

Red Carnations

SPECIALLY PRICED AT

\$2.00 per Dozen

SATURDAY ONLY

Wells Furniture Store

SOCIETY and Club

Mrs. R. C. Montgomery Honored
Mrs. W. H. Murchison gave a most delightfully planned luncheon Saturday, honoring Mrs. R. C. Montgomery, the newly elected president of the Magazine Club, her executive board and a few friends.

From the time the guests entered the house until time for them to leave, every thing was perfectly delightful. The reception room was decorated with pink roses. The center piece was also of the roses. A delicious five course luncheon was served and the guests and hostess enjoyed a number of games of "42." Mrs. H. S. Wilson and R. J. Reynolds tied for high score. Mrs. Wilson drawing the lucky number was presented by the hostess with a silver punch ladle. Mrs. F. T. Sanders received the consolation, a bottle of perfume. Mrs. Montgomery, the guest of honor, was the recipient of a lovely piece of New Orleans pottery. The following drew the lucky numbers for the table favors, which were pound boxes of stationery: Mesdames Sherrill, C. L. Lewis and John Oates.

The guests lingered until a late hour with this charming hostess and congenial atmosphere.

Mesdames R. C. Montgomery, R. E. Sherrill, R. J. Reynolds, H. S. Wilson, S. R. Rike, N. T. Smith, C. L. Lewis, H. M. Smith, John Oates, F. T. Sanders and M. H. Brasher were present.

Thursday Bridge Club
Mrs. W. E. Lavender was hostess honoring the members of the Thursday Bridge Club Thursday afternoon. A very pleasant afternoon was spent at bridge, then the hostess served a two course luncheon. The following enjoyed this hospitality: Mesdames W. H. Murchison, John Oates, Buford Long, Claborn, and John Peer Payne, Sleeper, Hill Oates.

Baptist Ladies Hostesses
The Baptist Ladies Aid society was hostess to the other societies of the town Monday afternoon in basement of the church. Mrs. R. C. Couch, president of the Aid, presided, and a most helpful and inspirational program was rendered. Mesdames S. L. Culwell, R.

J. Reynolds, M. H. Brasher and Sleeper every one gave splendid talks on the "Religious Training of the Child."

Miss Judith Taylor rendered a very beautiful song.

A most delightful social hour was enjoyed and the hostesses served a plate lunch to Mesdames R. R. English, Leon Gilliam, Will Kirkpatrick, Kimbrough, Kinard, Paxton, J. A. and R. C. Couch, R. C. Montgomery, D. Scott, O. E. Patterson, Walden, W. J. Sowell, Earnest, F. T. Sanders, Sleeper, Chas. Conner, Gose, T. C. Rogers, Oates, Waldrop, Johnston of Wyoming, Gambrell, R. H. Davis.

White-Myers Lyceum
The Lyceum Course given this year has been the best we have had in Haskell for the past several years. The last number was unusually good. It was given by Mr. and Mrs. Collins Saturday evening at the high school auditorium. Both are musicians and readers. Mr. Collins is a fine comedian. His impersonation of different quaint characters and his Irish songs were especially good and delighted the audience.

Harmony Club
The Harmony Club met for the regular chorus practice Wednesday afternoon.

Miss Alberta Smith Hostess
Miss Smith was hostess honoring the members of the Maids and Matrons club Saturday afternoon. A number of games were enjoyed and the hostess served a plate lunch to Mesdames Eunice Huckabee, Laura Lee Langford, Exa Cahill, Helen Shook, Lois Earnest, Lucille Taylor, Mary Clifton, Mesdames Hill Oates, J. P. Payne, Bailey Post, Guy Ralls.

Dance at Elks Club
The young people enjoyed a dance at the Elks club rooms Thursday evening. The following out of town young people attended: Misses Marie Doe, Lewis Pender, Ruth Hastings, Messrs Fred Langford, Harry Yates and Dave Bennett of Stamford and Marlin Wilson of Rule.

