

The Crockett Courier.

"Quality, Not Quantity."

CROCKETT, TEXAS, MARCH 15, 1923.

Volume XXXIII—Number 8.

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SOME NEWS OF THE CROCKETT OIL FIELD

Operations have not yet been resumed in the Porter well at Crockett. Mr. Porter has been confined to his room for the last two weeks from an attack of influenza and work will not be resumed until he has recovered sufficiently to give it his personal attention. This well, which has a stuck drill stem, is resting at about 3450 feet.

The Driskell well company has been hauling out a car load of 10-inch casing this week and active operations in this well were to begin on Thursday. This company has had to pull and re-set all of its casing recently and drilling has been hampered. This well is at a depth of about 3300 feet.

Indications at both wells are said to continue very favorable.

Commissioners' Court.

At a recent session of the commissioners' court A. B. Calvert and Clarence Davis were appointed members of the advisory board of road district No. 15, which is the Creek district. Valentine Johnson was appointed a member of the advisory board of road district No. 8.

Election managers were appointed by the court as follows: Augusta—J. M. Sheridan and W. H. Hall.

Antioch—B. A. Speer and Walter West.

Ash—Owen Brown and John Henderson.

Arbor—R. K. Smith and Burl Douglass.

Belott—J. W. Lockey and T. J. Sartor.

Crockett No. 1—M. L. Berry and Jno. B. Satterwhite.

Crockett No. 2—John Spence and I. B. Lansford.

Crockett No. 3—John Millar and J. G. Beasley.

Crockett No. 4—J. E. Bynum and Clifford Kennedy.

Creek—Dudley Hester and Ace Coon.

Dodson—Sam Best and Arthur English.

Dalys—Geo. Richards and Bailus Dailey.

Daniel—T. L. Glenn and Hugh Rhoden.

Freeman—Dick Hooks and Charlie Arnold.

Grapeland No. 1—C. L. Halton and Ed Davis.

Grapeland No. 2—W. A. Riall and J. C. Kennedy.

Holly—Ezra Driskill and Daniel Goodwin.

Kennard—J. Lowery and Jim Harrison.

Lovelady—Collins Click and Tom Dauphin.

Percilla—A. K. Lively and Elmer Sullivan.

Porter Springs—A. B. Mulligan and Wess Cook.

Ratcliff—P. O. Graves and Bob McKinney.

Shiloh—H. A. Bitner and Bolden Huntsman.

Tadmor—W. K. Conner and Will Saxon.

Tyer's Store—Carl Thames and Floyd Tunstall.

Volga—E. W. Little and Jim Thompson.

Weches—Tom Murchison and Jim Daniels.

Weldon—Clark Goodrum and J. A. Hanner.

Creath—Wiley Wilson and Herby Piles.

Latexo—Carey Spence and Jim Sims.

Election Notice.

Be it ordained by the City Council of the city of Crockett,

Texas, in session assembled, that an election be and the same is hereby ordered to be held in the city of Crockett, Texas, on the 3rd day of April, 1923, for the purpose of electing three (3) aldermen, a city marshal, a city attorney and a city secretary. John C. Lacy is hereby appointed manager of said election.

Passed this 12th day of February, 1923.

C. L. Edmiston,
C. A. Hassell, Mayor.
City Secretary. It.

French Circle.

On Tuesday evening the hospitable home of Mrs. Johnson Arledge was the scene of the March meeting of the French Circle, with Johnson Lundy as host. Four tables of progressive French Dinner Game formed an enjoyable entertainment for most of the evening.

After the refreshments, consisting of Eskimo Pie and wafers, the company enjoyed a little English talk, and a song before saying Bon Soir.

Reporter.

Library and Auditorium.

The Crockett Shakspeare Club has under consideration the erection of a public library and

auditorium building on its lot west of the Baptist church. The location is ideal for such a structure as the Shakspeare Club is planning and it is hoped that the venture will meet with success. The Shakspeare Club will no doubt meet with the active encouragement of its fellow townsmen in the undertaking, and any needed financial assistance will no doubt be forthcoming.

Girls' Club at Belott.

The girls' demonstration club at Belott is progressing finely. Miss Barnett was expected out here Thursday afternoon, but her coming was prevented by it raining so hard.

We have made several articles and are doing fine work. Our next lesson will be making holders.

