

420-194

REGIONAL SECTION

THE STRATFORD STAR

STRATFORD (SHERMAN COUNTY) TEXAS

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1946

17

Southwest Irrigation Booms * ... See Pages 8 and 9

"Double Stars" Over Texas ... See Page 15

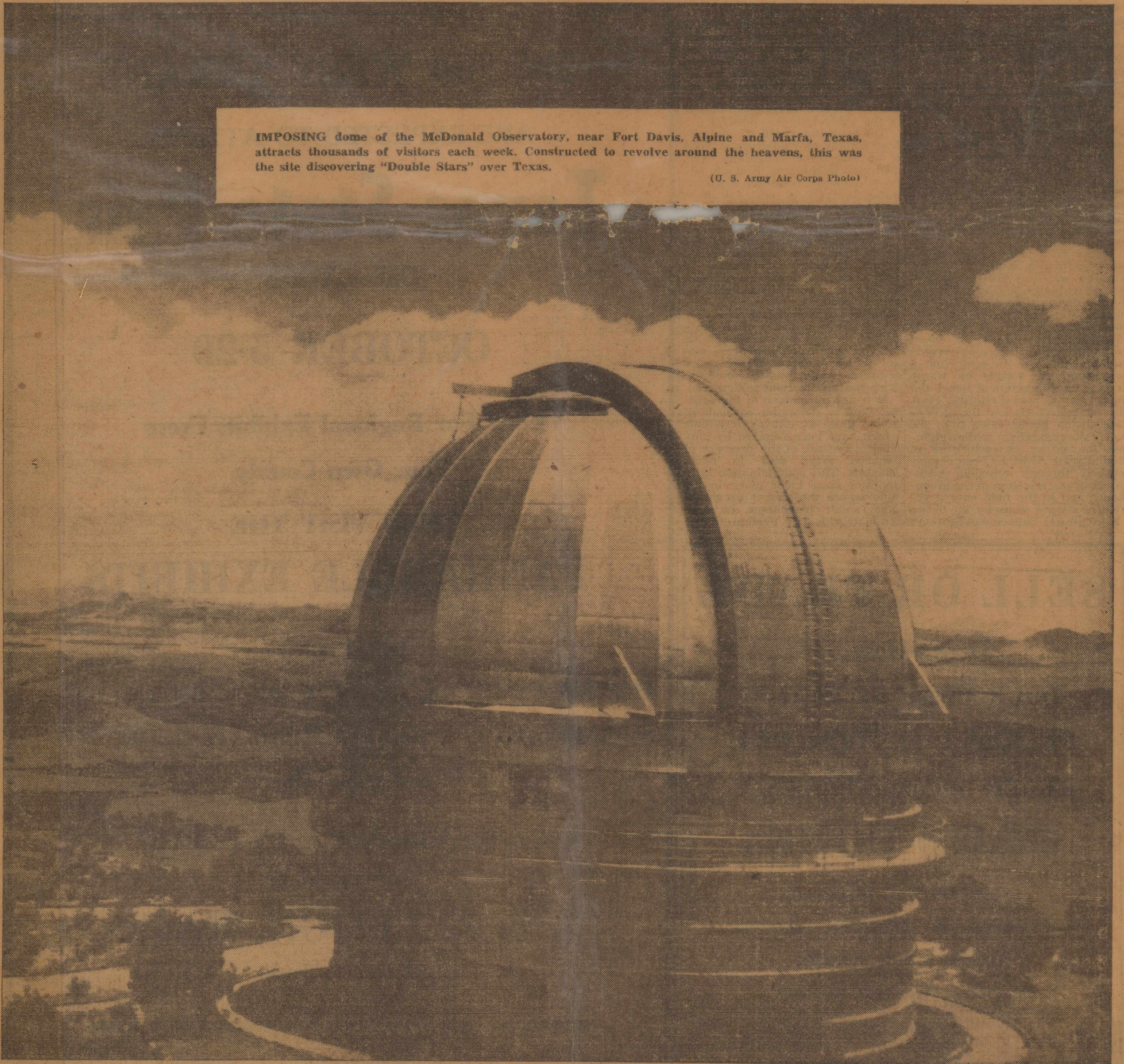
Norfleet's Life Reviewed * * ... See Page 10 Story and Picture

Oklahoma Mule Adopts Calves * ... See Page 5

Editorial Features * * * * ... See Pages 6 and 7

IMPOSING dome of the McDonald Observatory, near Fort Davis, Alpine and Marfa, Texas, attracts thousands of visitors each week. Constructed to revolve around the heavens, this was the site discovering "Double Stars" over Texas.

(U. S. Army Air Corps Photo)



AGRONOMISTS PRODUCE A NEW SWEET STOCK FEED

LUBBOCK, TEX. (WNS).—"Sudan is sweet" is a new slogan by grass growers of the Southwest, thanks to R. E. Karper and J. R. Quinby, Texas A & M agronomists who have utilized the experimental farms of the state in producing a new stock feed which will revolutionize the sudan industry.

Revolutions in grain are nothing new to Karper, who did the same to sorghums back in the mid-thirties, but his new sudan type is even better for the stock. It is a feed cattle will graze clear into the soil while allowing the former type sudan to stand nearby. It is the proof of the eating in so far as visible evidence is concerned, but it means a lot more to present day markets. It is now distinguishable from the farmer's enemy, Johnson grass, by a different color or head which any child may recognize.

Refuse Grass Seed

In past years many carloads of sudan grass have been refused by buyers due to traces of Johnson grass in such shipments. It is almost impossible to estimate the loss such traces have wrought, simply because standard sudan resembled Johnson grass to such an extent only experts could decipher the difference. All of that is now ended and with a better sudan grass on the market.

Sudan grass is one of the common crops of the Southwest. It is used extensively as a pasture and to a lesser extent as a hay crop. Sudan grass seed is an important cash crop on thousands of acres in the Plains region of Texas and New Mexico where up to 50 million pounds of seed are produced annually.

Good Crop

Sudan grass was a plant immigrant to this country less than 35 years ago. It was used because it proved to be such a widely adapted summer growing grass. However, it was restricted along the Gulf coast because of susceptibility to foliage diseases and because of its striking resemblance to Johnson grass, and where mixed was difficult to detect. For this reason farmers who do not already have Johnson grass on their lands hesitate to make use of Sudan grass even though they need it. Furthermore Sudan grass as it was introduced was neither sweet nor juicy.

Sudan grass is a member of the sorghum family, with other members of which it crosses readily, Karper explains, and it has therefore been possible to correct the shortcomings of Sudan grass by incorporating into it desirable characters from Leoti, a sweet sorghum variety. The plant breeding problem was to compound a new synthetic variety by transferring the characters of sweet and juicy stems, non-shattering seed, disease resistance, and the distinctive sienna glume color from the Leoti sweet sorghum while retaining the grassy characteristics of Sudan grass. This has been accomplished through crossing, backcrossing and selection in the greenhouse and in the field over a period of several years by the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station in

cooperation with the Bureau of Plant Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Has Distinctive Seeds

Sweet Sudan grass is both sweet and juicy. It has a distinctive glume (seed) color readily distinguishable from Johnson grass or the common Sudan grass, is quite resistant to several of the foliage diseases commonly encountered where the crop is now grown, and has seed that shatter from the head less than that of the common variety. In growth, habit and production the old and the new strains are strikingly similar.

Sweetness and juiciness are common characteristics of sweet sorghums and their incorporation into Sudan grass has made it more palatable to cattle as shown by planting the old and new strains on adjoining areas and allowing cattle to graze them at will. As the breeding work progressed selection was made in rows well grazed by the cattle. During the years, there were several food demonstrations of the preference that cattle had for the new sweet and juicy strain which was grazed literally into the ground while the common Sudan grass was grazed only to the height of about one foot from the soil.

Has Strong Resistance

Leoti, the sweet sorghum parent, is resistant to several foliage diseases common to the area where Sudan grass is now grown. Most of the resistance has been transmitted to the new variety but Sweet Sudan is still somewhat deficient with respect to foliage disease resistance because the Leoti parent itself is not resistant to all of the diseases that infect sorghums in certain areas of greater rainfall and where few of the sorghums can be used at present on this account. Work is continuing to correct this deficiency but it will involve work in several areas, requiring several years. (This work has now progressed almost to the perfect stage.—Editor.)

The growing of 40 to 50 million pounds of Sudan grass seed is an industry of magnitude concentrated in the area. A single adverse climatic condition such as untimely frost or cool fall harvesting period with high winds frequently results in the loss of literally millions of pounds of seed which break or shatter from the heads. The new variety, Sweet Sudan, is somewhat resistant to seed shattering than the common variety and such losses will be greatly reduced.

Johnson Grass Invades

There was a time, when agriculture in this region was in its infancy, when Johnson grass was not to be found at all in many counties. Unfortunately Johnson grass has now become widespread.

It is not uncommon at the present time to encounter carloads of Sudan grass at railway terminals which have been rejected by purchasers because of the presence of Johnson grass seed in small amounts. This contamination with Johnson grass takes place in the field where the seed is grown. A very small percentage of contamination is not evident to the

local buyer or sometimes even to the farmer, and only a trained seed analyst is willing to say definitely whether a Sudan grass sample is or is not free from Johnson grass. With the new Sudan grass, anyone can detect the Johnson grass because Sweet Sudan grass has a glume or hull that is sienna or reddish brown in color. Johnson grass seed has glumes which are black, brownish black or blackish straw in color and such seeds are easily recognized among sienna colored seeds. Contaminated lots of seed can therefore be rejected when offered for sale. It will also erase the fear of the farmer planting seed which might include Johnson grass. The sienna glume color has another advantage since it will distinguish the sweet and juicy strain from the ordinary Sudan grass.

Large Supply

The supply of foundation seed grown in 1942 was relatively small but was sufficient to insure a large supply of commercial seed in 1945 and 1946. The distribution of foundation seed in 1943 was of necessity limited to experienced Sudan grass seed growers, but new quantities of seed will be distributed annually until the new variety becomes established.

Sudan grass, therefore, which arrived in the New World to find a much more glorious place than it ever had achieved in its native land, has now an offspring which is even better than itself and is expected to achieve even greater results.

Acid Stains—Use Alkali Bleaches

Summer garments spoiled by perspiration stains can sometimes be reclaimed. Since body perspiration is usually acid, stains should be counteracted with alkali.

Dampen the spot with water and hold it for a few minutes over the fumes from a bottle of ammonia water. Or—for cotton, linen and other materials that do not water-spot—dilute the ammonia to half strength, apply directly to the stain, and wash.

Yellow stains on white material will sometimes vanish when bleached in the sun. If not, use a solution of hydrogen peroxide.

Nitrogen in Soil Prevents Decay

Prevailing wet weather has stimulated growth of rot and fungi on fruit trees, and should be guarded against by spraying, cultivation, and application of nitrogen fertilizer.

Nitrogen in the soil is lost under continued rainfall, causing trees to turn yellow, resulting in heavy shedding of the fruit. The first step is checking weed growth through shallow cultivation, with an application of one-half pound of nitrate of soda or ammonium sulphate per tree. This will add nitrogen, and tend to check the shedding.

Fashion Came With Millinery Store

Vernon, Tex.—(WNS)—Pioneer women dressed in the height of fashion here after Mrs. Virgie Hewitt established a dressmaking and millinery business here in March, 1888.

Woodward Called Health Spot by French Surgeons

WOODWARD, Okla. (WNS).—In 1908 a group of French surgeons proclaimed the area of which Woodward is the center as an ideal climatic health spot. Seeking for their government a location suitable for the treatment of tuberculosis, they made this report on Woodward's lime-phosphorous area and 2,000 foot altitude:

"In the United States of North America on the 100 degree of longitude west of Greenwich we found an area the like of which does not exist in the world. From a central point on the said 100 degrees mid-way between the Arkansas River in Kansas and the Red River in Texas, a circle drawn with that point as the center, with a radius of 100 miles, will contain an area within which the tubercle bacillus does not and cannot exist."

Woodward's Chamber of Commerce revealed this story in a brochure on the city's attraction as a recreational center.

New Power Plant Owners Plan To Improve Service

HOBBS, N. M. (WNS).—Purchase of the New Mexico Electric Service Co. by James M. Murray, Jr., and J. F. Maddox was recently announced. The purchase, which included plants at Hobbs, Eunice and Jal in the south half of Lea County, was from the American Power and Light Co.

Officers of the new company are J. F. Maddox, president, J. M. Murray, Jr., Dwight P. Teed, R. E. Birmingham, and Tom E. Murray.

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Amarillo, Texas

Taloga Residents Recall Gold Rush

TALOGA, OKLA. (WNS).—Citizens of this region, especially the early pioneers, still recall when the area almost had a gold rush similar to the '49ers.

Shortly after Pete and Lizzie Hamm filed on their claim in 1899, Mrs. Hamm had a dream so vivid of gold on their land that she prayed constantly it would be found and developed.

More than 40 years ago Dr. Yoakum visited the territory from California. He also believed gold might be below the Hamm property and dug a shaft 50 feet into the ground, taking assays each 10 feet.

Gold was located! One assay showed gold to the amount of \$8 per ton, not enough for commercial mining but still traces of gold.

Pete Hamm died soon thereafter and Mrs. Hamm married Arthur Quintal and in the following years, up until about 25 years ago, scores of gold seekers prospected in the Oklahoma hills.

Mrs. Quintal died only a few years ago still believing gold to be on her land.

George Berry now owns the original property but the abandoned site of the first gold hunt still remains affording memories to settlers of the region of what might have been a gold rush.

New Section Is Added to Artesia

ARTESIA, N. M. (WNS).—A former cotton patch has almost overnight been changed into Artesia's newest addition, Alta Vista.

The Carper Drilling Co. of this city bought the land, drew up plans, made surveys. Sidewalks and gutters were constructed, rock and asphalt brought in, and streets paved. After plans were approved by the FHA, approval was given by county commissioners and dedication made. Cost of the project was \$78,000, and city estimates for sewer and water lines are around \$55,000.

About 84 of the 130 lots in the addition have been sold and minimum home construction cost for the addition is \$4,000. A tract of land 150 feet by 300 feet was sold to the Artesia School District at cost for the erection of a school building, and plans have been made for a neighborhood business section in one part of the addition.

The Carper Drilling Co. recently completed construction of a \$200,000 office building in Artesia, said to be one of the finest in the Southwest, and at this time is working on two other office buildings.

Farmers Plan 67 Miles New Roads

BROWNFIELD, TEX. (WNS).—Terry County is soon to have 67 additional miles of paved farm-to-market roads, which, according to County Judge H. R. Winston, will mean that "no farmer will have to drive over four or five miles to get to a paved highway."

The network of roads will extend into all parts of the county, serving as connecting links to the county's present highways that run out of this county seat to Lubbock, Odessa, Roswell, Fort Worth, Lamesa and Levelland.

The new roads will be financed by county road bonds voted several months ago and by state and Federal funds. The total cost will be \$564,000, of which \$375,000 will be county funds for 40 miles of road, and \$189,000 state and Federal aid to build 27 miles.

"Work on the roads will get underway as soon as we can get the engineers here," Judge Winston said. "They can't come until we find them houses and there's quite a shortage of that commodity here."

Woodward Famous For Sirloin Steak

WOODWARD, OKLA. (WNS).—A "KC" sirloin would be a "W" sirloin, if claims of livestock men in this area could change the old custom. The famous steak attained its fame because Woodward steers furnished the meat, they say. They quote Phillip Armour, founder of the packing house family, who in 1899 said in an interview that his success in the packing business was due to the fact that he secured his cattle from the range where tuberculosis does not exist. Further, the lime-phosphorus laden soil adds proteins and vitamins to the diet of livestock through buffalo grass, feeds and wheat grown here.

CONSTRUCTING HOMES FOR RETURNEES



Leland Glass, president of the building program, and John Cox, secretary-treasurer, assure veterans of Sweetwater there will be ample homes for the returning fighting men who served the United States.

Sweetwater Businessmen Assure Veterans a Nice Homecoming

SWEETWATER, TEX. (WNS).—This city is doing something about homes for returning veterans, not planning.

City officials recently decided talking was not going to provide homes for returning GI's, many of whom are local boys wanting to go into business for themselves but unable to find places to live. Rather than have veterans seek other towns to start businesses, because of housing problems, the Sweetwater Home Builders, Inc., was organized.

Sponsored by the Board of City Development, with L. A. Wilke, manager, this organization is composed of local business men. Leland Glass, president, is also vice-president of the Board of City Development and a grocer. Vice-president is Lee Ballew, broom manufacturer. John Cox, a jeweler, serves as secretary-treasurer. Directors are L. L. Armor, druggist, and Harley Sadler, business man and former showman.

Sweetwater Home Builders, Inc., is a \$40,000 corporation, with all money in a revolving fund. Funds are used for constructing homes. Houses sold to GI's are financed

Coleman County Expands Industry

COLEMAN, TEX. (WNS).—Mineral resources go deeper beneath the land of Coleman County than its mountains and peaks do above it. Although Santa Anna and Bead Mountains and Robinson Peak served as landmarks for Indians and other settlers, today's oil, natural gas, clays, coal and salt deposits attract modern enterprise.

While it is one of the leading poultry producers in the state, Coleman County is increasing its dairy cattle and improving the quality of beef cattle in line with present market demands. On the 1,887 farms in the county, cotton, wheat, oats, grain sorghums, corn, peanuts, sweet potatoes, and Sudan are the leading field crops, and much alfalfa and clover are grown.

Expansion plans for the city are in the making to include a \$1,600,000 filtration plant, street improvements, a new lake for water supply, paving of streets, and numerous other additions for a population estimated at 7,500, in a county of 20,571.

Oil drilling continues, and a brick plant, oil mill, machine shops, an oil refinery, a cheese plant, and feed mills utilize the products of the area.

Recreation facilities are plentiful, with good fishing in the many artificial lakes in the county. In the beautiful Coleman City Park is a replica of the administration building at the old federal military post, Camp Colorado, on Jim Ned Creek northeast of Coleman.

by the FFA or the government, and this money returned for additional building. Purpose of the organization is to build low cost houses of good construction, permanent homes in a price range of \$3,000 to \$6,000 for veterans and business men. They have been very successful in obtaining materials and keeping costs down while building worthwhile properties.

Permits have been secured for 37 houses. Three are already completed and six others are now under construction.

This organization is making it possible for veterans to remain in

Sweetwater, and contribute to business and industrial expansion.

Potatoes, Cereals Save Scarce Wheat

The best way of conserving wheat for starving nations is to use foods now abundant.

One small serving of potatoes will replace a slice of bread, oatmeal servings will replace two slices. Corn meal can be used in bread, griddle cakes, or in meat and poultry stuffing to save wheat and flour to be sent overseas.

Scotch Baked From Irishmen

Condensed from a story by JUDGE R. C. CRANE

SWEETWATER, TEX. (WNS).—Chained to a mesquite tree, early day lawbreakers of Nolan County paid the price for recalcitrance in the West Texas sun. D. S. Arnold, an early resident here, recalled that on his arrival in Sweetwater, late in 1882, he saw two Irishmen locked with chains to mesquite trees near the west end of the T & P depot.

In 1881 the Commissioners Court passed this order, at a time when no jail existed in the county: "That the county convicts be made to work on county improvements, cleaning out the streets of Sweetwater, grubbing up stumps, and the convict be allowed \$1 a day when he works 10 hours, and if he refuses to work or is refractory, to be fed on bread and water and not be allowed anything else until he is willing to perform good work, and to be chained to a mesquite tree away from any person so as to be solitary until he works a sufficient number of days to pay his fine and all costs for each day he may work 10 hours good work, and not allowed any whiskey or intoxicating liquors of any kind whatsoever."

Advice for Good Milk Production

The rise and fall of Texas milk production during the year is too great.

Since June pasture conditions do not last all the year, the next best thing is to have supplemental hay, pasture and silage.

For more nearly continuous production, farmers should supply one acre of sudan grass per cow for hot weather grazing, one acre small grain per cow in cold weather, and three to six tons of silage plus one ton of hay per cow.

Feed, however, isn't the only item to consider. Cool shade in summer and warm shelter in winter help a lot.

Peter Cooper, 1791-1883, constructed the first locomotive in America. He once received 100,000 votes for president.

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Yes . . .
People
Do
Get
Well



Not
Just
Temporary
Relief

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DID IT
ever occur to you that you are still suffering, because you think that your case is incurable, and that nothing can be done about it?

IF YOU
could be entirely well, but refuse something that has helped so many people over the United States to health. Do you not think that possibly you are making the greatest mistake of your life?

CONSIDER
1st. Sixteen years of successful practice during which time—we are not bragging—but can actually show you by the people that we have treated more cases successfully than any one in the world.
2nd. There is only one cause for Asthma and only one cause for Hayfever. And when this one cause for each disorder is properly treated and corrected, it is impossible for you to suffer any longer.
3rd. The fact there is only one cause for each disorder—together—with the fact these treatments have proven successful to hundreds of people over the United States, ranging in ages from 7 months to 82 years. People that had suffered for years and years. People that say had suffered all their lives. People, you might say, had one foot in the grave, that are well and enjoying life today. Do you not think that you have the same opportunity as they?

4th. Asthma and Hayfever are never inheritable. They are acquired disorders. Yes, you have acquired your suffering. Do you not think that you can acquire your health?
5th. Where a person has given their 100 per cent cooperation, I can truthfully say, these treatments have never failed. However, we do not take all cases. For instance, people that have other complications that would hinder their advancement.
6th. These treatments are so effective

YOUR RELIEF SHOULD COME WITHIN FIVE DAYS TIME
THE FACTS
concerning your case are very simple. Yes, as simple and as sure as 2 plus 2 equals 4. So simple, a small child can understand the reason for your suffering.

WHY
BE SKEPTICAL—AND SUFFER THE CONSEQUENCES, You never had a better opportunity to get well—THAN NOW.

DR. GLEN SIMMONS
ASTHMA HAYFEVER CLINIC

13 YEARS IN LITTLEFIELD, TEXAS

Lost Hearing and Sight When Baby, Yet Now Living Busy Normal Life

THROCKMORTON, TEX. (WNS).—It would seem impossible that a grown woman, robbed of her two main senses at the age of 18 months, could knit, sew, type with great rapidity and accuracy and do numerous other things which, under the circumstances, appear to be out of the question.

This, however, is the case of 62-year-old Miss Willie Elizabeth Robin of Throckmorton, Texas. Born July 12, 1884, on Hogg Creek, Throckmorton, she lost both sight and hearing simultaneously as the after-effects of an attack of spinal meningitis.