Mock Majestic
The Magazine Club of Haskell very competently staged a "Mock Majestic" last Thursday evening at the Haskell High School auditorium.

Mrs. J. E. Grissom with her unusual talent and skill directed this program

and the following numbers were rendered:

First—Minuet Dance. Immediately following which, Miss Mary Ella Pace, with her violin and Miss Ella Stanley, with her saxophone, favored the audience with "When You and I Were Young Maggie Blues."

Second—A one-act play "Their First Quarrel," was next presented by Miss Luella Bunkley of Stamford and Mr. Robert Williams of our own city.

Third—"Little Thoughts" was given by four High School girls.

Fourth—Probably the "hit of the evening" was next presented. The stage was darkened a spot light revealed a half moon, where Miss Judith Taylor was seated, and in her own delightful manner, sang "The Glow Worm." To which, four daintily dressed, graceful girls danced. We are glad to mention as these skilled amateurs the following names, Misses Anita and Frances Grissom, Thelma Williams and Linda Robertson.

Before the curtain arose for the fifth act, Mrs. Hill Oates appeared, costumed, in accordance with her costume sang "Second Hand Rose."

Fifth and last, came "The Little Red School House," given by eight High School girls.

Mrs. Grissom then appeared, and bade good night to a well pleased audience.

"BIRTH OF A NATION" WILL BE SHOWN HERE

Ed Robinson, manager of the Haskell Theatre, announces this week that he has booked the "Birth of a Nation" to be shown here some time during the month of February. Mr. Robertson says that this picture has never been shown here and that he secured it at a great expense, desiring to give his patrons the best pictures possible to secure.

"The Birth of a Nation," a D. W. Griffith production, ranks as the greatest picture ever filmed. It is a comprehensive story of the re-construction days of the South following the Civil War, and shows some of the strife and troubles familiar with the times. This picture, although filmed several years ago, has enjoyed a phenomenal run in all the larger cities of the United States, and is conceded to be the largest and most stupendous picture production ever made. The dates on which it will be shown in this city will be announced later.

BUNKER HILL

(Omitted last week)

Mrs. Ed Robertson, county superintendent, in making her rounds of the rural schools, stopped with us for a while last Wednesday.

G. A. Roberts and J. J. Wofford made a business trip to Haskell Tuesday.

P. D. Miller and mother of east of O'Brien visited in this community last Thursday.

Quite a few of the young folks of this community attended the party given at the home of Mr. Enders near Sagerston last Saturday night.

A number of the patrons of the school were present last Friday to witness the basketball game between Center Point and Bunker Hill boys. The score was 10 to 30 in favor of Center Point.

The young folks of the community met at Mr. Frank Boedeker's last Sunday night, and although the weather was rather disagreeable they reported a most enjoyable time. Almost everyone has been heard to pass compliments upon the delicious fruit and cake that was served.

A. N. Reed and Arley Weaver left Sunday for Arkansas. They expect to return next week.

Henry Schroeder and family made a business trip to Hamlin last Saturday.

Albert Suter and sister and Gilbert Nehring of Old Glory were visitors at the home of E. Q. Boedeker Sunday night.

MIDWAY

The farmers are all smiling over the rain which fell Sunday night.

We have changed on time for Sunday school to 2:30 o'clock.

The Presbyterian pastor, Rev. Hooker of Haskell, will preach at this place next Sunday afternoon. Everybody come and be on time at 2:30 sharp.

Mrs. Jim Lawson or this community has returned home from the sanitarium where she underwent an operation and is doing nicely at present.

Miss Ruby Hays spent the week end with Miss Ilma Key of Haskell.

The Quinine That Does Not Affect the Stomach because of its tonic and nutritive effect. LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE is better than ordinary Quinine and does not cause nervousness nor ringing in head. Remember the full name and look for the signature of J. W. GROVE, Inc.

