize it on its merits.

See The Methods

These statements were designed, of course, for the American public. To the American public this particular incident was perhaps of little importance in itself. However, it is useful in demonstrating the tactics used by Communists in America for several decades. These men knew at the start it would not be easy to undermine the American way of life. They realized their best method was to cause dissension and friction among groups in America.

The Communists apparently decided that the easiest way to create this friction would be to set labor and industry against each other. To this end they began picking out American industrialists and calling them profiteers and capitalists, disinterested in the welfare of the worker. They also misrepresented the amount of profits, until many people think industrialists make ten times the profit actually made.

We can see quickly the absurdity of attacks on Secretary Marshall. But perhaps we have been slower to see the lies and misrepresentations used right here in our country against our own people. Our industrialists have worked unceasingly, along with labor, to help raise our standard of living. Only in America do the rank and file enjoy cars, radios, telephones, refrigerators and hundreds of other luxuries. Let's keep our thinking straight, despite Communist tactics.

First Baptist Church Clarence A. Morton, Pastor

Sunday Services:
9:45—Sunday School.
11:0—Public Worship and sermon by pastor.
6:00—Training Union.
7:00—Evening Worship and sermon by pastor.
Youth Fellowship at close of evening service.

Week Day Services:
Tuesday—Woman's Missionary Society.
3:00—Woman's Missionary Society.
3:00Sunbeams.
4:00—Girl's Auxilliary and Royal Ambassadors.
7:00—Y. W. A.

Wednesday Night:
All "Church Night"
6:45* and 7:00—Sunday School Meetings.
7:30—Prayer Meeting.
8:15—Choir rehearsal.
A cordial welcome to all.

In 1870, 89 percent of the foreign newspapers published in the United States were German.

There were no newspapers printed in the Greek language in the United States until 1909.

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This question was put to each person:
"As you know, the Texas Legislature is meeting this year. In your opinion, what are the biggest problems facing Texas that the Legislature should try to solve?"

The ten top answers: Volunteered by:

1. Education14%
2. High cost of living..... 6
3. Tide'ans 6
4. Housing 6
5. Veteran bonus..... 4
6. Labor regulation..... 4
7. Taxation 4
8. Old age pensions.....2
9. Roads 2
10. Racial segregation..... 2

Other problems mentioned, each by less than 2 percent of the persons interviewed, include health, public safety, agriculture, election laws, water and soil conservation, states rights, prison system, relief to needy, social security, liquor regulation, governmental reorganization, minimum wage law, Good Neighbor Policy, communism, development of natural resources, gambling, legislative redistricting,

DOLLAR-A-WEEK SAVING PLAN
MOST OF OUR WORRIES ARE FINANCIAL ONES!
SAVE FOR SECURITY
If you do not live to complete this Saving Plan, Your Family will receive all that you intended to save.
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J. A. PAINTER Gatesville, **AGENT**

NEWS

Miss Louise Basham of Austin was a holiday visitor with home folks.

Ol Shearer and wife of Commerce are spending the holidays in the Mrs. A. B. Wallace home. Rufus Holder and wife of Dalas were week end visitors with homefolks.

Miss Margaret Garren was a week end visitor to Temple. Miss Lucile Short of Temple was a Saturday visitor with her father.

Miss Ladelle Garren of Denton was a week end visitor with relatives and friends.

Frank Morgan and wife were Sunday visitors in the Holder home. Oscar Spradley of Anton was a Monday visitor in the Edwin Spradley home.

DOLLARS SAVED
Are Dollars Made
And, if, worth saving, They're worth INSURING!
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'49 Ford Custom DeLuxe, White Sidewall tires,—\$1,995. You pay \$665 down, rest in 18 months.

'48 Ford Super DeLuxe R & H, Defroster. This is a "woman owned car"—Price \$1,785, \$595 down—rest in 18 months.

'47 Ford Tudor, a few miles only. \$1,565, You pay down \$522, rest in 18 months.

'46 Chevrolet 2-door Fleetmaster, R & H. Perfect in every way, only \$497 down.

'41 Ford Club Coupe R & H \$995. You pay down \$335 or your old car, may make down payment.

'39 Ford DeLuxe Tudor, \$695, pay down, \$265.

'31 Ford Coupe, new tires, good motor. To first customer \$125, \$50 down.

'37 Chevrolet Tudor, This car sold by another dealer a few months ago for \$595. Yours for \$395, one-third down.