Her mother, Mrs. Amanda Robin whom she still lives with, was now faced with a new problem—how to educate the child. The human conceptions of an 18-month-old are very few. Had she absorbed enough in her infancy to learn, now that her sight and hearing had departed her forever? The answer to this major problem wasn't too long in forthcoming...

Search for Teacher

Sometime later, two friends of the then young Willie Robin were discussing the merits of Helen Keller with her parents. As it was their wish that Willie become educated, too, they wrote the school in Austin, Texas. The school in answer informed them that nobody in the United States could teach anyone in such a condition, but this discouraging reply tended only to increase their efforts.

Mr. Anagnos of Perkins Institution for the Blind, South Boston, Massachusetts, was next contacted. He readily consented to admit Willie to the Boston school, with the understanding that her parents contribute what they could to her education and board while there. He and the State kindly paid the rest, Texas compensating later.

Meet Helen Keller

At the age of six, Miss Robin and her mother, journeyed to Boston. Upon their arrival they recall meeting the famous Helen Keller, who has done so much toward inspiring other deaf-blind persons to make something of their lives. And it was the mention of this learned woman that started Willie Robin on her own path to intellectual success.

To sum up the various methods a school for the blind and deaf employs in instructing its pupils would require no less than a full volume. Let it suffice to say that Willie studied hard, never faltering on her road to normal learning, undaunted in the face of outnumbering odds.

On June 5, 1906, Miss Willie Robin graduated at the Boston theater. Her mother was, overjoyed, needless to say, and they returned to Texas the following month.

Reads Braille

Mrs. G. M. Riley, a neighbor of Miss Robin for years who but, recently moved into her home, reveals that when she first attempted to talk to her the use of a Braille board was mandatory. She now, however, uses her fingers upon those of Miss Robin, who replies both by her own fingers and speaking. Her speech, incidentally, is distinguishable—another feat she accomplished while attending Boston school. Mrs. Riley's 13-year-old daughter, Jean, now uses the braille board when conversing with Miss Robin, but anticipates employing the use of her

fingers for conversational purposes in the near future.

A while back, Mrs. Riley happened to mention in conversation her son, who was in the Navy. Miss Robin readily called off all the ranks, asking which was his.

Several incidents worthy of mention in the life of Miss Robin were brought to light by Mrs. Riley. One day, for instance, she shook hand with a man she hadn't seen for over 10 years. He was immediately recognized by the touch of his hand. Whenever Miss Robin enters conversation with a person, she first grasps their hand. Should she know them, she readily speaks their name. If they are strangers, she says "howdy."

Receives Several Books

Another time while having dinner she laughed, said, "I'm going to visit the Solomon Islands in my book today." She receives braille editions of the Readers Digest, American, Newsweek and numerous other publications regularly. Inasmuch as she reads all the time, she has acquired a vast worldly knowledge which she adds to from day to day, never forgetting a thing she has read.

Asked to type something, she sat down, adjusting the typewriter as quickly as one who had the use of their eyes could. Mrs. Riley, present at the time, was asked why she was hesitating. She replied, "Willie doesn't like to type just anything. When she does start writing, it will be about Madam Curie and her scientist husband, the Madam's discovery of radium and how it helped in the early cure of cancer, and this famous woman's two trips to America. She writes on a standard typewriter, having learned on a braille model. Her copy was carefully looked over, but not one mistake had been made!

Sees With Fingers

Mrs. Riley mentions the time Miss Robin cleaned the stove. She herself—Mrs. Riley—put it back together, but failed to place one of the top burner plates correctly. "Willie noticed it at once," Mrs. Riley said. "When I asked her how she discovered the mistake so quickly, she laughed and said, 'Others see with their eyes—I see with my fingers.'"

What really amazes friends and relatives of Miss Robin is the latter's ability to perform such uncanny feats as putting stamps on envelopes right side up, addressing postcards on the front side and separating not only her own clothes but everyone else's as well after they've been brought in from the line. "How she does it, I don't know," said Mrs. Riley.

A book, dedicated to the untiring efforts of her mother, has been written by Miss Robin and published. In all ways Miss Willie Elizabeth Robin is normal, with the possible exception of her education, which is above average. It is her sincere hope, as well as her friends and family's, that this book of her life brings hope and joy to other persons unfortunate enough to be without their sight and hearing.

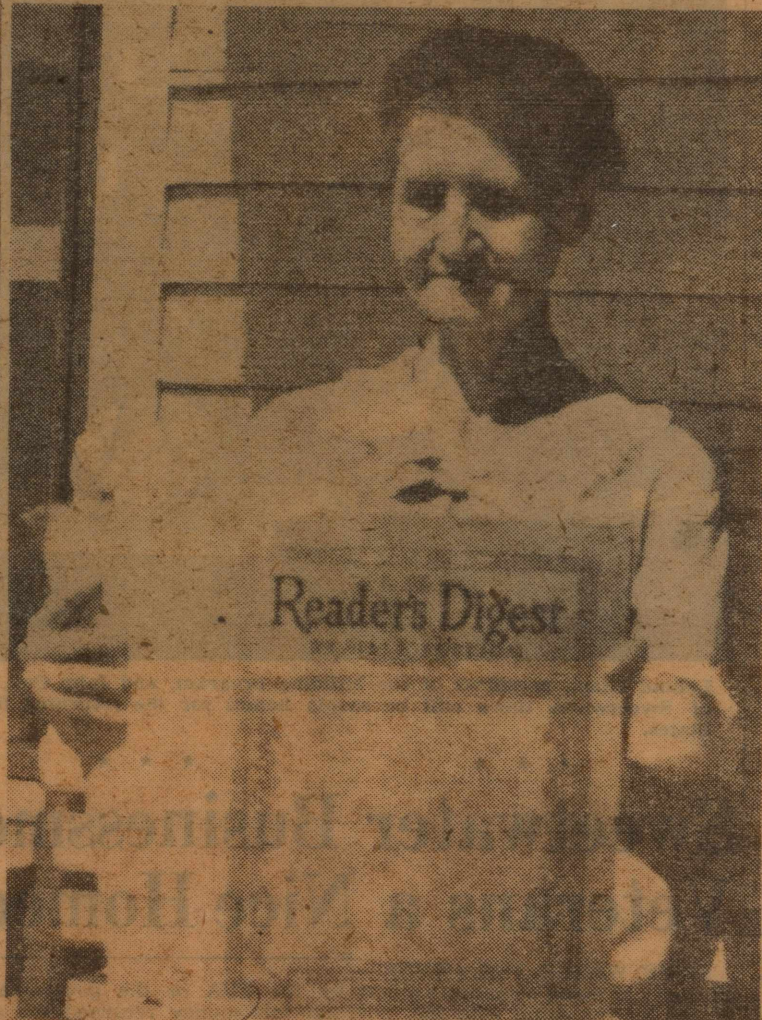
Home Canners Are Asked to Check Pressure Gauges

COLLEGE STATION, TEX. (WNS).—Home canners who have the dial type gauge on their pressure canners should have the gauge checked with a master gauge before they begin canning this year, warns Gwendolyn Jones of the Extension Service. The weighted type gauge will need only a thorough cleaning.

Testing of the gauge will mean that temperatures inside the cooker will register correctly, preventing spoilage from under-heated food, or loss of nutritive value.

As a rule the county home demonstration agent can advise housewives on how to get the gauges checked, and dealers who sell canners, as well as the public service department of power companies, usually will have a master gauge.

If the test shows the gauge registers too high or too low, Miss Jones suggests that a reminder tag be tied to the canner showing how many pounds of pressure to allow.



Miss Willie Elizabeth Robin keeps up with the world events through such magazines as the Readers Digest, which she is holding. Miss Robin not only keeps herself informed of events through braille editions, but is an author, too.

Vernon Gains Prestige From Diversified Crops

VERNON, TEX. (WNS).—Known as the "City Beautiful," Vernon has built an enviable prestige on diversified farming, livestock, oil, small industries and civic consciousness. Furthermore, the citizens of this city are not satisfied, they have launched an expansion program all over again as a post-war objective second to none.

Strategically located, Vernon has sufficient transportation facilities to invite such expansion. A modern municipal airport with concrete runways capable of handling the largest planes, insures the city a share of the future of aviation.

Bank Deposits Boom

The city's bank deposits are in excess of \$14,000,000. Its postal receipts approximate \$100,000 annually; Telephone connections total more than 2,000; gas and light meters, 3,000, and water meters, 2,500. The city has four well-equipped theaters, and a host of other amusement facilities, three public parks and playgrounds, two swimming pools, a beautiful country club and golf course, three splendid hospitals and eight modern brick school buildings. Its city population is in excess of 12,000.

But, akin to all of West Texas, Vernon was not content until it had an annual attraction of national importance. That attraction materialized this year when Paul Waggoner launched the Santa Rosa Exposition and Rodeo which is unequalled in any city the size of Vernon. The Exposition plant itself approximates \$200,000 in investment. It is a memorial to the entire Southwest and promises to be the major such attraction within a decade.

Now the city is using the very latest type of municipal street lighting which will make it the best lighted city in West Texas. There is a movement under way to convert Victory Field, a war-time air center, into an Industrial Colony. The least one can say for Vernon citizens is that they are ever progressive regardless of the cause.

Raise Livestock

Diversification has been the keynote of agricultural interests around Vernon the past few years, as attention has turned from cotton, as "the one money crop," and new emphasis is placed on livestock.

Cotton is still the No. 1 money-producing crop, but farmers as well as old-time livestock men are showing a new interest in blooded

livestock. Dairying and beef-cattle production both are coming in for their share of attention. Feeding out is becoming a popular business, and no longer must local people "tighten their belts" in direct ratio to the decline of cotton.

While the W. T. Waggoner Ranch, one of the largest ranches in the nation, can match section per section with any breeder of registered Herefords, the livestock interest no longer is limited to big spreads. Small farmers have discovered this is a profitable way to market feed, produced so readily on the fertile soil of this region. Club boys, future farmers, and others are pointing the way to an ever increasing interest in feeding out calves.

Vernon is rapidly becoming the "central" business point between Amarillo and Fort Worth.

Help Feed Nation

The big ranches of this section have helped to feed the nation since the days of the "trails" and great cattle drives. They contributed vitally to food production during the war, and were joined by "little men" in this production of essential food. Now, both big and little interests are deliberately strengthening the livestock industry to make it even more important than in the past.

The BIG money income for the Vernon trade territory is derived from three sources—agriculture, with cotton, wheat, alfalfa, and grain sorghums as the principal crops, cattle and oil. The territory immediately adjacent to Vernon and much additional acreage in neighboring counties in Northwest Texas and Southwestern Oklahoma is sub-irrigated and produces abundant yields of crops which ordinarily require irrigation. Favorable rainfall and a mild climate make the ranges of the territory far above average for production of cattle and sheep. Seldom do you see cattle grazing on spring wheat fields in this area.

As a livestock market Vernon is unusual among the smaller cities of the Southwest. The presence of the plant of the only Federally inspected meat packing plant in the Northern part of Texas between Fort Worth and El Paso insures a steady demand for cattle, hogs and sheep at prices equal to those paid in distant markets. This means a saving of transportation costs to farmers and ranchers.

Distribution Center

In recent years Vernon has be-

Dickens County One of Finest Hunting Areas

SPUR, TEX. (WNS).—Located in the land below the Caprock, this town and Dickens, the county seat, share in the trade and benefits of Dickens County, which is enriched by \$5,000,000, the annual value of farm crops, and \$374,406, the value of livestock.

Cotton has long been the major cash crop in the county, but the recent trend toward grain sorghums indicates it as the coming money crop. Wheat, oats, hay and alfalfa are also grown, and home canning has preserved up to 500,000 quarts of fruit, vegetables and meat a year for home use. Parts of three large ranches are located in Dickens County: Mator, Spur and Pitchfork.

Dickens County is one of the state's finest quail-hunting areas, and its spring stock show attracts buyers from all over the state. The State Agricultural Experiment Station here is visited by state, national and international figures almost weekly.

There are 1,031 farms in the county, with 107,058 acres under cultivation. Two 4-H Clubs have a membership of 165 girls and 111 boys, while 85 youngsters participate in FFA work, and the 11 HD Clubs have 181 members. The Dickens County Electric Cooperative hopes to serve 364 members when present lines are completed. It already has 130 miles of line completed.

come a center for production and distribution of planting seed of many kinds, notably cotton and grain sorghums, although gardens and other field seeds are processed and distributed over much of the territory of the South and Southwest.

Cotton and wheat are the major sources of cash income for farmers; although production of hay (principally alfalfa) and other feed crops is gradually assuming a place of larger importance in the agricultural economy of the section. Facilities for processing and preparing for shipment agricultural products include modern grain elevators, feed mills, gins, cotton compress and cotton seed oil mills.

Industry is well represented by plants producing a wide variety of finished products. Major industries are oil production and refining, meat packing plants for processing farm products. Other plants turn out such commodities as food products, heating and cooling equipment for home and business houses, tanks, culverts, and other metal products; sash, doors, cabinets and other wood works; mattresses and upholstery; soft drinks. Modern machine and tool shops serve industrial plants over a wide territory.

Oil in Territory

Several thousand oil wells in the Vernon trade area in both Texas and Oklahoma provide a steady source of income for labor, landowners and business interests. The fields have been producing for more than 25 years and are being constantly extended by discoveries of new producing areas.

Such is the Vernon and Wilbarger County offered to industrial development today.

Memories

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BUTLER BROTHERS FOUNDED FIVE & TEN CENT STORES

On a narrow cobblestone street in Boston back in 1877, two brothers, George and Edward Butler, united in forming a partnership under the name of "Butler Brothers" for the purpose of distributing goods to retail store owners. Over the doorway of their small shop was tacked a sign reading: "Butler Brothers—Specialties in Small-ware," and in this tiny 16x40 foot space was born a wholesale business which was destined to become the world's largest wholesale distributor of general merchandise.

After the first few months operation Edward, in order to "move some goods" which had accumulated, conceived the idea of selling an assortment of items at 40c a dozen and suggested to retailers that they be grouped together on a counter at a uniform price of five cents. With each order he shipped a small display sign reading "Everything On This Counter 5c."

So well received was his suggestion of a 5c counter that he soon added an assortment of goods to retail at 10c. The 5 & 10 Cent counter caught on immediately and it was Jason Bailey of Boston who, after seeing the public's acceptance of this novel retail selling idea, called on Butler Brothers and opened the world's first variety store in Boston with an \$800.00 stock of 5c specialties. Thus came about the beginning of the variety store business—a phase in retailing that accounts for a large portion of the nation's business today.

The idea of variety merchandise spread westward; many merchants welcomed the invitation to patronize a firm that specialized. It became necessary for Butler Brothers to expand and they moved to Chicago in 1879, later opening branches in New York, St. Louis, Minneapolis, Dallas (1911), San Francisco and Baltimore.

The variety business grew from the start; soon other concerns were entering the field. Variety stores that were adhering strictly to 5c merchandise soon expanded and were selling items at 5c, 10c, 25c to \$1.00. The national 5c to \$1.00 stores were quick to see the possibility of variety selling and started developing scientific plans for retailing 5c to \$1.00 merchandise. Today such chains as Woolworth, Kresge, Kress, Newberry and others have expanded from coast to coast and are doing a large part of the nation's business on 5c to \$1.00 merchandise.

Seeing the rapid development of national chains, Butler Brothers anticipated independent variety store operators would need guidance and assistance to meet this keen competition to remain in business. Up to this time, Butler Brothers was the supplier of the nation's independently-owned variety stores... operated by owners who were not keeping pace with variety store developments. In order to maintain their position in the variety field, Butlers developed plans to assist the independent merchant. Under the guidance of Mr. T. B. Freeman, now president of Butler Brothers and former owner of his own chain of

variety stores, was developed the present Distributor Store plan.

Variety stores opened under this plan are called Ben Franklin Stores; the dry goods outlets are known as Federated Stores... in both cases they are home-owned. The only relationship between these Distributor Stores and Butler Brothers is an agreement giving Butler Brothers an adequate and permanent outlet for their merchandise, guaranteeing the store owner that he will receive the merchandise and services necessary for a sound business.

The professional guidance and service furnished under this plan is available to the merchant at a reasonable fee and enables him to compete with any kind of competition. Ben Franklin and Federated Stores are located on the main streets of towns and cities of all sizes, in every state in the union. They sell the kind of merchandise that receives mass acceptance—everyday requirements for every household and all the necessities of daily American life.

Distributor Stores are owned by people in all walks of life; their size is determined by the requirements of the trading area. In establishing a Distributor Store, it is Butler Brothers first duty to select the right location. This is done after careful study and analysis of many factors of Butler's Location Department, which includes reporting on probable sales volume and profit, business conditions in the particular community, size of the store, length of the lease, and the desirable or "100% block."

After the location is selected, Butler Brothers construction and store engineers design the store, plan a suitable store front, select appropriate fixtures and lighting equipment. In preparing the store for the opening, Butler Brothers provides the assistance of an expert who supervises the merchandise arrangements. This is followed with monthly promotional programs, personnel training, and guidance in financing, sales, purchases, stockkeeping, and operations. Periodic visits are made by Store Superintendents who review all phases of the business and assist the independent store owner with professional guidance in the operation of his store.

To open a small Ben Franklin Store requires an investment of \$15,000 to do a \$35,000 business the first year with a net return to the owner of \$3,675 including salary. Third year returns should climb to \$4,600, on a volume of \$40,000. Federated Stores, with an annual volume of \$45,000, require an investment of approximately \$22,000. In the first year it should yield the owner \$5,400, the third year \$6,800.

Thus, from an early beginning in that small store in Boston, was founded the variety business. Today national variety stores and home-owned Distributor Stores are serving the public from coast to coast and making money for thousands of merchants.

WAYNOKA, OKLA. (WNS). Belle, a mare mule, has no children of her own, so she steals the offspring of other animals. It gets very confusing.

Belle is owned by Orval McNally, and is on his Cream Line Jersey Farm near Springdale, Okla. She is 25 years old, and was bought by McNally when only a little over two years old.

Belle's strange hobby was noticed by the owner one day when he saw a colt following her across the pasture. She had lured the colt away from its mother. Ever since that time she has adopted all the jersey calves. They go back to their mothers at meal time, but when they've eaten, they always return to Belle. They seem quite fond of her.

Large Oil Field Is Expected Near Boise City, Okla.

BOISE CITY, OKLA. (WNS).—Tempo of oil operations here has accelerated, with new oil discoveries bringing prospects of a large field comparable to the Amarillo or Hugoton, Kansas fields.

The Pure Oil Company has drilled 12 wells. Though producing wells have been shut down temporarily because of lack of storage and transportation facilities, the company is building a camp north of Keyes, Okla., and expects to have 75 homes completed this fall.

The first five wells drilled made the following showings: two producing 20,000,000 cubic feet of gas each; one, on state land, flowed 190 barrels daily; one dry hole; one showing gas in commercial quantity.

The next four wells showed: No. 1 Johnson tested in January pumped 25 barrels daily at 5,010 feet; No. 1 Jernyn pumped 20 barrels an hour at 4,906 feet; No. 1 McCoy was a dry hole; No. 1 Sparkman had a small showing of gas at 5,015 feet.

City School Named For Pioneer Grocer

(Condensed from Vernon Times) Vernon, Tex.—(WNS)—Parker School in this city was named for B. J. Parker, who came to the county in 1889, and engaged in the grocery business with Gill and Colbert. Parker served on the school board for a number of years.

NEW POSTHOLE DIGGER DOES WORK OF 12 MEN

STAMFORD, TEX.—Bate's, Inc., of this city announced today they have appointed more than 100 farm equipment dealers in West Texas to supply the demand for the new Piper "Speeddigger," a tractor mounted post-hole digger designed to fit all row crop tractors. This digger is belt driven and digs a post-hole in ten seconds. It is equipped with Etna bearings, runs in an oil bath, and has replaceable digging cups. The digging is done by an auger very similar to the old fashioned beam and fl. This tool takes the place of more than a dozen workmen.

Plainview Area Leads In Alfalfa Milling, Production Since '39

PLAINVIEW, TEX. (WNS).—This area has become one of the leading alfalfa production centers of the Southwest, thanks to the Denver Milling Company and the efforts of its Texas superintendent, George T. Wilson.

Wilson today, is contracting for still more alfalfa all over the Panhandle but where he once had to do "a lot of talking and showing" to potential growers, the farmers are now coming to him with contracts and increasing their acreage.

In 1939, less than 3,000 tons of alfalfa was grown on the entire South Plains; utilizing some 10,000 acres of land.

Alfalfa Increases

The Denver Alfalfa Milling and Products Company opened in Plainview and Lockney in 1941. Production of alfalfa increased some 5,000 acres in 1942, now more than 30,000 acres are in this crop and farmers promise to increase production as rapidly as irrigation wells can be placed in operation.

The Plainview and Lockney mills process more than 30,000 tons annually. This represents about an equal amount fed livestock in this area by the farmers, according to Wilson.

The company operates 36 of the plants between Michigan and California, a dozen in Colorado. The mills and dehydration machines here are the same size as other units boast. There are two dehydration drums in Plainview and one at the Lockney site.

Farmers average better than four ton of alfalfa per acre per season. Some average better than six tons per acre. Alfalfa pays up to \$75 an acre annually.

Price Guaranteed

If the farmer dealing with the plant wishes, the company supplies the seed, supervises the crop raising, furnishes necessary equipment and labor for harvesting and trucks the hay to the mill. The farmer is only required to water the crop. An established price, based upon this plan, is guaranteed the grower. Alfalfa must be watered two to three times before each cutting. The cost is between 25 and 50 cents for each watering.

If the farmer elects to do all the raising and harvesting of his crop, the company naturally pays more per ton delivered to the mills.

In 1944 the company paid out more than three-quarters of a million dollars for baled alfalfa hay. This figure will easily be exceeded this year, Wilson believes.

In addition to the sums paid farmers, the company contributes a huge payroll in more than six other sources. They pay to the

farmer who distribute to their workers; to baling crews, to truckers and their assistants, to stackers at the plant site, to mill employees and to its production crew. There are more than 200 on local payrolls.

Makes 30 Varieties

The company has approximately \$100,000 in field equipment at the local plants and more will be added each year as needed. It makes more than 30 varieties of alfalfa meal, sifted into 100 pound sacks. Sole outlet for the products are the food mixing plants over the nation. The company acreage would have to be doubled many times before the company can supply the full demand of the trade, Wilson declares.

