

## Baird Observes its 75th Anniversary!

Baird had its beginning in the early part of 1880 with the building of the Texas and Pacific Railroad as its track reached Baird, and a roundhouse, repair shops and switches marked the division point established in 1880 and was named for Matthew Baird, then a director of the Texas & Pacific Railroad, who also drove the first stake on the Texas & Pacific survey in the year 1875.

Belle Plain, then the county seat was moved to the railroad. The first post-office was named Baird, but was changed to Vickers, in 1881, but was renamed Baird in Feb. 1883. A fire almost destroyed the town of Baird in the year 1883 but a hotel and a restaurant and several stores remained. The town was incorporated in 1888. The first newspaper published in Baird was the Baird Star, which still retains its name, and was published by W. E. Gilliland in 1890. It was the first and only newspaper published in the county. The Schwartz Opera House was built and established in 1890 by Philip and Sherman Schwartz. They also operated a dry goods store and a lumber concern. Baird from its small beginning of a few hundred people in the 1880's, grew to number, 1,710 in 1910 and reached its peak in the year 1926 when 2,100 resided here, and remained around this figure since.

The first permanent settlement by white men in Callahan county was made in 1863. That year A. A. and Caroline Hart moved from Palo Pinto county to make their permanent home in Callahan.

With them they brought their four sons, John, Jim, Early and Jesse. They settled in the western part of the county. Mr. Hart died the same year and Mrs. Hart and her sons moved temporarily to Jim Ned in Coleman county, but they returned in 1872 to the northeast of Callahan, buying the property and improvements of Mrs. Whitten and son, Jake.

In '74 Mrs. Hart and the boys replaced the picket cabin of the Whittens with the large Double Log-House. This Log-House was typical of the well to do rancher.

This Log-House became a noted frontier land mark, for many years it being the only permanent home in the far west. The head carpenter in the construction of this home was Sebe Barnes, who was

(Continued on Page 2)

### Smart Family Early Settlers Of Town of Admiral

The Smart family, John, Gabe, George, Sam, and Billie Smart, Tennesseans were among the early residents of the Admiral community located there in 1876.

John Smartt established a home three miles east of Admiral where he lived continuously until his death some years ago. The first home was a small log house and later a plank house was built which has been standing the 45 years. N. W. Smartt, a son, with his family now live in the old home where he was born. Tom Smartt, the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. John Smartt, was one of the first white children born in the county after it was organized July 3, 1877, he being born July 10, 1877. Tom Smartt spent his 60th birthday at the old home this summer.

## BAIRD MAN HELPS ECUADOR FOR AGRICULTURAL PROGRAM

By HAMILTON WRIGHT  
Reporter-News Staff Writer

### Eagle Colony Came To Callahan In 1877

The Eagle Colony settlement of Taylor Co. having failed in '77 several of the stranded and illfated families of this colony moved over to Callahan County, among them being the families of August Betcher, Fritz Gardner, H. Lilius, Philip Yost and a family of Boeckers.

Mr. Gardner, the father of George and Fritz, who live south of Eula, with Tom Russell, did most of the rock masonry on the first stores at Belle Plains, and also on the Massey Store and residence on the road west to Buffalo Gap.

Other early settlers prior to the organization of the county were: W. E. Gilliland '77; J. Y. Gilliland '78; Burt, Gus and Craig Clemmer in '75; M. C. Jobe; Rucker Tanner and Mrs. Martha Tanner '76; Other arrivals during the years '75, '76 were: W. N. Blair, J. J. Hayman, John H. Kelly, B. A. O'Dell, J. J. Sullivan, T. W. Keblinger, Jack Jones, Capt. B. F. Kimbrough, known as "Buffalo Hunter," Mrs. Martha Gates and husband, S. R. Dunigan, J. D. and Mrs. Tennessee Mitchell, John Boen, J. W. Merrick, Thomas McCoy, Steve and Mal Shelly, Ed and Larkin Hearn, E. H. Brooks, Joseph C. Crutchfield, R. J. Estes, W. T. Carter, Sampson Moore and family, D. Y. Russell, Rev. Wm. Stone, J. C. Strickland, R. C. Dawkins and wife.

A Baird High School honor graduate has just become Agricultural Extension Specialist in the Latin - American republic of Ecuador.

M. B. Nichols, Jr. is at Quito with his family and in a letter to his mother, Mrs. M. B. Nichols, Sr., living on a ranch southwest of here, expressed delight at sights seen and prospects of aiding the Ecuadorian economy.

He will spend two years helping the Ecuadorian government establish an educational program for its farm people.

It's not his first trip there. He went to that high equatorial area last spring and spent six weeks. It was at invitation of Galo Plaza, one of Latin America's most progressive leaders, then president of the Holstein - Friesian Association in that country. Plaza, now president of the Ecuadorian Republic, urged Nichols to return to help solve its pressing agricultural problems and to train the future farmers and rural people.

Nichols' trip is sponsored jointly by the U. S. Department of Agriculture and the Ecuadorian government. He and his family will live in Quito, the capital, 100 miles south of the equator.

The development of agricultural leadership among his people is one of President Plaza's main objectives. Helping to train dairy leaders among the Ecuadorians will occupy most of Nichols' time.

The dairy region there is at an elevation of 9,500 feet or more. The climate is similar to that of the western part of the State of Washington in the late fall and early spring.

Nichols' six weeks study and travels in the republic has given him a workable knowledge of conditions. Nichols made close observations and carefully studied the region.

He has been extension dairy specialist in Washington since 1944. Previously he was graduated from the Colorado A&M College, specializing in animal husbandry, and served as assistant extension dairyman county agent in Colorado for a year and a half.

He then joined the Holstein-Friesian Association as Western field man and was later in charge of production testing and type classification at the association's headquarters in Brattleboro, Vt.

The specialist was born near Coleman Jan. 23, 1909. The Nichols

(Continued on page 10)

## MEMORABLE PASSAGE OF JAMES STEPHEN HOGG

"In time of war it is the duty of a patriot to defend his country against encroaching armies and to protect the defenseless women and children as well as the noncombatants who are too cowardly to shoulder a gun or unsheath a sword against a common foe. In time of peace the patriot's duty is to protect his country against the legislative encroachments of corruptionists and to shield the defenseless women and children as well as the hordes of men who are too cowardly to vote or to publicly express their political sentiments."

"A patriot finds more difficulty in protecting his country in times of peace while the people are slumbering in the cradles of harmony than in defending it in time of war when they are shocked by battle's carnage into life and action."

"As poets in their fancy commune with angels to bring back sweet music to human souls, so should public men cast their minds into the future to bring back to the living the tidings of what should be done to leave posterity the heritage of good government."

"When triplicate forces of human power, the heads, hearts and hands, are zealously combined by the patriots of Texas in support of salutary reforms, the corporate henchmen and lobbyists must

change their songs, shift their way places and step aside to make way for the people's will. They did this in 1892. They will do it again when some fearless man rises to lead the way."

"The statesman looks down through the eyes deep into the hearts of countless posterity to learn their interests and hopes in government and works to accommodate them, as well as to help the living."

"The politician keeps his eye on public office and schemes to get it."

"With the ballot's monkey-wrench, the laborer should tighten the taps of governmental machinery so that no loose laws may fly about to hurt them."

"To preserve liberty against these special privilege grabbers you must keep your hands on your ballot, your eye on your legislator and your mind on the course of your government."

"To crave something is humiliating. To deserve respect is elevating."

"In distress let your tears trickle into and soothe your own heart for they are brine to other people."

"Send your children to school. Educate them. Teach them that this government is theirs, but that if they expect to keep special

(Continued on Page 2)

### America: Nation On Wheels

The United States, with about six per cent of the world's population, has 78 per cent of the world's automobiles and 51.6 per cent of its trucks and buses. Plentiful and economical supplies of oil which America's privately managed oil industry makes available to fuel these motor vehicles, helps make this possible

### New Frontiers

Offshore geophysical exploration isn't exactly a new enterprise, but its importance has increased as oil men turn to offshore areas in their search for more and more oil. In the United States, the geophysical industry, comparatively young but rapidly growing, has adapted land experience and ingenuity to the new marine area needs. Land crews have been converted to offshore units. Light weight, portable equipment has been designed. Recording instruments are completely watertight and buoyant. New equipment and techniques are being developed. No problem of weather, or operation seems too difficult for these people of the progressive oil industry.

