

STERLING CITY NEWS-RECORD

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Cards of Thanks, reader or
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What's Doing in the Churches

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH
 Leo Ross, Pastor

Church school — 10:00 a.m.
 Morning worship — 11:00 a.m.
 Evening Worship — 7:30 p.m.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Hubert C. Travis, Minister
 Sunday school — 10:00 a.m.
 Morning worship — 11:00 a.m.
 Evening worship — 7:30 p.m.

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Marion H. Hays, Minister
 Bible school — 10:00 a.m.
 Morning worship — 11:00 a.m.
 Night Worship — 7:00 p.m.
 Wednesday Mid-Week
 Service — 8:00 p.m.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Sherman Conner, Pastor
 Sunday school — 10:00 a.m.
 Morning worship — 11:00 a.m.
 Evening worship — 7:30 p.m.
 Wed. Prayer Serv. — 7:30 p.m.

ST. PASCHAL BAYLON CATHOLIC CHURCH

Rev. Vincent Daugintis, Pastor
 Sunday Mass — 8:00 a.m.
 Thursday Mass — 7:00 p.m.

THE BIBLE SPEAKS TO YOU
 8:15 A. M. SUNDAYS
 KGKL SAN ANGELO 960'

The History of Sterling County

BY IRA LEE WATKINS
 (Continued From Last Week)

In discussing the coming of the settlers to Sterling County, it is interesting to note the types of houses in which they lived. Some of the earliest settlers, those who came before 1880, lived in what is known as a picket house. To build one of these houses a settler would go to the river and cut a great number of straight branches two or three inches in diameter and seven or eight feet long from pecan, hackberry, of china trees. A trench would be dug, perhaps eight or ten inches deep, and the pickets would be stood on end in the trench to form the wall of the house. The pickets were fastened together with wire, beargrass, or raw hide. The cracks would then be filled with smaller limbs and bark and then plastered with mud. The roof consisted of long grass on a pole framework with sod piled on the grass. They had no floors, as a rule, except the ground upon which they were built. (14) Andy Jones had a picket house on Sterling Creek and Mrs. Milinda Mitchell once lived in this type of house. A number of houses were found in Sterling County by settlers who came in during the early 1880's. Buffalo hunters often lived in picket houses. When buffalo were plentiful, the hides were used to cover the houses. Sometimes hides were also stretched around the outside of the pickets as a substitute for plastering the cracks with mud.

Some of the early settlers lived for a brief period in tents and some in dugouts. (15) By 1881, people could obtain lumber for houses from Colorado City with which to build a house. It was here that the Foster brothers, two nephews, Jim and Gid Ainsworth, received the scare of their lives. They were sleeping at one end of the wagon with their heads

near the opening at the end of the wagon sheet. Jim was using a sack of salt for a pillow. A longhorned cow smelled the salt, came up and thrust her head in through the opening, and began searching for the salt. She licked Jim's face. He immediately awoke and began fighting the thing which had attacked him. This, of course, scared the cow; and in her haste to get away she tore the wagon sheet, bows and all, of the wagon bed off, finally leaving it on the ground a hundred or two yards from the camp. (16)

The first house in which W. L. Foster lived was cut in Dallas, shipped to Colorado City, and then hauled to his ranch in a wagon. Carpenters came out from Colorado City and put it together for him. The first house in which Mr. and Mrs. Neil Reed lived, about 1889, was a one-room box house. A porch covered with cedar branches was added to make it cooler. Their method of refrigeration contrasts sharply with that of today. In order to keep their milk from souring, the built a milk house of pickets and covered it over with growing vines. A pit was dug inside, a wooden box placed in the pit, and the space around it filled in with gravel. Water from the well was poured into the box, and their milk was kept there.