We are practicing for the county meet. We expect to win several first places this year.

Reporter.

Arbor Grove.

Editor Courier:
The girls of Arbor Grove school organized a club Thursday, March 8. Miss Barnett being with us, we got along nicely with our sewing. We elected our officers: pres-

ident, Opal Hallmark; vice president, Edna Lowe; secretary-treasurer, Vertie M. Smith; reporter, Grace Lynch.

Every one seems very interested in the work. We hope to succeed.

Reporter.

Library and Auditorium.

Are you interested in your home town? Do you realize the need of a public library and auditorium? Will you not come to the ladies' rest room Friday afternoon, March 23, at 3 o'clock, and assist us in our efforts to erect a library and auditorium on the Shakspeare lot, opposite the Baptist church? No personal invitations will be given, but any one interested is asked to meet with and join us.

The Shakspeare Club.

When You Want

Tires and Tubes, we have the best price in town. Make us prove it.

Magnolia Filling Station,
E. W. Null,
Proprietor.

For Rent.

Four light housekeeping rooms, furnished, private bath, hall and porch. 1t.
Mrs. W. M. Patton.

JUST A WORD WITH OUR SUBSCRIBERS

Callers at this office report corn planting in progress where the land is not too wet. We are glad to hear of corn, a thing so necessary on the farm, being planted.

Mrs. Viola Foster, Fort Worth.
A. M. Decuir, Crockett.
J. W. Young, Crockett.
Dan Dear, Crockett Rt. 7.
C. H. Click, Lovelady Rt. 1.
Mrs. A. J. McLemore, Crockett.

Jim Crawford, Creek Rt. 1.
Mrs. Sam Smith, Crockett.
G. A. Walton, Grapeland.
H. P. English, Kennard.

Street Paving.

At a meeting of the city council Monday night, it was decided to employ a civil engineer to make a survey of the city with the view of determining the cost of paving the business section of Crockett. When the probable cost has been ascertained and the kind of paving decided on, bids will be asked for with the view of letting the contract. The engineer is expected to begin his survey within the next few weeks.

Interscholastic League Meet.

The Interscholastic League county meet held in Crockett Friday and Saturday was well attended and a success. The Courier was promised a full report of the meet, but the report has not yet reached us. It may be that a report of all events was considered too lengthy for publication.

Baptist Church.

Miss Archie Mae Satterwhite, Miss Frances Stafford, Miss Bessie Berry, Miss Alta Stokes, Miss Katherine Powell, Miss Daisy McConnell, Miss Florene Arledge and Miss Katherine Cook, pupils of Miss Clarite Elliott, will sing an anthem at the Baptist church Sunday at 11:00 a. m.

Dr. G. Ward Shelfer, Optometrist of Dallas, will be at D. N. Leaverton's drug store, Grapeland, Friday, March 16, and at W. P. Bishop's drug store, Crockett, Saturday, March 17th. Eyes examined, glasses fitted. 2t.

Business is Good.

Our business is getting better every day. There must be a reason. We handle only the best in oil, gasoline and tires.

Magnolia Filling Station,
E. W. Null,
Proprietor.

Going while they last—3 lbs. Maxwell House coffee for \$1.15; evaporated apples at 15 cents a pound, and California prunes at 15 cents a pound. 1t.
C. L. Manning & Co.

Lost—One black mare mule, about six years old and about 12 or 13 hands high. No brand. Will pay \$5.00 reward for person delivering same to the Lovelady State Bank. Tom Wiley. 2t.

Will not last long at these prices: 3 lbs. Maxwell House coffee for \$1.15, evaporated apples at 15 cents a pound and California prunes at 15 cents a pound. C. L. Manning & Co. 1t.

The Cooper-Posey Company is enlarging its store by removing a partition wall toward the rear. This will give the company much larger quarters for the display of its goods.

MILLAR & BERRY

Easter Comes Early This Year

SUNDAY, APRIL 1, WILL BE EASTER, AND YOU HAVE NO TIME TO LOSE IN SELECTING YOUR NEW SPRING SUIT TO WEAR ON THAT DAY.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. B. M. Quigley, an expert tailor and fitter direct from our Chicago factory, will be with us, for the benefit of our customers, on

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY OF THIS WEEK

When we will show all the latest styles in attractive suits for all occasions and for your selection.