## Stephen F. Austin, Founder, Builder Of The Great State of Texas

The goodness and wisdom of God are eminently displayed in the grand pathfinders and foundation builders he gave Texas. Eminent among these will ever stand Stephen F. Austin. His father, Moses Austin, in dying from long journeys and exposure and desertion of his traveling companions, had a glorious assurance that his son, Stephen, would carry out fully his cherished plans of colonizing Texas. Stephen F. Austin was born in Austinville, Va., Nov 3, 1793, the same year Sam Houston was born in the same grand state.

His father moved to Missouri when Stephen was six years old. He spent four years in New London Academy, Md., and graduated in Transylvania University Kentucky, then one of the most eminent in the United States. When Missouri was organized into a territory in 1818, Stephen F. Austin was elected Territorial Legislator, and rendered good service in laying the foundation of Missouri. The next year he removed to the Territory of Arkansas, and was immediately appointed circuit judge. Which office he filled with great distinction till the death of his noble father, when he was called to take his place in laying the foundation of the grandest state in the union.

He assumed the grand work in 1821, when 28 years old.

After surveying the vast territory of Texas, he wisely selected the

rich bottom lands of the Brazos and Colorado Rivers, extending from Trinity to Colorado river and from what is now known as Bastrop and Burleson counties to the Gulf of Mexico. Austin, father and son, agreed to bring to Texas 300 families; all to be farmers and stock raisers of high moral character. Each married man was to receive as a bonus a league of 4,428 acres for pasturage, and a labor, or 177 acres, for cultivation. The whole expense of surveying and perfecting titles was \$16.60 in silver. At Natchitoches, Mr. Austin was joined by 10 companions, one of whom was the celebrated Ran Foster, the pioneer of Fort Bend County. This company of colonizers crossed the Brazos river where Washington now stands and camped the first night on the fertile little stream which they called New Year's Creek, as it was the first day of January, 1822. This stream is midway between Independence and Brenham. Austin was pre-eminently fitted for his great and delicate work. He was finely educated, especially in the history of founding States and empires. He was immaculately honest and just to all and firm as the rock of Gibraltar. He succeeded so well in locating 300 families that the too ka contract for bringing 500 more. And later 200 more, and finally 200 more. The brilliant success of Stephen F. Austin induced 12 other men to

(Continued on Page 9)

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BAIRD OBSERVES - -

(Continued from Page 1)  
killed at Round Rock with Sam  
Eass, July 21st, 1878.

The permanent location of the  
county seat of Callahan County  
resulted in some sharp rivalry  
during the early days of organiza-  
tion. Callahan City was the tem-  
porary seat of government begin-  
ning July 30, 1877, but a spirited  
campaign followed between Cal-  
lahan City and Belle Plains.

An election was held October  
13, 1877 in which Belle Plains won  
by 51 votes. As the result the citi-  
zens of Belle Plains put on a big  
celebration, an all-day barbecue  
climaxed by a dance.

At that time Belle Plains was  
really young, having been es-  
tablished but a few months be-  
fore by John and Clabe Merchant.  
Immediately following the elec-  
tion a rush in real estate began.  
Lots were sold like hotcakes.

However, in the midst of this  
it was discovered that there  
had been a serious flaw in the  
provisions for the election. In-  
sufficient time had not elapsed  
between the posting of the notices  
of the election and the date of  
voting. To correct this error and  
prevent any litigation, the com-  
missioners' court at its meeting  
Oct. 31, a courier was sent to Aus-  
tin to bring back the governor's  
proclamation "by hand" calling for  
an election.

Selected for this duty as courier  
was James B. Douglas, a cowboy  
from the Hart Ranch, a rugged  
man, hard as nails. He was given  
a letter of introduction to Governor  
Hubbard. This letter follows:  
Governor Hubbard:

Sir:  
Your proclamation issued on  
Sept. 4 ordering election for  
permanent location of county seat  
for Callahan County reached me  
the 24th inst. after night fall by  
telegram from Sec. of State.

I learned that you issued the  
2nd proclamation on ordering  
election on 12th of November  
which has not reached me. By  
an order of the Hon. Commis-  
sioners Court of Callahan County  
in session today, Mr. J. B. Douglas  
visits you to ask of you an order  
for an election for location of  
county seat. We do this in view  
of the fact that under the present  
mail facilities we will not be able  
to get your order in time to make  
the election legal.

Very respectfully  
J. R. BROWN  
County Judge  
Callahan County

Mr. Douglas made the horse-  
back journey of over 400 miles in  
record time, and the second elec-  
tion was held in early December  
and resulted again in favor of  
Belle Plains. Mr. Douglas was  
paid \$75 for making the trip to  
Austin to secure the proclamation.

After being permanently se-  
lected as the county seat, Belle  
Plain grew rapidly and the fol-  
lowing merchants opened their  
place of business: Merchant and  
McCoy, general merchandise; W.  
(Continued on page 11)

MEMORABLE PASSAGE - -

(Continued from Page 1)  
privilege free-booters from steal-  
ing it they must be vigilant in  
their political affairs."

"Teach your children to obey  
the commands of God, to love  
good government and struggle to  
make it better."

"There is a small black cloud  
with an electric wink encircling  
it just above the political hori-  
zont, which warns the lobbyists  
and consolidationists and their  
servile sansculottes, that a typhoon  
of ballots is coming to sweep them  
from the legislative halls of Texas  
into contempt and ignominy to-  
morrow."

"Let the pure air of Heaven fan  
their benighted souls that they  
may form a just opinion of other  
men."

"Each oscillating swing of time's  
cradle rocks us nearer the grave,  
and as we pass on our spirit of  
compassion and forgiveness should  
tipen into brotherly love for our  
enemies."

"That is like rainbow hues on  
a calaract's vapor—beautiful to  
contemplate, but unsubstantial."

"Let such a man ransack the  
attic of his one-story head and he  
cannot find one patriotic thought  
there."

"The radiance of universal hope  
is strong in its magic power, but  
too weak to resuscitate a dead  
issue."

"Intellect's calcium light turned  
onto the rugged brain walls of  
a man often exposes crude ins-  
criptions of the profoundest phi-  
losophy there."

"A corporate henchman gy-  
rates in action, sentiment and  
principle like a stricken weath-  
ercock."

"While a patriot is taking the  
stumps and grubs out of the  
pathway of duty, honesty and  
gratitude, his corporate enemies  
employ their time in diggin  
trenches and throwing logs across  
his way."

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energy needs of the United States.  
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requirements. The demand for  
petroleum energy continues up-  
ward as our economy expands.

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To Baird - - !



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R. W. Brown, Abilene independ-  
ent oil producer.

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ing for oil. There is something  
new to be learned everyday in  
the oil business, he will tell you.

In his long stretch as an inde-  
pendent oil operator, Brown has  
drilled in Illinois, Kentucky, Okla-  
homa, California, Arkansas and  
Texas.

He has been around lots of oil  
booms.

'AT HOME' NOW

The operator says he is settled  
now and calls Abilene home.

Presently he has 17 oilwells and  
two gas wells in the lush Cross  
Plains Sand producing area in  
southeastern Callahan County. His  
production is in the War-Kirk and  
A. C. Scott Fields. Nine of the  
wells are flowing, and eight are  
pumpers. Brown says he has 18  
offset locations which will be  
drilled in the near future. Seven  
of these applications have been  
filed with the Railroad Commission  
and are planned to be drilled in the  
next 60 days.

Brown opened an office in the  
Petroleum Building July 1. For  
the past year, he has been living  
in Abilene. He lives in the Wind-  
sor Hotel.

He drilled his first well in 1926.  
It was a field well at Smackover,  
Ark. and made a producer. The  
oil business got in his blood, and  
he has been drilling ever since.

Brown's first wildcat was drilled  
in West Texas. It was a dry hole.

Biggest boom he was in was at  
Seminole, Oka. He drilled there in  
1929.

The early-day booms were rough  
and tough, Brown recalls.

"Elements which followed the  
oil booms made things rough," he  
says.

There was lots of mud and slush  
in those days, he added.

Brown said he did most of his  
traveling in the early days in a  
Model T Ford to get from one  
field to another.

'Ideal Location

Today most of his production is  
in southeast Callahan County. He  
can drive to the field from Abi-  
lene in about 40 minutes. In the  
early days it would have taken  
practically a day to get that far.

"The War-Kirk and Scott Fields  
are in an ideal location as there

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— From —

**Joe P. Parris Jr.**

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dustry, statistics like these show that in many respects it still is a "little man's" business. Then there was the Navy dentist who received a 21-gum salute upon retirement.