Plenty of Prestone Anti-Freeze
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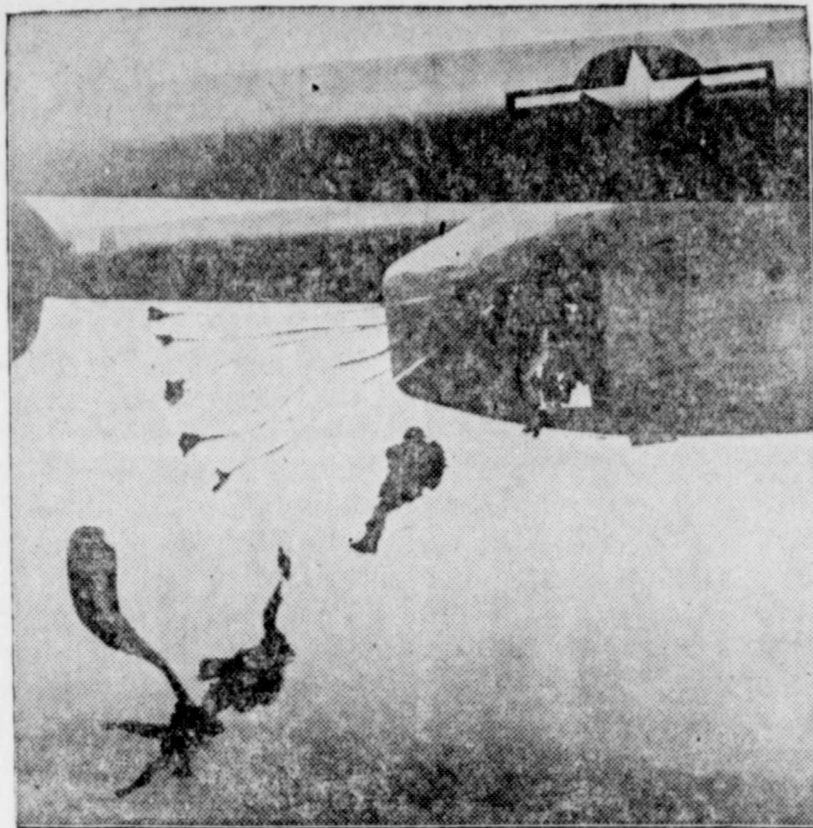
TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS

Gen. George Howard Brett, born February 7, 1886, in Cleveland, son of the head of the Cleveland Public Library. With an engineering degree from the Virginia Military Institute, he became an officer in the Philippine Scouts. He transferred to aviation before World War I and served in France. Between the wars he rose to major general, became chief of the Air Corps, then Allied air commander in the Pacific.

Julia Jean Mildred Franc's (Lana) Turner, born February 8, 1920 at Wallace, Idaho, daughter of a mine foreman. After her father was murdered in San Francisco, Lana went to a convent intending to become a nun. She changed her mind and by a chance meeting in a Los Angeles drug store got her chance in the movies at 15. Famed as a "Sweater Girl," she shed that label with "We Who Are Young" in 1940.

Gypsy Rose Lee, born February 9, 1914, in California, as Rose Louise Hovick, daughter of a reporter on a Los Angeles newspaper. Her younger sister became June Havoc of stage and screen. Together they played "kiddie" acts. Gypsy won fame in burlesque as a "strip tease" artist, also as the author of best seller mystery stories and as a painter. She has been in films, tried play writing and boomed charities.

James (Jimmy) Durante, born February 10, 1893, on New York's Lower East Side, son of a barber. Quit school in the seventh grade, Jimmy became an errand boy, dish washer, and finally photoengraver. But he continued his lessons on a



82d DIVISION 'CHUTISTS TO TEST NEW PLANE—Paratroopers like these will put the new C-119 cargo and troop transport through its paces during an air show at Hagerstown, Md., in March. They will demonstrate loading of personnel and equipment aboard the plane, which can transport 42 soldiers with their combat equipment, or nine tons of cargo, for 2,000 miles.

piano his father bought for him. At 17, he got his first entertainment job in a Coney Island saloon. He made his hit at 'the Schnozzie' comedian in prohibition night clubs.

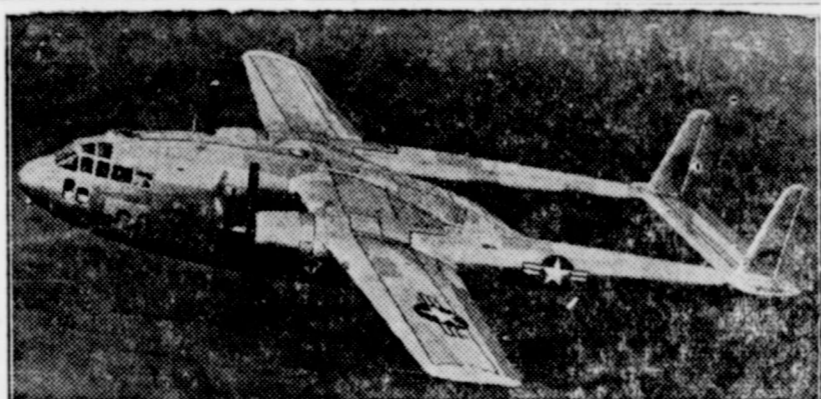
Colgate Whitehead Darden, Jr. born February 11, 1897, on a farm near Southside, Va., son of a bank president. A high school class prophet predicted that Darden would become governor of Virginia. He did. At 19 he was an ambulance driver with the French Army. He was badly injured as a fighter pilot with Marines in 1918. He became a lawyer, Congressman, Governor, and president of the University of Virginia.