The early settlers found plenty of wild game in Sterling County when they first came. There were many deer, wild turkeys, quail, a few prairie chickens, and vast herds of antelope. (17) There were a few beavers and the streams were alive with fish. Ten and twelve-pound catfish were common, and as late as 1899 catfish weighing as much as twenty-one pounds were caught in the North Concho. (18) There were hundreds of wild horses to be found in this section in the early 80's. They did not become extinct

until the early 90's, after the range had become partially fenced. The Sterling Courier in July, 1891, reported that a Mr. Allen and a Mr. Beaty had succeeded in catching five wild mustangs out of a bunch of seven. (19) Many of the wild horses were captured by the early settlers. A favorite method was to "walk them down." This would be done in the light of the moon. A group of three or four men mounted on horseback would start a bunch of wild mustangs to moving. They would run at first but would soon tire, and the object then was to keep them moving. When one cowboy's horse began to tire, another rider would take up the chase. The mustangs would always move within the limits of a certain radius. They would not quit the country on a straight run. After they had been kept on the move day and night for a day or so, they could be easily roped or could be driven into pens with wings leading up to the gates. (20) These wild horses, unless captured when colts, were never completely domesticated. They always retained a certain wild element in their nature. Ranchers generally desired the extermination of the wild horses, for they consumed a great deal of good grass range. To attain this end, ranchers killed out a great many of the stallions with high-powered rifles.

Besides game and wild horses there were also in this area, many lobo wolves, coyotes, panthers, bobcats, and wildcats. The buffaloes were all gone by the time most of the settlers came in. One herd came through in 1833 or 1834. A few were killed by settlers, mostly because of the desire to taste the meat and for curiosity's sake. (21) The buffaloes had been killed out in the 70's but their bones still remained in the early 80's. Bone hauling was for a few years a very profitable occupation. In 1882, two families moved out on Sterling Creek, where they piled and hauled buffalo bones to Colorado City and sold them for \$12 per ton. These bones were used for making fertilizer. (22) Often a settler would take a wagon load of bones to Colorado City when he went

after supplies. Other bone-haulers came out from San Angelo, thus it was only a short time until the buffalo bones had been cleared from Sterling County.

The disappearance of the wild life from the area has a parallel in the drying up of the streams and springs of the county. In the 80's the North Concho flowed a much greater volume of water than it does at present, it stops flowing entirely for brief periods in the summers of dry years. Sterling Creek ran continuously but has since dried up and runs now only when it rains. The numerous springs along its banks have disappeared. This phenomenon puzzled many old timers in this region. Another thing which has caused to wonder is the fact that when the country was first settled, the creek and river valleys were almost completely free of mesquites; but now, after fifty or sixty years, dense mesquite thickets have appeared in some valleys, and a few of these bushes are to be found in every valley. Hackberry trees on the hills have also disappeared to a

large extent during the same period.

- (14) Mrs. Malinda Mitchell, Interview, Sterling City, August 6, 1938.
- (15) W. F. Kellis, LOC. CIT.
- (16) G. G. Ainsworth, LOC. CIT.
- (17) W. F. Kellis, LOC. CIT.
- (18) THE STERLING COURIER, May 20, 1899.
- (19) THE STERLING COURIER, July 9, 1891.
- (20) G. G. Ainsworth, LOC. CIT.
- (21) IBID.
- (22) G. G. Ainsworth, LOC. CIT.

(Continued Next Week)