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## Wm D. Austin

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### Using Catheads And Tongs

At any time if any cathead work to be done, someone should be where the cathead man can see to direct him. A man should be at the controls at all times. Newly employed cathead operators should be briefed on the use of the cathead before actually using it. New cathead operators should be instructed by the men who know how. New and old cathead operators should take all slack out of catline before adding second rap. All crews should check tongs and tonglines before each trip. Anytime tongs and cathead don't work correctly they should be repaired immediately.

### REMEMBER

At the foot of the rainbow of promise in lurid letters of fire the word "Remember" is spelled out to all citizens who dwell Under Texas Skies. Deprive man of memory and he will soon become just another animal-like creature. Call memory back to him and he will look with pride upon the long vista, where come marching the hosts of those Heroes and Heroines whose sacrifices in bearing the cross have made the world a worthwhile place in which to live . . .

A. Garland Adair.

## TEXAS UNDER SIX FLAGS 431 Years of Thrilling History Of Greater Texas

By A. Garland Adair

It was the dawn of a summer morning in the year 1519. In the dim light a small ship with sails fully spread was making its way steadily westward. On board the tiny vessel, a handful of strong men with brave hearts kept their eyes fixed on the elements and their hands on the sails. Captain Alonso de Pineda, in colorful uniform, was their commander. Like Columbus he had hoped to discover a new water route to China. The expedition had come from the Spanish West Indies which had been discovered by Columbus only twenty-seven years earlier. As the dimness of the dawn gave way to the brightness of the morning of a sub-tropical day, a low lying sandy beach was revealed to the west, and in the distance was discerned a Gulf coastal strip now known as Galveston Island. Such were the circumstances under which Texas first came within the range of vision of Europeans—the dawn of recorded history of the Lone Star State.

Pineda made a map showing the entire present Texas coast line and the mouth of the principal rivers that flow into the Gulf of Mexico. This map, so far as is known, is the first to be made of any portion of the present United States on the basis of actual exploration. The original map, made 424 years ago, is preserved in the University of Texas library. Overthrown by Cortez of the Aztec empire in 1520, a year after the coming of Pineda, marked the beginning of Spanish dominion over Mexico and the province of Texas. In 1528, shipwrecked members of an expedition of Panfilo de Narvaez, Cabeza de Vaca and several surviving companions, were washed ashore on Malhado Island. De Vaca lived on the Texas coast for a period of some seven years. He was thus the first European overland explorer of Texas, the first traveler across the country, the first to describe the buffalo on the range, and by his writings, the first historian of Texas. A letter which he wrote in 1536, in conjunction with Andres Dorantes to the Audiencia of Espanola, and his Relacion of the Narvaez Expedition, published in Zamora in 1542, may be regarded as the first contributions to Texas history. A few years following the coming of Cabeza, the Spaniard explored the northeastern and north-central parts of the present Texas. About the same time the De Soto expedition coming from the Mississippi River region reached the middle Brazos River. The first European settlement on the soil of Texas was the Pueblo of Ysleta, about twelve miles from the present site of El Paso. This settlement has the distinction of continuous existence from the date of its founding in 1682 to the present time. To the old Pueblo of Spanish citizens were added the friendly Tiguex Indians, who there sought refuge from the Pueblo Rebellion of New Mexico of 1860.

In 1865 the intrepid La Salle, after having explored the Mississippi River to its mouth, landed in the vicinity of the present Lavaca Bay and founded a short-lived colony of a few hundred Frenchmen. The settlement was named Saint Louis. The La Salle expedition brought from Santo Domingo cattle, swine and fowls which, after the destruction of the feeble colony by the savages, became scattered and were the beginnings of their kind in this new land. The French settlers came, not only to establish the claim of France to the country, but to implant their culture—that which flourished as never before under the Grand Monarch, Louis XVI. La Salle was murdered by one of his men and was buried in Texas. La Salle brought a library of several hundred volumes with him to Texas. Two year later with the destruction of the French settlement on Lavaca Bay, the library—first in Texas—was dissipated. An old Indian, who was loyal to the Spaniards, preserved a few pages from one of the books. These are now in the archives of Spain. Photographs of them are in the University of Texas library. France abandoned her claims to Texas after the war of 1719.

In 1716 Spain sought to nullify French claims by advancing into East Texas and founding permanent settlements. Later they abandoned these settlements and fell back to San Antonio, which had been founded in 1718. Although inconvenient to the Spanish settlers, temporary abandonment of the settlements was not without some compensation to posterity. While in San Antonio from 1719 to 1721 the refugees were employed to construct one of the most beautiful of all missions—San Jose—the one with the rose-carved windowpane by famous artists as one

(Continued on page 11)

Greetings To Baird and Callahan County - - !

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### Cutback Expected In Crude Output

The time now is at hand for close consideration of the customary seasonal cutback in oil output. As of Saturday, Texas was producing under an allowable of 3,334,812 barrels per day, or about 56,000 barrels short of the all-time record quota in November, 1952. The winter heating season is drawing to a satisfactory close, and the industry's refining branch has reached the period of seasonal change-over and annual maintenance check. Hanging over the head of this branch is the 182,000,000-barrel gasoline inventory, a record figure.

For the last three months buyers of Texas crude have in the majority pressed upon the commission a "take-it-easy" request. Each time the commission has found it advisable to give the buyers more oil than most of them wanted.

Up to the present, the commission has been vindicated, but there is still the remainder of March to go. This period seems most certainly to see a build-up in crude oil stocks, already indicated, as at the national level continuing new records are set in oil production.

#### Decision Posed

And the build-up seems in line to gain support from the anticipated cutback in refinery operations from the recent record levels. This, too, was indicated in latest industry figures.

Friday's decision for the commission would appear to be whether to cut allowables lightly or heavily in April.

The crude oil-buyers are all set to press for the heavy cut with most of them expected to line up behind a 16-day flow schedule in the 30 days of next month. Since the state currently is producing on an 18-day schedule in a 31-day month, that would be a production cut of something over two days, or an allowable reduction of around 200,000 barrels per day.

A survey of crude buyers indicates that not too many of them are anticipating such action by the commission—based primarily on the commission policy of press-

ing the market as undertaken several months ago.

This, then, brings up the possibility of a 17-day flow schedule in April and its cut of around 60,000 barrels per day in the quota. Most of this reduction would be overcome with new production prior to the next proration meeting. And projected ahead would be another cutback in May—possibly substantial.

At the present time there does not seem to be in truth anything greatly wrong with the industry's position—excepting the wearisome gasoline inventory which seemingly is chronic. There is currently crude oil on the market, about 90,000 barrels daily of it. Some 40,000 barrels are said to be available for buyers in West Central and West Texas with the remainder in Oklahoma and Kansas. That is not causing too much concern excepting behind is a fear it may get worse.

#### Stocks Satisfactory

The nation's crude oil inventory is considered in good shape at 261,000,000 barrels. But it was noted that there was a fair gain in the first week of March, which could mean the start of a steady rise.

Some build-up in crude stocks can be taken in view of reports filed last year that around 268,000,000 barrels is the desirable level for inventory at the start of May.

The commission has again asked for industry figures on desirable stocks levels, and they will go into Friday's record. These figures are not expected to vary greatly from those filed last year, although anticipated higher demand and additional pipeline fill may tend to raise them slightly.

Certain to be out of line is the gasoline inventory, but that is a problem which the refining branch has brought on itself and about which the commission can do little on a short-term basis.

The rail board most certainly will give the closest study to the crude oil inventory figures. They may be a deciding factor in whether the April quota cut will be light or heavy.

### Appetite of Micro-Organisms Helps To Locate Oil

Micro-organisms that feed on hydrocarbons are helping to determine the presence of oil in their immediate vicinity. Soil samples taken at a two-foot depth are incubated with mixtures of oxygen, carbon dioxide, and any of the hydrocarbon gases, such as methane, ethane, propane, or butane. Rate of hydrocarbon gas consumption in the soil sample is measured. From this simple, inexpensive, and quick method, scientists are said to be able to confirm that oil is near, although they cannot point out the exact location of the oil deposit. Clues which point to oil are considered and studied by enterprising oil men as they search for oil to supply America's needs.

### How Many Times Have You Almost Got Killed?

Perhaps you are working on this rig RIGHT NOW because you were fortunate enough to escape serious injury or death when some accident or near-accident passed you by.