50 GOOD CIGARETTES 10¢

GENUINE "BULL" DURHAM TOBACCO

McCONNELL

The health of this community is very good at present.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Cody spent Sunday in the Post community the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Freeman.

Davis Jones spent Thursday night with Ross Chapman.

Ulner Conneley of near Haskell spent the week end in this community.

Miss Jesse Ree Bland spent last week-end in the Sayles community.

J. F. Guillet made a business trip to Wichita Falls last week.

W. E. Bunkley and family visited Mr. and Mrs. Cox Sunday afternoon.

Virgil Sanders has been real sick for several days but we are glad to report that he is improving.

Claude Bland and Shelby Johnson spent Monday night with their uncle, M. V. Bland.

Messrs. Floyd and Ray Jones of Stamford visited their sister, Mrs. M. L. Jones Saturday afternoon.

No Worms in a Healthy Child

All children troubled with worms have an unhealthy color, which indicates poor blood, and as a rule, there is more or less stomach disturbance. GROVE'S TASTELESS CHILL TONIC given regularly for two or three weeks will enrich the blood, improve the digestion and act as a General Strengthening Tonic to the whole system. Nature will then throw off or dispel the worms, and the child will be in perfect health. Pleasant to take. 5¢ per bottle.

Piles Cured in 5 to 14 Days

Druggists refund money if PAZO OINTMENT does not cure itching, smart, bleeding or protruding Piles. Instantly relieves itching Piles, and you can be comfortable after the first application. Price 60¢.



BROOKS BAKERY...

FOR LUNCHEONS

Sandwiches made from Brooks' Bread form the basis of a dainty luncheon to serve any time.

And you may be sure your guests will be delighted, for Brooks' Bread has a pleasant, wholesome taste that appeals to everyone.

"Feeling Fine!"

"I was pale and thin, hardly able to go," says Mrs. Bessie Bearden, of Central, S. C. "I would suffer, when I stood on my feet, with bearing-down pains in my sides and the lower part of my body. I did not rest well and didn't want anything to eat. My color was bad and I felt miserable. A friend of mine told me of

CARDUI

The Woman's Tonic

and I then remembered my mother used to take it. After the first bottle I was better. I began to fatten up and I regained my strength and good, healthy color. I am feeling fine. I took twelve bottles (of Cardui) and haven't had a bit of trouble since."

Thousands of other women have had similar experiences in the use of Cardui, which has brought relief where other medicines had failed.

If you suffer from female ailments, take Cardui. It is a woman's medicine. It may be just what you need.

At your druggist's or dealer's.

ARROW Presents—

TEN NIGHTS IN A BARROOM

STARRING—

JOHN LOWELL

SCREEN VERSION by—

L. CASE RUSSELL

DIRECTED by—

OSCAR APPEL

A BLAZED TRAIL PRODUCTION

Mother love is the dominant nature of this masterly Arrow picture. Ever since Evamoured her lost first born, countless millions of human hearts have been touched by the theme. Go and see it translated to the screen in a faultless way in this great production, "Ten Nights in a Barroom," at the

HASKELL THEATRE

MONDAY and TUESDAY, FEB. 5th & 6th



SAFETY HATCH INCUBATOR

To the successful poultry raiser a high class Incubator is just as necessary as good, fertile eggs. Before you buy any other incubator

Compare the Worthy Features

of the Safety-Hatch, as well as the results obtained from the thousands of machines in operation in all sections of the country under the most varied conditions.

Four-Ply, Felt Lined Metal Bound Walls

two plies of Cypress, interlined with wool felt and aluminum chamber, and covered with galvanized Bessemer Steel. Highly efficient copper heating coil. Extra large lamp bowl, requiring only two to four fillings per hatch. Metal bound and FIRE-PROOF. Easily cleaned—all parts removable. Come in and let us demonstrate the Safety-Hatch.

WE HANDLE THE ORIGINAL CONKEY'S BUTTER MILK STARTING FEED, BUTTERMILK GROWING MASH AND BUTTERMILK LAYING MASH.