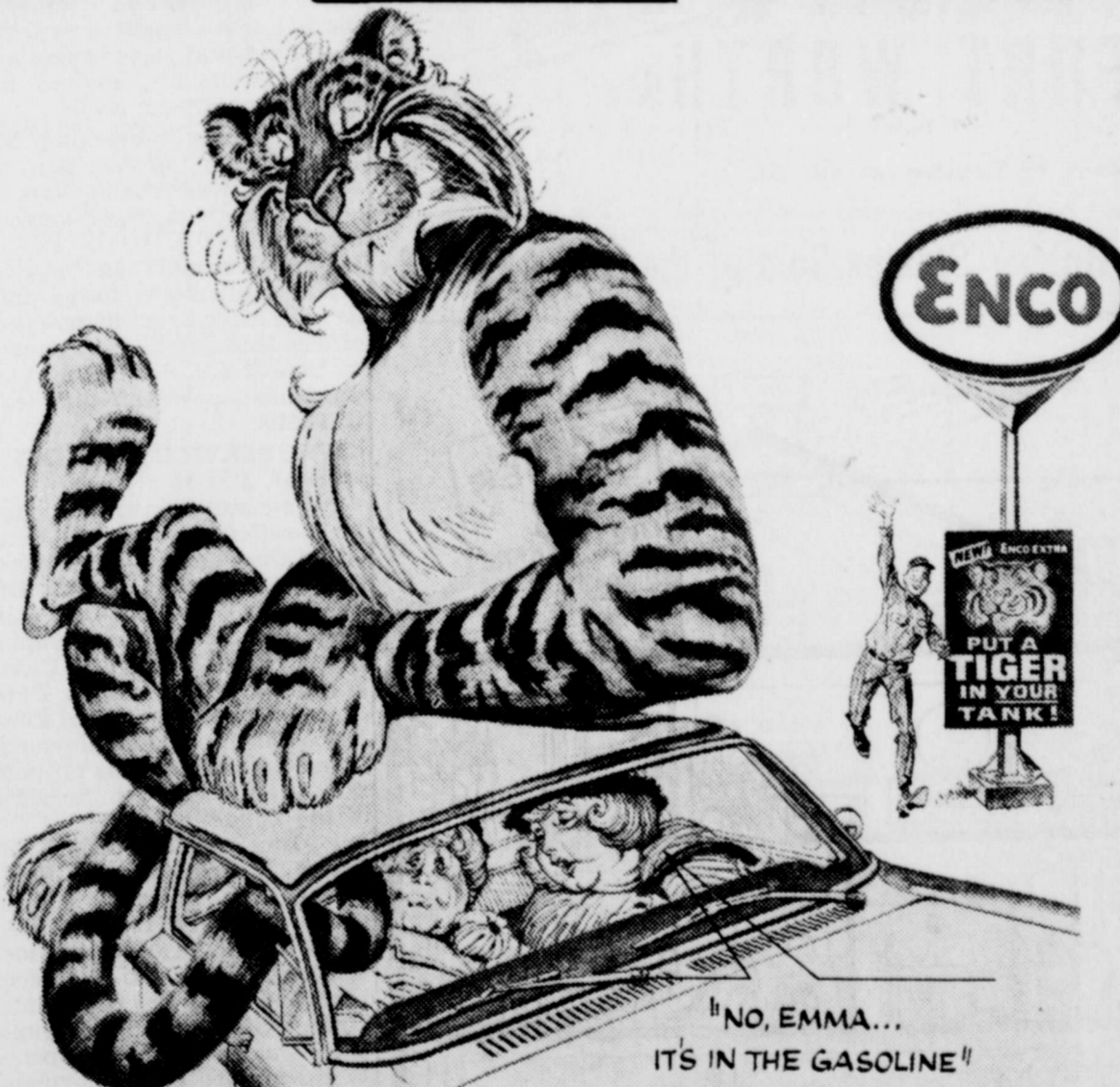


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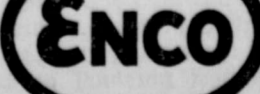
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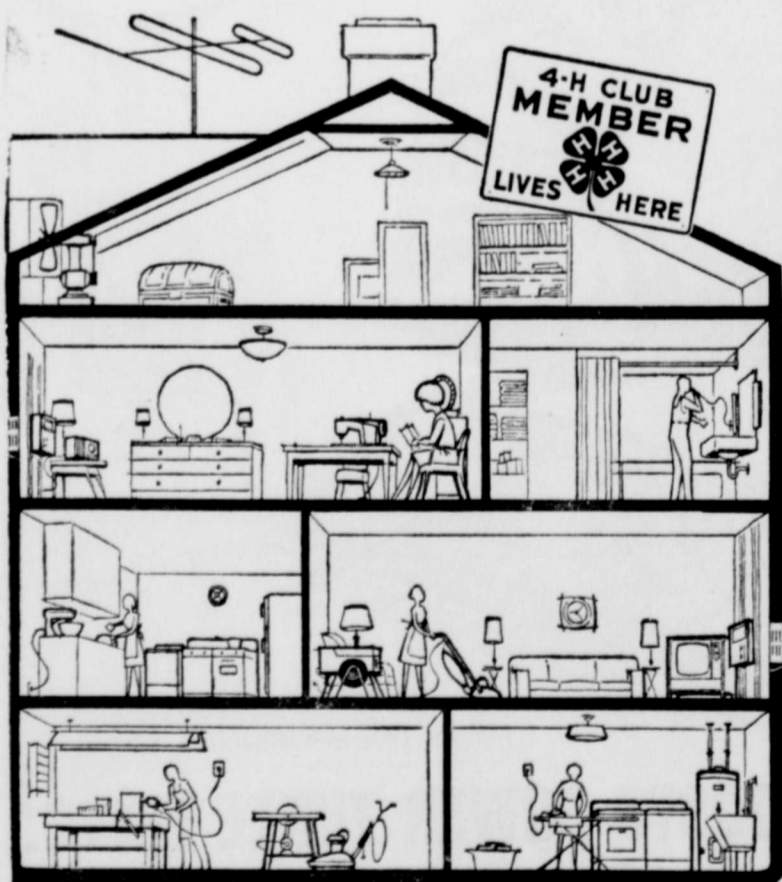
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In Our Time