Don't let luck or "fate" tempt you to be careless in line of duty—or off duty for that matter.

It is the possible accidents that don't happen that keep us on the job from day to day.

Such old expressions as "Be Careful," "Watch Your Step," "Use Your Head," and "Do It Right" are completely worn out and are VERY monotonous. But they are still good.

### Asphalt: Highway Work-Horse

Without asphalt there would be no modern highway system. Asphalt, most of which comes from petroleum, covers our roads, highways, and city streets in this country. It is the "work-horse" material of the highway industry.

Without it, traffic would come almost to a standstill. Next time you take a trip, verify these statements with your own eyes. Asphalt and other oil products put America on the road, and make motoring easier and more pleasurable.

Texas has all kinds of climates but the atmosphere is always pleasant. In 1953, American oil men completed a producing oil well every 26 minutes.

Hats Off To Baird and Callahan County's Oil Boom - -

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Abilene, Texas

District Representative For

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The cost of drilling the average Half the diesel oil consumed exploratory well in 1953 was estimated at more than \$100,000. within the United States is purchased by railroads.

### Spain Ruled Texas Three Centuries, From 1519 To 1822

The overthrow of the Aztec empire by Hernando Cortes in 1520 and the execution of the last Aztec emperor, Cuastemoc marked the beginning of Spanish dominion over Mexico and its not then important province of Texas. From 1523 to 1528 New Spain was governed by viceroys or royal governors from 1528 to 1535 by audiencias or governing councils; and from 1535 until 1821 by viceroys and audiencias jointly. Fourteen times during this period the governing council at Mexico City had to assume the administrative power due to the death or disability of a viceroy.

While Cortes was conquering the Aztecs, other conquistadores were at work along the coast of Amichel or Tejas. The exploring expedition of Panfilo de Narvaez was shipwrecked off the Texas coast in 1528. Cabeza de Vaca and several companies were the only survivors, being washed ashore on Malhado Island. After seven years of wandering through Texas, virtually a captive of an Indian Tribe which he served as medicine man Cabeza de Vaca escaped and made his way to Mexico City. Another intrepid explorer was Captain Francisco de Coronado, governor of the province of new Galicia. In 1539 he crossed the Rio Grande into Texas, lured by the tales of gold and silver, the Seven Cities of the Cibola and the mythical El Dorado. These and other adventurer-caballeros gave Spain a claim to Texas. The Spanish founded the first

permanent settlement in Texas in 1682 at Isleta in the Rio Grande valley a few miles below El Paso. However, settlement was rather slow until news of the French attempt at settlement under Robert La Salle, 1685-1687, on the Garcitas river near Matagorda Bay, reached Spanish authorities. As a result several expeditions were sent to expel the French from Texas. French Fort St. Louis which La Salle had established was finally located only to find it a charred ruin, the French inhabitants murdered by the Indians, and La Salle assassinated by his own men. The Spanish, nevertheless, were still related to a point of establishing several ecclesiastical, military, and civil settlements in region around Nacogdoches in 1680. These Franciscan missions, presidios and pueblos, as they are respectively called, were abandoned in 1693 because of Indian uprisings and poor crops.

The government and administration of Texas by Spain during the colonial period was the same as that of any other province in the vice-royalty of New Spain. It must be said, however that the great distance from Mexico City and the relatively small number of colonists did not tend to emphasize the harshness of Spain's colonial policy of strict supervision and monopolistic control. For this reason, the province of Texas didn't play a conspicuous role in the struggle for Mexican independence from Spain, 1810-1821.

### For Whom The Bell Hole Tolls

Pipe liners, who sometimes must work underwater to build marine and offshore pipe line installations, may use a portable bell hole, which provides a dry place below the surface of the water for carrying out repairs and other operations. The portable bell hole is a big tube made in two halves which split longitudinally and have an opening for the pipe. The tube can be fitted around the pipe and clamped. Then the water is pumped out. Working against the hazards of nature to bring one of nature's most versatile substances, petroleum, to consumers, oil men use skill and daring for their enormous tasks.

### Requirements For Rotary and Casting Tong Fasteners

Tongs should be equipped with two 5/8" SAFETY CABLES fastened to each end with three clamps without half-hitch. Cables should be suitably anchored in a secure and reliable manner.

Recently one employee was fatally injured and another seriously injured on a drilling rig when hit by the tongs as they rotated around the drill pipe. The minimum requirements had not been provided. This was the third fatal accident on a drilling rig in that area within less than a year, caused by the failure of tong SAFETY CABLES, or their FASTENINGS.

May we call to your attention the necessity of providing adequate SAFETY CABLES AND ANCHORAGE for tongs. In addition, frequent inspections should be made of this equipment, to ensure SAFETY for employees. We urge you to instruct your Superintendents, Toolpushers and Drillers to see that the men are properly instructed in their duties, and to make sure that the required SAFETY equipment is being used and replacements available. A supply of clamps and some 5/8" cable should be kept at the rig so that there will be no excuse for using the wrong size or allowing the tong cables to stay on too long.

Of the industries that were well established prior to 1900 in Texas, cotton manufacturing has made relatively the least progress.

### Naphtha Launch, Age 50, Retires To Marine Museum

A 50-year-old naphtha launch, which was still in commission in 1951, recently was turned over to the Marine Museum at Mystic, Connecticut. The launch's fuel, naphtha, is a volatile, colorless liquid obtained from petroleum. Once used to fuel small engines, it is now used as a solvent in the manufacture of paints and varnishes, as a cleaning fluid, and as a substitute for turpentine. Naphtha is just one of the hundreds of oil products serving the American people well and faithfully through the years.

Hats Off - - To Baird On Your 75th Anniversary - - !

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### Water Coaxes Oil From Stubborn Oil Fields

By pumping water into oil-bearing formations which have lost their natural pressure, oil men are now coaxing more oil out of the ground than nature alone would yield. This resourceful method is known as water-flooding. It is one of the many conservation methods which the industry has developed to squeeze every last barrel of oil possible from existing fields. Water-flooding now is making available millions of barrels of oil which once were thought beyond recovery.

### Coal Miners Wear Oil

What does the well-dressed coal miner wear? Clothes made of oil, according to latest reports. Work clothes made of dnyel, a synthetic fiber made with oil derivatives, are said to be highly resistant to acid ground water in mines. They have the additional advantage of lasting 10 times longer than conventional work clothes.

### Highway Mending Kit

"Patches" for highways have been developed from a blend of naphtha, kerosene, diesel oil, and asphalt. Said to be more durable than other materials, the new patch blend was developed at the Engineering Experiment Station, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. Since all the ingredients of the material are oil products, it can be said that once again, oil speeds the traveler on his way.

### Real "Gas Buggies"

More busses were powered by liquefied petroleum gas last year than ever before. There was a 16-per-cent increase in the number of LP-G powered busses in operation at the end of the year, and busses burning LP-G rolled up a total of more than 60.5 million miles in 1954 to set an all-time high. Petroleum in its various forms breaks its own records for service to America's "rolling stock."

### The Borden Company

Gail Borden was born in Norwich, New York, in 1801. He lived on a farm in his early years, living in Indiana, Louisiana, and then Mississippi. He taught school in Mississippi and married Penelope Mercer, a former pupil, there, in 1828.

In December, 1829, he and his wife were lured to Galveston, Texas, and he was granted a Spanish League (4428 acres) of land along the Colorado River. He began farming, but Stephen Austin, founder of Texas, soon asked his help in mapping and laying out the new territory. Fifteen years later he founded the Telegraph and Texas Register, in San Felipe. After the war for independence of Texas, he was appointed Collector of the Posts of Galveston, where he lived for many years. While Gail Borden was living in Galveston, he began to experiment with methods of preserving foods. As the result of an exhibition in London in 1851, where his meat biscuit won the Great Council Medal, he returned to America with his greatest idea the condensing of milk. After many experiments and failures, on May 11, 1857, he founded his company and began to turn out condensed milk, under the cleanest possible conditions. And it was his insistence on quality which became the forerunner of the present company slogan: THE IT'S BORDEN'S IT'S GOT TO BE GOOD!

Gail Borden's company prospered and expanded. Additional plants were built. After the Civil War, he was glad to ease up a little, and his sons took over the operation of the company. He returned to Borden, Texas, where he lived until his death in 1847 at the age of 72.

### Sulphur Springs Draw

Sulphur Springs Draw, an intermittent stream, heads in western Yoakum County and drains southeast about one hundred miles through Terry, Dawson, and Martin counties to join Beals Branch in eastern Howard County.