Also the

BUCKEYE BROODER

in sizes from 250 Chick to 500 Chick

McNeill & Smith Hardware Co.



RAGS

We will pay 5c per pound for good clean cotton rags.

THE HASKELL FREE PRESS

Next Saturday

WE WILL SELL GOOD

Peaberry Coffee

Per lb. 22c

If you want to buy the most of the best for the least—TRADE HERE.

R. J. Reynolds

West Side Square Robertson's Old Stand

FOR SAVING THE BABY CHICKS
 Edson, Poultry Husbandman, Service, A. and M. Col-Texas.
 Thousands of baby chicks have been lost and the loss credited to bad luck. There is no such thing as luck in poultry business. If you have results in raising the chicks, taking them from under the hens of the incubators, look back and see if there was not a reason. If the baby chick is safely out of the shell, generally be traced to one of the following things: Weak stock, care and feeding of the pen has had, care of the incubation, and last but

not least, how these little balls of fluff have been brooded and fed. No doubt thousands of baby chicks have been killed by the lack of knowledge as to the management of the brooders. After the chicks are out of the shell next comes the important step of brooding.
Importance of the Brooder
 The brooder is all important in the care of the little youngsters. If there is not a good stove that can furnish the proper temperature for the chicks, success is impossible. In taking them from one incubator of over a hundred degrees temperature, it is important that the temperature under the brooder be from 95 to 100 degrees and held at that point for the first week. Just remember that during these early months of brooding it takes a good stove to maintain in this temperature with out going out in the middle of the night to look after it, and to see that the chicks are not chilling. A stove that will burn for twenty-four hours or more without refilling either oil or coal will save many steps and worries. Also brooders that are recommended to brood 500 will give much better results if only 300 are brooded, as they will become crowded around the brooder if any more are placed under the one brooder. A thousand size brooder in a five hundred size brooder house is almost as bad as no brooder at all.
Temperature
 The first week the brooders should be held around 95 degrees and maybe decreased about five degrees each week until the chicks are able to do without heat altogether. The above statement should be used only as a guide to start off, for no set rule can be set aside for temperature under a brooder. Watch

the actions of the peepers themselves and they will tell you if they are too hot or too cold by their actions. If they are crowded away from the source of heat, the supply should be cut down and if they are crowding around the burner or piling up, a little more heat will cause them to spread out and become comfortable again. When they are found setting around the outer edge of the deflector and resting easy the temperature can be considered satisfactory. Without proper heat for the first few weeks good results are impossible. It is just as important that they should have the proper amount of heat and no more as it is that they should have plenty of good wholesome feed.
That Important Start
 The floor should be covered with some good clean litter. Preferably cut alfalfa litter but fine cut straw is good. Be sure the litter is free from grain of any kind as it is very easy to get moldy grains in straw and alfalfa. Of course, if it the very least bit moldy there will be sure to be some heavy losses.
 Before placing the chicks in the brooder, take a roll of one inch mesh poultry netting and place around the two or three feet from the edge of the deflector. This will hold the chicks with in the reach of the eat until they learn the source of supply of heat, after a few days this can be removed and they will take care of themselves in this respect.
 In providing water or buttermilk take care that the containers are of such construction that the chicks can not get into them and get wet. Place them on a platform high enough to prevent them becoming filled with the litter, they can be raised as the chicks get older. Cleanliness is a requisite to a growing chick, keep all vessels scrupulously clean.
 A little out of door life each day if only a very few minutes will help the chicks wonderfully. When they are about a week old get them out for a few minutes each day, even if it is cold. However, if the weather conditions are too severe and it is impossible to let them out, supply instead green feed and a little fresh earth for them to scratch over. Something about mother earth keeps them healthy and full of pep.
 The yards around the broodes houses should be kept sweet and clean. The best method is to plow them up and plant to oats. In hot weather some kind of artificial shade should be provided if natural shade is not available. Corn with oats or rape between the rows, makes a good range for growing chicks.