MODERATELY PRICED

Visit our store Friday and Saturday and consult with Mr. Quigley

MILLAR & BERRY
TAILORS AND MEN'S FURNISHERS

MILLAR & BERRY

SPECIALS

For Saturday Only

\$1.00 Boys' Overalls	85c
85c Men's Blue Work Shirts	69c
65c Men's Summer Union Suits	49c
\$1.00 Men's Work Shirts	89c
One lot Men's Soft Collars	10c
3 pounds Cotton Batt	59c
One assortment Dress Gingham, per yard	13c
One assortment Colored Linens, per yard	25c
A Special on Hair Nets (all colors), each	5c
One assortment 50c Sateens, all colors	39c

DON'T FAIL TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THESE REAL BARGAINS

DAN J. KENNEDY

Miss Jeanette Creath of Creath was a week-end visitor with friends in Crockett.

See R. L. Shivers Feed Co. at Satterwhite's Scales for all kinds of Feed and Fertilizers. tf.

Increase your yields this year by using Meridian Fertilizer. Sold by Jas. S. Shivers. tf.

Miss Hazel Long of Kingston, Ohio, is visiting her sister, Mrs. S. L. Murchison.

Well broke mules ready for work now. For sale or trade. tf. T. R. DeuPree.

MONEY TO LOAN
BUY VENDOR LEIN NOTES.
AETNA LIFE INSURANCE
B. B. WARFIELD
CROCKETT, TEXAS.

Mrs. S. W. Grant and son of Beaumont are visiting their parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. V. Berry.

R. H. Wootters of San Antonio was transacting business in Crockett at the end of last week.

The lightest draft cultivator on the market today, the Oliver, sold in Crockett by Jas. S. Shivers. tf.

Spring Sunshine

Gives us all "The Fishin' Fever"—and our favorite "spot" is "all set" for our reception. "Let's go Fishin'" is heard on every corner—and one peep in our window will make you join the merry throng.

EVERYTHING for the Fisherman—Rods, Reels, Lines, Sinkers, Hooks, Corks, Kildried Poles—the best in Crockett—Seines, all the NEW Dowagaic Minnows. You can't pass 'em up. Come by and honk—you'll be ready in 10 minutes.

Quality—Dependability—Service

Goolsby-Sherman Drug Co.

WE NEVER SUBSTITUTE

Two Phones: 47 and 140

LOCAL NEWS ITEMS

Buy Oliver implements from Jas. S. Shivers. tf.

See R. L. Shivers for your Fertilizer before you buy. tf.

Mrs. J. R. Herrin visited in Houston this and last week.

Can save you money on mules. tf. T. R. DeuPree.

Meridian Fertilizer is best by test. Sold by Jas. S. Shivers. tf.

R. L. Shivers will not be undersold on Groceries and Feed. tf.

Most any Oliver implement repair in stock at Jas. S. Shivers'. tf.

R. L. Shivers for Planters, Cultivators, Harrows and Plows. tf.

Barbed wire, hog wire, lawn fence, staples and nails at Jas. S. Shivers'. tf.

Buy your Dry Goods and Shoes from R. L. Shivers for less. tf.

You Have a Right

To expect Service at the place where you spend your money. Not begrudging Service, but the kind on which we have endeavored to build our business—prompt, efficient and pleasing.

We want you to know, like our many satisfied customers, that we are just as happy to fill your tires with the proper amount of air as we are to fill your tank with good gasoline, or to render you any of our numerous services.

Crockett Filling Station

"Service With a Smile."

Planters

Yes, They Are Here

Oliver **Ledbetter**
Moline **Empress**
and Also Fertilizer
Distributors

SMITH-MURCHIS'N
Hardware Company

THE WINCHESTER STORE
CROCKETT, TEXAS

TEXAS DRUGGIST REGAINS HEALTH

"I Have Gained 24 Pounds of Firm Flesh and Feel Like New Man."

If you are one of the many weak and weary, underweight, nervous, run down folks who are half sick and half well you can profit by the remarkable experience of this prominent Texas druggist.