John Llewellyn Lewis, born February 12, 1880, near Lucas, Iowa, son of a Welsh immigrant miner. John L. left school in the seventh grade to work in mines. A young teacher, whom he later married, is credited with guiding his reading to make him unique among labor leaders. He refused the post of Secretary of Labor in the Coolidge cabinet. He founded the CIO, then led his miners out of it.

Hair beauty secrets... by Toni



Little girls like to have glamorous curls just like mother and the perfect solution to the problem is a soft, natural looking home permanent wave. Wispy straight locks or thick unruly hair can easily be shaped, thinned and then curled into any number of charming styles that will make little girls look their best — as illustrated in the hair styles shown above, inspired by famous story-book characters.



PARATROOPERS GIVE IT "ONCE-OVER"—Twenty-three outstanding troopers of the Army's famed 82d Airborne Division early in January were among the first members of the armed forces to inspect the new cargo and troop transport plane, the Fairchild C-119, shown above. The soldiers viewed the aircraft at Hagerstown, Md., as guests of the Fairchild Engine & Airplane Corporation during final stages of the plane's construction.

M-SGT. FLOYD MOORE HAS BEEN ASSIGNED TO 12th ARMORED BATTALION

CAMP HOOD, Texas, Jan. 29.

(Sp1)—Master Sergeant Floyd D. Moore of Killeen, Texas, has arrived at Camp Hood and has been assigned to the 12th Armored Infantry Battalion of the "Hell on Wheels" 2nd Armored Division. Sgt. Moore entered the service in 1942, and while spending 25 months overseas in the European Theatre of Operations he participated in the fighting at Anzio, Rome-Arno, the Appines and at Po Valley. For his services during the war he was awarded the Bronze Star Medal.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Moore who live in Killeen, Texas, and is now residing at Camp Hood with his wife, Anita Moore. He formerly lived at Gatesville, Texas, and participated on the basketball team while attending Gatesville High School.

If you have had visitors lately, call 69, or drop by the NEWS office and tell us about them.

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- W. C. Nite Grocery
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Elaine Carroll Honored With Party By The Mary-Martha Class

Miss Elaine Carroll, who came to the United States in 1947, from France, was honored in the home of Mrs. Otis Chambers, Tuesday evening, January 25, by the members of the Mary-Martha Class of the First Baptist Church, with Mrs. Bobbie Paxton and Mrs. E. K. Cooper as hostesses.

The theme of winter with snow and all the trimmings was carried out in the evenings entertainment, with little snow men made of marshmallows, and topped with black hats.

Bingo and various other games were played during the afternoon, after which refreshments of hot chocolate, and cake were served to the following ladies: Mesdames Grave Baker, Grace Tennyson, Glenn Thipps, Jack Lipsey, Stanley Edwards, Dan Fegghet, Dorothy Rauschenburg, Edwin Conlin, the honoree and hostesses.

Each guest brought a grocery item which was presented to the honoree, which she will send to her mother who is in France.

A story was given by Miss Carroll, from post cards, which were brought by Mrs. Jack Lipsey, sent her by her husband when he was stationed in France.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Hightower and Bennie Franklin of Liberty Church visited Rev. and Mrs. G. L. Derrick Friday night.

CCN

The only two foreign language daily newspapers in the United States in 1820 were French.



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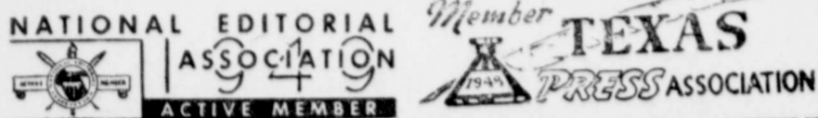
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MAT JONES, Editor and Publisher

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Continued From Page 1
CHAPTER I

A land of romance, is that beautiful hill country that lies astride that romantic, and historic, Central Texas river known as the Leon. This country has been much explored, and exploited, and yet its riches in natural resources and historic lore, and romance, have scarcely been touched by the inquiring mind and hand of man. A land of ancient Indian races, of Mexican explorers, of Anglo-Americans, of settling Germans, and thrifty Norwegians, all contending for the mastery and each race leaving their legends, traditions and history in the minds of men, and graven on stone.