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Drilling for oil entails heavy financial risks. Eight out of every nine wildcat wells, for example, turn out to be dry holes, in which almost the entire investment is lost.

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"... to keep always in mind our original purposes - to produce milk that meets, first of all, the health needs of tiny children. By so doing, to offer to people of all ages milk that fulfills these highest standards of wholesomeness, richness and purity."



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### TEXAS QUIZ

By A. Garland Adair

Q. Where can I most easily find the answer to the question of the ages of the governors of Texas and the average age of each of the thirty-four governors when they took the oath of office?

A. The answer to these questions and hundreds of other facts about the state are given in **Texas Its History**, by Adair and Coats and published by the John C. Winston Co., of Philadelphia.

Q. Who was the tallest Texas governor?

A. Albert C. Horton, who acted as governor while P. Henderson was in the U. S. Military service in the war with Mexico, was the tallest person to have served as the Texas governor. He was six feet seven. His portrait is not in the collection of Texas chief executives on the walls of the rotunda of the statehouse, states a comment in "A Century of Texas Governors and Capitols" prepared by the Statehood Commission.

Q. Where are the headquarters of the Texas Heritage Foundation?

A. The Texas Heritage Foundation Headquarters are located at 612 Capital National Bank Building.

Q. Did the President of Texas receive a salary?

A. Yes. Gammels laws of Texas shows the President's salary to have been \$10,000 per year until 1842 when the amount was reduced to \$5,000.

Q. Is there a plant or shrub grown in Texas which is processed for wax?

A. The Candilla Plant (Euphrobia-Gerifera) is found extensively in the western part of the state. It grows in bunches and in the years gone by the plant has been processed for its wax properties.

Q. Which state has the most cattle, Montana or Texas?

A. Texas. The 1935 reports show Texas with 7,222,369 head of cattle, while Montana had 1,330,000.

Q. Why did Roy Bean settle at the site of the town of Langtry?

A. He settled there and set up his saloon because the S. P. railroad was building a huge bridge over the Pecos which he knew would require much time to complete.

Q. How far back are the records kept for the State of Texas?

A. Ordinarily the State records are kept indefinitely. In the archives are documents dating back to the days of the Republic. Many of the records available today date back to the burning of the State Capitol, November 9th, 1881.

Q. What is the shortest name on record as a purchaser of School Lands?

A. Bascom Giles, Commissioner of the General Land Office, reports, that, according to the records, there are two sales revealed where the name is spelled with only one letter of the alphabet — the letter "O". Sales were made in Brewster County of 681 acres to Miguel de la O and 636 acres in the same County to Ramon de la O.

Q. How many Comptrollers have served Texas?

A. There have been twenty-three Comptrollers to serve the State of Texas since 1845.

Q. Where is the office of Comptroller located?

A. In the State Capitol Building at Austin, Texas.

Q. How many different accounts does the State of Texas have and what are they?

A. It would not be practical to attempt to enumerate the many different accounts carried in the various departments of the State according to George Sheppard, Comptroller. In the Statistical Division of the Comptroller's Department, which is the central accounting unit, the ledger accounts number approximately 10,000. These accounts record the State's financial transactions. In the Motor Fuel Tax Refund Division alone there is kept a separate account with more than 125,000 claimants.

Q. Who was the first Comptroller of Texas?

A. The Comptroller's Department was first created by an ordinance of the General Council of the Provisional Government, December 26, 1835. The ordinance was sent to Governor Henry Smith on December 29th for his approval or return with his objections thereto. It was returned by him with his suggestions that certain amendments be incorporated, but was immediately passed over his veto without amendments. Mr. John H. Money was elected Comptroller by council at 7 P. M. December 30th, and served until January 17, 1836. The first to serve as Comptroller when Texas became a State of the union was James B. Shaw. He served in this capacity for almost eighteen years.

Q. What are the functions of the office of Comptroller?

A. The legal name of this office is Comptroller of Public Accounts. As the name suggests it is primarily the accounting office of the State government. Accounting, however, is only a part of the functions of the department as it operated today.

Oil moves through the "biggest inch" pipe line at a speed of three and a half miles per hour, or as fast as a man can walk.

Texas's first manufacturing business was the dressing of buckskins for clothes for the frontiersmen of Colonial Texas.

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Gone? - Yes. But not forgotten.  
Oh, Darling who could forget?  
Not one who ever received from you  
That precious smile, I bet.

It seems that you've been gone so long,  
But really its been weeks.  
And forever in my heart, dear,  
A place for you I'll keep.

I wonder why you had to go,  
Perhaps someday I'll understand.  
When I, too must leave this earth,  
And join you in that Promised land.

Life Proves to be a mystery,  
Things happen— we know not why.  
Who knew the hour of 1950,  
That would be your hour to die?

The answer to such questions,  
We're not supposed to know.  
Patiently, we must toil and wait  
Until God says its our time to go.

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### STEPHEN F. AUSTIN - -

(Continued from Page 1)

get grants to bring colonists to Texas, but seven out of the 12 proved failures. But in a few years Texas increased so wonderfully and the Texans were so skillful with the guns that the Mexicans became alarmed and jealous and violated every pledge made to the colonists. Bustamets, the President of Mexico, abolished the Constitution of 1824. His successor, Santa Anna, abolished all courts and put Texas under military rule, and sent five military tyrants to disarm the Texans, so the Indians could come and murder them. Stephen F. Austin advised the Texans to do nothing rash, but to send messengers to plead with Mexico to redeem her solemn pledge to Texas, and that Texas would be true to Mexico. Three commissioners were appointed to bear this earnest plea to Mexico, but Austin alone went on that long and perilous journey. He was rudely thrust into prison and kept there two years. When he returned home, he assured the Texans that war or extermination was their only alternative. He at once became a leader of the revolution and exerted his vast influence to save Texas and make her a grand state.

The question is often discussed in debating societies, "Which was the greater man, Austin or Houston, and which should Texas reverence more?" Before discussing this question, we advise them to settle another question, "Which should sons and daughters reverence more, father or mother?"

Every true heart instinctively responds, love and honor both alike. So all Texas in all ages should honor and love Austin and Houston alike. Both were God-sent men and essential to the greatness of Texas. The illustrious patriot, Austin while profoundly engaged in his office as Secretary of State, especially in preparing instructions for Ministers to be sent to England, United States and France, was compelled to tell a greater part of three days and three nights in December in a room without fire, from which he contracted a severe attack of pneumonia, of which he died at Columbia, Dec. 27, 1836. His remains were accompanied by President Houston and Cabinet and both houses of Congress to the family burial ground at Peach Point, Brazoria county, where his remains still sleep in glory. He was never married but made his home chiefly with his sister, the bother of our illustrious fellow-citizen, Guy M. Bryan who inherits many of the excellencies of his illustrious uncle.

**Pioneer Greetings To Baird - -**

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Folk County's Alabama-Coushatta Indian Reservation observed the Centennial of its establishment in 1954. It's Centennial will be coextensive with the Texas Public School Centennial.

Did you see the TV western where the hero had to stop chasing the villain after one block? He'd reached the end of the chord on his electric guitar.

A wife is a woman who sticks with her husband through all the trouble he wouldn't have if he hadn't married her.

Members of the Texas Press Association elected Hal L. Gosling, of The Castroville Quill, as president during TPA's second convention in Houston in 1981.

BAIRD MAN HELPS - -

(Continued from Page 1)

His family moved to Baird in 1925 after spending two or three years near Oplin where Nichols attended grade school. He was graduated from the Baird High School May 27, 1927, as honor student. His general grade average was 95 2-9 per cent. J. F. Boren was superintendent and Mrs. Boren his teacher. Both now live in Abilene.

His father died Oct. 23, 1942. The mother lives on a ranch southwest of here.

His sister, Fay Nichols, is a home demonstration agent at Hillsboro, Ore. Other sisters are Mrs. Elsie Jameson, Coleman; Mrs. Hazel Jackson, St. Louis; Mrs. Katie Spicer, Warrensburg, Mo. The latter also worked as an assistant in the Callahan County agricultural office and is a skilled artist.

Four of his brothers reside in this area, all stockmen. They are Cecil and Archie, who live near their mother southwest of Baird, Roland Nichols, southeast of Baird, Bernice Nichols, on the old Coleman "home place." Two other brothers live in distant states: Floyd Nichols in California and George in Ohio.