Mr. Ed. Waller, proprietor of Waller's Drug Store, Hubbard, Tex., says, "Like most folks who work indoors and do not get enough exercise, my muscles became flabby, had no appetite and had that 'tired out' feeling with me constantly. Six months ago I began taking Ironized Yeast. At that time I weighed 130 pounds. Today I tip the scales at 154, have a fine appetite, my muscles are as hard as a tool dresser's and I have that 'rearing to go feeling' all the time."

This is probably the finest endorsement any product could have. A druggist knows! With all the preparations in his store to choose from, Mr. Waller found Ironized Yeast the best. Your own druggist will tell you the same thing. Because Ironized Yeast is a scientific product of concentrated brewer's yeast in union with the kind of iron doctors use to enrich the blood. The vitamins of the brewer's yeast will nourish your shrunken tissues, filling in hollows and scrawny places with firm flesh. Your blood will take on new strength and soon your whole body will tingle with the glow of perfect health.

Ironized Yeast is positively guaranteed to give satisfactory results or your money refunded. A ten-day treatment costs only a dollar; it means the difference between fine health and your present half sick condition. Get it today. Ironized Yeast Company, Atlanta, Ga.

Recommended and guaranteed by Goolsby-Sherman Drug Co.

Hastings' Seeds 1923 Catalog Free

Write today for Hastings' new 1923 catalog. You will need the information it gives almost daily—the most valuable and useful seed book ever published. It contains 100 pages, picturing and correctly describing the best and most popular vegetables, flowers and farm crops for the South.

How and what to plant in your yard, garden and field for every purpose. How to beat the boll weevil, bean beetle and other pests. Full natural color pictures of the best Roses, Gladioli and other flowers. How to get 5 packets of seed of beautiful flowers free. How much seed is required to plant a row or acre, when and how to plant and cultivate. Why it pays to plant good seeds and how to get them as cheap or cheaper than common or ordinary seeds.

Just write for this handsome new 1923 Seed Book. It's a beautiful book and you'll be mighty glad to have it in your home. It is absolutely free. Write for it today.

H. G. HASTINGS CO., Atlanta, Ga.

A Wish

"I have taken Cardui for run-down, worn-out condition, nervousness and sleeplessness, and I was weak, too," says Mrs. Silvie Estes, of Jennings, Okla. "Cardui did me just lots of good—so much that I gave it to my daughter. She complained of a soreness in her sides and back. She took three bottles of

CARDUI

The Woman's Tonic

and her condition was much better.

"We have lived here, near Jennings, for 25 years, and now we have our own home in town. I have had to work pretty hard, as this country wasn't built up, and it made it hard for us.

"I WISH I could tell weak women of Cardui—the medicine that helped give me the strength to go on and do my work."

E 95

Grove's Tasteless Chill Tonic
For Pale, Delicate Women and Children. 60c

EDITORIALS BY COL. R. T. MILNER

What the Former A. & M. President Writes in the Rusk County News.

TWO FARMERS OVERHEARD.

There were two farmers last Saturday, whom the writer happened to hear, giving their experience as they often do about this time of the year. They were not "old timers," but both of them belong to a newer generation, having come up in recent years. Both are intelligent and prosperous, considering the low prices which they have been forced to sell their stock and produce. They were agreed on all matters in the main, and what struck the writer with more or less force was the earnestness with which they spoke of the future.

"I will tell you," said one. "I think this year is the most dangerous year for the farmers in our history. We came very near being ruined by the deflation of 1920, and none of us have recovered from it, and many never will. The world is now in a state of chaos. War is liable to break out again in Europe, and if it does business will simply go under. It will not take many steps to plunge the whole political machine from one end of the earth to the other into the ditch right now. And now, just suppose that we all go wild and pile up on the cotton market next fall about 16,000,000 bales of cotton, and find no market there. What do you think will happen? In the event that cotton should be thrown on a bankrupt world, without leaving behind feed for our stock and food for our families, with many of us already in debt, what do you think will become of us?"

The other gentleman spoke up and said: "Well, whether you are right or wrong in your prognostication, there is but one safe rule for you and me to follow and that is to continue as we always have done, to be sure of a living at home first, and in the event of a crash, and revolution and famine shall stalk abroad in the land, we can at least say that we didn't bring it about."