HOME VEGETABLE GARDENS PROVIDE GOOD EATING ALL SUMMER LONG FOR MILLIONS OF AMERICAN FAMILIES... BUT EXPERIENCED GARDENERS KNOW THAT IT TAKES MORE THAN JUST PLANTING AND WEEDING TO GET A BOUNTIFUL HARVEST. INSECTS ALSO MUST BE EFFECTIVELY CONTROLLED.



IF THESE GARDEN ENEMIES ARE ALLOWED TO TAKE OVER, THEY WILL QUICKLY CHEW, SUCK AND BORE THEIR WAY THROUGH YOUR TASTY CROPS... FORTUNATELY, MODERN SCIENCE HAS DEVELOPED MALATHION, A SAFE-TO-USE HIGHLY EFFECTIVE, ALL-PURPOSE PESTICIDE THAT BEATS THE BUGS AND INSURES A PLENTIFUL HARVEST FOR YOU.



CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATIONS ANNOUNCED

The U. S. Civil Service Commission today announced a new examination for filling research and non-research positions in all branches of engineering in the Washington, D. C. area. In addition, positions in certain branches of engineering will be filled throughout the United States. The salaries for these positions range from \$5,650 to \$15,665.

This new examination incorporates revised qualifications standards and replaces previous examinations. Persons who have not yet been appointed from earlier examinations must pass this new one if they are still interested in being considered for these positions.

To qualify for non-research positions, applicants must have an engineering degree or an equivalent combination of appropriate college work and professional experience. For positions involving highly technical research, development, or similar functions a bachelor's degree in engineering is a requirement. Additional professional experience and/or education are required for the higher grade levels.

Full details concerning the requirements to be met as well as instructions on how to apply are given in Announcement No. 332-B.

Announcements and appropriate application forms may be obtained from many post offices throughout the country or from the U. S. Civil Service Commission, Washington, D. C. 20415.

CIVIL SERVICE OPENING FOR M. D.'s

An examination is now open for positions as Medical Officer in the Panama Canal Zone, the Central Employment Office of the Canal Zone Civilian Personnel Policy Coordinating Board, Balboa Heights, Canal Zone, announced today. Positions are under the Canal Zone Merit System, and employment is in Federal hospitals on both the Atlantic and Pacific sides of the Zone.

Positions are for Medical Officers in practically all fields of medicine. Entrance salaries range from \$12,612.50 to \$19,831.25 a year. In addition, those selected, who are U.S. citizens recruited from the continental United States, will be transported at government expense to their place of employment.

No written test is required, but applicants must be graduates of medical schools of recognized standing with a degree of Doctor of Medicine, have completed their internship and, in most instances, be licensed to practice medicine and surgery in a state or territory of the United States.

Complete details concerning the requirements to be met and instructions for filing applications are given in Announcement No. CEO-27. For further information, write to the Central Employment Office, Drawer 2008, Balboa Heights Post Office, Canal Zone.

ATHLETE'S FOOT HOW TO TREAT IT—

Apply strong T-4-L liquid. Feel it take hold to check itching, burning in minutes. In 3 days, watch infected skin slough off. Watch healthy skin replace it. Be pleased IN ONE HOUR or your 48c back. Use antiseptic, soothing T-4-L FOOT POWDER too—fine for sweaty feet, foot odor. TODAY at ALL DRUG STORES.