Green alfalfa, which makes the much better finished meal, is 75 per cent water when it arrives at the dehydrating drum. Here it goes into a drying drum where the temperature is 2,000 degrees. The alfalfa whirls through these ovens in the flash of an eye and dry as powder before continuing through blowers to cool before going on to the mill for processing. The alfalfa is ground into powder, hammered into a smooth consistency, sifted and resifted before entering the sack at the end of the plants conveyor system. From here the sacks are carted to warehouses, stacked more than 100 sacks high to await winter shipment to the market.

Sun-cured alfalfa is first stacked outdoors in huge ricks to await milling as needed. The milling process is the same as employed with green alfalfa other than dehydration. But millers declare the dehydrated meal superior in all respects.

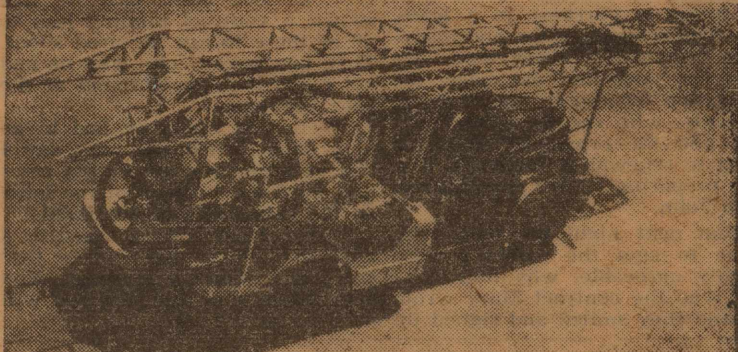
The three dehydration plants here are strange to this country but offer proof the Panhandle is capable of embracing new and strange industrial plants through agricultural possibilities.

Each plant has its own machine shops, repair units, fire shops, and battery equipment. Both have scores of shower bath houses and other accommodations for employees. Wilson demands the plant to expand to accommodate increased business. The result is a group of grateful and satisfied employees, pleased farmers and a richer community.

Started Poultry Business in '90s

(Condensed from Vernon Times) Vernon, Tex.—(WNS)—First poultry business in Wilbarger County was established by William Crutchfield, who came here in 1889.

ELI Rotary WATER WELL DRILL



MORE Hole FASTER at LOWER Cost

The answer to lower water well drilling costs—the ELI Model M-6W Rotary Drill is the first completely modern rig designed for water well drilling. This unit is a result of engineering skill and experience obtained in drilling more than FORTY MILLION feet

of hole. Mounted on a Standard 1½ ton truck, it is completely portable. Designed for extreme versatility, high-speed operation and low-cost upkeep, the M-6W gives greater drilling footage for YOUR money.

Proven ability and tested to drill to—
1,500 Feet 4 or 6 inch hole
250 Feet 18 inch hole
30-inch hole to shallower depths

Features: Two drum covered Draw Works; 14 foot hexagonal Kelly; 2½ inch Water Course throughout; endless roller chain Pull-Down; 3½ inch Drill Pipe in 10 foot lengths; 27½" welded Tubular

Mast, scientifically balanced. Can handle 20 foot lengths of casing. Pump size and type optional. Write for complete information. For smaller drilling and shot holes write for catalogs on the M5 and A3 Rotary Drills.

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Engineering Laboratories, Inc.

EAST FOURTH STREET

TULSA 3, OKLAHOMA

PLAY SAFE

"His lights blinded me!"

This statement is a common answer to hundreds of questions of why accidents occur at night. In a recent survey, based on a ratio of 300 night accidents, more than 285 gave such reason. There must be something behind such universal complaints.

Members of the Texas Highway Safety Department are pleading, lecturing and demanding cooperation from citizens of the state in promoting safety. Without such cooperation all laws are flexible; they are also unenforceable unless jurors are determined to prosecute.

But why, may we ask, don't we clean up our own roost before offering others advice? Why is it that Texas, the largest state in the Union, has failed to pass a law compelling motorists to dim lights when meeting other motorists after dark?

Have you ever driven along Texas highways, dimmed your lights and received no response? Remember the profanity uttered, or thoughts you had when this "scum of the earth" failed to reciprocate? Doesn't common courtesy demand a driver of an automobile adhere to road etiquette by dimming his lights if you dim yours? Then why, may we ask, doesn't Texas demand such a law be passed, as our neighboring states have demanded, and promote another safety MUST?

Soft shoulders along our ribbons of pavement; a culvert around the next curve; a dangerous underpass, then a curve as only Texas knows how to plot a dangerous highway. Invite another accident. If the fellow approaching won't dim his lights, your chances of not having an accident have diminished almost twofold, according to safety engineers.

Whether Texas ever passes such a law of dimming lights at night or not, common decency requires this courtesy. Any filling station attendant will tell you how your lights rate with legal requirements.

No one should have to tell you to DIM LIGHTS for the approaching driver. By doing so, all of us may live to tell of our trip tomorrow.

But, whether the approaching driver dims or not, dim your lights. He may be the type of driving fool your lights might blind and send him crashing head-on into your automobile.

For Safety First — Dim First!

Whereas Worries

By A PRAIRIE DOG LAWYER

"You can fix that corral gate in the morning, John. We are going to a dance tonight," called Mary Q. Public to her husband, who hadn't enough time to finish that latch before leaving. "But Mary, I've got to go into town to get our lawyer, Lex Law, to write up a contract to lease our building because those folks will be here tomorrow night and sign up."

But Mary won the argument with the reminder that there was a real estate sales contract form that uncle had used last month, and had left a copy of it with them. Mary promised to type it out the next morning herself and just change the name of the parties, the consideration, and the description of the land, and it would be all right.

At this same time Lex Law was reading a little law in his office that night with respect to fixtures becoming a part of the building, the right to exercise an election of option to purchase in a lease, the requirements of tax and insurance, what differences there are in gross sales and net sales, the obligation of repair and upkeep, the rules with respect to accounting, and the provisions with respect to renewal of the lease. Lex was preparing for his appointment with John.

That next night the folks who came to sign the contract were mighty agreeable; why they simply read the contract Mary wrote up and they smiled and signed up

without any argument, with no further discussion of the terms of anything. "They are sure a bunch of good people, Mary," commented John when they left with the signed contracts. "Why I thought they would want to talk a little more about those figures you put in that contract, but they just signed up and that makes us \$300 a month clear for the next ten years. They even left their check for the first \$3,600. We are on easy street at last."

It was a year later that John came into Lex Law's office. Why did the check read for only \$821.47? What is the meaning of all those figures about plumbing, roof repairs, insurance, property tax, differential between gross and net sales for the bonus part? Where was the bonus check for sales because it was a good year? What was the meaning of the election to buy by taking credit for rent money? Slowly and sadly Lex Law advised John that he had signed a contract binding him to all of those things inquired about. Then Lex asked John why he had not made that appointment of the year previous.

"Well, that night we had to go to a dance; then the next day I had to spend hunting up my cows that got loose because of the latch on the gate that was not fixed."

"Your legal corral needed a latch too, John. You wrote that one-sided contract yourself. You have made your bed and you will have to sleep in it."

Prairie Dog Pete Sez:

OBESITY: Surplus which has gone to waist. Maybe we dogs out in Prairie Dog Town don't know nothin' from nothin' but it 'peers to us the average American has allowed all of his troubles to center around his waist. Maybe that last word could also be spelled waste, as what we waste in the United States in one day, according to learned professors, would feed the starving Europeans for three weeks.

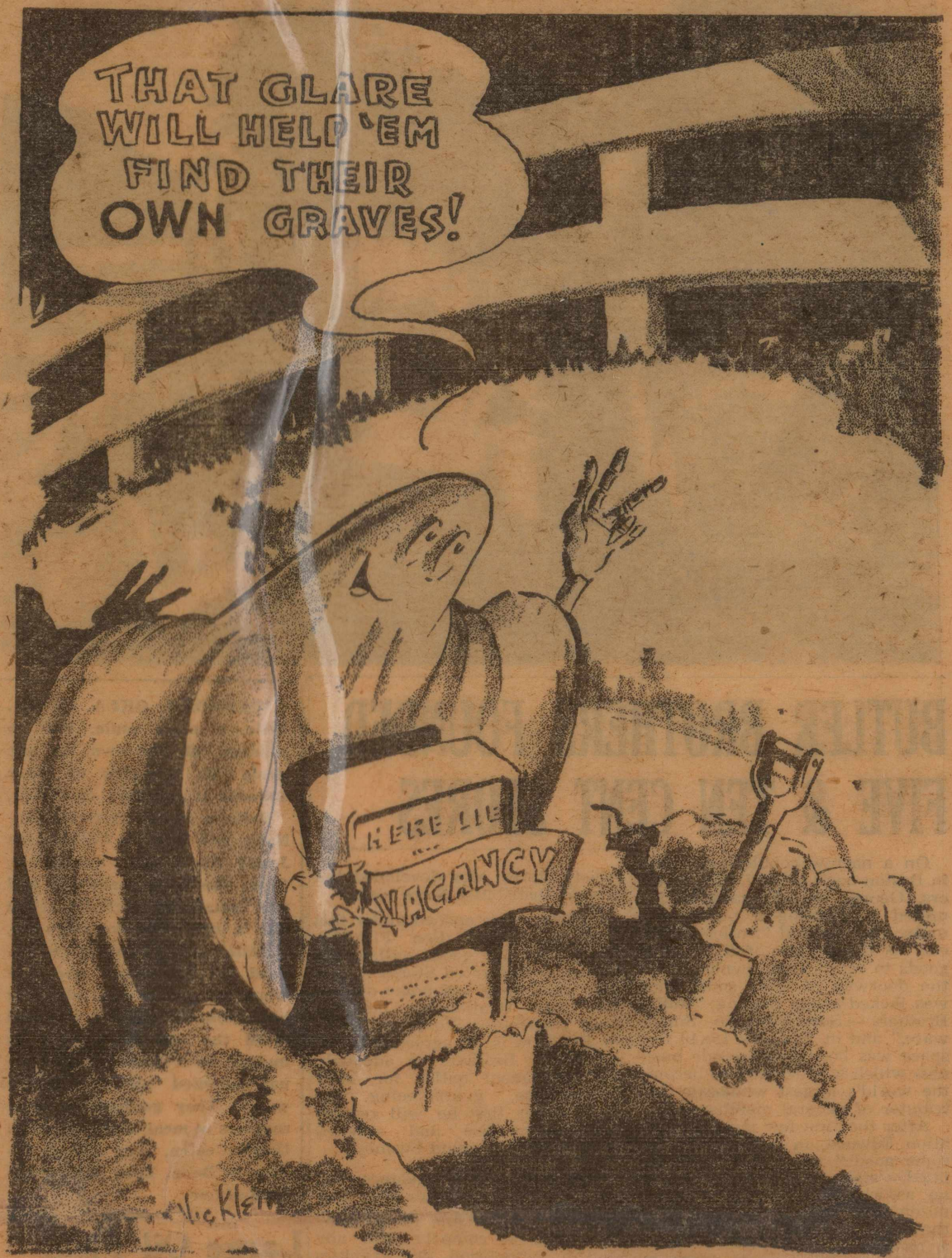
OVERHEARD in the next hole: "At times, when we tell the wife a story, we feel she isn't trying to believe it."

THE BARBER is about the only person who gets paid for getting in your hair.

IF THE business man of Western Oklahoma, Eastern New Mexico and West Texas doesn't cash-in on tourist trade the next three years it will be his own fault. The new maps for motorists give us the best colors on the market in telling our scenic attractions.



FOR SAFETY FIRST — DIM FIRST

THEN
and
NOW

By BRUCE FRAZIER

Optimism results from comparison of our lot in life with that of others. Pessimism is induced by self centered reflections wherein we fail to consider the fate and future of others. Mixing and mingling with folks better off in this world's goods than we are is pleasant physically, and temporarily but is not conducive to mental rest and permanent satisfaction. Envy and covetousness creep into the picture to mar the canvas on which a masterpiece might have been painted.

Regardless of the misfortunes that may have befallen us, there are many others within our range and field, who are worse off than we are. It is they, among whom we should move and visit. Any little kindness done, or service rendered reacts favorably on the general make-up of our combined physical and mental entity that we call self, in such a manner as to produce a satisfaction that transcends descriptions. It is, however, wholesome, healthful, and desirable.

It is unnecessary to search the far places for fitting subjects worthy of our care and protection. They are all about us in the communities in which we live. They are not always intigent, either. They may be rich in money but poor in health or mentality. Warped brains produce more misery than warped limbs. A nod, a smile, a word or gesture may mean more than coins dropped into an inverted hat. The private mental reflections on the doing of the little niceties of life is the reward which deflects our thoughts from our own troubles and therein lies the pay-off.

Experience makes a man wiser but leaves a woman a complete wreck.—Anon.

Let's Eat

Editor's Note: Recipes for the "Let's Eat" column should be submitted to the Cooking Editor, Box 2347, Amarillo, Texas. One dollar will be paid for each recipe upon publication.

Mrs. E. E. Wall, Sayre, Oklahoma, tempts the taste sense with Spiced Tea and a Nut Pudding. Here is the way Mrs. Wall cooks for her family.

SPICED TEA

Juice 3 lemons
Juice 3 oranges
½ cup blended tea (2 parts black, one part green) or all either black or green may be used.
3 cups sugar
1 teaspoon cinnamon
1 teaspoon nutmeg
1 teaspoon whole cloves (all tied in small sack)
1 quart water

In a porcelain kettle place juices, spices and water. Boil all together for 10 minutes counting from the time it begins to boil. While at boiling point pour over tea leaves and let it steep for 3 hours. Strain in jars. When ready to use add enough boiling water to make a gallon of liquid. Reheat and serve. Requires no sugar or lemon and serve 30 people.

Mrs. O. D. Walker, Dublin, Tex., says this is her favorite sugar-saving recipe for fruit pies.

FRUIT PIES

1 cup milk
3 whole eggs slightly beaten.
¼ cup butter
1 teaspoon vanilla
½ cup preserves (any kind desired, although strawberry or pineapple make the best pies)
1 tablespoon flour

Bake slowly in oven in an uncooked crust until firm. Top with whipped cream when cool.

Mrs. Doris Murrell, Box 321, Bandera, Texas, says the following cookie recipe is the best she has used.

HONEY CHOCOLATE-CHIP COOKIES

1-3 cup shortening
1 egg
½ teaspoon salt
1 package chocolate chips
1 teaspoon vanilla
½ cup honey
1½ cup sifted flour
½ teaspoon soda
½ cup nuts

Cream shortening and add honey. Cream well, add egg, sift flour, soda, salt and add to mixture. Then add chocolate chips, nuts and vanilla. Drop by teaspoon two inches apart on greased sheet. Bake in moderate oven (375 degrees) ten to twelve minutes. Makes four dozen cookies.

Mrs. Albert L. Cobb, Claude, Texas, gives her favorite lemon pie recipe.

LEMON PIE

3 lemons
½ cup butter
2 cups sugar
4 eggs
2 tablespoons flour (pinch of salt)

Method:
Take 3 large lemons, grate the rind and squeeze the juice into a cup making 1 cupful. If not enough juice to make a cupful, finish out with water. Take ½ cup of butter and 2 cups of sugar and cream together. Beat 4 eggs separately and add to sugar and butter. Add 2 tablespoons of flour, then the grated lemon and juice. Last, add the beaten egg whites of the 4 eggs. Bake in a uncooked crust. (Makes one large pie.)

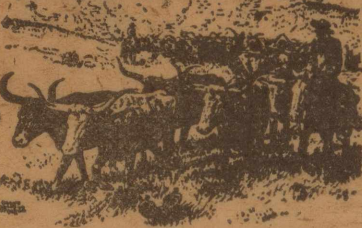
NEW VARIETY OF PEAS

Knox County 4-H members have introduced a new variety of black-eyed peas to that area, Early Ramshorn. In experiments at College Station this variety produced nearly three times the amount of more common types.

Members and their families report the taste is "less tangy," and all expect to plant this variety to sell this year.

TRAIL DUST

By
DOUGLAS MEADOR



Cooling to the quilted sky, a soft and drowsy wind rested in the pink bassinet of dawn. The painted, green wheel atop the high tower, turned slightly but the counterweight pulled it back. White face cattle bedded in the purple needlegrass, rose slowly, kneeling for an instant on their fore legs, and walked to the empty trough, one after another. A thin-hipped old cow dug a sharp-pointed horn into the flank of a heifer; a clatter of hoofs and a bellow of pain. The bawling was started, fanned by the flame of thirst. The sun pushed long blades of light into the tops of cottonwood and hackberry trees. There was a heated and breathless moment in which every leaf became still, then the wind struck. The big wheel turned rapidly and a stream of water soon poured from the galvanized pipe. The clear, cool liquid splashed in the black mud at the bottom of the trough. Cattle strained their long necks to reach the water, now flowing in little valleys, against the rusty iron sides. The wind, hot and strong, bowed the mesquites and swept dust from beneath the moving cattle's feet. When the wind mill shadow was short and north of the tower, the last sow had returned to the prairie and four inches of water covered the trough, a blue dove alighted on the pipe and dipped its beak cautiously and often into the water. Life is fed from fountains of the wind that flood Texas prairies.

Broken and decayed cross-ties lay on the side of fills that traced the abandoned railroad's course. Fingers of erosion were buried in the empty roadbeds; vandals of weeds and grass profaned the labors and sweat of many men. A splendid dream lay broken beside the crumbling altar of some mortal's ambition. The rails had been tipped from the spikes like the destruction of a jealous giant. Little bridges had been torn away like missing teeth from the jaw of a created but proud gentleman.

No investment pays greater returns than that which comes from the wealth of our hearts without thought of regaining the original investment.

Her complexion had the texture and color of old clabber. Her beetle-like eyes were set on two vacant stools at the busy counter as she pushed her way ahead of the khaki-clad boy and timid girl. She placed a bulky anatomy on the other. Presently she bent over a rich frappe, unmindful of the hurt world that ebbed and flowed at her elbows; unmindful of two waiting patients.

When destiny selects timber for greatness, little consideration is given to beauty. More often it is the ugly, gnarled tree that, growing alone on the windswept slopes of ambition, has been twisted by storms, seasoned in the blistering ovens of despair and forced to obtain its sustenance from thin, rocky soil.

One objection to winning an argument is the lack of certainty that the opponent has been truly defeated, instead of being affected by a seizure of politeness which prohibits continuation.

In the hour when a man fastens his eyes on the stars, opportunity often happens along with a ladder and a silken net to break this fall.

When properly cultivated, happiness may produce sufficient seeds to plant several gardens for others who have grown weary in preparing barren soil.

Duty is often the golden dust a man sifts from the abundant sands of his own desires.

The fruits of many dreams are ripening in the valleys of each new vista, awaiting the opening of another gate and riding a little farther.



Meador

Vacationing In the Southwest

Admitting the hottest summer since 1934, residents of West Texas, Western Oklahoma and Eastern New Mexico have turned to thoughts of vacations—anything to get away from excessive heat. While the majority of vacationists like to travel in July and August, the more experienced escapee of heat waits until September and then visits the mountain and scenic spots of The Sunshine State—New Mexico.

For the people of the above mentioned region a trip to New Mexico spas is merely a half-day trip; a pleasant drive to spots completely different, historic, cool and enticing for early fall.

This reporter has just completed a loop into scenic New Mexico, a trip far from expensive still colorful, cool and worth seeing many times. No individual spot is far from the other yet, upon completion, one has seen the major attractions of the state.

The first stop was in Las Vegas where the annual rodeo plus a Shrine convention was under way. Las Vegans are most hospitable; they never let a crowd worry them. They always make room for one more.

Next morning a short drive took us over Montezuma Pass to El Porvenir, Green Valley and Thunderbird Lodge through the Santa Fe State Park. Here are modern cabins reasonably priced, excellent camping sites, full, cool mountain streams with an abundance of trout. This area is worthy of two or more days outing.

The most beautiful trip in New Mexico is from Las Vegas to Taos through the Kit Carson National Forest by way of Tres Ritos. While only a short drive, one climbs thousands of feet through tall pine tree lined roads, winding mountain streams filled to overflowing and usually through a cooling rain. Trout fishing is excellent, accommodations good. The route is over state highway three.

Taos, while appealing mostly to lovers of art, Pueblo Indians, and lazy Mexicans, should be seen by everyone if only for an hour. The leading hotels offer a variety of museum pieces and the short side trip to the Pueblo is worthwhile even if filthy dirty as only Indians could stand. The art colony does not appeal to the casual traveler but those appreciating portraits scenic murals, or think do, will enjoy the visit.

Leaving Taos enroute to Santa Fe, one enters the gorge cut thousands of years ago by the head waters of the Rio Grande River. One finds it hard to believe that one streams could do so much excavating but the scenic beauty offsets all thought of fact.

Santa Fe is still the tourist resort for travelers and is always crowded. Reservations should be made well in advance.

The route to Albuquerque is nothing to be excited about until reaching Bernalillo where the motorist should turn off the highway and travel the Sandia Mountain scenic pass, or "Skyline Drive." This is a magnificent drive equal to anything in America, climbing to an unsurpassable view at 11,000 foot crest of the Sandia Range over fine, safe roads. The entire distance is only 78 miles. One may expect to see great numbers of deer and other wildlife. The finest picnic spots in the State are along this drive. One may see in all directions for 100 miles or more at the summit, look down on Albuquerque, the Rio Grande, view the major peaks of New Mexico and, often, witness a lightning and thunder storm below.

Bandelier National Monument is only a short distance away. This is the main location of a notable group of prehistoric Pueblo ruins. A disastrous drought of the 1200's caused Indians to migrate to this upper Rio Grande canyon in search of water. Ruins prove it to have been one of the cultural spots of that era. Geologically as well as archeologically, the ruins are interesting and historic. The site is open May through September and excellent lodging is available as is a conducted tour.

Also turning from Bernalillo and some 60 miles from Albuquerque is the famed Jemez Country, a rugged and beautiful mountain area abounding in wonderful camping and picnic spots with hundreds of miles of good trout streams.

There are countless Indian Pueblos near Albuquerque such as the Aztec Ruins, Acoma, Cochiti, Isleta Jemez, Laguna, San Felipe, Santo Domingo and Zia. Isleta is only some 15 miles away. Here is where Coronado once founded a headquarters and is considered one of the most authentic Pueblos in the state.