Nichols' wife is a native of Sioux City, Ia. They have three children: Nancy, 8; Margaret Ann, 6; and Tommy 5.

The children will be enrolled in the American School at Quito, founded by President Plaza with the aid of the Rockefeller Foundation. Morning classes will be conducted in English and the afternoon in Spanish.

Soon after his graduation from high school here, Nichols worked as a lineman for the West Texas Utilities when it strung a high tension line between Baird and Clyde. His mother says he has always been profoundly interested in livestock, especially dairy stock.

The many season, he wrote, would soon set in. He remarked that he was now living in a country where the altitude was 9,300 feet. His address for those who might write him is "Care of American Embassy, Quito, Ecuador S. A."

No Money of Your Own - - But Want Into The Oil Game?

Prospective for Oil has been the poor man's dream since the first producer flowed in Pennsylvania. Little people have made fabulous fortunes from virtually penniless beginnings. Hundreds of fortunes are being developed right now by determined men who have a dream of oil wealth and the nerve and fortitude to do something about it. Some will make millions and others will keep on with regular work a day lives and miss the black gold stream of fortune.

We, of course do not tell you that you will ever find oil, because as any active oil man will tell you—"Every hole you drill is a wildcat"—no matter what science, seismograph or offsets may indicate. We simply explain how you can get a well drilled and retain interest in the property for yourself.

The following paragraphs are based on the assumption that you do not have money of your own to invest—but that you want into the oil game.

It can be done—We have done it, and many others have developed entire fields and go on to great riches by following the steps in oil development promotion which we will endeavor to explain to your satisfaction.

We will give examples which apply to West Texas, the area which we know best, however, the oil business is much the same the world over and if you get into the game this "Treatise" of facts and how it has been done and can be done should prove invaluable to you.

SECURING ACREAGE First you must secure an oil lease on land where you think oil exists below the surface. Land is either leased or it is not leased for oil and gas.

If the land is not leased, you must seek the land owner and ask for a lease. Land can be leased for a period of years by paying an annual rental or by paying a cash bonus of so much an acre plus annual rental ranging from 10c an acre to \$1 an acre annually, depending on local conditions and practices.

However, since you plan to use no cash of your own in your operation, the best way to secure a lease is to get the landowner to give you a lease in return for your agreement to get a well drilled. In this instance, you are offering the land owner a chance to begin earning royalty income if the land proves to have oil beneath it.

Most landowners who do not have their land leased will grant you a full 7/8ths mineral lease if you will agree to have a test well drilled. The land owner retains the regular 1/8th royalty portion which is non-participating in expenses. One barrel of every eight

barrels of production on an oil well goes to the royalty owner or owners. Be sure when you secure a lease by drilling agreement that you are given from 90 days to six months to get the well started. The more time you can secure the more opportunity you have to seek out the best deal to get your drilling done. However, you have to fit the time element to individual cases and a lot of times, you will share an exceptionally good deal simply because you are able to get organized and on to a lease within a matter of days—maybe even hours.

If a landowner insists that he get so much cash bonus for his lease, you can offer that too, but it is based on the theory that you secure oil production on his land. You simply agree to pay the cash bonus out of oil production, and in the lease which you have drawn, you stipulate that the lessor is to receive so much cash to be paid out of 1/16th of 7/8ths of the oil produced and that when payment is made, returns on that 1/16th of 7/8ths of the oil shall be yours.

For instance, if you agreed to pay \$20 per acre for a lease of 160 acres, that would amount to \$3,200 and you would have the lease drawn granting the lessor \$3,200 in oil money to be paid out of an over-riding interest of 1/16th of 7/8ths of the oil produced. Title in the 1/16th of 7/8ths to revert to you when the \$3,200 is paid. Now, if you drilled a well that came in for 20 barrels daily and you secured an allowable permitting you to produce all that oil each and every day, you would have what amounts to 600 barrels production per month. 1/8th of that 600 barrels is royalty oil, as there is commercial production of oil and gas, or either, on an oil and gas lease, the lease remains in force. The "Mineral rights" owner receives royalty from the production in lieu of the

(Continued on Page 12)

Best Wishes To Baird - - On Your 75th Anniversary! E. F. SMITH CONTRACTOR Paving and Street Construction ABILENE

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Texas Under Six Flags - -

(Continued from page 4)

of the most artistic architectural jewels of the western hemisphere. A diorama of the old mission's interesting corner in the Mission Room of the Texas Memorial Museum.

In 1821 Spain's sovereignty over Mexico and Texas was overthrown and the red, green and white flag of the Mexicans flew under Texas flers, and with the advent of these skies.

Then came the American se- invincible frontiersmen, and new era dawned, the stream of history flowed with swifter and more benefits resulted in a single generation than had been accomplished during the three centuries of Spanish administration.

From 1821 to 1834 colonists from the United States settled in southeast Texas. Stephen F. Austin, "The Great Empresario" and "Father of Texas" was the first and most important colonizer. His colony covered the lower Brazos and Colorado rivers, including the site where the city of Austin now stands. In 1830 the Mexican congress prohibited immigration from the United States. In 1833 Texans applied to Santa Anna for a separate state government. The petition was denied. Texas revolted from Mexico in 1835, and in the ensuing conflict between the two civilizations, the Anglo-Americans prevailed over the Latin-American neighbors. On April 21, 1836 General Sam Houston defeated Santa Anna at San Jacinto. This battle declared their independence at victoriously terminated the war and gained freedom for the Lone Star Republic. Fifty days before that date, on March 2, Texans had Old Washington. On September 2 of the same year, Texas adopted a constitution, elected Houston their President.

A distinguished Mexican of noble Spanish descent, Lorenzo de Zavala was the first Vice-Pres-

BAIRD OBSERVES - -

(Continued from page 2)

T. Berry, general store; McMin and Seay, Dry Goods; T. J. Austin, Carriage and Cabinet Maker and a Gun Smith; J. M. Polk, dry goods; Wilson L. Henry, blacksmith and gun smith; West and Allen; W. J. and Mrs. Power, hotel; Par-

vin and Power, general merchandise; B. L. Bellamy, drug store; S. J. McWater's, line kila, S. F. Chittum's Sateon; Thomas Russell, contractor, the "Upper Story" of Merchant and McCoy was used as a courthouse and the first district court convened here in May, 1879, with Hon. J. R. Fleming as judge. Hon. J. M. Moore, as district attorney and J. E. M. Hedley as district clerk.

The following lawyers looked after the interest of their clients in the courts of the county at this date: J. E. Thomas, W. H. Cliett, J. L. Porter, E. E. Solomon, G. W. Perryman and John Bowyer.

The health of the county was looked after by the following doctors: C. R. Shepard, Eli Thayer, T. J. Largent and J. W. McGee.

Early ministers of the county were: Rev. T. J. Austin and Rev. R. M. Black, resident and itinerant ministers were Rev. Charnel C. Hightower, R. e. v. Wm. Stone, W. C. Sparks and Rev. W. B. Bloys.

The first postmaster in the county was probably Wm. H. Parvin, of Belle Plain.

SOMETHING NEW - -

(Continued from Page 3)

220, was the key well which activated the search for Cross Plains Sand oil. Having a show in the Cross Plains Sand, it lead to the discovery of several fields.

Brown says it looks as if some 600 to 900 acres of his original block is situated in what is generally termed the "fairway" of the district.

The operator was born in Jacksonville, Mo. He left Missouri when he was 21 and has lived most of his life in Oklahoma.

Elderly Drilling Rig Working Despite Age

Although oil men are quick to use the most modern methods, they do not discard tried and true equipment just because it isn't new. One oil company has a record-breaking drilling rig which still is going strong after more than 13 years of operation. It has drilled 1,222,500 feet, or nearly 232 miles, and has set several records for speed and footage. It has been "put out to pasture" now — in a Texas oil field, that is, where it is drilling as usual.

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The oil industry celebrated its 44th "birthday" last August. Diesel fuel powers 80 per cent of all railroad transportation. That's the month in which Col. service.

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### TEXAS UNDER - -

(Continued from page 11)

four words: "Texas Under Six Flags!" During the past 431 years there have marched across the stage of time in Texas, haughty Spanish conquistadores and proud French cavaliers from over the sea; tyrannical Santa Anna from south of the Rio Grande; irrepresible frontiersmen from beyond the Mississippi; and the gallant soldiers of the "Lost Cause!" This pageantry of southwestern events recalls the birth of the Lone Star Republic, and the men in homespun and hunting shirts, many of them tattered and torn, who signed the Declaration of Independence at old Washington. Born in the very hour of battle, we see the little nation menaced from within and from without; and our hearts swell to see the second and final decree of independence won by the valor and prowess of Texans at San Jacinto. We see the Lone Star flag lowered and in its stead flies the flag of the United States, as we link our future with the destiny of our own Fatherland.