Along the Leon River are the sunken middens, said by some geologists to be more than 20,000 years old. In the marching and countermarching of ancient races across the country, before the Spaniards dreamed of a route to Cathay, scraps of obsidian, of jade, of turquoise, of gold bearing quartz, and of hammered copper, were left to mark the paths of ancient men. Rock shelters so common in these limestone hills, were the homes of the ancient Basket Makers, whose only recorded history is found in the artifacts of stone and bone and rotten scraps of basketry left in the kitchen middens found in these rock shelters.

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MONDAY - WEDNESDAY - SATURDAY

The burnt stone middens, so common along the water courses, on the tops of mountains, and in deep ravines, the supposed tunnels and extensive caves, the old prospect shafts of ancient miners, have all conspired to weave legends of lost mines of fabulous wealth, operated by minions of long forgotten Mexican empires, or of "bold, bloody, avicious, Spanish Conquistadors". The old Spanish trails, the old cattle trails, the Indian trails, the old freight routes, are, according to legend, dotted with caches of buried gold and silver bullion.

People living in these hills, and people living out of them, now repeat these tales and believe them. After many years of research in the realms of archeology, folklore and history, we grant that there is a possible basis of truth for the origin of many of these tales. Professional men from many a place are ever hunting clues, deciphering strange markings on stone, bringing Indians as interpreters, consulting fortune tellers, and astrologers, in the hope that they will find the key mark that will lead to the recovery of Montezumas wealth, a Spanish mine, an oldtime cow-man's gold, or The Lost Lead Mine of Coryell Hills.

The predominating element in the population is of Anglo Saxon origin. This element, too, has left its wealth of tradition, its folk ballads, play-party songs, child games, pioneer and range songs, and folk superstitions, treatment for physical ills, its humor and pathos, told in story and song, that afford the best cultural history of a people bound to the soil and to a past rich in folk tradition. This people is a people deep rooted to the soil.

In this collection of stories, we have used myth, legend and fable, in connection with historic fact, the wild imaginings of treasure hunting men, and the visible evidence calculated to produce a rich history and folklore among imaginative people. This poetic land, and these tales, are a part of the embellishment of a saga as rich, as romantic, as any of the southwest.

Some of the factors conducive to the origin and growth of lost mine and buried treasure stories in this region are the traces of lead, copper, silver and pyrites of iron, or fool's gold, that have been found in many places. These minerals are all affinities of limestone. In the quarry at Lime City tiny nuggets of pyritic copper, copper sulfide, and traces of silver were all disclosed when the stone was subjected to chemical analysis. Small quantities of lead were found deep in an old well on Station Creek, and high up toward the source of Coryell Creek. Strange as it seems, near Copperas Cove was found gold bearing limestone. In the hills overlooking Cow House River have been found copper sulfide and silver in very small quantities. Near Pidcoke is a cave rich in bat-guano, and certain places show small nuggets of phritic copper bedded in limestone. To the inexperienced prospector this may easily be mistaken for gold. It is doubtful that in all Coryell County there is enough of any of these metals to justify mining if it were all grouped in one location. There is enough, however, to inflame the minds of men to the extent that the most extravagant lost mine and buried treasure stories have become as deep-rooted in the hills of Coryell as are the forests of green cedar and liveoak.

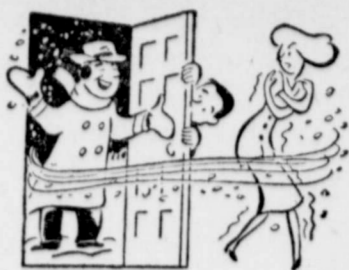
In our research our attention has been called to three places to examine that are believed to be ancient mining shafts. They are deep well-like holes, apparently driven by man in his efforts to obtain some coveted treasure. We are not sure that these well-like holes driven down thru solid limestone are mining shafts; nor, are we sure they are not.

In the hills of Southern Missouri are many similar shafts just large enough for a man to go down thru. The operating chambers are not large enough to stand in. Some of them penetrate many feet into the limestone formation, similar to the limestone formation of Coryell County, as they follow the hemetite veins which the ancient races of men mined to secure the precious hemetite which formed the pigments for the paints which entered so largely into arts and ritualistic rites of the Indian. (Described by Professor W. M. Holmes, Bulletin 60, Bureau of American Ethnology). The races of men who did the mining mentioned above, had only stone sledges, hammers, chisels and adzes of the same materials to wear down the stubborn limestone that held the coveted treasure. This being so, could not the races of men that anciently occupied Coryell County have performed similar tasks with similar tools? We are merely making comparisons, and asking questions, leaving the decision to you.

So these are the germs that have produced the rich legendary lore of the Coryell Hill Country. These are the germs that have infected the minds of men until they live in a state of high expectancy, and romantic dreams, that help to wear away the drabness of existence.

(Continued Next Week)

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