Our trip through Isleta, where pictures of the age-old mission and a softball game between young Indians were outstanding, took us to Belen, a historic old city, to Elephant Butte, where fishing is unexcelled, Hot Springs, the state's health spa, to Las Cruces ever winding along the Rio Grande.

Our trip then led us along the Army Proving Grounds to the Great White Sands, to Alamogordo, Ruidoso, Roswell, to Billy the Kid's Museum and Grave near Fort Sumner and back home. Carlsbad was passed up as the party had visited the Caverns many times before.

Ruidoso appeals to the young set. This is merely a carnival town located in the mountains, reminds older people of a honky-tonk setting yet is filled to capacity with Texans, Oklahomans and Michigan tourists.

The White Sands still remains the amazing attraction of New Mexico. Approximately 70,000 visitors have registered there this year. Many have made their third and fourth trek through the dunes, ever changing with time and winds.

Johnvill Faris, custodian of White Sands has made many visitors change their mind regarding federal employees. His every wish is for the comfort and enlightenment of the visitor. His staff is the most courteous this writer has ever encountered at any national park. Entrance fee for car and occupants is only 50 cents. It is worth a fortune just to see the attraction. Do not visit the Sands without having Faris or P. W. Steel, the gate ranger, or some member of the staff show you through the museum and explain the National Park map. It is a highlight.

The White Sands (137,885.91 acres, approximately one-third of the sea dunes) is the largest of the rare gypsum deserts, some 224 square miles of huge snowdrift-like dunes, some more than 50 feet high. It is one of nature's masterpieces. It resembles snow and local ski addicts often use the sand dune for thrills. Even the mice and lizards here are white although a short distance away where beds of black lava are found they are black and in nearby red hills they are red. The region is rich in Indian, Spanish and early American lore. Many dunes, shifting with winds, have uncovered valuable museum relics of the past ages. These dunes are ever growing, ever moving, ever changing. Yet the officials have excellent roads through them offering the visitor an unforgettable memory of something the layman cannot explain.

A visit to the Alamogordo Chamber of Commerce will bring directions to a score of other unusual attractions in the vicinity. All are worth visiting.

Billy the Kid's grave and museum continues to draw thousands of tourists. Owners at this military cemetery have installed air conditioning in the museum proper, now offer regional trinkets for sale and are improving the surroundings.

Four to five people may make this loop for less than \$200, including all expenses, and see all of the highlights while enjoying the best accommodations. Furthermore it can all be made in seven days.

PAT'S PALAVER

By PAT FLYNN

PITY the lad who never chopped cotton, picked boles or rode a go-devil on a farm. He has missed a well-proportioned part of life. To me, these things represent the first lessons in patience. It also represented the first earned dollar.

IT SEEMS strange the alibis I used as a boy to get out of such work don't sound near so convincing today as they did then. Stuffed toes, tied up with a piece of calico soaked in turpentine, was no excuse when Dad said "Hit the hoe." For row after row the sweetest day dreams a boy ever had was in dreaming of the day when he would have enough money to hire the work done. Before you hardly realized it your mother was shouting that dinner was ready. And they called it dinner in those days. Lunch was something you ate between meals.

Favors Siesta

USUALLY we finished dinner in a few minutes. That left a half hour to sleep in the shade of a tree or behind the milk house where a weeping willow cast shadows over cool earth. I am still in favor of the traditional Mexican siesta, based upon those recollections.

MY DAD held no brief for new-fangled tractors in those days. He figured a man who didn't farm with mules and horses was just too downright lazy to make a success out of anything. Today's youth who learns how to drive a tractor before he starts school misses the comradeship of a team of stubborn mules. We had two, Molly and Beauty. Molly was a docile animal used to doing all of her share of pulling and most of Beauty's. She was a real pet, loved to follow me to the kitchen door in hopes I would swipe a handful of sugar for her reward. She would reach over and bite Beauty if he lagged too much while pulling the go-devil.

I ACCIDENTALLY killed Beauty one hot summer day. It was after lunch and I was putting harness on him, bemoaning the fact I had to work. Beauty stepped on my big toe—the one with the calico wrapping. I drew back a fist and let fly. It hit Beauty directly over the heart. He dropped dead. I still favor that part of the anatomy where Dad punished my pugilistic endeavor.

Recalls Fun on Farm

GO-DEVILING cotton rows was always lots of fun when some friend came out from town to help out, spend the weekend with me, and act the life of a farmer. Hitching two teams to go-devils and making row after row together was fun. Many times races developed and as long as Dad didn't find out about it, it was fun. Otherwise, a good pants dusting was the result.

DAD didn't think much of my 100-pound cotton picking ability. He usually employed roving bands of pickers to clean his field and then allowed the neighborhood kids to pick the boles.

AND WHATEVER became of the cellar or dug-out? I can recall every time a cloud showed up in the northwest with another in the southeast, we and the neighbors gathered in some cellar in keen anticipation of a cyclone. While the lightning and thunder gave off Fourth of July color and noise and while the wind howled through the ventilation vents, the most thrilling yarns I ever heard were told by the men. Each yarn spinner out-did the other about some storm he had survived. If these stories could have been published, some of the pulp magazines on today's stands would be shamed into oblivion. It was a great event for any boy to remember. On two memorable occasions I was allowed to be "Lookout" man. I got to open the cellar door and see if the storm was over. I have never since had such a thrilling assignment.

Early Sheep Ranch On Beaver Creek

(Condensed from Vernon Times)

Vernon, Tex.—(WNS).—One of the earliest sheep ranches here was started in 1881 by Robert Boyle, on Beaver Creek. The Boyle family came from the north of Ireland to the United States, settling first in San Antonio.

Line the muffin pan with bacon; break egg into center of each strip, bake in hot oven. It's good.

Spend your vacation in your own state this year.

AN OKIE SPEAKS

By JOSH DRAKE, Jr.

When my Uncle Herman was a boy, upstanding citizens of his home town used to ride all undesirable out of town on a rail. It is a pity this wholesome sport has been done away with, for in my town there are several who need such a ride. However, Uncle Herman says that if all the scoundrels wouldn't be anyone left but a half were ridden out of town there dozen preachers, and he isn't so sure of one or two of them.

Uncle Herman is an authority on rail riding, having left at least six of our most thriving Western Oklahoma towns in such a fashion. He says the most uncomfortable rail of all is a locust pole with the thorns left on it. The most comfortable one is a smooth cottonwood. I once heard him remark that a cotton-wood rail was far more comfortable than a ride in my old stripped down jalopy.

Uncle Herman is a badly misunderstood man—a victim of circumstances, he says. It really wasn't his fault that the oil stocks he was selling back in 1923 turned out to be fakes. He still says if they dig deep enough they will find oil. They just railroaded him to prison for that.

He would have gotten by with a one or two-year sentence if the Judge hadn't been his enemy. The Judge had been waiting for five years to get Poor Uncle Herman. How was Uncle Herman to know that five gallons of white lightning he sold the Judge back in 1918 was three-fourths water. The Judge said it was three-fourths water, but Uncle Herman declares to this day he just diluted it with two gallons of water. It is a known fact that the five gallon jug was full to the brim, and simple arithmetic tells us that two from five makes three. If the five gallon jug had two gallons of water in it, the other three were bound to be whiskey. The Judge is an old over-valuator. The whiskey was two-fifths water and not three-fourths. Besides, the only reason Uncle Herman weakens his white lightning is to save lives. Uncle Herman weakens it because he loves his fellow man. He says that even though it is hard on his business, he weakens it to prolong his customers' lives. All the thanks he gets is a five-year sentence from the Judge instead of one or two like he expected.

Uncle Herman is a very sensitive man. He feels pretty bad because the Rotary or Kiwanis Clubs don't invite him to become a member. Why, there aren't a half dozen men in town that make as much dough as he does.

Of course, he doesn't have such a whale of a bank account, but he has cash hidden all over his house. He says if he put it in a bank, the government would want him to pay income tax. He doesn't mind paying taxes. Uncle Herman is as loyal an American as anyone, but when you pay income tax some smart alec in Washington wants to know how you make the money. Uncle Herman says that is how Al Capone made his mistake.

All the kids in town like my Uncle. He is always taking us to the drug store for ice cream sodas and going on fishing trips with us. All the boys think he is a regular guy.

Last summer we organized a Boy Scout troop in our town. We fellows elected him Scout Master. Uncle Herman was tickled pink. He bought uniforms for every one of us. He even went on hikes with us and wore a uniform, too. He did look funny in short pants, but he said it was good child psychology to wear what we did.

As Scout Master Uncle Herman was a howling success, but the old hens of the town raised so much Cain that the troop finally broke up. All the fuss they raised after our September first picnic! Uncle Herman barely flavored the lemonade with his white lightning. It didn't even make any of us sick, but everyone in town got mad. They even threatened to ride Uncle Herman on a rail, but that didn't scare Uncle Herman. He said he had put more time on a rail than any of the so-called good citizens had put on their knees praying.

The Scout Troop broke up, but we still have a secret boys' organization called "Herman's Hellcats" and Uncle Herman is President. We meet every Tuesday and Friday night down by the river. Being a pledged member I can't reveal any secrets. I have already said too much. But this much I can say. When we grow up and are old enough to vote, we are going to elect Uncle Herman mayor of our town. Then we are going to ride all these undesirable citizens out of town on a rail.

Bureau Considering Projects in Oklahoma, Texas and New Mexico

AMARILLO, TEX. (WNS).—Newcomers are unaware and old-timers sometimes forget that millions of acres of the West could not have been selected nor successfully cultivated without the nearly half-century effort of the Bureau of Reclamation. The Bureau has again and again developed dams, reservoirs and irrigation systems that called for capital investment too large for private enterprise. Each of these projects takes years of planning and investigation before recommendation for construction can be made.

Gauging stations must be operated for several years on streams to determine the true water supply. What appears to be an ideal site for a dam often cannot be used because of geological conditions far below the surface of the earth. Soils must be classified and studied to pre-determine the yield under irrigation. Climate must be studied thoroughly. Various areas require entirely different design in construction. Means of control in flood stages must be studied. Economic surveys are made to determine the types and quantities of crops that may be raised, together with studies of cost of production and availability of markets.

All this and more must be done before a recommendation for construction can be made.

"Improvements are based on what the land can ultimately be made to produce," said Garford L. Wilkinson, Bureau of Reclamation Information Director for this region. "The whole purpose of the Reclamation Program is to promote a better standard of living for the people, to build more prosperous communities, and in turn a better nation."

'Multiple Purpose'

"The millions of tons of concrete and steel, the years of study are for the purpose of conserving needed water where there is a scarcity, where rainfall is deficient during critical growing seasons.

"A relatively new concept is the 'multiple purpose' project. It is the expression of an awakened social consciousness. Projects are now built to conserve natural resources and to develop their latent possibilities to the fullest extent. Hydro-electric power is developed where possible, a municipal water supply is sometimes part of a project, fish and wild life propagation is considered, as well as the important by-product of large and beautiful recreation areas.

"People who want a project started in their community first go to their congressmen," Mr. Wilkinson continued. "Congress then directs the Bureau of Reclamation to make the investigation. The study is made on the basis of the worth of the entire project to the country. Flood control and recreation are intangibles that often cannot be measured in dollars and cents, and outright grants are often made to cover the cost of this part of the program. Where hydro-electric power may be developed the project repayment over a period of years will be lessened. Sometimes it is found that the cost of a project is equalled by the total agricultural income in one year."

Plan Expansion Of Ft. Sumner Water Project

FORT SUMNER, N. M. (WNS). Plans are under way by the Bureau of Reclamation to enlarge and reconstruct portions of the Fort Sumner Irrigation system, to insure more adequate service to nearby farm lands and to accommodate lawns, gardens and land inside the town of Fort Sumner.

The water supply for this project is derived from the Pecos River by means of a diversion dam and canal. Plans are being made to replace the present diversion dam. General re-working of the main canal, enlargement of the pump canal, replacement of the turbine pump, and extension of the existing drains are proposed.

Plan Repairs

A complete renovation of the main canal is planned. It has at present salt cedars and willows growing within the water line. The upper end of the canal would be lined with concrete, and the structure and bank would be repaired. Drains on the project would be cleaned and deepened, and in some cases extended.

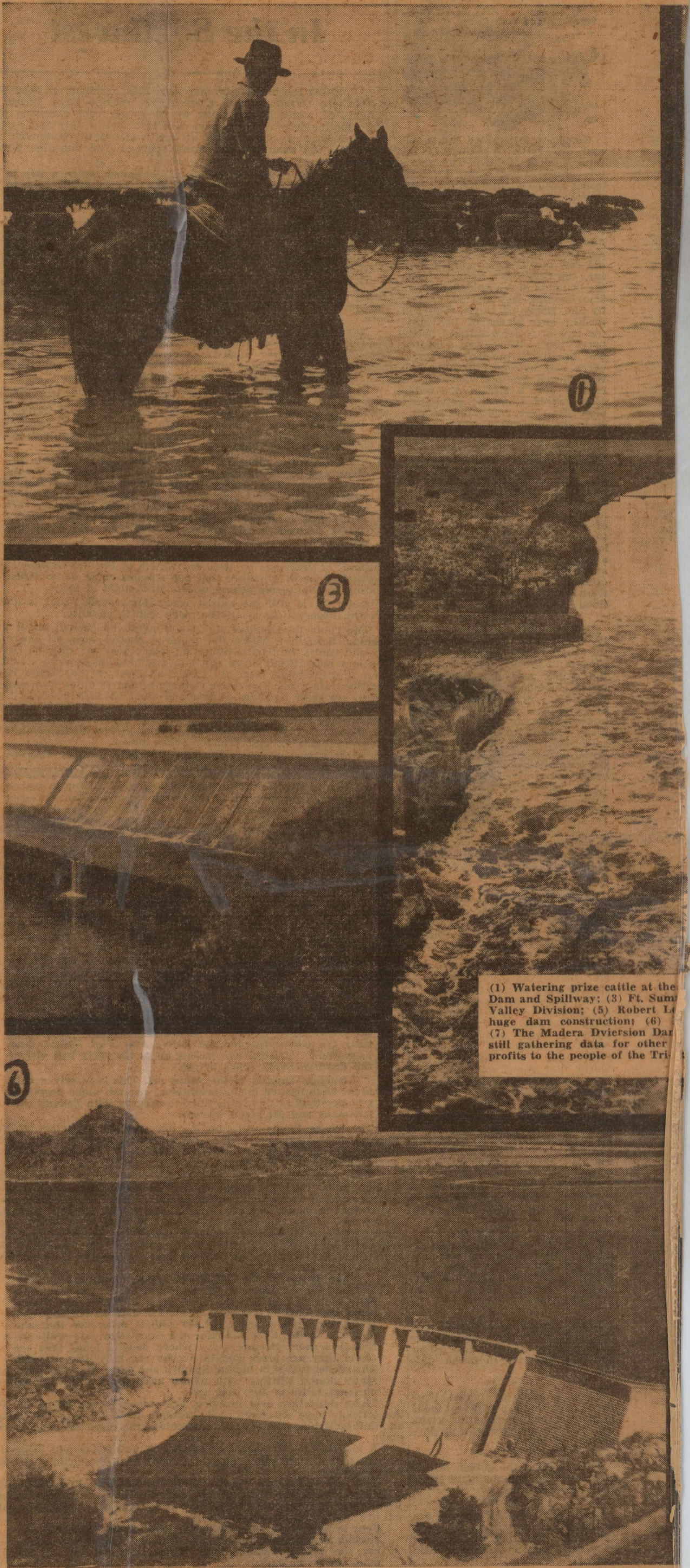
The Fort Sumner Irrigation District comprises about 7,500 acres of land, of which around 5,200 acres are irrigated.

Started in 1906

This project was initiated in 1906, a short time after the activation of the Bureau of Reclamation. Under its water rights, priority, of 1903, the district is en-

(Continued on Page 11)

Arid Areas Made Productive



(1) Watering prize cattle at the Dam and Spillway; (3) Ft. Sumner Valley Division; (5) Robert L. huge dam construction; (6) (7) The Madera Diversion Dam still gathering data for other profits to the people of the Tri-

Crop Insurance

"Construction and maintenance costs are proportioned on a per-acre, per-year basis, over a period of 40 years. The cost is small when the greatly increased productivity, insurance against drouth, and the augmented income are considered," Mr. Wilkinson concluded.

The Bureau cooperates with federal and state agencies in every way possible for the fullest development of resources. Along with other agencies, it is helping with a movie being made by Governor Kerr and the Oklahoma State Planning Board. The film will be concerned chiefly with the water and soil resources of the State. It will show what has happened in the past in the depletion of these resources by drouth, soil erosion and other causes. The film will show what is being done and what must be done in the future to conserve these resources. Most of the irrigation scenes will be filmed at the Bureau's project at Allus, Oklahoma. This movie will be shown in theaters all over Oklahoma, for the people of the State are becoming aroused to their vast potentialities of development.

During the 40 years that have elapsed since irrigation water was first delivered by the Bureau to a project in 1905, approximately 50,000 irrigated farms now within Reclamation Projects have been carved from western wasteland and are now the main support of more than a million persons on the project farms and in the towns and villages of the project areas.

Education System

The Bureau has developed a plan that has become a unique earn-learn-study system. The Bureau is faced with a need for well-trained men in diversified technical fields, such as engineering, design and construction, and the plan was developed for the veteran, the displaced war worker and present employees of the Bureau who feel they would like more training.

The work-and-learn plan is adapted to the needs of the individuals and the jobs. Normally two student-trainees will be assigned to a job, one being on duty at the job, and the other in the class room. After a period of study the student goes to the job, while the other goes back to the classroom to catch up on his theory. This plan also helps solve a problem of the technical colleges. Many of them are over-crowded and understaffed at a time when they need all their facilities to provide an adequate education for the professional worker of the future. The actual on-the-job practice serves as an extension of the college work in which the employee applies the theory he has studied. It also gives him the opportunity to become acquainted with the various fields of work in his chosen profession.

Projects Considered

A number of projects are being considered at present by the Bureau. The Palo Duro Project, about 10 miles north of Spearman, Texas, would furnish about 20,000 acre-feet of capacity storage. The Kenton Project, around 15 miles from Kenton, Oklahoma, would irrigate about 11,500 acres of new land and furnish supplemental irrigation for 600 acres. This reservoir, located on the Cimarron River, would be called either Spurgeon or Kenton. The Fort Cobb Reservoir, about 6 miles north of Fort Cobb, would irrigate about 6,000 acres of new land. In New Mexico the Capulin Project, with the Honey Reservoir on the Cimarron River, would furnish supplemental irrigation must be repaid to the Springer Project, diverting water from Rio Colorado, would furnish supplemental irrigation for 7,100 acres. The Vermejo Project, near Dawson, New Mexico, would furnish supplemental irrigation for 22,000 acres.

Bureau of Reclamation Commissioner Michael W. Strauss has said: "We must make the great dams, fine canals, and other facilities serve the people for whom Reclamation projects are constructed. At the same time we must provide settlers with low-cost water. In turn the settlers must recognize that the construction costs of the irrigation must be repaid to the Federal Treasury. The Bureau of Reclamation is responsible for the successful settlement of the areas to be irrigated as the surest means by which the people will be able to repay the cost of construction and of the operation and maintenance of the project."

by Widespread Irrigation Half-Century Dream Realized

As Altus Dam Nears Finish

ALTUS, OKLA. (WNS).—A 44-year-old dream nears fulfillment as the final touches of construction are added to the Altus irrigation project. The Lugert-Altus Irrigation District covers 60,000 to 70,000 acres in the Red River watershed, most of the irrigable lands being within a 15-mile radius of Altus.

Governor Robert S. Kerr, on an inspection trip, said the people who 'made the run' thought their was the last act of pioneering, but today we have before us more entrancing, more alluring horizons that ever confronted them."

Governor Kerr stated that with the irrigation development an increase in crop production of more than a million dollars annually could be expected. He said that this added income could provide new employment and income opportunities for at least 2,500 additional people in this area in the more intensive development of agricultural, industrial and service occupations. Kerr further stated the project would not only stabilize the agricultural economy of Jackson, Greer, and Kiowa County areas, but would also stabilize the population and business economy. The Altus project is different from some Bureau of Reclamation projects, he continued, in that it seeks to stabilize production of crops, rather than reclaim arid 'Extra Rain'.

The completion of the project will mean that a farmer in this region may put four inches of water on his crops at will. It will be the equivalent of one extra rain in a growing season. The cost to flood land to a depth of four inches will be around 33 cents an acre. In addition to the bill the farmer pays for the water, he must pay approximately \$1.72 an acre for the operation and maintenance of the elaborate system of construction and ditches which carry water to his farm. The farmer himself does the work of leveling his land and building the necessary embankments to evenly distribute the water.

Under rules of the Bureau of Reclamation, only 160 acres of land can be irrigated by one land owner. Any land above that figure must be sold if it is to be irrigated, at appraisal for land without benefit of the project.

Farmers of the community attend a series of meetings conducted by the Soil Conservation Service and Bureau of Reclamation. In a May series of meetings, Willard Smith, of the Bureau of Reclamation, explained the methods by which water would be made available to the farmers the first year, the methods of charging, and the amount of water that would be available.

Equipment Available
Several types of leveling equipment are available to county farmers and can be procured at small maintenance cost. The equipment includes land leveling implements, ditching machines, small road maintainers, and border makers suitable to be used with the average farm tractor.

Oklahoma A & M has opened a new irrigation experimental farm which will receive water from the lake.

Ernest L. Williams, Superintendent of the irrigation research station, states that studies of field and horticultural crops under irrigation conditions—crop varieties, tillage practices, insect and disease control, harvesting, marketing and other problems—will be studied. This farm includes two tracts, one of 72 acres and the other of 18 acres.

Soil Experiments
Two types of soil are found on the experimental farm. "Hard" type soils, used commonly for production of alfalfa, wheat, cotton, sorghum, and similar major farm crops make up the 72-acre plot. The 18 acres include loose, more sandy soils of the type that is used for truck crop production.

Field days will be held when the work is at a point of most educational value for the different seasons.

The U. S. Bureau of Reclamation will continue to operate its demonstration farm just below the dam on the North Fork of Red River, 18 miles from Altus, to show district people the mechanics of getting the water on the crops. The special station takes up the study of utilization of water where the reclamation service leaves off.