We would not recommend truck growing in this section until better shipping facilities and better rates can be had. However, we are informed by the best farmers that it is important that ample supplies for the home should be raised. We overheard a number of progressive farmers the other day talking about questions generally as they are wont to do when they get together, and they were agreed that a big, well-tilled garden, truck patches, melons and things of that sort are essential to every well regulated farm. And they deplored the fact that one of the neglected things in this country is the real, old-fashioned garden.

A successful watermelon raiser has given us this method of cultivation: Break the land and disc it well; lay the rows off 14 feet each way; make a good large excavation and fill it with well rotted barn lot manure; cover the seed two or three inches with good dirt soil; be sure to plant enough seed to get a good stand, but as they begin to grow cut them out to one in a hill; cultivate them on a level and continue the cultivation until the vines are in the way. Lay them by clean. A handful of cotton seed meal incorporated with the soil, using hands and fingers for distributors, is used to good advantage at laying-by time.

IF AND IF.

If there were any power under the sun, or any influence, or any education that would cause every farmer in Eastern Texas to plant a row one hundred feet long to blackberries, one row of

the same length to dew berries, one of the same length to straw berries, and in addition thereto a dozen peach trees, the same number in plum trees, a few pear trees, a dozen apple trees, and then give to each the proper cultivation, the health and pleasure of each family would be enhanced beyond computation. Here we are in a country which Nature has demonstrated beyond cavil or doubt that all these things will grow to perfection, and yet our people neglect all efforts to provide for them.

Is there no way by which the boys and girls can be inspired to devote as much interest in making the home a place of plenty as they now devote to adorning their bodies in comely raiment? Have we not arrived at the point in education where we can see that nothing adds more to the culture and good taste of a people than homes supplied with growing vines and trees, loaded in season with wholesome fruits? Even the Indians of Eastern Texas knew the value of peaches, and until a few years ago the Indian peach flourished in nearly all portions of Eastern Texas.

Some one is ready to say right now that trees and vines will not do as well as they used to do on account of diseases and insects, right in the face of the fact that intelligent orchardists have long since learned how to combat all these pests.

The truth of the whole business is that our minds are more or less dulled with the hard task of cotton culture, and all the time and initiative we have is spent in cotton culture.

A gentleman writes in to know the best method of raising canteloupes. The method is easy: Prepare the soil well, and nothing should be planted without first getting the soil in good condition. Give them a distance of seven feet each way; enrich the soil thoroughly with barn lot manure, or cotton seed meal; thin to one in a hill—some successful melon raisers have two—cultivate shallow, but often, until vines will not permit further cultivation. Melons of all kinds should be planted on well drained sandy soil, or rich gravelly land and cultivated on a dead level. His plan is copied from a farmer who has had good success with raising canteloupes.

Now comes Kansas in the person of one of its Senators introducing a bill prohibiting the marriage of a white person to a black person, or vice versa. And Massachusetts opposing the Maternity law on the ground that it is an invasion of the rights of the States. Both Kansas and Massachusetts are gloriously sound on some questions. And

still what is another surprise, the President of Harvard has refused to allow any student of the colored race to occupy a room in the freshman dormitory.

No one should complain of wet spells in this country because we have more sunny days than rainy days.

Petit Jurors Second Week.

The following named persons are to appear at Crockett, Monday, April 2, at 10 o'clock a. m., A. D. 1923, to serve as petit jurors at the spring term of district court:

- Arthur Daniels, Crockett.
- Jno. Lively, Grapeland.
- R. L. Pridgen, Grapeland.
- N. M. Long, Grapeland.
- W. N. Blair, Crockett.
- L. D. Ellis, Grapeland.
- T. E. Walden, Crockett.
- S. C. McKinney, Ratcliff.
- B. B. Hollis, Lovelady.
- H. A. Trube, Crockett.
- W. H. Whatley, Weldon.
- J. A. Hollingsworth, Weldon.
- C. B. Long, Volga.
- W. C. Green, Weldon.
- H. F. Whitehead, Weldon.
- T. J. Maples, Volga.
- M. L. Brimberry, Grapeland.
- N. O. Grounds, Crockett.
- B. E. Goodrum, Weldon.
- J. A. Maxey, Lovelady.
- T. W. Crowson, Lovelady.
- W. E. Huntsman, Shiloh.
- Bert Lively, Augusta.
- S. J. Powell, Crockett.
- Suffner Rials, Grapeland.
- O. Z. Bean, Grapeland.
- L. D. Anderson, Grapeland.
- J. R. Richards, Grapeland.
- J. R. Beason, Grapeland.
- E. L. Knox, Lovelady.
- P. L. Fulgham, Dailey.
- J. S. Morris, Grapeland.
- T. S. Goodnight, Grapeland.
- M. S. Pelham, Grapeland.
- W. E. Gallant, Crockett.
- J. E. Elliott, Percilla.