1964 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

- Sept. 11 — Gail - Here
- Sept. 18 — Flower Grove - There
- Sept. 25 — Klondike - Here
- Oct. 2 — Miles - Here
- Oct. 9 — Imperial - There (11 man game)
- Oct. 16 — Grandfalls-There (11 man game)
- Oct. 24 — Stanton B - There (Saturday) (11 man game)
- Oct. 30 — Open
- *Nov. 6 — Imperial - Here
- *Nov. 13 — Forsan — Here (Homecoming)
- *Nov. 20 — Garden City - There

* Conference games — 7:30 and all others at 8:00 p.m.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Proposed CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT NUMBER ONE ON THE BALLOT

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO BE VOTED ON AT AN ELECTION TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 3, 1964. SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 6 proposing an amendment to Section 5 of Article VII of the Constitution of the State of Texas so as to remove the authorization to transfer not exceeding one percent annually of the total value of the permanent school fund to the available school fund.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

Section 1. Section 5 of Article VII of the Constitution of the State of Texas is amended to read as follows:

"Section 5. The principal of all bonds and other funds, and the principal arising from the sale of the lands hereinbefore set apart to said school fund, shall be the permanent school fund, and all the interest derivable therefrom and the taxes herein authorized and levied shall be the available school fund. The available school fund shall be applied annually to the support of the public free schools. And no law shall ever be enacted appropriating any part of the permanent or available school fund to any other purpose whatever; nor shall the same, or any part thereof ever be

appropriated to or used for the support of any sectarian school; and the available school fund herein provided shall be distributed to the several counties according to their scholastic population and applied in such manner as may be provided by law."

Section 2. The foregoing Constitutional Amendment shall be submitted to a vote of the qualified electors at an election to be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, 1964, at which election all ballots shall have printed thereon the following:

"FOR the Constitutional Amendment to remove the authorization to transfer not exceeding one percent annually of the total value of the permanent school fund to the available school fund."

"AGAINST the Constitutional Amendment to remove the authorization to transfer not exceeding one percent annually of the total value of the permanent school fund to the available school fund."

Section 3. The Governor of Texas shall issue the necessary proclamation for the election and this amendment shall be published in the manner and for the length of time as required by the Constitution and laws of this State.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Proposed CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT NUMBER TWO ON THE BALLOT

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO BE VOTED ON AT AN ELECTION TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 3, 1964.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 8 proposing an amendment to Section 59 of Article XVI of the Constitution of the State of Texas establishing certain requirements relative to the enactment of laws affecting particular conservation and reclamation districts; providing for an election and the issuance of a proclamation therefor.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

Section 1. That Section 59 of Article XVI of the Constitution of the State of Texas be amended by adding thereto a new Subsection which reads as follows:

"(d) No law creating a conservation and reclamation district shall be passed unless notice of the intention to introduce such a bill setting forth the general substance of the contemplated law shall have been published at least thirty (30) days and not more than ninety (90) days prior to the introduction thereof in a newspaper or newspapers having general circulation in the county or counties in which said district or any part thereof is or will be located and by delivering a copy of such notice and such bill to the Governor who shall submit such notice and bill to the Texas Water Commission, or its successor, which shall file its recommendation as to such bill with the Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Speaker

of the House of Representatives within thirty (30) days from date notice was received by the Texas Water Commission. Such notice and copy of bill shall also be given of the introduction of any bill amending a law creating or governing a particular conservation and reclamation district if such bill (1) adds additional land to the district, (2) alters the taxing authority of the district, (3) alters the authority of the district with respect to the issuance of bonds, or (4) alters the qualifications or terms of office of the members of the governing body of the district."

Section 2. The foregoing Constitutional Amendment shall be submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of this State at an election to be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, 1964, at which election all ballots shall have printed thereon the following:

"FOR the Constitutional Amendment establishing certain requirements relative to the enactment of laws affecting particular conservation and reclamation districts."

"AGAINST the Constitutional Amendment establishing certain requirements relative to the enactment of laws affecting particular conservation and reclamation districts."

Section 3. The Governor of Texas shall issue the necessary proclamation for the election and this Amendment shall be published in the manner and for the length of time as required by the Constitution and laws of this State.

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