City Gets Water
The project water supply will be obtained from the reservoir formed by the Altus Dam. The run-off from the 2,560 square miles of watershed above the dam varies from a few thousand acre-feet in some seasons to more than 300,000 acre-feet in extremely wet years. Normal capacity of the reservoir, below spillway level, will be 152,000 acre-feet, allocated to silt storage, irrigation storage, and municipal water supply.

The dam rises approximately 100 feet above the stream bed and has

a crest of 1,160 feet. Lugert Dike, the largest, is 6000 feet long and has a maximum height of 45 feet above natural ground surface. The main canal, with a capacity of 1000 cubic feet per second, will transport water 4.2 miles from Altus Dam to the north boundary of the irrigable land of the project. Approximately 340 miles of canals and laterals are required to serve the land.

The city of Altus contracted to repay \$1,808,000 on the construction cost for use of a water supply.

Far-sighted People
Back about 1902 W. L. Fullerton, Jackson County farmer, had irrigated with great success from Turkey Creek, and the idea was firmly entrenched in the minds of the people that irrigation would make Jackson County a highly profitable farming area. J. A. Walker, a young merchant of Altus, along with M. L. Cowan, real estate man, was sure that irrigation should come to this area.

In 1915, the Bureau of Reclamation was a very minor thing. Eastern congressmen insisted it was a socialistic dream in which the government should have no part. They consented to small appropriations because they thought the project would fizzle.

Fullerton attended the Seattle irrigation congress, and did enough button-holing of officials of the Bureau of Reclamation to exact a promise that a survey would be made in southwest Oklahoma. A little while later J. G. Camp, an engineer with the Bureau of Reclamation, showed up in Altus with instruments to test the flow of water in North Fork of Red River. Camp was getting along fine until spring when the rains set in. He had so much trouble that he gave up in disgust. Every time that he would get his instruments located to test the flow of the river a flood would strike and wash them down stream. He made a report to Washington but told local enthusiasts that "What this damn country needs is a little flood control, not irrigation."

Surveys Made
But irrigation was not a dead issue in Jackson County, and every time a drouth came along the idea was revived in earnest.

During the spring and summer of 1924, C. T. Peace, Bureau of Reclamation engineer, spent considerable time in southwest Oklahoma making surveys of several proposed irrigation projects. He centered his attention on the dam site at Lugert and checked the

(Continued on Page 11)

Coke County Town May Move To Escape Water

ROBERT LEE, TEX. (WNS).—The town of Robert Lee is thinking of moving again—lock, stock and barrel: courthouse and main street. "Following the water," the town has moved twice before.

Christened "Hayrick" in 1839, because the mountains nearby were so shaped, the citizens soon afterward moved the town several miles down to the shores of the Colorado River and changed its name to Robert Lee, after their favorite Southern general.

The present contemplated move means that the complete town plus 77 farms are in the proposed reservoir area. Despite this high cost of right of way, the site is considered most feasible for project development.

People enthusiastic
Mayor Freeman C. Clark and the townspeople are enthusiastic about the possibilities to be created by a 670,000-acre-foot lake, to extend from the dam site up a number of canyons and valleys to the Mitchell County line.

The Bureau of Reclamation has proposed the construction of the dam six miles downstream where the Colorado River and Buffalo Creek meet. The dam would form a reservoir which would put the present town of Robert Lee under 12 feet of water. The reservoir would be 67 times as large as San Angelo's Lake Nasworthy. It would irrigate 58,000 acres of Colo-

(Continued on Page 11)

Armejo reservoir; (2) Conchas Diversion Dam; (4) Carlsbad Texas, prepares to move for iseye view of Altus, Okla.; The Bureau of Reclamation is projects which will bring more e area.

Swindlers Feared Texan Who Was Never Known to Give Up the Hunt for Crooks

By PAT FLYNN

HALE CENTER, TEX. (WNS). J. Frank Norfleet, the nemesis of all bunco artists, who captured almost three-score and ten of the non-working crooks during his man-hunting career, recently celebrated his approaching 84th birthday by journeying across the Lone Star State on another man-hunt but of a different variety. He traveled to Orange, Tex., to interview the Hon. Major Jones on behalf of asking his life-long friend to enter the state race for the Texas Railroad Commission.

Ready to Shoot

While on this trek across the Southwest, Norfleet almost killed another man. It happened in Monterrey, Mexico. Norfleet saw a man he thought was one of the swindlers in his past. "I had the hammer of my .45 cocked and was ready to squeeze the trigger when I recognized my mistake. I'm sorry I created so much excitement. I hope everyone will understand," he explained.

J. Frank Norfleet was swindled in Nov. 1919 of some \$45,000. Until 1927 he spent his entire time tracking down five of the principle crooks, jailing them and caused the arrest of 60 additional crooks in transit.

M. E. Tracy, Scripps-Howard columnist, once remarked of this West Texan: "Twenty of such men could stop the more serious phase of any crime wave."

While the facts in the great Norfleet trek of vengeance are well known through newspaper and novel accounts, he having authored two novels of experiences, little is known of this Panhandle man-hunter and his background. Today as he sits in his elegant brick farm home only a few miles south of this city, he likes to recall his earlier days, his family folklore and other highlights of his life other than the days he spent a fortune running down the men who not only caused him untold embarrassment, but who clipped him of his life's earning. The fact he saw them all die or become imprisoned isn't enough. He has written the facts of his experiences so vividly that motion picture and radio companies are now bidding for serial and picture rights of his colorful experiences and background events.

Entertains Young People

Today he is content to work with his wife, enjoy the company of his personal and private horses, entertain the young folk of the area and discuss his meteoric rise in national spotlight acclaim.

The name of Norfleet is a historical event. It is derived from a remote ancestor who left Scotland in the 17th Century en route to North America along the northern route. Months later the man was washed ashore upon the Virginia Coast and was called one of the "Nor Fleet Boys."

The original name was discarded. The Norfleets became substantial planters of Virginia.

J. Frank's father, Jasper Holmes Benton Norfleet, migrated to Texas at the age of 12, settled on Shaw Creek, near the Colorado River. He earned a living for his family through hunting, fishing, trapping and by acquiring a few cattle.

Pioneer Family

His mother was Mary Ann Shaw, a pioneer and beautiful woman who understood what was required of a woman invading the West. She was an expert pistol and rifle shot, and suffered the hardships of all women venturing into Texas during the Indian days. In fact, Indians killed her brothers in the territory now known as Gonzales County.

J. Frank Norfleet was born Feb. 2, 1864, the year the Civil War was ending, the first of six children. One of his earliest boyhood recollections was when his father tracked down an absconding school teacher, "a Yankee," who refused to pay a board bill to his mother.

The teacher was a born swindler. He had roomed and boarded at the Norfleet home all season and attempted to leave without paying his bill. When Mrs. Norfleet told her husband, he never said a word. He saddled up his horse at sundown and took after the teacher's trail.

Likes Excitement

Little Frank liked excitement even at that age. He caught his pony and took after his Dad, careful to stay far enough behind so his father would not know he was trailing him. Frank said he knew his dad would send him home if caught.

His father caught up with the teacher in a country store, many



J. FRANK NORFLEET



MRS. J. FRANK NORFLEET

miles from home and demanded the board bill. Little Frank sneaked in the back door, hid under the counter to watch the excitement. The teacher refused to pay the bill. Frank's father swung for the jaw and his son couldn't stand it any longer.

"Give him hell, Dad!" shouted the youngster.

It broke up the fight but not before the teacher paid the bill. This was the first example the rancher had of man-hunting. It tingled his blood even at this tender age. It served him in later years to good advantage.

Father Was Ranger

Later his father became a Texas Ranger. Once Indians stole 1700 head of cattle and burned the Norfleet ranch houses. Fortunately, the family was away from home at the time.

In 1879, at 15 years of age, Frank joined a buffalo hunting party at San Saba to visit the North Texas Plains. For the next 10 years he worked as a cowhand from ranch to ranch.

In 1889 he went to the Panhandle sector to work on the Snyder Brother's ranch. Shortly thereafter the ranch was sold to Isaac L. Elwood of Illinois. Norfleet was made foreman of the spread and worked for his new boss 17 years. For 15 years of that time, Norfleet never saw his boss, yet fenced 264,000 acres of land on the ranch.

The nearest postoffice to the headquarters was in Colorado City, 115 miles distant. Norfleet never went to town for two and one-half years, nor saw a woman in that time. He allowed his hair and beard to grow and today admits he was probably the "toughest looking hombre in Texas."

Refuses to Dance

So attired, he went to a "baile" one night on one of his few visits to town and there saw Miss Eliza Hudgins. She promptly refused to dance with him or have anything to do with such an "ugly looking character."

Some time later Norfleet visited Plainview. Again he saw Miss Hudgins. But this time Norfleet was slicked up like a "city dude." They were soon married and she went with him to the Elwood ranch. She was the only woman resident in four counties and they often drove 100 miles to attend a party or dance for the sole means of recreation available in those days.

The young married couple soon filed on 160 acres of land adjoining the ranch, constructed a dug-out, erected a windmill and started acquiring cattle. Mrs. Norfleet ran the little spread while Frank continued his foreman duties on the larger ranch, trying to get sufficient start to devote full time to his own place.

Helps Father

Their first baby, Mary, died at the age of seven years. Frank "Pete" Elwood Norfleet was born in the dug-out. He later gained acclaim as a man-hunter in his own right by helping his dad run down the bunco artists. He is now a Customs agent in Brownsville. Then Bob Lee was born but drowned at the age of three years. Then Ruth was born and is now married to a Holland naval officer.

When Norfleet celebrated his 75th birthday, he received two telegrams announcing his grandbabies were born on the same day, one to Pete's family, the other to Ruth.

When the children were young and the Norfleets were trying to make a go of their ranch, some cowhands came through the country one day and camped near the

Texan world famous, taking him around the world and costing him a fortune to run down the thieves.

His IXL brand, how Mrs. Norfleet and the children worked the ranch, sold crops and livestock to finance the man-hunt is a matter of interesting and authentic history, typical of true pioneer western stock.

But, friends of the Norfleets like to gather at the modern home place today and listen to the great hunter describe thrilling episodes of his life.

Norfleet has a keen sense of humor, tells a straightforward story and doesn't mind taking the knocks or telling of them as they happened.

This trait makes it easy for the visitor to understand why and how he captured his men.

A patent gives an inventor or his heirs the exclusive rights to make, use and sell his invention for 17 years.

Wooden Nickles?

CLOVIS, N. M. (WNS).—Wooden nickels are a Clovis product much in demand this year. The Chamber of Commerce has been the object of lively correspondence from a gentleman in Wisconsin who insists that somebody here circulated wooden coins in 1933. At last report, nobody in town would admit it.

Short, Easy Menus For Outdoor Meals

Camping and picnic time is here in earnest, and tasty menus can be planned with a minimum of work, if meals are kept simple.

One main dish, a crisp or chewy vegetable, one starchy food, and fruit will make a substantial meal. Beverages should be used which can be prepared ahead of time. Water should be taken along.

Complete outdoor menus can be obtained from county home demonstration agents.

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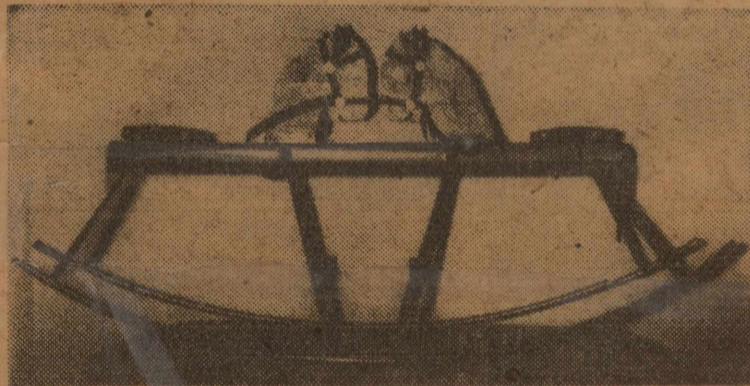
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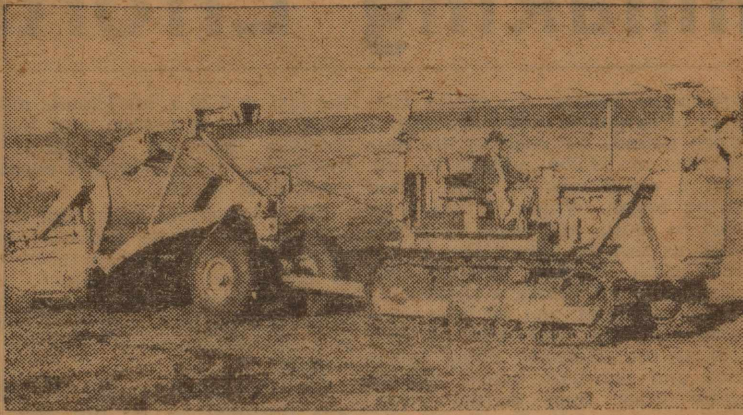
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DAMS PAY FOR EQUIPMENT



Commissioner Hawkins at the control of his idea which is storming Oklahoma as improving county roads without cost to taxpayers or county.

(COURTESY OF ELK CITY JOURNAL)

* * * * *

ELK CITY, OKLA. (WNS).—Beckham County Commissioner J. A. Hawkins had some ideas about improvements in his district which he carried through and which might well be considered by other commissioners of the Southwest. He purchased heavy equipment with which to improve his roads without the use of county funds and at no expense to the taxpayers.

To date he has purchased an 85 horsepower tractor, dozer and carryall, a total investment of \$12,971, to use in his improvement program over his district, which includes the Elk City and Carter area, or all land in the county east of Doxey.

To pay for his equipment, Hawkins is constructing acreage ponds and dams over his district. The charge for building each dam is from \$250 to \$275. Of this amount the Federal Government pays \$200 and the cost to the farmer is from \$50 to \$75. Actual expense in building the dams is approximately \$40 and the profit is used by Hawkins to pay for his implements. Commissioner Hawkins estimates it will take from six to nine months to pay for the machinery at no cost to his taxpayers.

It requires only three days to construct a farm pond and dam with the Hawkins equipment and the commissioner has requests for such construction from farmers throughout his district. The equipment is being used only in the second commissioner's district and roads are graded as the machinery is moved from one farm to another.

Not only are Hawkins' constituents delighted over the idea, but other districts in Oklahoma are asking for similar thoughtfulness.

Plan Expansion Of Ft. Sumner

(Continued from Page 8)

titled to the natural flow of the river up to 100 cubic feet per second in the period from March to October and two eight-day periods between November 1 to March 1. The gauging station being used at present is located at Puerto de Luna.

The method of operation is worked out through an informal agreement between the district and the Carlsbad Project which operates the Alamogordo Dam and Reservoir. This agreement provides that readings are made of the discharge at Puerto de Luna, and the amount to which the district is entitled as reflected by this station is released from Alamogordo Reservoir.

As studies are made, Bureau of Reclamation officials believe it will be advisable to re-locate some of the farm laterals and points of delivery to individual farm tracts.

Robert Lee May Move

(Continued from Page 9)

rado Valley lands, including portions of Coke, Tom Green, Runnels, and Concho Counties.

Present incomes average \$8.40 per acre per year, and members of the upper Colorado River Authority, sponsoring the project, say that the value of the land will be quadrupled.

Yields to Increase

The dam is to be 138 feet high and 14,300 feet long, with a canal 19 miles long serving 5,500 acres of land near the river. Another canal 50 miles long and two secondary canals about 12 miles long would water 52,000 acres of land centering around Miles and Rowena with the eastern limit just west of Ballinger. The south end would extend into Concho County.

Present over-grazing of approximately 3,000,000 acres of native range land will be reduced 30 per cent in the four directly affected counties and down river Coleman County, according to engineering estimates.

It is estimated that feed production will maintain 25,000 milk cows on the project and surrounding areas.

Surveys Made

Surveys show that with irrigation crop yields are expected to increase to \$41.75 per acre, in addition to providing pasturage at a value of \$2.50 per acre. This will bring the gross income from the project area from the present \$500,000 to about \$2,600,000.

The project will cost \$12,667,300 and the expected annual benefits from irrigation, flood control, recreation and wildlife would be \$2,152,800. Repayments over the 40-year period to meet irrigation construction costs would be \$4,430,000.

Possibilities for resort and recreational benefits are high, and the scenic beauty, fishing, swimming, camping and boating provided by the new project are welcome by-products.

Cattlemen, Bankers Join for Profits

BEAVER, OKLA. (WNS).—A banker and a cattleman may ordinarily have little in common, but one man in this city has brought the two together.

G. W. Cafky, owner of the Beaver Sales Pavillion and cashier of the Bank of Beaver City, wanted to see cattlemen of the region get a fair deal. So he began holding cattle sales when stock prices were too low, aimed at a reasonable profit for both buyer and seller.

Sales had been started by John Saunders at the local fair grounds, and when Cafky took over, he moved the location to a tract of land near the railroad. Stock pens cover 10 acres and are currently being rebuilt. Safe yards are well lighted with three 1500-watt floodlights and innumerable smaller lights, and cattle and hog pens are clean, being disinfected each week.

In 1943, 63,000 head of cattle were sold for \$2,265,000, to make the biggest year to date. Average annual sales are 55,000 to 60,000 cattle and 10,000 hogs.

One cattleman at Nogales, Ariz., has been shipping approximately 100 carloads of cattle a year to the sales pavilion over a period of several years. During this time all business between Cafky and the shipper has been conducted by telephone and letter. The two have never met.

Cafky declared, "Inasmuch as many of the cattlemen of this region do business with our bank, it is to our advantage that we see a fair deal is accorded both buyer and seller."

Altus Dam Nears Completion

(Continued from Page 9)

territory that could be irrigated by gravity flow from that point.

The city of Altus built a dam near Lugert, and there was much agitation for irrigation. In 1930, E. E. Blake, national authority on irrigation and flood control, came to Altus. Blake estimated that 150,000 acres could be irrigated from the run off of water. He advised, however, that ample water supply be insured by not attempting to irrigate more than 100,000 acres.

Droughts followed, and when the 1934 dust storms and drought cycle arrived the water of Lake Altus became more and more appealing.

Throughout the winter of 1935 and 1936 the irrigation proposal was kept constantly before government officials, and on February 25, 1936, the late President Roosevelt directed allocation of \$30,000 for survey of Altus-Lugert irrigation project. The survey included rainfall, river flow, flood runoffs, soil analysis, topography, marketing, crop diversification, economics and other factors that would determine the feasibility of the project.

The reports were released February 18, 1938, and were based on a reservoir with a storage capacity of 163,000 acre-feet and a district of 70,000 acres. The total over-all cost, including dam, reservoir, main canals, lateral systems, draining and miscellaneous costs was estimated at \$5,365,469.00.

Reclamation laws required an irrigation district empowered to do business with the Bureau of Reclamation. The Lugert-Altus district was empowered to do business with the bureau. The Lugert-Altus district was approved, 333 to 42, in an election held March 29, 1940.

West Advances

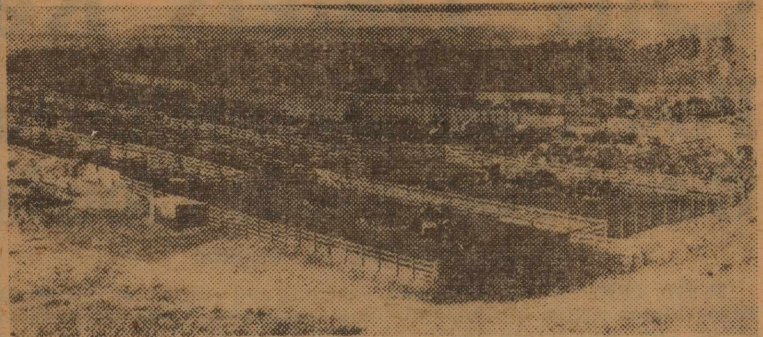
Wesley R. Nelson, Regional Director of the Bureau of Reclamation, said in a recent address: "Americans, until recently, thought of irrigation, flood control, and development of hydro-electric power, fish and wild life and recreational facilities as the peculiar problems of a remote and rather unpromising section of the United States."

"The west will continue to move rapidly toward increased security against destruction and waste of its water and land resources. States in sub-humid zones will demand that experienced agencies of government help them stabilize the economy of their rural and urban communities. Even on land which was successfully farmed without irrigation, better crops may be produced when water is under control.

"Rain often comes at inopportune times and again fails just when it is most needed by the maturing crop," he declared.

Altus is the first reclamation project in Oklahoma, and its success will in all probability open the way for similar projects in the section.

BANKER STARTS STOCKYARD



Beaver Sales Pavilion constructed by G. W. Cafky in order that cattlemen of his region would have a place to sell their stock and receive a fair price.

English Quakers Founded Estacado

CROSBYTON, TEX. (WNS).—Founded by a colony of English Quakers, the town of Estacado now shows only a marker commemorating the experiment begun in 1897 under leadership of Isaac Paris Cox. But another pioneer, Henry Clay Smith, has not only a statue in his honor, here in town, but a thriving agricultural county as a memorial to his efforts.

With an excellent system of contouring and terracing, and more than 85 per cent farm mechanization, Crosby County produces large quantities of cotton, wheat, grain sorghums and other feed-stuffs. Income from these crops is supplemented by sale of beef cattle, hogs, sheep, turkey, eggs, cream and spring lambs. Frozen food lockers are in general use.

This city, the county seat, has a trade territory of about 25 miles, a population of around 1,800, 30 retail merchants, and showed bank deposits of well over \$2,000,000 early this year. Annual celebrations include the Old Settlers' Reunion in the fall and the County Fair in the spring. At Falls, in the same county, Bills' Day is held each year.