Return Engagement.

The Darr-Gray Stock Co. will play a return engagement for one week commencing next Monday night and will present a repertoire of all new plays, none of which has ever been presented here before by them or any other company. Several new features have been added to the personnel of the company recently, and one of the most outstanding features is the Cummings Trio, singers, musicians and entertainers. The Cummings Trio have been for several years one of the big acts on the Orpheum and Keith vaudeville circuits, and this will be their first experience with a tent theatre. It.

People who "go the pace" usually arrive—and stay. They do not have steam enough left to get back.

Do You Use Moonshine?

Preserves, shines, and dyes all leather goods, including the most delicate kid glove, without injury.

Guaranteed not to crack leather, as it contains Neatsfoot Oil, the great leather preserver.

Moonshine is guaranteed to satisfy. Fifty shines out of each bottle, and each shine will last a week or more. It is the most economical shoe, leather or glove polish on the market.

FOR SALE AT

All First-Class Stores

Try a Bottle.



THE semi-flat tread of the new Goodyear Cord Tire with the beveled All-Weather Tread means smoother running. Its new improved rubber compound means longer mileage. Its heavier sidewall resists rut and curb wear. Thereinforced blocks of its beveled tread mean a protected carcass. Its low price and our service mean economy.

At Good Year Service Station Dealers use self and recommend Goodyear Tires and back them up with standard Goodyear Service

Smith-Murchison Bldg. Co. Towery Motor Co.



Let the Courier print your sale bills.

One Minute a Day Prevents Baldness



A sure, safe way to overcome falling hair and baldness is to remove the infected sebun. We give you a signed guarantee with VAN ESS to remove dandruff, stop itching and grow hair.

VAN ESS has grown hair on 91 out of 100 heads. Falling hair stops in two weeks. VAN ESS Liquid Scalp Massage feeds hair-growing medicine into the scalp through rubber nipples. It's the marvelous new-way massage. You get satisfaction or money back. Keep free from the curse of falling hair and baldness. Get VAN ESS today.

W. P. BISHOP Druggist

Coming to PALESTINE

DR. MELLENTHIN

Specialist

in Internal Medicine for the past twelve years DOES NOT OPERATE

Will be at Beatty Hotel Tuesday, March 20th

Office Hours: 10 a. m. to 4 p. m.

ONE DAY ONLY

No Charge for Consultation

Dr. Mellenthin is a regular graduate in medicine and surgery and is licensed by the state of Texas.

He visits professionally the more important towns and cities and offers to all who call on this trip free consultation, except the expense of treatment when desired.

According to his method of treatment he does not operate for chronic appendicitis, gall stones, ulcers of stomach, tonsils or adenoids.

He has to his credit wonderful results in diseases of the stomach, liver, bowels, blood, skin, nerves, heart, kidney, bladder, bed wetting, catarrh, weak lungs, rheumatism, sciatica, leg ulcers and rectal ailments.

If you have been ailing for any length of time and do not get any better, do not fail to call, as improper measures rather than diseases are very often the cause of your long standing trouble.

Remember the date, that consultation on this trip will be free and that his treatment is different.

Married women must be accompanied by their husbands.

Address: 336 Boston Block, Minneapolis, Minn. 8t.1

HOW THE OFFICERS HOUSTON COUNTY

Are Paid and What Amounts
They Receive for Their
Services.

On the 12th day of February, the commissioners' court met in regular session and besides performing other duties fixed the ex-officio salaries for all the county officers within its power to regulate.

The law makes no provision for several officers of the county to receive an ex-officio salary, among them being the tax collector, county treasurer, county attorney, justices of the peace, constables and county commissioners. The law fixes the maximum amount of ex-officio salary that can be paid the district clerk, county judge, county clerk and sheriff, but empowers the commissioners' court exclusively to determine what amounts shall be paid each of these officers entitled, under the law, to receive an ex-officio.