Texas Press Association members elected William Ferguson, of the old San Antonio Times, as their president in 1887 at a convention in Fort Worth. After the meeting, many of the newspapermen took an excursion to the Indian Territory of Washita.

### No Money of - -

(Continued from page 10)

stipulated cash rental paid prior to the discovery. Major and large independent oil companies make it a practice to "farm-out" acreage to fellows who want to drill for oil. Generally, the "farm-outs" are for shallow production, but sometimes for any production regardless of depth. The leaseholder automatically, we have found, requires an over-riding royalty interest before letting go of a "farm-out." No cash is involved, but drilling contracts are required. You will not, from a major, receive a "farm-out" unless you would have 525 barrels left after the royalty was taken out. Now the 1/16th of 7/8ths oil payment over-ride would take nearly 33 barrels a month out to go toward paying the cash bonus. Which would mean you would pay about \$80 per month on the \$3,200 bonus requirement. Each well you drill on that lease would have that over-ride tacked on it until paid, but if you secured enough production you soon have that paid out and then you can do whatever you want to with the 1/16th of 7/8ths over-ride, since it would revert to a working interest.

By shallow rights, it is meant that you will receive a lease granting you the privilege of covering oil and gas above a certain depth. For instance in any West Texas areas, major companies hold considerable acreage on which they grant shallow farm-outs. But the big operators are holding for deep wells from 5,000 to 13,000 feet. In the 1,100 to 3,500 foot zone in a goodly portion of West Texas, there is a lot of oil. The wells are not necessarily big and may not draw the interest of the big operators. Hence, the company is willing to take an over-riding interest in a lease and let a little fellow drill for the shallow oil.

### SECURING ACREAGE BY "FARM-OUT"

Throughout the oil industry, major companies and many individuals and small firms are holding acreage under lease for what is called the "Deep" rights. Each year they must pay rentals on the acreage. In the leases, commercial production eliminates the rental cash payments and also eliminates the time provision in the termination of the lease. Because as long out lease immediately. Instead, you will be granted a contract which includes the rilling agreement that gives you permission to drill to a certain depth, or to commercial production at a lesser depth. This drilling agreement will stipulate when the well must be "spudded" in or started. Generally, you will receive 60 days to get started in, but you will get more time if you ask for it, unless the time element in the expiration of the lease is a factor. Then the major or leaseholder

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### No Money of - -

(Continued from page 12)

it will depend strictly on what purpose the company is holding the lease for. Of course it would not be wise to ask for a farm-out where the main reason for holding the leases is for shallow production, but you never know until you ask.

### OVER-RIDE

An over-riding interest, generally called over-riding royalty, is a portion in any fractional amount of your total holding in a lease which you have granted to anyone. An over-ride does not share in the expense of the lease in any manner, but simply shares in the production in a proportionate share equal to the amount of the interest. Over-rides can be granted for the life of the lease, or as long as production is continued, or for a period as mentioned heretofore when a specific sum of money is to be paid off. If it is a term over-ride, the fractional proportion would revert to working interest after the indebtedness is paid. Many oil companies require a permanent over-ride if they grant you a "farm-out" of one of their leases.

### ROYALTY

Someone owns the mineral rights to all real property. Mineral rights can be owned by anyone even though the owner thereof does not own the surface land. When you lease for oil and gas, you must pay 1/8th of the production discovered to the owner or owners of the mineral rights. This is the royalty eighth. No expense in the development of the oil and gas production is borne by the royalty owners.

### WORKING INTERESTS

For practical purposes, oil and gas leases are for 7/8ths of the minerals which may be recovered. The other 8th of course being royalty. We shall refer to leases then as 7/8ths leases and base our fractions on that amount of interest.

Working interests operate the lease and pay the expenses and receive 7/8ths of the total oil and gas produced. If you find it necessary to grant

### Diverse Divers Wear Oil, Too

Tramping the ocean floor in search of geologic clues which may lead to the discovery of oil, underwater geologists — or geological oceanographers, as they're called — are studying outcrops on the ocean floor off California. Wearing special exposure suits of neoprene foam rubber (which is made with oil derivatives), divers work in depths to 130 feet where the water is colder than 34 degrees, Fahrenheit. Tools geology must be simple to operate, since light is poor, temperature numbing, and water currents tricky. Despite the tremendous effort and expense of such operations, oil men open new horizons of knowledge and abundance for America's oil supplies.

### New All-Weather Chair Uses Oil In Many Ways

Oil takes the seat of honor in a new chairmaking process. An upholstered chair results when oil-derived vinyl acetate plastic is sprayed on a wrought-iron chair frame. A thick solution forms strands that adhere to each other and to the frame, making a webbed base of the chair's back and arms. A thin solution coats the webbed base of the chair's foam-rubber seat. The chair's legs are sprayed with protective neoprene, another oil product. Besides being usable outdoors or indoors, the chair can be redecorated merely by applying spray of a different color. Because oil's magical properties constantly are studied and developed by this country's privately managed oil industry, many such innovations result.

Two million men and women are engaged in the oil business.

### HOW INTO ACTION

At this point, we must assume that you have achieved a lease from someone, either the landowner or by "farm-out" agreement.

Now, you have a certain time (Continued on page 16)

In 1850—Twenty-one years after the first newspaper was printed in Texas—there were 34 publications in the state. Of these, five were tri-weekly and 29 weekly. There were no dailies.

No two oil refineries are exactly the same. They vary in nature, depending on the types of crude oil they process and the kind of end results in which they specialize.

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### Pipe Line Walkers Fly

Patrol planes fill important roles in pipe line maintenance for gas and oil lines across the country. The patrol pilot studies the terrain. He looks for new construction adjacent to the right-of-way, for changes that might result from flood waters, brush growth, erosion of banks near pipe line bridges, or fluctuations in river courses. On rare occasions, a leak can be detected, but usually, this is noted by station operators from the drop in line pressure indicated by gages at pumping stations. Many companies have found airplane patrol to be more effective than line walking. In the progressive oil industry, the most modern methods are used to establish and maintain the supply of oil products for the American people.

While drilling the deepest well in the world, oil men took a routine "bottom-hole" temperature at 20,003 feet and found it to be 334 degrees F., more than hot enough to cook your Sunday dinner.

### OIL PROGRESS BRIEFS

The total investment in oil refineries on the Gulf Coast is estimated at more than one billion dollars. Plant expansion for the next two years will call for the investment of over \$200,000,000.

Pack mules loaded with sacks of seed corn in early day Texas history were believed to have been the first importation project of the state — then a colony of Mexico. The mules brought the seed from Matamoros, Mexico.

Barges account for the transportation of about one-fifth of all petroleum in this country. The remainder goes by pipe line, ocean-going tanker, over-the-road trucks and truck transports, and railroad tank cars.

Conceivably, every organic chemical known to man can come from the hydrocarbon molecule of petroleum. Moreover, many of these products can be produced at lower cost from oil than from any other source.

Backfilling is a name applied to the job of filling a ditch in which a pipe line has been laid. Originally it was done with shovels. Now it is handled by tractors or other earth movers.

North Dakota communities continue to grow with the expanding oil industry. More than 11,200 persons now depend on oil for their livelihood, with 8,000 directly in the industry.

The American people, per capita, consume 21 times more petroleum than all the rest of the free world combined, even though this nation's population is only eight per cent of the free world total.

In many instances, oil-powered diesel locomotives have produced annual savings of 20 to 30 per cent on their initial cost, making them one of the best possible capital investments.

There are more than 42,000

businesses engaged in production, refining, transportation and the wholesale distribution of petroleum and petroleum products.

Egypt presently has a crude oil output of about 40,000 barrels daily. Much of it was developed by two American firms, Standard Oil Co. of N. J., and Socony-Vacuum Oil Co.

Oil industry production of motor fuel for the millions of cars, buses and other vehicles which Americans take more or less for granted rose in 1953 to one billion 289 million barrels, enough to fill the world's largest reservoir (Lake Mead in Arizona-Nevada) over five and a third times.