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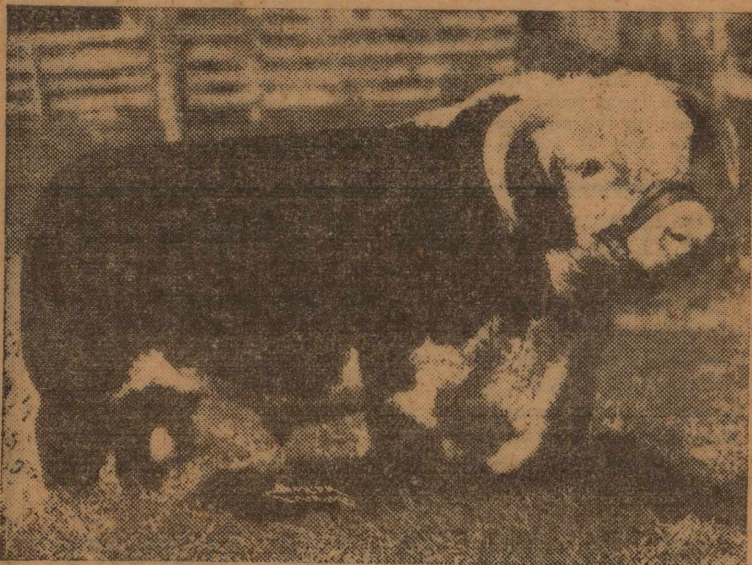
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Old Timers Recall Rainmaking Efforts

Post Used Dynamite to Burst Man-made Clouds

(Western News Service Feature)

POST, TEX. (WNS).—Farmers, ranchers and citizens of this South Texas Plains region are hopeful some "rainmaker," like the founder of this city, will return and bring down moisture from the heavens, if drouth continues. Old-timers recall how Charles William Post spent a sizeable fortune at the turn of the century endeavoring to water his vast land holdings in Garza County and vicinity, through "rain battles."

Post, for whom this city was named, and one of the major colonizers of West Texas, was one of the first to experiment in bringing on rain to a semi-arid country. Not content in perfecting such products as Postum, Grape Nuts, Elijah's Manna, Post Toasties, inventing stoves and machines of diverse types, this restless genius entered, with bouyant optimism, into the most famous rainmaking adventure of all time. And who shall say, with finality, his battles with nature were wholly in vain?

Prepares for Battle

Post originally became interested in West Texas before 1900. He had heard much about Hereford, Tex., and upon visiting this mecca of the West, found land scalpers had hiked the acreage prices so much, he hitched up his horse to a buggy and journeyed below the Cap Rock to where Post now stands. Here he founded the great Double U colony, an empire in itself.

Reams could be written on his colony experimentations. His elaborate experimental farms, his orchards and gardens, his constant search for adequate water supply and, his "rain battles" would afford abundant evidence of the scientific mind of this pioneer. His entire work was dedicated to a theory, "individualism in contrast with socialism, if given a proper trial in a free and undeveloped country, can produce a healthy citizenship in wealth, comfort, peace and contentment." Hence, this article will deal only with his role of "rainmaker," the last and greatest experiment of his life and one West Texas likes to record as the most famous of its kind in history.

Studies Methods

Post had watched and studied all efforts of other so-called "rainmakers" during his western travels as well as efforts in the East during drouth periods. He read of rains which accompanied the Napoleonic wars, and those cloudbursts which fell at Shiloh, Gettysburg and other Civil War battles. He firmly believed the explosions of battle had brought on such downpours.

Post often discussed his beliefs with resident managers relative to producing rain through explosions. He believed dynamite would do the same work as cannon and powder in his proposed rain battles and in the early spring of 1910, wrote his managers to prepare at once, "a suitable kite able to carry two pounds of dynamite." He asked for 15 or 20 such kites carrying 150 pieces of the explosives of two pounds each, with five-minute fuse for an experiment in May of that year.

He arrived in Post on schedule but did not like the preparations. Returning to Battle Creek, Mich., he notified his manager to continue the test and prepare for the first "dry spell" through "violent agitation of the air."

Gives Directions

His letter gave explicit directions for firing the dynamite. Five-minute fuses were to be attached to each charge and when the kite reached an altitude of 100 feet, a string 40 feet long was to be tied to the main cord that held the kite. As the charge of dynamite was about to be lifted by the rising kite, the fuse should be lighted so the explosion would occur five minutes later. Trained men were to be placed a quarter of a mile apart. Each man would fire 20 charges.

But nature played a trick on the "Rainmaker." Just as his men were prepared to bombard the heavens, rain fell. There was no necessity of making the experiment. Too, in preliminary trials with kites, the resident managers found Post's idea most dangerous. Kites bobbed about, lines tangled, and some of the men barely escaped death when dynamite exploded too near the ground.

Spring of 1911 was very dry. By June, kafkir and maize was dying. On June 4, Post wired his managers to stage a "rain battle." On the 8th all was in readiness and 342 pounds of dynamite shook the plains as it exploded along the

rim of the Cap Rock. Men were 50 feet apart for a quarter of a mile. Each had 14 round of dynamite. At a signal each man lighted a fuse and ran for safety. Fourteen salvos were fired that afternoon, first at intervals of 10 minutes, later at five, and finally at three, the entire battle lasting one hour. Post lost the battle. No rain fell. But he was not discouraged. He again wrote his managers the 26th of June not to shoot in groups but to fire each charge alone; imitate a battle. He asked them not to wait too long before staging another battle as he believed results would be produced.

Shower Follows

A shower followed the next battle and Post was so encouraged he was determined to continue his campaign. He offered to spend thousands of dollars to demonstrate his experiment was a success.

On July 17, 1911, Post wrote his manager how important the tests were to him; that he did not believe they were as enthused as he was over such experiments and cited his proof of rains following battles in the Civil War. He pointed out 14 hours of rain followed one of his battles while only sprinkles accompanied others. He berated his men for using only 50 pounds of dynamite when he had ordered an explosion of 3,000 pounds. He told how, if his experiment was a success, deserts would blossom as the proverbial rose. He also expressed belief some positive gains were being achieved. He gave additional instructions to his men for future battles. He asked battle stations be separated one-eighth mile, sixteen stations to each two miles and to fire from rock foundations rather than kites.

On Aug. 28, 1911, he asked his managers to order 12,000 pounds of dynamite with which to stage two battles when he arrived in Post the next October.

Early in September, 1911, he instructed his managers to "fire 3,000 pounds of dynamite, in 1500 shots," keeping a careful record of conditions, selecting a day when there seemed to be less moisture in the air. The managers complied and a good rain fell almost immediately. Post was jubilant. He wrote: "I believe we have reason to feel we have demonstrated that firing these charges in large numbers, and scattered on an area of one or two miles, will really produce rain."

Later that fall, two more battles were staged under the direction of the "Rainmaker" in person. While windows in Post City rattled throughout two afternoons, very little rain followed. Post was not discouraged. He ordered additional dynamite pits near the Cap Rock, later to be known as "chimneys." These pits housed several tons of dynamite that had been stored in the hotel block of the town.

Pioneers Watch

Settlers arrived from all directions to watch these gigantic holiday-like celebrations. Some of them considered Post as a "little teched in the head" for attempting to fool nature. Others believed he had a solution to drouth problems.

Due to his success in experiments, Post withheld his land for sale until further tests could be recorded. "I want to be able to tell buyers exactly what they can expect when I get ready to sell," he wrote.

During the winter of 1911-12, Post attempted to induce the Du Pont de Nemours Powder Company to share expenses of eight big battles to be staged during 1912. He proposed to the company that 24,000 pounds of dynamite be used, expenses to be shared equally. He said he planned to explode 3,000 pounds in each battle, and asked they ship 3,000 pounds at a time. At Post City a stock of 12,000 pounds had been purchased the preceding October.

Asking his managers to shoot a battle each two weeks when no rain fell, provided humidity was

evident, Post was ready for a great siege against nature.

Publishes Article

In February, 1912, he published an article in "Harper's Weekly" on "Making Rain While the Sun Shines." His article attracted national comment. Inquiries poured into Post City and Battle Creek by the hundreds. Hugo Moser, of Wellington, Colo., wrote he was planning similar experiments and was coming to Texas to watch a rain battle.

But early spring rains in 1912 made battles unnecessary until later. Marhoff, Double U manager, was busy with still more experiments and preparations. He constructed wooden shields for his battle men. He arranged for two pounds of dynamite per charge, and 100 charges per man, one explosion to follow another as rapidly as possible. On April 18, Post agreed the firing stations seemed to be all right and repeated his request to "shoot up a rain each two weeks" to aid gardens and grass.

Marhoff staged a gigantic battle on April 27, 1912. While the humidity was not favorable, rain was desperately needed. He elected to stage his next campaign.

Firing began at seven minutes past two, and lasted nearly four hours. At the start, wind blew from the south, later shifting to the southwest, a dry sign. For an hour explosions boomed from the rocks. Then clouds began to form rapidly in the southwest. After three and one-half hours of terrific bombardment thick storm clouds appeared in the west. Darkness, blinding flashes of lightning and heavy thunder accompanied the dynamite-crashes along the two mile battle front below. Smoke rings climbed hundreds of feet to mix with the onrushing clouds. A few minutes before 6 o'clock that evening showers began to fall. A quarter of an inch fell at the site of the explosions, but later that evening the Tahoka community, west of the battle grounds, was flooded. Water stood in lakes 15 miles west of Post City and Marhoff wrote Post in triumph:

Believes in Tests

"I believe that under almost any conditions rain can be produced, for when we started the battle, we had less than 60 per cent of humidity in the air. . . . We had a violent storm in less than four hours after completion of the battle."

Another battle was staged on May 23, 1912. Three pound charges were used. When the firing began about 8 o'clock that morning, the sky was clear and a slight haziness was noted on the horizon. Clouds slowly gathered. In the afternoon a storm arose from the southeast, with heavy thunder and vivid lightning. But only a sprinkle fell on the Post estate. A high wind blew smoke rings away from battle stations.

But C. H. Doak of O'Donnell, 35 miles southwest of Post, wrote in that one and one-half inches of rain fell the night of that battle. This led battle men to conclude the rain had blown away from point of firing.

The ninth rain-making battle was fired June 11. No rain fell on Post property but a tremendous downpour was reported by J. R. Hartford, of Lubbock, a few hours after firing had ceased.

Post was still not discouraged. He expressed belief, in another letter to his managers, rain could be brought on if humidity is anywhere between 70 and 90 degrees and "if humidity is less than 70 we should shoot two battles, preferably, the first one in the afternoon and the next the following morning."

Stages Another Battle

Battles were staged on the afternoon of July 2, 1912, and on the following morning. The afternoon bombardment began at 1:30 o'clock and raged for two and a half hours. Fifteen hundred shots of three pounds each poured from the walls of the Cap Rock. At 7 o'clock that evening a heavy cloud appeared in the northwest. But it by-passed and left Post City high and dry. Next morning another battle rattled cups and dishes in farmhouses ten miles distant but only light sprinkles fell upon Post lands. The final result was that 9,000 pounds of dynamite had been exploded with no appreciable results.

But the "Rainmaker" did not weaken. Crops were suffering, were twisted and withering. Managers ordered a "double-header three-pounder" battle for July 10 and another of the same size for two days later. On each appointed day there were to be morning and

afternoon battles. An entire carload of dynamite was to be used—6,000 pounds for each of the four battles, or 24,000 pounds in all. Not a cloud was in sight when firing began. Winds shifted from east to south, and back to southeast, as terrific detonations shook the earth. Smoke covered the ground. At 10 o'clock a cloud suddenly appeared, and by noon covered half the sky; but no rain fell. In the afternoon firing lasted two and one-half hours. Clouds grew thick then drifted away. Still no rain fell. Practically the same results were recorded on July 12. The "Rainmaker" chalked up a quadruple failure.

Post was disappointed. He took it out on the dynamite manufacturers. On July 15, 1912, he wrote G. Frank Lord of Du Pont Powder Company charging them with shipping him "slowing moving" explosives and added: "To be candid, I believe that you had no confidence in the work, and simply dumped some of your old stuff you could not sell."

Strange, however, Post gave Du Pont a new order for dynamite the following day.

Shoots Heavier Charges

The 15th rain battle was staged on July 25, 1912, still with no results. Recommendations were made in changing battle strategy including heavier charges of dynamite; shoot at the closing hours of the day as most rains occurred in late afternoons, to use 12-pound charges at four-second intervals and wait for 85 per cent humidity in the mornings with light winds from the south or east.

On August 5 they carried out the new battle plans. That night a tremendous rain fell over the territory within a 50-mile radius of Post City. The first shot was 4:30 o'clock in the afternoon, lasting until 7 o'clock that evening. Winds in Post City rattled from vibrations of the four-second bombardments. The sky, clear when the battle began, almost immediately became filled with clouds. Sprinkles started at 6 o'clock and before 7 o'clock the rainstorm struck.

This battle was heard at Clairmont, far to the east. This settlement reported heavy thunder and vivid lightning almost immediately after the firing began. Managers believed their fire had changed the direction of the wind, bringing on the downpour.

Of the 13 battles carried out this year (1912) from March 27 to August 21, seven were accompanied by a fair rain, and three cloudbursts resulted.

Changes Locations

In January, 1913, Post recommended a change in location of firing station to a 15 mile point southeast of Post in order prevailing winds would whip rains over his land. Managers disagreed because rough roads made it dangerous to haul dynamite to these new sites.

In May, 1913, the new locations were established, upon Post's insistence, and on August 12 more dynamite was exploded. The first shot was at 2:15 o'clock in the afternoon. Thirty minutes later light clouds formed and grew heavier as firing increased. For two hours and 45 minutes the explosions continued, but little rain fell. Next afternoon a massive cloud appeared but only a light shower touched the Post holding. Post was undismayed. He wired his managers: "Shoot another battle for rain at once. Begin at four or five o'clock in the morning. Humidity is greater then. Follow instructions. Go ahead."

Two days later, 10 three-pound shots were fired from each of the 15 stations on the edge of the Cap Rock, the first at 5:30 a. m. and

the last at 8:20 a. m. Clouds gathered in the afternoon and heavy showers drenched the lands of hysterical settlers. Greatly encouraged, Post wrote:

"It is becoming more and more evident that these artificial disturbances are frequently necessary to precipitate the moisture, and that you had better stick to the mornings for your battles. I think you should begin at least by 5 o'clock."

The 21st battle on Aug. 21, 1913, was destined to be the last. A rainy autumn made it unnecessary for further battles that year, and before the next crop year the "Rainmaker" had fought his last battle, losing to an unseen foe. Suffering from an incurable stomach ailment and with no hope of recovery, Post shot a bullet through his brain on May 14, 1914.

Cost Is Great

These 21 rain-making battles had cost the great C. W. Post an average of \$2,500 each. He had sent up in smoke over \$50,000 to prove his theory on the semi-arid plains of West Texas. Whether it was worth the price is a matter for speculation. Post evidently believed in his theory. His heirs and managers must think otherwise, as no further attempt at artificial rainmaking has ever been made.

Post intended to continue his experiments through 1914 as he had purchased a carload of dynamite in September, 1913, a supply sufficient for 15 additional battles. But not a stick of that last order was used. Frantic efforts were made to dispose of the cache but buyers were hard to find. As late as 1917 three-fourths of a carload still remained in the Post "Chimneys."

When the United States declared war on Germany in the spring of 1917, Post City residents were fearful enemy sympathizers would use the dynamite to destroy bridges, cotton gins, mills and other strategic sites of the area. With permission of the executors of the estate, a long fuse was attached to the huge mine and once again the entire community reverberated to a gigantic explosion. There was no rain and soon the sound of Post City rain battles was to be heard no more.

They Wonder Now

Now, almost 30 years later and during the era of atomic bombs, citizens of this region are studying past historical events. They wonder if bombs which destroyed Hiroshima, the ones tested by the U. S. Navy this summer in the Pacific waters, could not be used along the strategic plans of Post toward irrigating a nation dedicated to feeding a starving universe through rainmaking rather than destroying humanity.

At least, it is material for thought by the great American scientists.

Surplus Chickens—Put 'Em on Table

College Station, Tex.—Eat chicken now, and can plump stewing hens, is the advice of Texas A. & M. Extension Service. Shipment of grain to relieve famine overseas means that chickens are surplus in this country since there is not enough grain to feed them.

Gwendolyn Jones, specialist in food preservation for the Service, advises use of a pressure canner, using either glass jars or tin cans. She warns against frying the meat before canning, because the crust becomes dry and hard in canning and may even have an unpleasant taste. Livers should be canned alone for good flavor, but gizzards and hearts may be put together.

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Cowpoke Laughs at Age; Wants Action

Uncle Bob Ready For All Contests

By OLETA PARKER

ROTAN, TEX. (WNS).—Uncle Bob Weatherby, veteran cowboy and cattleman, and guardian of the finest traditions of the Texas range since the rough and ready days of the late 1800's, 'set the saddle' for 52 of his 74 years and never—"smoked a cigarette, took a drink of liquor or a chew of tobacco in my life."

"Living alone on the remaining acres of his homestead in the North Roby community, half way between Roby and Rotan, in Fisher County, Uncle Bob "rides into the sunset"—not astride his trusty sorrel on which he rode to victory in many a calf roping contest—but at the wheel of his wiry little Model T roadster, now thoroughly halter broke to the glorified cow trails of a disgustingly civilized cattle country. Model T notwithstanding, attired in conventional white Stetson and cowboy boots, Uncle Bob is still geared for action, only in recent years foregoing the added adornment of jingling spurs. Handsome still and regal in bearing, Uncle Bob stands as straight as an arrow, and walks with the energetic step of a man of 45. With perceptions as keen as a whip, Uncle Bob's memories of earlier day happenings in the cattle country leaves little for the imagination. On dates and places he is a catalogue of information.

Few Texas Brags

In true Texan manner, Uncle Bob has a brag or two—"I raised a big family (nine children)—made a fortune—went broke," he says with characteristic humor. Which is, after all, only traditional history of half a century of ranching in a cattle country! Another brag—"Not one of my children or in-laws have ever been before a court of law on a misdemeanor charge."

The death of his wife, the former Miss Lillie-Gertrude Barron, in 1940, was the first in his immediate family. He was married to Miss Barron, the daughter of prominent West Texas ranchers, in 1892.

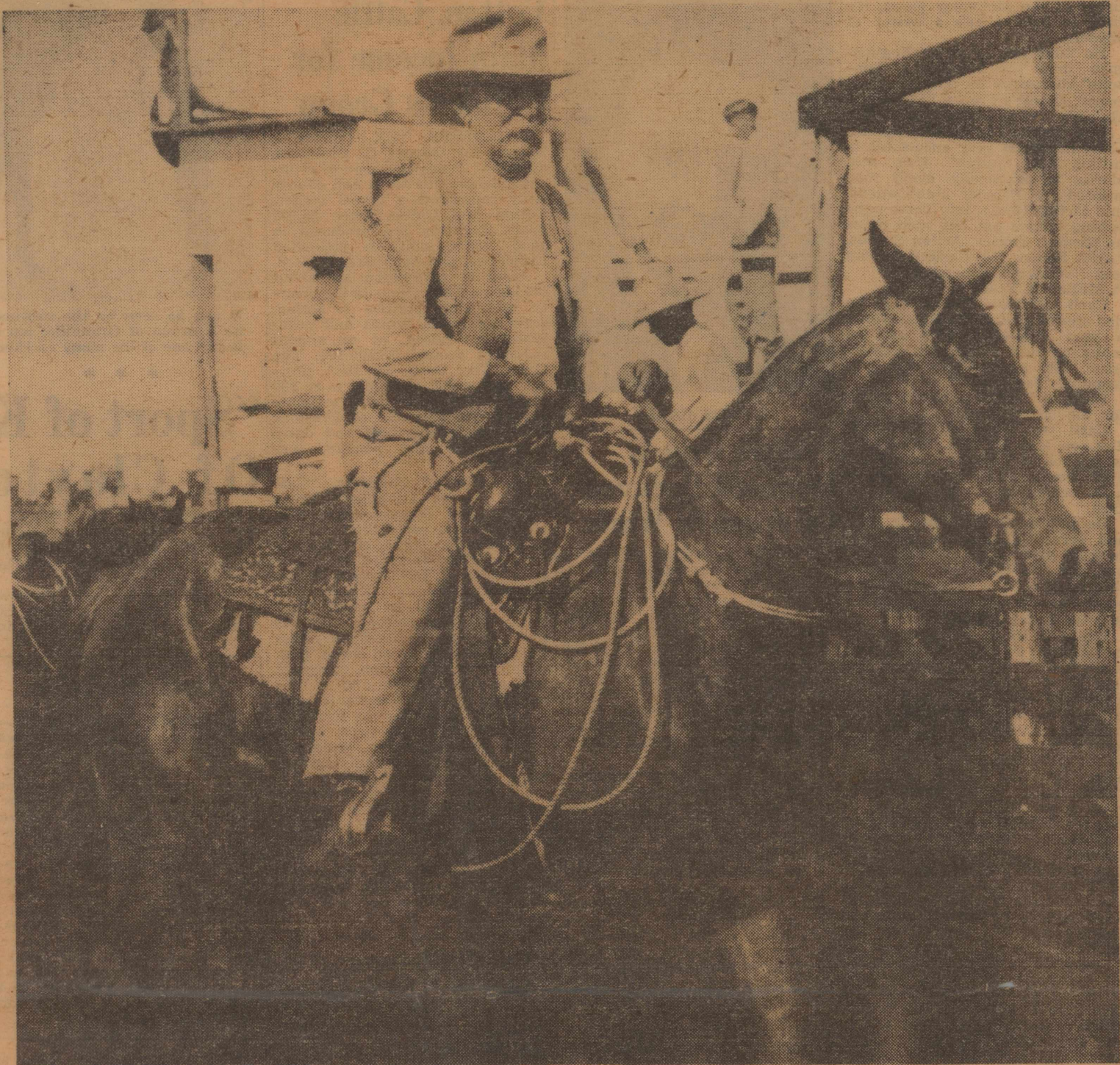
Breaker of records, Uncle Bob has swallowed as much red rodeo dirt as any cowpoke who ever rode the Texas range, but has never had a bone broken in his body—"not even a little finger," he proudly boasts. Quite a record for a cowpoke who started his saddle career at the age of six, and who has been in as many tight spots as any rescuer of fair maidens on the silver screen!

Born at Calvart

Uncle Bob was born R. A. Weatherby, the son of Mr. and Mrs. M. N. Weatherby, on April 4, 1872, at Calvart, Texas, in Robinson County. In 1878 the family moved to a farm in Brown County, six year old Bob riding an old sorrel mare, bareback all the way, helping out with the family herd of 77 cattle. Twenty days on the road and 125 miles of bareback riding made a full fledged cowhand out of young Bob.

Four years later, at the age of 10, he made his first dollar, hiring out to cut range cattle back from the trail herds, on the famous old Chisholm Trail. At a princely wage of \$15 a month, young Bob worked from May through September, the transition season, when herds from South Texas passed through Brown County on the way to pastures in the North country. According to Uncle Bob, average size of the herds were 4,000 steers, cows with calves moved in somewhat smaller numbers. At any time during the transition period, he could stand on a hill overlooking the famous

"GUARDIAN ANGEL OF THE RANGE"



R. A. (Uncle Bob) Weatherby, Rotan cowboy, rancher, ex-champion calf roper of the world sits in the \$125 saddle he won as champion calf roper of the Stamford Rodeo in 1931. The saddle was the first prize to be given away at the annual affair.

old trail, and see a solid wall of steerhide and accompanying enveloping cloud of dust, as far as the eye could reach.