Tax Collector.

In reference to the compensation of the tax collector the law reads as follows:

Beginning with the first of September of each year for the collection of states taxes, the collector is allowed an ad valorem and poll of 5 per cent on first \$10,000; 4 per cent on second \$10,000; 1 per cent on all collections over \$20,000. The collector is allowed 10 per cent for issuing each poll tax receipt and certificate of exemption, six-sevenths of which is paid by the state and one-seventh by the county. For making supplemental assessments the collector is allowed 4c on \$100 valuation, one-half of which is paid by the state and one-half by the county. For assessing polls, 5c each, all paid by state. Five per cent commission is allowed on redemptions where House Bill No. 44 is complied with.

The law fixes the maximum amount of fees of office of the collector at \$2400.00. After the collector receives this amount he is entitled to receive one-fourth of all the fees above \$2400.00 until his fees reach \$3650.00. This is his limit from fees of office. His office pays him compensation other than fees, but not an ex-officio, as set out in foregoing paragraph. It is impossible to determine just what the compensation of the collector will be, since it is dependent upon the amount of taxes collected during the year.

The clerk in tax collector's office receives \$125.00 per month, paid by the tax collector out of his own funds.

Tax Assessor.

Assessor of taxes receives his compensation for his services estimated upon the total value of the property assessed as follows:

For assessing the state and county taxes: On all sums for the first two million dollars or less, 5c for each one hundred dollars of property assessed; and on all sums in excess of two million dollars and less than five million, 2½c on each one hundred dollars and on all sums in excess of five million dollars, one and seven-tenths (1.7) on each one hundred dollars; one-half above fee paid by the state and one-half paid by the county.

For assessing taxes in all drainage districts, road districts,

or other political subdivisions of the county, the assessor shall be paid one-half of one cent for each one hundred dollars of the assessed values of such districts or subdivisions, provided it be prorated among drainage districts, road districts and other political subdivisions of the county, according to value of property assessed in each district, or political subdivision; and for assessing the poll tax five cents for each poll and to be paid by the state."

The law fixes the maximum amount of fees of office to be received by the tax assessor at \$2400.00, but gives him an additional one-fourth of the excess fees of his office until he reaches the limit of \$3650.00, just as in the tax collector's case.

County Treasurer.

The county treasurer receives his pay from the county, estimated upon a commission basis. The law fixes the maximum amount of compensation the county treasurer can receive in any one year at two thousand dollars. The law limits the commission on funds other than school funds not to exceed 2½c on collections and 2½c on disbursements. On receiving and disbursing school funds he shall receive ½ of 1 per cent. This is the maximum on school funds. The treasurer does not receive any commission on receiving money when going into office from predecessor or upon going out of office, paying money over to his successor. The law gives the commissioners' court the power to regulate the commissions of the treasurer. The commissioners' court has fixed the rate of commission for the county treasurer at 1 per cent for the year 1923. This will give the treasurer his maximum commission of two thousand dollars just as he drew it for the year 1922.

County Attorney.

The county attorney receives his fees of office from convictions upon prosecutions and from delinquent tax suits. His maximum is 2400 and his limit \$3600, just as in the case of the collector and assessor. For the year 1922 he collected his limit and turned over to the treasurer something over \$600 surplus fees. This year his fees from collection of back taxes will be greater than during last year. For this reason the commissioners' court decided to give the county attorney an ex-officio of \$500, he to receive no commissions on collection of delinquent taxes, thereby reducing his fees and saving the county about \$500 for the year 1923.

It is mutually agreed between the county attorney and the court that this arrangement can be changed at the pleasure of the commissioners' court. Mr. Beathard cast a dissenting vote in this instance.

Justice of the Peace and Constables.

The statute specifically states the fees of office to be received by the justices of the peace and constables in every instance.

County Commissioners.

The commissioners of Houston county now receive one hundred dollars per month as a salary. The law allowing this salary is based upon the population of a county having not less than twenty-three thousand three hundred and fifty, and not to exceed twenty-five thousand, according to last U. S. census. There has been introduced in the legislature a bill to allow the

commissioners in counties of valuations less than ten millions \$5.00 per diem for services on court and \$5.00 per diem for road supervision service and in no instance shall the annual salary exceed one thousand dollars. Should this bill become a law the pay of the commissioners of Houston county will be considerably reduced.