A new 26-inch pipe line in West Texas will move 440,000 barrels of oil per day; this much oil would require 18 trains of 100 tank cars each to do the same job.

Membership in the American Association of Petroleum Geologists has grown from fewer than 100 in 1917 to an estimated 10,000 in 1953. The petroleum industry and its geologists have been busy and effective!

There has been a steady growth in the efficiency of petroleum exploration in the United States in recent years. In 1939, less than 3,000 exploratory holes were drilled. More than 8 and one-half holes were drilled for every one that became a producer. By 1951, exploration had increased to 11,756 holes a year, with one producer for about every 4.2 holes drilled.

Oil refineries between New Orleans, Louisiana, and Brownsville, Texas, have a total capacity of 2,547,000 barrels a day. This total represents almost one fourth of the refinery capacity for the United States.

The petroleum industry pioneered the development of radio microwave facilities for trans-continental pipe lines. As a result, the petroleum industry now owns and operates more miles of microwave systems than all other users be carried daily through the new 26-inch West Texas Gulf system pipe line in Texas.

The water pumped and the steam generated by oil refineries in the Gulf Coast are sufficient to

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### PROGRESS BRIEFS - -

meet the domestic requirements for water and heat of about one-fifth of the entire population of the United States.

Total footage of oil wells drilled in 1953 was close to 200,000,000 feet. This figure represents a 10 per cent increase over 1952 totals. If all this drilling had taken place in one spot, the hole would have gone through the earth almost 5 times.

Over the past two years, oil operators have laid more than 9,236 miles of crude oil and products pipe lines. Pipe lines cost roughly \$30,000 a mile to lay—one indication why the oil industry needs large sums of money to operate and expand.

One of the few remaining hand-set newspapers in Texas is *The Jewett Messenger*, published by Mrs. A. B. Pettet. The woman editor hand-sets the type, operates the gasoline engine Campbell press, hand-olds the edition, hand-cuts it and hand-addresses the four-page weekly.

Liquefied petroleum gas continued its trend of replacing other fuels as a source of heat in dehydrating operations of the tobacco industry, especially in the Connecticut River Valley and in the Carolinas.

The State of Texas has 140,860 oil wells and averages an increase of about 160 wells per week. Total production for the state is 2,610,500 barrels per day, or less than 19 barrels per well average.

Until 25 years ago, few wells exceeded 3,000 feet in depth. Today, many wells exceed 10,000 feet. The deepest completed well to date is 20,521 feet—and that was abandoned as a dry hole.

The U. S. oil industry spends more than \$300 million a year on seismicographic studies. These special surveys are necessary before drilling locations can be chosen. They are part and parcel of the industry's 24-hour-a-day job of finding more oil for the wings and wheels of America.

(Continued on page 15)

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The University of Texas opened in 1881. Three out of every four wells drilled in the United States in 1952 were drilled by small companies. E. L. Drake brought in the United States' first commercial oil well in Titusville, Pa., in 1859.

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The first commercial oil well was only 69½ feet deep. Today, the search for new supplies of oil has taken drilling bits down more than four miles into the earth.

The cost of finding oil in the United States today is about six and a half times what it was back in 1935-39.

The average oil well in this country produces about 12.7 barrels per day. The average price per barrel of crude oil is \$2.82. This means that the average gross income per day per well is \$35.81. Subtract one eighth royalty, and you have the grand total of \$31.33 out of which must come operating costs, taxes, interest and incidental expenses.

### Testing, Testing, Over The 'Lectric Brain

A "piano roll" that "plays" a set of electronic circuits has been developed by an oil company to test automobile engines. The roll is a continuous loop of 35mm film with perforations. The perforations pass in front of an electric eye and activate various circuits. These in turn make the engine start and stop, set its speed and load and give it oil and water temperatures exactly as they originally happened. Oil companies study and test continually to improve conditions and products for American motorists.

### No-Scratch Paint

A new product with more than surface interest for prospective painters has been developed after seven years of experimentation by an oil company. The new chemical is said to give paints greatly increased resistance to scratching and other abuses. Made from oil, it is described as a heavy bodied, almost colorless liquid based on butadiene. Such new products seem almost magical to everyone but the researchers, chemists, oil people, and others in America's privately managed industries who work painstakingly to develop these new conveniences.

### In the Good Old Summertime

According to the American Automobile Association, the average family of four will travel some 1,200 miles in a little more than 10 days and spend about \$560 en route on their vacations this year. Americans on the move will enjoy the freedom which their oil-powered vehicles give them, and probably set new records of enjoyment at America's vacation spots

### No Money of - -

(Continued from page 13)

in which to get a well drilled. If the farm-out is obtained by you from a friend who has access to some very valuable property and you now have the drilling rights on this property, you might find it advantageous to sell the drilling agreement to someone and take a quick cash return. However, if its that valuable, you probably would be more interested in the drilling end of it. Now get into the financing of a drilling deal.

### SECURING FINANCING

Unknown to most layman, many, if not most, of the men and companies in the business of contract oil well drilling are subject to "deals." In other words, they will take interest in the property in lieu of cash or they will take some cash and interest. It's not necessary to have lump sum cash to talk with most men in the drilling business—large or small.

After getting your lease, you go to the drilling contractor and make him a proposition. First you offer an interest in the lease for putting down the well you want. You figure the amount of the interest on the depth of the hole which you want drilled. If you have a lot of acreage and want only a shallow test well dug, it might be well to offer an interest in only a portion of your total acreage. If he is a small operator he may need expense money for payrolls to get the well dug. In this case, the interest he would receive would be smaller and you must sell interests to others to raise sufficient money to pay the riller. Or if you are acquainted with the oil business, you might sell an interest (minor portion) and rent the rig for use in drilling the well. In this case you can "poor boy" your tester and push the tools yourself. There is no need to explain how to poor boy a well down, because if you don't know the terms and practices indicated, you had best get you an exper-

enced hand to do your drilling.

### MORE ON FINANCING

Another avenue for financial aid in promoting a drilling well is that of "dry hole" money. Many times you will be able to find a lease amongst a lot of other lessees. Particularly major companies or large independents, who own leases on land adjoining the lease where you plan to drill a wild-cat, will pledge so much dry hole money to help you in getting your test well drilled. The information you obtain will be of value to them and if they offset your tester, they will gladly help pay for the cost of the drilling. So seek out offsetting lease-holders before you spud in and get their best deal on dry hole money. Then if you get a dry hole you will realize some profit on your deal in addition to other interests you have sold.

### THINGS TO REMEMBER

Always have a permit approved by the appropriate state agency before you drill or spud in.

Always keep an eye open for salvage oilfield casing and equipment. If you are in the business, market for it.

Get your deal reduced to writing whether you are buying, selling or trading.

If you seek drilling help, make a deal for a 50-50 proposition. Get a contractor and split a lease with him. Let him drill one well for you and then one for himself and make it continuous. This is a common practice and that way you keep your acreage intact for the purpose of selling interests to equip the wells. He can do like you will find a need for it or a wise on the portion you assign him.

Watch courthouse records. Every now and then the lease department of oil companies overlook renewing leases on valuable properties.

Being truthful and keeping your word. However, it still is good business to always get things in writing when someone is going to meet an obligation to you.

Build friendships among drillers, tooldressers, etc. They steer many a promoter into good deals. Seek out landmen of oil companies and get the lists of farm-outs available in the area in which you wish to work.

To get started fast, don't be hog-gish. If you believe in a lease, get the well drilled one way or another and if you must take a very minor interest your judgment will be well rewarded when your interest is sold, no matter how minor.

### Oil Fields Wear Halos -Of Radioactivity

Using a radiation detector called a scintillation counter, scientists have discovered atomic "halos" of radioactivity that pin point oil pools deep in the earth and can be spotted from a helicopter. If an interesting change in nuclear count pops up on dials of the scintillation counter, the helicopter may go down for closer study. If the scintillometer still verifies an unusual pattern, geophysicists may tramp over the fields for special reading, even digging a trench and sticking the instruments right into the soil. Thousands of readings must be made before oil men feel they know the device's possibilities, but many are experimenting with it to better their chances of oil discovery. It's another progressive example of a progressive industry.

### Atomic Watchdogs

Radioactive "tracer" materials are used by the oil industry to follow the flow of oil underground, divide batches of different products in pipe lines, locate difficulties in refinery units, and for well logging. Oil men are quick to use these and other gigantic task of bringing oil and its products to American consumers.

**Pioneer Greetings To Baird  
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