Horse Wrangler

In the Winter of 1885, 14 year old Bob faced a cold norther into Fisher County, hired out as a horse wrangler for a Waco outfit, bringing a herd of cattle to pasture in the Double Mountain country, north of the present town of Rotan. His salary was \$25 a month, board and keep. The cattle delivered, the young wrangler bunked in with a couple of cowpuncher friends on the old XOX Ranch. On December 20th the three boys borrowed a ranch buggy and set out for Anson, attending the first Cowboys' Christmas Ball held there in the old Morning Star Hotel. The historical event, reinstated as an annual affair in 1935, is now held in the Pioneer Hall, with Uncle Bob as a charter member and a director.

Never having missed a session of the famed event, Uncle Bob was given special recognition as the only original attendee present at the first night of the affair last year. As such he was the center of a lot of hullabuloo of photographing and interviewing, which he terms just a lot of tomfoolery! To him there is nothing unusual in the fact that when the last strains of Good Night Ladies ring loud and clear over the western plains, he is still hoofing it out with the best of them. "I never miss a set," he proudly boasts. Nothing old-fogey about Uncle Bob! He goes to the show on Saturday nights—just like the rest of the young folks—and then up and to the Methodist Church on Sunday mornings.

Returns to Family

In 1886, when the county seat town of Roby was one year old, young Bob, then 15 years old, returned to Fisher County with his folks, his parents moving on a farm near Roby, and Bob hiring out as a cowpuncher on the old 18 Ranch. He received the customary pay of \$30 a month, board and keep—the "board" found mostly in the back of a chuck wagon as he rode the open range—the "keep," the hard ground for a bed, and the sky for a ceiling.

The young cowpuncher stayed with the 18 outfit for six years, working the last two as outside man. During that time, he was reputed to have known every mark and brand from Abilene, Texas to the New Mexico line.

Married In 1892

After his marriage in 1892, Uncle Bob and his bride filed on a section of land near Roby, leasing four adjoining sections for sheep and cattle grazing. In 1887 he bought a sizeable tract of land in the North Roby community, again leasing additional sections for grazing purposes. Departing from traditional practices of West Texas cattlemen, Uncle Bob grazed sheep and cattle side by side, a brave gesture in a day when sheep was a fighting word to most cattlemen. The success of his grazing ventures was a good argument in favor of his contentions that sheep do not ruin grazing lands for cattle. Since he always fenced his grazing lands, he never had trouble with his neighbors.

In 1931, when the annual Cowboys' Reunion at Stamford was exactly one year old, Uncle Bob, at 59, was champion calf roper of the show, downing a big, 350 pound steer with 46 seconds time,

in competition with cowboys of all ages. The prize was an elaborately designed, hand tooled saddle, valued at \$125, and the first to be given away there. When skeptics grumbled that the champion roper might carry away the coveted prize, year after year, Uncle Bob came through with a sporting proposition. He elected to establish a precedent, whereby all saddle winners would be barred from calf roping participation at Stamford for a specified number of years. He has never roped at Stamford since that time, but, with his self assessed time up, he has indicated that he may, do so next year. If he does, he will be 75 years old at the time. He has never missed a session of the Stamford rodeo, and attended the past July, serving as manager of the bunkhouse. He is a life and charter member of the Stamford Cowboy Reunion Association.

Wins World Honor

In 1933, at the age of 62, Uncle Bob was proclaimed champion calf roper of the world, in the old men's class, chalking up time of 23, 24, and 29 seconds, on three steers, at a Sweetwater rodeo. He did his last calf roping on the Double Hart Ranch, near Sweetwater, in 1936, again walking off with first place honors in the old men's age class. He was 65 at the time.

The only apparent weakness in the makeup of the hard hitting old westerner is his love of poetry writing. If poetry writing seems a bit removed from calf roping, Bob can easily explain away that little discrepancy. No man can ride the lonely reaches of the Texas range for as long as he has and not hear, in the soul stirring mo-

ments of silent vigil, the poetic voices of the cattle country! There is rhythm in the expansive surge of the open range, and the words to fit "just sorta' fall in natural like," according to the picturesque old cowboy.

Sonora Is Noted For Wool House

SONORA, TEX. (WNS).—Established to serve sheep and goat ranchers in this area, the Sonora Wool and Mohair Company is the second largest wool and mohair storage house in Texas, being surpassed in size only by the house at San Angelo, Tex.

Capacity of the house is 6,000,000 pounds, and at present there are approximately 3,000,000 pounds of mohair in storage. The company was established in 1930, with the building erected at a cost of \$80,000.

George D. Chalk is assistant manager, Clyde Clemens is weigher, and 16 people are employed.

Directors of the company are S. H. Allison, Fred T. Earwood, L. W. Elliott, B. M. Halbert, Jr., Bryan Hunt, W. H. Karnes, W. A. Miers, Ed C. Mayfield, Ben F. Meckel, George H. Neill, Joe Ross, E. D. Shurley, Joe M. VanderStucken, and E. F. VanderStucken. Officers of the company are Mayfield, president, W. A. Mier, vice president, and Earwood, vice president and general manager. Neill is treasurer and A. C. Elliott is secretary.

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McCamey Publisher Forgets His British Speech to Hit Print

McCAMEY, TEX. (WNS).—When talking to James Carll, publisher of the McCamey News, it's hard to believe he's a writer of western fiction.

He talks more like an Englishman than the two-fisted, gun-totin' characters he puts down on paper. He calls France "Frawnce." He says "righto" instead of "yep."

But despite his refined speech, Carll has been very successful in hitting the "pulp." He's sold stories to practically every magazine printed by Popular Publications, and Fiction House, Inc. These publishing houses put out such pulps as Western Stories, Action Stories, Lariat Stories, 10 Western Stories and Northwest Romances.

A Million A Year

Carll said from 1935 to 1941, he had approximately a million words a year published. He's had as many as four stories in a single issue. He wrote under the pen name of "Jay Karth."

He also writes athletic yarns for the sport pulps.

Carll was born at Pendleton, Tex., on May 21, 1904. He attended school at Temple, Dallas and Fort Worth, and graduated from high school at Fort Worth in 1920.

He enlisted in the Navy in 1921 and served aboard the Arizona, sunk 20 years later at Pearl Harbor, and the USS Hull, the first ship sunk off the coast of France on D-Day. He was a radioman.

Was At Dutch Harbor

While in the Navy, he was attached for awhile to the Navy radio station at Dutch Harbor. He said Dutch Harbor's only armament then consisted of five Army rifles with no ammunition.

It was in Alaska Carll started writing fiction. "We were stationed for quite sometime on the little island of St. Paul," he said. "There wasn't anything to do in your spare time except read. I suppose I read every book and magazine on the island. Then I decided if those men could write such tripe and sell it, why couldn't I? I started composing stories, mostly about the north, writing them with a pencil in longhand. I saved the copy I wrote on St. Paul and later made money out of it, using it as reference material for my stories about the North."

Discharged from the Navy in 1925, Carll went to work for Western Union as a Morse operator and student engineer in California. He attended night school at the University of California in Berkeley while doing this work. He continued working as a Western Union operator at San Francisco until 1935. Then he began writing fiction in earnest, graduating from a telegraph operator to an author.

Became Editor

He dropped his pulp-writing career in 1941, and went to New York City as editor of a Western Union publication. He was also assistant advertising manager for Western Union.

When Western Union created its Industrial Public Relations Department in 1942, Carll was made assistant to the vice-president of this department.

He said goodbye to Western Union in 1943 and became a Hollywood writer, accepting a writing contract with Universal Pictures. He turned out two series of western thrillers, 14 scripts in all, while with Universal. "I saw one of them recently," Carll said. "It was 'Beyond the Pecos.'"

Carll said he didn't like Hollywood. "I didn't like Hollywood or New York," he declared emphatically. "I wouldn't go back to Hollywood for \$2,000 a month."

Buys Papers

Author Carll came to McCamey in February, 1945, and bought the McCamey and Rankin News. He moved the news plant from Rankin to McCamey. Operating under the name, News Publishing Co., James and his brother, Cuthbert Carll, formerly football coach at McCamey, publish the McCamey News, Rankin News, Crane News and Iraan News.

Carll's previous newspaper experience was a brief hitch with the San Francisco Chronicle and Associated Press. He wrote sports for both while in California in 1932-35.

Besides all this, he is also a married man. His wife is the former Miss Edith Ison, of Wink.

Carll said he became a country newspaperman "because I like the country and people. I'd been away far too long. I saw the need for a good newspaper in McCamey, so I located there."

He plans to do some books with West Texas backgrounds soon. "With four papers to get out each week, I don't have much time for fiction writing," he said.



JAMES CARLL

Prairie Dog Is Doomed Because Of Agent's Work

SHATTUCK, OKLA. (WNS).—Pete Ross, county agent, took his life in his hands recently when he mailed out letters to farmers of this region calling them "careless, dilatory, ignorant and lazy" because they didn't take care of the prairie dog problem on their land. In Territory days such a letter would have brought on bloodshed. In this instance it brought on a meeting of the farmers and ranchers with Ross and reports state it was "most satisfactory."

The group drafted a resolution asking county commissioners of Ellis County to put the statute approved by the State Legislature last into effect. Ross was largely responsible for the law. Commissioners agreed to enact the resolution.

The law makes it a misdemeanor for anyone failing to cooperate with county agents or county commissioners in any campaign against predatory animals. Fines up to \$25 may be assessed.

The group decided land operators and land owners will be held responsible for control work. The committee has now asked cooperation from adjoining counties in Oklahoma and Texas in the fight to rid the land of prairie dogs.

"Dogs can never be completely eradicated," says Ross, unless the county organizes to fight the pests.

Cotton, Cattle Main Income for Childress Group

CHILDRESS, TEX. (WNS).—Named for George C. Childress, author of Texas Declaration of Independence, this town and county truly represents a two-C center: Cotton and Cattle. Over 25,000 bales of cotton are produced in good years, and an estimated 15,000 beef and dairy cattle raised.

Acres in cultivation are about 200,000 on 1,300 farms in the county, where, in addition to cotton, grain sorghums, wheat and vegetables are raised, at an annual value of around \$3,500,000. The Gates City Coop, an REA project, serves 650 members over 200 miles of line. A recent estimate of the annual value of livestock raised, including beef and dairy cattle, hogs and poultry, was \$1,500,000.

The city of Childress, "Gate City" to the Panhandle-Plains, boasts 1,200 home-owners, with bank deposits early this year set at \$7,669,674. Three city schools have an attendance of 2,034, while an additional 1,045 pupils attend the seven county schools. The town is served by eight daily trains, 32 daily busses of five-bus lines, one airline, and six motor freight lines. Railroad shops, gins, an oil mill and cotton compress, two packing houses and a feed mill, and 90 retail merchants make it a trade center for the territory. Three hotels and four tourist courts are in operation, while new homes and business buildings are being constructed rapidly.

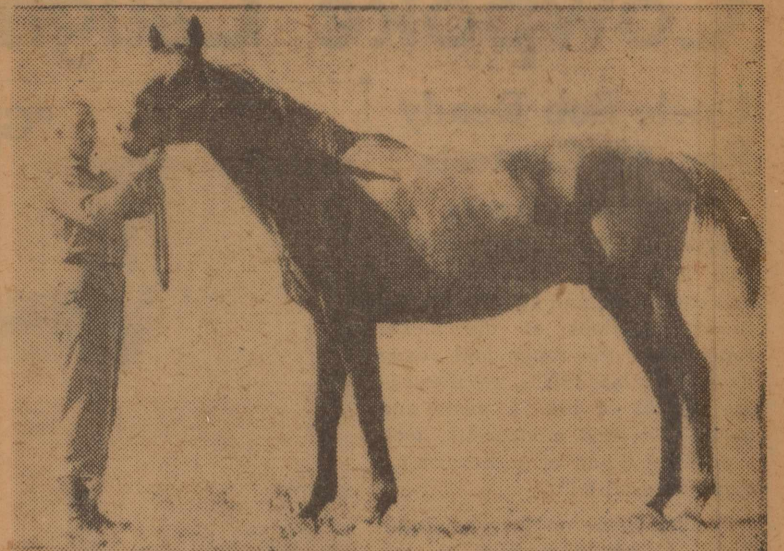
City fathers plan to develop a new source of water supply, widen city streets, and resurface 27 blocks of paving with asphalt.

Active clubs include the Rotary, with 45 members, the Lions, with 55 members, and the Business and Professional Women's Club with 35 members.

First Wilbarger Child in 1882

(Condensed from Vernon Times)
Vernon, Tex.—(WNS)—From the best information obtainable, the first child born in Wilbarger County was Mrs. Dee Lewis, in February, 1882. John Miller of the Fargo community was born in July, 1882. It has not been learned if there were any children born in the county during 1881.

TOP MONEY WINNER



It can be seen by the expression on Bill Winchester's face that he is proud of Granville, top racer and money winner. Granville is just one of the many racehorses owned by Dr. J. M. Winchester.

* * *

"Sport of Kings" Hobby Of Clayton Doctor

CLAYTON, N. M. (W.N.S.)—Bound for the Kentucky Derby in 1947, Dr. J. M. Winchester is breeding and running racehorses as a hobby. His two-year-old, Lee Wick, sired by Wickup, is going to make the races in July, and if he shows enough speed will be entered in the Derby next year.

Dr. Winchester, who also owns registered Herefords and milking shorthorns, has been around race horses, pacers, and trotters most of his life, and combines this interest in the Sport of Kings with a medical practice.

Sad Mistake

LUBBOCK, TEX. (WNS).—A long line of shoppers waited patiently in front of a local department store. Mrs. Hoyt Agnew, suspecting much-needed nylons, quickly joined the line. After thirty minutes of waiting she was permitted to round the corner and enter the door. But to her amazement the sale was not coveted nylons but large inflated balloons in all colors and characters. Too embarrassed to admit her mistake, she purchased a balloon. Mrs. Agnew reports she will gladly make a deal with any child who has made a similar mistake and wishes to trade a pair of nylons for a Penguin balloon.

Folks in West Texas who are plagued with heavy growth of Yucca on their lands will be interested in new experiments which show possibilities for making rope, soap, mats, containers, and alcohol from the wild plant.

Postmaster's Rare Gems Are From West Texas Unusual Rock Hunts

CLARENDON, TEX. (WNS).—One would naturally believe a postmaster would collect stamps as a hobby. But J. C. Estlack, postmaster of Clarendon collects rare stones native to his region and has not only collected enough to create the envy of gemologists over America but has made it a profitable pastime. In fact, so rare are some of his stones, the world-famous Tiffany's has bought many Estlack gems and is still trying to secure more of his rare collection.

Where the novice merely kicks a stone aside, Estlack places it under a microscope or examines it with an efficient eye for gem material. He declares more people have kicked aside rare gems than ever discovered in mining or specific search.

Hunts in Canyon

Using the Palo Duro Canyon area, ravines near his city, and other locations in the Panhandle for a hunting ground, Estlack will also journey to Old Mexico, New Mexico or other points in search of a rare stone to complete his collection. He has many jewel-stones sent him by admirers in the service during World War II, from all parts of the globe. Each stone is catalogued, bears the donor's name, the classification of the stone family and usually shows the rough rock along with a finished faceted or polished gem.

For years Estlack was content to allow jewelers to facet and polish his discoveries. But recently he joined forces with Earl A. Ferris of Memphis, another ardent stone and jewel collector, and today they polish and facet their own stones. Many are ready for mounting; many are mounted. There are all sizes, shapes, colors and designs.



J. C. ESTLACK

Some are large enough for bracelets and necklaces and all are suitable for rings.

Finds Persian Opal

During one of Estlack's exploration trips into Palo Duro Canyon he noticed where years of erosion, caused by water and wind, had created a slide in an embankment. About 10 feet below the surface, and in the slide, he noticed a small rock-appearing speck. Investigating, he picked up one of the world's rare stones—a Persian opal.

Experts believe the stone must have been lost by Spaniards during Coronado's trek across the Plains in search of the cities of gold. They say this stone is found only in Persia and is of rare value.

Gem collectors all over America have tried to trade for or purchase the stone. Estlack refuses to sell. For several years he has kept the opal bottled in glycerine. It acts like a barometer, often changing in color and lustre. Clarendon citizens say they can look at the opal and predict the weather from its color.

Gems On Display

In a gem case in the Clarendon News, formerly published by the postmaster and now owned by his sons, are many gems on display. There is opalized wood from Briscoe County and Grants, N. M.; there are black opalized woods from Grimes County, and opals from all Panhandle Counties, each classified and polished with the rough state of rock along side each jewel.

There is a huge collection of Bornite, the "Peacock rock," and Plasma Opal from New Mexico.

He has a hunk of Hutchinson County gold ore, rocks and nuggets. Estlack declares this Panhandle gold has stood all acid tests.

He displays Garnet pyrope in the schrist, and almandite garnet in round pebbles. He also shows golden topaz, tektite, meteor minerals, Arkansas diamonds and a score of other rare and semi-rare jewels.

Regardless of any event in progress, mention the possibility of finding some jewel rocks or historic deposits and Postmaster Estlack is ready to vacation with you on another of his now famous searches.

Odds are he will find some rare specimen and pay for his trip as a result.

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GI'S DESERT CLASSES FOR PILOT'S SEAT

10 Little Dogies Prove Care Will Pay Any Owner

SPUR, TEX. (WNS).—Ten plain little dogies, after being fed out for 16 months on good pasture and supplemental feed, sold at prices equal to or better than higher priced calves, according to R. E. Dickson, superintendent of the Experiment Station here.

The calves, predominantly Jerseys, were acquired Nov. 30, 1944, from some old shelly cows that were being shipped from near here. The station took the calves and gave them the best available pasture for 16 months, and supplemental feed for 10 months. At various seasons they were run on alfalfa, wheat or oat pasture, and they were fed a meal and hull mixture which started at the 2.53 pound level and later was increased to 22 pounds per animal daily.

The calves weighed 202 pounds at the start and cost \$20. Their feed cost was \$38.63, bringing the total to \$58.63. The daily gain was 1.64 pounds. They were marketed at the Fort Worth Stockyards at a substantial profit. Most previous tests at the station have been made with high quality stocker animals, but Dickson feels that dogies, if properly fed, can bring better profits than the higher priced calves.

Crockett County Plans Expansion, Building Program

OZONA, TEX. (WNS).—One of the largest counties in the state, covering 2,794 square miles, Crockett County derives the bulk of its income from sheep, goats and cattle, situated as it is on the Edwards Plateau, center of Texas' grazing area.

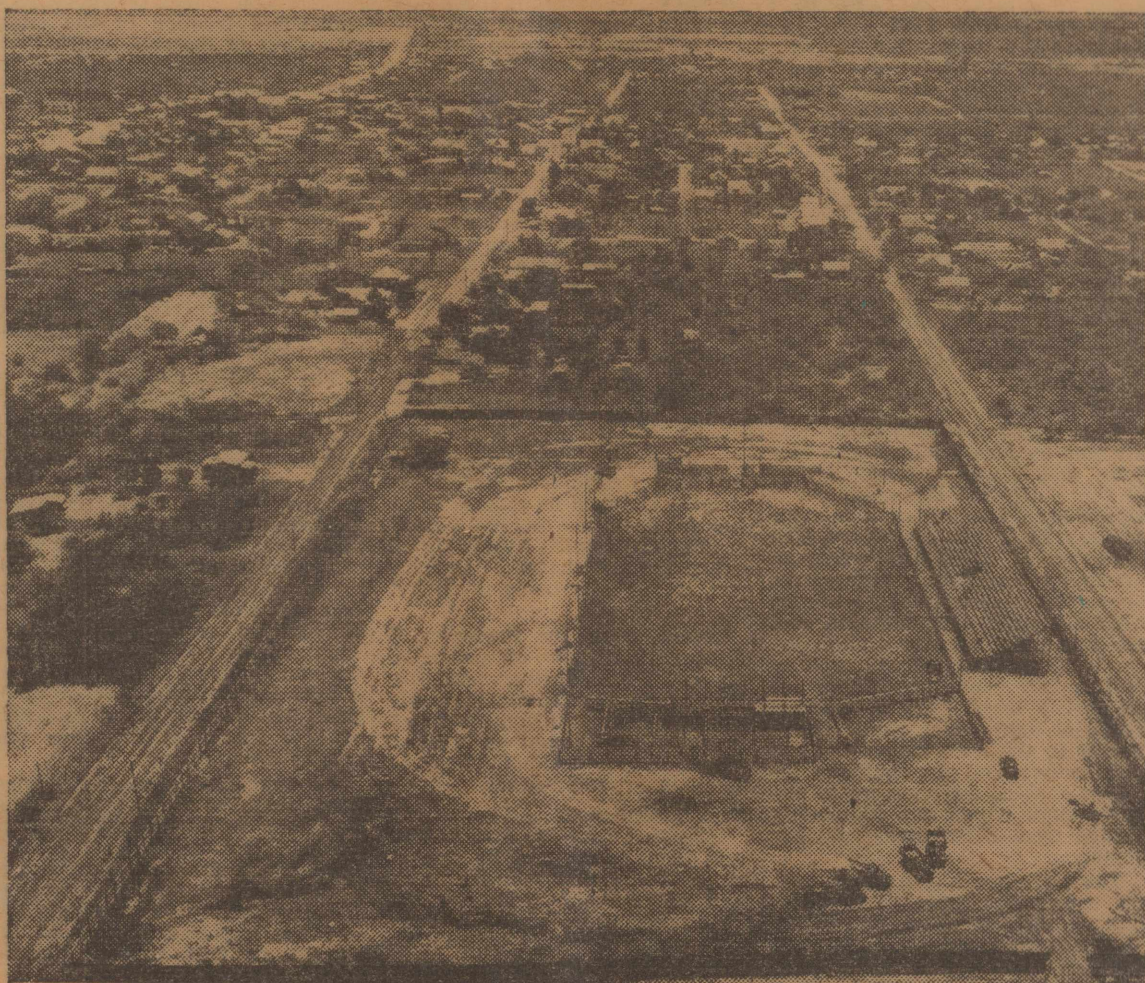
Due west of here are the ruins of Fort Lancaster, built before the Civil War on Live Oak Creek for protection of travellers from San Diego to San Antonio. Here in town is a monument to David Crockett, for whom the county was named, and many tourists are also attracted to the annual rodeo and fat stock show held each fall.