County School Superintendent.

Under the law the county school superintendent does not receive an ex-officio from the commissioners' court. Her salary is fixed at \$2800 a year (together with \$300 a year allowed by the county board of school trustees for office and traveling expenses) based upon the scholastic population of the county. The scholastic population of this county is more than ten thousand.

The clerk in this office receives \$125 per month and is paid by the county school board and is employed by the board.

County Judge.

The county judge does receive an ex-officio from the county and has been given an ex-officio in Houston county for many years. For quite a number of years this ex-officio for the county judge has been fixed at \$1800. The maximum fees of office that can be collected by the county judge under the law is \$2500 and one-fourth the excess fees up to \$3750. This is the amount the county judge can collect under the law as it is today. The commissioners' court decided to reduce the compensation of the county judge for the year 1923 just as has been done with other officers of the county. The only way the court could make this reduction was to reduce the ex-officio very materially or raise the ex-officio as high as the law would permit and require the county judge to turn into the county all fees of office due him. This will give the county judge \$2400 under the present agreement when without this agreement he could have drawn \$3750 if the fees of office should have reached that amount. All officers connected with the county court are of the opinion the fees of office would reach that amount.

The commissioners' court cannot fix fees of office, as the law does that, but it does have the exclusive right to fix the ex-officio of those officers under the law entitled to receive an ex-officio. Since it is within their power to fix ex-officio and not fees of office they fixed the ex-officio of the county judge at \$2400 and required him to turn back to the county all fees of office collected by him. These fees of office collected by the county judge will be turned over to the county treasurer and a receipt given for same. This will save Houston county several hundred dollars for the year 1923.

The commissioners' court reserved the right to change this agreement at their pleasure. Three members of the court were in favor of this agreement, Mr. Beathard dissenting, not because of the amount of money involved, but because of a difference of opinion with the county attorney and other members of the court as to the construction and interpretation of the law in the case. The county attorney was present during all discussions had and his advice upon the law sought before any action was taken. The court was advised by him that all action taken in this matter was legal.

County Clerk.

For many years the county clerk has been allowed an ex-officio by the commissioners' court. The law prescribes the fees of office to be received by the county clerk with a maximum fixed at \$2400 and he is entitled to receive one-fourth excess fees above the maximum equal to but not to exceed \$3650. Each year the present incumbent has been in office he has returned to the county above his \$3650 about \$700 first year and \$820 second year. Voluntarily Mr. Collins suggested to the court his ex-officio be fixed at \$500 and the court followed his suggestion.

Clerk of the District Court.

Compensation is allowed the clerk of the district court by the commissioners' court for ex-officio services for the following purposes:

"The clerk of the district court shall receive, in addition to the fees herein allowed, for the care and preservation of the records of his office, keeping the necessary indexes and other labor of the like class, to be paid out of the county treasury on the order of the commissioners' court, such sum as said commissioners' court shall determine."

Last year the district clerk received \$600 ex-officio. This year the commissioners' court allowed \$500 for ex-officio services of the district clerk. In addition to this ex-officio the district clerk receives fees of office fixed by the statutes. Last year the district clerk in his campaign issued a statement that the office paid him about \$1800 for the year 1922, this including ex-officio and fees of office together.

Sheriff.

By an act passed by the special session of the thirty-sixth legislature the sheriff in Houston county is now permitted to draw one thousand dollars ex-

officio for each year if granted by the commissioners' court. Since this act became a law our sheriff has drawn this amount of ex-officio in Houston county.

The law prescribes the fees of office the sheriff shall receive for services rendered.

The fees of office, together with the ex-officio given the sheriff, the law limits at three thousand dollars. After the sheriff has reached his maximum of \$3000 then the law allows him one-fourth the excess fees up to \$3650, similar to collector and assessor.

Jailer.

The jailer of the county is paid a salary of \$85.00 per month by the commissioners' court.

Janitor.

The janitor at the court house receives \$45 per month for his services. His pay has been reduced \$5 per month along with the other servants of the public.

In Conclusion.

Thinking the people of Houston county might be interested in what they were paying the officers of their county, I have been prompted to prepare the foregoing article for publication.

Sincerely,

Leroy L. Moore,
County Judge.

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