Oil and natural gas also contribute to the county's prosperity, with several small fields in operation, and over a million barrels of oil produced yearly. This city, headquarters of the oil and livestock interests in the county, has an estimated population of 3,000 out of the county's total 3,500.

Expansion programs include enlargement of water and sewer facilities, constructions of an airport and farm-to-market roads.

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ARCHER CITY'S NEW STADIUM



ARCHER CITY, TEXAS, sets a new high in stadiums as a post-war project. This aerial view shows the completed project backed by every civic-minded citizen of this progressive city. Archer City dads offer complete plans for interested communities.

Artificial Insemination Proving Boon to Western Cattle Industry

CORDELL, OKLA. (WNS).—Arthur (Buddy) Green stays in his office until 10 a.m. daily. He then gathers up his equipment, gets in his car and travels through Washita, and parts of Custer and Kiowa counties to keep appointments which have come in by telephone during the morning.

Green's equipment consists of rubber gloves, disinfectants, and a portable ice box. Completing his equipment is an impregnator. In the ice box are 2 cc semen specimens from prize bulls raised at Oklahoma A&M. Artificial insemination has become a part of dairy life in the three counties.

The probable results of the practice are optimistic according to James V. Son, county agent at Cordell. The yearly butter fat production of the tri-county area should jump from its annual 163 pounds yield to 203 pounds for each cow served.

Furthermore, dairymen of the area can eliminate the unpredictable dairy bull from herds and eliminate an annual \$60 feed bill

using the saving for a method of breeding which will assure him of good ancestry in his future stock.

On the scientific side of artificial insemination, efficiency is the keynote. Portions of the extracted semen are mixed with egg yolks, thereby enabling one extraction to serve 60 cows.

Another advantage is that the dairyman will have a choice of Jersey, Gernsey or Holstein breeding—even for cross-breeding if he so desires.

Plans for the experiment were outlined in December, shortly after similar programs were established in Muskogee, Garfield, Payne and Kingfisher counties.

A group of Cordell's dairymen, members of a branch of the Northwest Dairy Breeders Association of Enid, Okla., sought further information. Consequently, Jim Corcoran, a board member of the local group, and Lloyd Stinnett, extension specialist in charge of artificial insemination at Oklahoma A&M, conferred with Son and got the program rolling. Green was hired as chief executor of the ambitious venture.

By March 15, everything was ready to roll. However, 1,100 cows were needed to finance the proposal. The first 600 registrants came easy, but Son had to make field trips and convince over-conservative dairymen of the merits of artificial insemination.

The first experiments proved successful, and Son now estimates that 3,000 of the 3,600 cows of the tri-county area will eventually be served by artificial insemination.

Under the arrangements, the dairyman is required to put up \$10 for a stock issue, with a \$1 fee for each cow that he plans to register for the next year. There is a \$5 service charge.

If the first specimen fails to settle in the cow, a second and third trip is made by Green at no cost. But until now, 65 per cent of the number one shots have been successful. According to Son, a 60 per cent mark is a good average when the process is carried out as nature had intended it to be.

On paper, the plan looks good—and it's working according to schedule. Son prophesies that there will be some fine cattle developed by the process.

Returnees Offered Aviation Lessons

DALLAS, TEX. (WNS).—A recent amendment of the GI Bill of Rights has made it possible for every discharged veteran to use his educational benefits for pilot training. With 12,000,000 World War II veterans eligible to become pilots at government expense, flight training in the next few years is expected to dwarf the combined pilot-training program of the Army and Navy which graduated 200,000 pilots during the war. Such is the prediction of Raymond Weatherly, former West Texan and now co-owner of the Weatherly-Campbell Aircraft Co., of Dallas.

The Weatherly-Campbell Company is located at the Highland Park Airport and is an accredited, CAA-approved training school for GI's.

A conservative estimate is that 10 per cent of eligible veterans will decide to take some flight training. This will mean 1,300,000 new pilots within the next five years. It also means between one and two billion dollars earmarked for aviation training, thousands of new training planes each year and countless thousands of airplane mechanics. It also means construction of hundreds of private airports in every state of the country.

The veterans are just beginning to realize they can have up to \$3,000 worth of flying time in place of classroom education. That is enough money for a commercial license, instrument rating or instructor's rating. In many instances it is enough for all three.

Veterans can roughly figure their entitlement (benefit) for flight training by multiplying their day of service by \$2.10 and adding to this sum \$760.00 for the extra year of entitlement given by the government. Thus a maximum of \$3,000 can be granted under the GI Bill.

In addition to a paid tuition, veterans attending school a minimum of 25 hours per week can collect subsistence allowances of \$65 a month if single and \$95 a month if married. If a veteran attends school 18 or more hours each week, he is entitled to three-fourths of his subsistence; if more than 12 hours he is allowed one-half; six hours, a fourth. Students may hold other jobs and still draw subsistence funds but cannot work more than 39 hours per week. For subsistence purposes, flying time counts double with each hour of air time counting two ground school hours. Rates for flying school training vary in many localities but have been approved by government ceiling as "fair." Students agree schools approved by the CAA have eliminated many "racket schools." The CAA officials have written each of the 48 state governors offering help in establishing flying-school standards.

CAA-approved schools, meeting high standards of teaching, curriculum, and equipment, are permitted to qualify a student for private license with a minimum of 35 hours of flight time as compared to a 40-hour minimum in a non-approved school. A minimum of 160 hours is required in CAA-approved schools for a commercial license against 210 hours in schools lacking such approval.

To get educational training of any kind, the veteran first fills out Veterans Administration Form No. 1950, available at most Veteran's posts and guidance agencies. He sends this, together with a copy of his discharge, to the Veterans Administration Regional office in his state.

In a few days he will receive written notice he has applied for educational benefits. In some cases he can take this notification to the chosen flight school, sign Form 1950A, and be in the air with an instructor the same day.

Eventually, the veteran receives his "Certificate of Eligibility" he is entitled, depending upon length of service.

All approved schools offer complete details for interested veterans seeking flight training. The schools usually provide necessary forms of application.

Weatherly-Campbell Company boasts complete hangar and shop facilities at the new Highland Park Airport, has secured new planes of varied types for instruction purposes and anticipates a full enrollment within the immediate future. "It is surprising how many inquiries we are receiving from West Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico veterans," Weatherly said. "It appears we will have many classes from this area."

Irrigation Program Started in 1887 Near Carlsbad, New Mexico

CARLSBAD, N. M. (WNS).—In 1887 Charles B. Eddy began as a private project what is now known as the Carlsbad Irrigation Project. Eddy was instrumental in organizing the Pecos Valley Land and Ditch Co., and after organization two dams were built, one at Lake McMillan for storage and one at the Avalon site for diversion. Approximately 13,000 acres were irrigated from these dams.

But in 1904 a flash flood washed out the Avalon Dam, seriously curtailing irrigation activities. The Bureau of Reclamation was authorized to take over the project in 1906. Under their supervision Avalon Dam was rebuilt, canals rehabilitated, and the system extended until it now serves 25,055 acres. Irrigated land lies adjacent to the city of Carlsbad and extends south along the Pecos River.

Cost of the project to October 31, 1942, was \$3,620,266.49, according to Bureau of Reclamation statistics. Engineers estimate this cost will be repaid by 1984.

Included in the project are the Alamogordo Dam and Reservoir, located 16 miles north of Fort Sumner on the Pecos River, a rolled and rock-filled structure with a reservoir capacity of 148,000 acre feet; McMillan Dam and Reservoir, 16 miles northwest of Carlsbad, with a reservoir capacity

of 38,655 acre feet, and Avalon Dam six miles north of Carlsbad, with a capacity of 6,000 acre feet.

The main canal, 20 miles long, has a capacity of 600 feet per second at Avalon. It crosses the Pecos River in a 400-foot concrete flume and has a reinforced concrete siphon 600 feet in length at Dark Canyon. There are 52 miles of main laterals. Eight miles of the main canal and 30 miles of laterals are lined with concrete.

As a result of this irrigation, crop values from 1933 to 1941 averaged \$50.94 per acre, with increased values since that time. Principal crops in the irrigation area are cotton and alfalfa, with the latter bringing premium prices.

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Dam To Be Boon To Washita Basin

ELK CITY, OKLA. (WNS).—Oklahoma farmers in the Elk City area are eagerly looking forward to the consideration of the Foss Reservoir and irrigation system, now under investigation by the Bureau of Reclamation.

Farmers of the Washita Basin area are victims of bad natural distribution of water and periods of extreme drought that cause low crop yields in many years. Small amounts of irrigation water, where available, and generally not exceeding one acre-foot per acre annually, have almost doubled crop yields.

Heavy rains over large parts of the Washita drainage basin cause damaging floods, with overflows in some sections as many as five times per year. As a result, these fertile lands in the flood plain cannot be farmed effectively. Need of flood control and irrigation water is becoming of major importance in this area if agriculture is to be stabilized.

The proposed Foss Reservoir, together with three tributary reservoirs, would provide adequate flood control and a full irrigation water supply for 35,000 acres. Of the 256,000 acre-foot capacity of the Foss Reservoir, 55,000 acre-feet would be allocated for siltation, 10,000 acre-feet for fish and wildlife propagation, 98,000 acre-feet for irrigation, and 93,000 acre-feet for flood control. The reservoir site is about 12 miles west of Clinton and controls a drainage area of 1,450 miles.

The dam would be an earth fill structure about 164 feet at the highest point. Right-of-way would be approximately 11,000 acres.

It is estimated that the improved land would be valued at \$50.00 per acre.

Hockley County Plans Irrigation

LEVELLAND, TEX. (WNS).—Hockley County's agricultural prospects are looking up this year, with organization of a Soil Conservation District, new developments in the growing and harvesting of cotton, good growing weather, and increased irrigation. Dave Sherrill, county agent, reports that "everything looks favorable for a good year."

Climaxing a series of farmer meetings, the soil conservation district was organized to "save the soil now instead of waiting until it is wasted." J. W. Evans of the local PMA supervised the gatherings, which were attended by an average of 30 men each time.

In the field of cotton, Sherrill has been active in encouraging farmers to sign up for cotton insurance, and has also become interested in a method of defoliation of the cotton leaves. He reports that some farmers have already purchased mechanical tractor-harvesters. Up until last year, Hockley County was high in cotton production, but in 1945 only 7,000 bales were produced. Drought caused most of the decrease, and a good moisture promises a bigger crop this year.

The drought caused many farmers to cull their poorer cattle and start breeding and raising a better grade of stock. Another bulwark against drought is the fact that some 75 new irrigation wells have been drilled in the county.

Because of the present shortage of feed, most of the 250 4-H Club boys in the county plan to concentrate on breeding livestock and raising crops in 1946.

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Double Stars Over Texas Seen From McDonald Observatory

By W. U. McCoy

FORT DAVIS, TEX. (WNS).—One of the most unique and fruitful scientific cooperative endeavors in existence has grown from the seven years of joint effort of the Yerkes and McDonald Observatories.

People of this area are proud of the fact that the McDonald Observatory houses the world's second largest telescope, but they take more pride in an educational policy that allows the pooling of resources of the University of Texas and the University of Chicago to form a completely equipped and well trained research group. When the University of Texas received the bequest from W. J. McDonald, of Paris, Texas, for the purpose of constructing and equipping the observatory, it joined hands with the Yerkes Observatory of the University of Chicago, which had a large, highly trained research staff. Years of preliminary work were thus eliminated.

Land Donated

Low, rounded Mount Locke was donated by Mrs. Violet Locke McIvor, and it was formerly a part of the U-UP-and-Down Ranch. It was chosen because of a number of very favorable conditions. The elevation of 6,328 feet offers an unusually transparent atmosphere above the telescope. There are no high surrounding mountains, and the large, flat plateau around the Davis Mountains tends to produce uniform air conditions. There are no nearby large cities to give off artificial light which would interfere with the observation of faint nebulosities, and the southern location enables astronomers to observe stars which are completely hidden from observatories farther north.

The telescope has a single, offset supporting beam so designed that the instrument can be levelled almost at the horizon, an operation difficult with older type telescopes. The telescope will cover the entire sky except a circle around the South Pole with a radius of 30 degrees. Observations may be made on an average of 2,300 hours a year.

Purpose of Observatory

The purpose of the observatory is to reveal the physical laws which govern the structure of the material universe, and to note the changes that take place within it. Astronomy is a part of physics and chemistry, and it concerns itself with problems which cannot be studied in a laboratory. The time is long past when only unusual phenomena such as comets, eclipses, etc., attracted the astronomer's attention. Most of the work is conducted by means of photography, and emissions sensitive to ultraviolet or infrared light are largely used. Light from the stars is sometimes measured by various types of photoelectric cells and by the spectograph, which is one of the most powerful tools of the astronomer.

"We locate the area of study by means of a smaller telescope which is attached to the large mirror," Dr. Elmer Dershem, in charge of maintenance and construction, said. "The small telescope covers a larger area, and after the star or star group is located, then the large 82-inch telescope is focused."

"We can identify the elements of a star by analyzing the color wave length," Dr. Dershem continued. "Any element has certain color wave lengths that are distinctive. The light is passed through a prism which breaks the light down. We can tell whether the object is moving toward the earth, away, in which direction and the speed of travel."

Have Double Stars

"Some stars are double stars, or they may consist of a greater number, going around in an orbit. We are enabled to observe the revolution of the star, and deduce the weight, mass, and density. Some stars have been found to be a thousand times more dense than steel, while others are less dense than the earth."

Some of the stars photographed are 400,000,000 "light years" from the earth. And one light year is the distance light travels in the 32,000,000 seconds of a year at a rate of 186,000 miles a second.

Research at the observatory has been very productive. Over 120 reprint pamphlets of studies have been issued. A great number of studies are recorded in the Astrophysical Journal. The telescope is in use every clear night from sunset to sunrise, and little time can be allowed for casual observation of interesting objects such as planets, clusters, nebulae, double stars, etc. Most of the work is highly specialized research.

Contribution Made

Dr. Otto Struve, Director of the observatory has made some important research contributions. His work on "Binary Stars" two or more sets of stars, is well known. He has contributed greatly to

knowledge of the revolution and rotation of stars. He had been doing work on the light of the night sky and nebulae before the telescope was installed.

June 1 of this year Dr. Daniel Popper of the observatory sent out this telegram: "Rho Cass 6.2 magnitude. Spectrum shows exceptionally luminous M star. No trace of F super giant." This means that Dr. Popper has discovered the star Rho Cassiopeiae had unexpectedly changed its course. It had changed its nature and had become an "M" star, which means that it had cooled and changed its brightness, an "F" star being much hotter.

Recent work by Professor G. Herzberg, authority on molecules, and Dr. W. A. Hiltner, Assistant Director of the Yerkes and McDonald Observatories, has revealed hitherto unknown bands of carbon dioxide around Venus, and ammonia around Jupiter.

Work Together

"The fact that the two institutions have run jointly as they do has proved a new venture in the field of education," Dr. G. Van Biesbroeck, Professor of Astronomy, asserted. "Cooperation has been established, and the results have been most satisfactory."

Dr. Biesbroeck has been doing research on comets and on stars of the faintest luminosity. He has, in fact, discovered the faintest star yet known. Very large stars are designated by Greek letters, and fainter stars are known by catalog numbers. The star discovered by Dr. Biesbroeck was so faint that it was not catalogued, but called "Vanbroeck Star." This is a star so feeble in light that it may be intermediate between a star like the sun and a planet.

Harvard announced in November, 1944, "From blue and yellow plates taken by the Stewart Observatory, the color index of Van Biesbroeck's Star is surprisingly low. This suggests the possibility that it is a degenerate star, and approaches a 'Black Dwarf.' It corresponds to an early M dwarf, but the luminosity is several thousand times lower."

Work on Comets

"The brightness of the stars is no indication of their real luminosity," Dr. Biesbroeck stated. "The brightness depends on the distance, and it is only as the distance is known that we can find out what a star's actual brightness is. There is a very great range in the brightness. Some stars may be a thousand times brighter than our sun, while others, the so-called 'dwarf stars' may be a thousand times fainter than our sun."

"We also do quite a bit of work on comets," Dr. Biesbroeck said. "By following them as soon as possible after they get away from the sun, we cover as long an arc as possible of their movement to obtain their orbit. Most comets are seen only in the vicinity of the sun. One observed here recently makes the second time that a comet has been observed at its farthest point from the sun. Comets travel in an oval arc around the sun."

Stars Are Heavy

Dr. Gerald P. Kuiper has been working on "White Dwarfs," a peculiar group of stars of extremely small size but enormous density. The material of some of these stars has been found to be so dense that a cubic inch would weigh several tons. This is a recent discovery. It was not previously known that matter could be in such a state. It is explained by the fact that the atoms are broken down at an extremely high temperature.

Recently Dr. Kuiper discovered an atmosphere of methane and ammonia on the largest satellite of Saturn, Titan.

Work by Dr. Otto Struve and Dr. C. T. Elvey has shown that the vast spaces between the stars contain glowing atoms of hydrogen.

The intrinsic luminosities of the stars, measuring the amount of radiant energy emitted by them into space, forms the subject of an investigation by Dr. W. W. Morgan. The vastness of this energy output can only be visualized by remembering that all life on the earth depends upon an almost in-

finite fraction of the energy output of the sun, which itself is only a microscopic source of power among the billions of stars of our galaxy and other galaxies.

Discoveries Made Public

Many of the discoveries never come to the attention of the general public. The results appear in special publications and journals such as the Astronomical Journal, where it is made available to other scientists. The information becomes the property of the people at large, at the disposal of anyone who may desire it.

The light-gathering power of the 82-inch telescope is about 150,000 times greater than that of the unaided human eye. It will reveal many millions of stars which cannot be seen directly. The concave mirror is made of pyrex glass and is true to one-millionth of an inch, the result of four years of polishing and grinding. The mirror is covered with a thin surface of aluminum deposited by evaporation in a high vacuum. This surface reflects the light of the stars toward the focus where it may be photographed or analyzed. The mirror has a thickness of 1 1/4 inches at the edge and weighs 5,600 pounds.

An ingenious electrical device, first developed at the McMath Observatory of Michigan, has been perfected by the General Electric Company to drive the telescope at a constant or variable rate of speed so that it will accurately follow the apparent motion of the stars, as the earth turns on its axis.

Observatory Isolated

The scientists at the observatory are isolated and independent of sources of utilities or conveniences. They have their own water supply, power plant, and have comfortable living quarters at the observatory site, which is about 17 miles northwest of Fort Davis, and about 42 miles each from Alpine and Marfa.

"We have many visitors and are happy to have them," said Miss Dorothy Hinds, observatory secretary. "But many of them are unfamiliar with the visiting hours, and we cannot accommodate them at other times. A group is conducted through the observatory daily at 1:30 p. m., except Sunday, when two groups are admitted at 2:30 and 3:00 p. m. Observations of objects through the 82-inch telescope are arranged for the public on the last Wednesday night of each month from 8:30 to 10:00 p. m. Persons wishing to attend these open nights should write to the observatory at Fort Davis, Texas, enclosing a self-addressed, stamped envelope for an admission card. Admission is free, but the attendance on these open nights is limited to 200, and no one can be admitted without a card."

Peanuts Ease Food, Feed, Hay Shortage

In view of the shortages of food and feed, special efforts should be made to increase peanut yields. They rank high in food value.

For maximum production, at least 25 to 30 pounds of shelled seed or 45 to 60 pounds of unshelled seed should be planted per acre. The shelled seed should be treated to insure good germination. Arasan and spergon increase germination and may be used at the same rate as two per cent cerasan, but cerasan gives best results. Five per cent cerasan should not be used, as it has injured seeds in experiments.

In recent experiments a 4-12-4 mixture produced the highest average yield of nuts and hay and gave the highest profit. The next best results were obtained from 180 pounds of 20 per cent superphosphate.

Prairies Dusty In Early Days Too

(Condensed from Vernon Times)
Vernon, Tex.—(WNS).—Sandstorms gave early day housewives here even more trouble than they do now, oldtimers recall. Many times a sand storm would come up during the night, and the next morning the women would have to shovel the dirt out and sweep before they could fix breakfast.

The first news dispatch via cable—Aug. 26, 1858—stated that China had concluded a peace treaty meeting the demands of England and France, including establishment of embassies at Peking.

Investigate Site For Canal, Dam

WILLARD, OKLA. (WNS).—Investigations are under way by the Bureau of Reclamation on the proposed Englewood Reservoir, to be built on the Cimarron River, just west of the Harper County line. The water supply available from the reservoir would be adequate for the project area of 19,000 acres. Two canals, one on each side of the river, would supply the project lands by gravity from the reservoir. Laterals and minor drainage facilities would be provided for all project lands.

A ditch system, covering 6,120 acres, is in operation in Harper County, but the stream flow available to this area is subject to extreme seasonal and annual variations, and occasionally almost complete crop failures result.

Flood control is needed in this area, both to afford protection to the valley lands and to make such water available for properly distributed irrigation use.

It is proposed that an earth dam be built to hold about 233,000 acre-feet of water, of which 80,000 acre-feet would be for irrigation, and the remainder for silt and flood control.

The project lands are in two compact bodies, one south of the river in the northwestern portion of Harper County, Oklahoma, and the other area is north of the river in the vicinity of Englewood in Clark County, Kansas.

Grubby Cattle Costs Farmers

BROWNFIELD, TEX. (WNS).—R. W. McClain, county agent of Terry County, offers a program for farmers consisting of testing and treating cattle for Bangs Disease which, he says, should be one of the permanent aims of livestock owners in Texas.

The elimination of reactors is an economical problem because the disease causes the loss of too many livestock each year, because of failure to raise a live calf, producer of undulant fever in human consumption due to lack of pasteurization. These alone, he said, should be sufficient causes to free the county herds of such disease.

Grubby cattle cost the livestock industry many millions of dollars annually, the agent added. "The devaluation on grubby cattle is from 25 cents to \$1 per hundred-weight, dependent upon the degree of infestation." An average of two pounds of beef per carcass usually has to be trimmed from loins and ribs thus devaluing the carcass around two cents per pound, he added.

Cattle grub is caused by the heel fly laying eggs on the heel of cattle on warm winter and spring days. The heel fly can be successfully controlled by the use of rosin ore and sulphur, applied at 30-day intervals either as a spray wash or dust, the agent said.

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