DID YOU EVER STOP TO THINK—
 THAT right now is the time for every live and near-live city to not only start thinking, but start working toward a strenuous era of development. THAT important forward steps should be taken to improve the social, commercial and industrial conditions of their city. THAT no city has an excuse for not adopting modern methods of growth and development. THAT no city is so big or important that it can't be improved. THAT any city that thinks itself perfect should quit "kidding itself" and wake up or it will be passed by the March of Trade. THAT it is better to keep awake and keep working than to wake up later to find out how foolish they have been. THAT in these days of fierce competition between cities, the city that does not keep its hustling clothes will find itself left behind. THAT the progress of modern cities is determined greatly by its enthusiasm of community spirit. THAT the cities without this spirit are just crawling along. THAT many cities today are enjoying a healthy growth on account of the organized business men who have grasped every opportunity to help their city. THAT these men with determination, intelligent co-operation and the advertising to the world of the advantages of their section is doing wonders.

11 Cigarettes

15 for **10**
 CAN TOBACCO CO.

Ignition Troubles
 are easy for us because we have specialized in this class of work.
 The next time you have trouble, let us fix it for you—and your troubles will be over.
THE TONN GARAGE
 FISK TIRES
 "That Good Gulf Gasoline"

We Are Prepared to Fill Your Orders
 With Fresh Groceries at Close Prices
 —We also handle—
"NEVERFAIL" FLOUR
 pure soft wheat flour. Guaranteed to please. We will appreciate your business.
PEARSEY & STEPHENS
 North Side Square

Federal Land Bank Loans
 1-3 Per Cent Interest. Time 34 1-3 Years
 You can lend 50 per cent of the appraised value of the land, plus 20 percent of the value of the insured improvements for the following purposes:
 To take up or extend purchase money debts that are now due, or if not due, if they can be paid at this time, to purchase land needed by the farmer. To purchase equipment, livestock, feed, seed, to build fences, barns, etc. To liquidate indebtedness of the owner where such indebtedness was incurred for agricultural purposes.
Rule Nat'l Farm Loan Association Rate
 Covering Haskell, Knox and Stonewall Counties, Texas
 W. H. McANDREWS, Sec'y-Treas.
 CAPITAL STOCK \$25,000.00 LOANS \$200,000.00

Feed, But With Care
 Baby chicks can very easily be over fed. Nature has provided the baby chick with all the nourishment required for the first 60 hours. This is accomplished by the absorption of the yolk before hatching. Do not feed for at least 60 hours and then give them just what they will readily clean up. The best food to start off with is some one of the many prepared baby chick mash. These feeds can be bought in small quantities almost any place in the country and should any place in the country and should be used. Why pay from 25 cents to one dollar for each chick and then try to give him a cheap feed? Give them the best and it will be cheapest in the end.
 Follow the practice of keeping them keen for their next meal and make them exercise. Never overfeed. It is better for them to be a little hungry than too full to eat. So much of this so called white diarrhoea is nothing but digestive disarrangement caused by over-feeding.
Keep Them Coming
 There are a few and only a few essential things to be considered in keeping the birds growing after they are large enough to go on the roost. It is essential that you feed plenty of grain and dry mash, provide plenty of fresh clean water and good shade in the hot weather. Keep the roosting places well ventilated and avoid crowding. Supply plenty of roosting poles. Clean and spray the house often enough to be sure that it is as it should be.
 If you want to meet with success in rearing chicks know what they want, when they want it, and then supply it. Keep them contented and growing.

Card of Thanks
 We desire to express our heartfelt thanks to the many kind friends and neighbors for their helpfulness and many acts of kindness during the illness and death of our darling baby. In your hours of trouble may you receive the same kind sympathy that was given us.
 Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Brooks
 T. P. Brooks and Family.

Automobile Owners Attention!
 Notice is hereby given that beginning February 1st, 1923, the law requiring all motor vehicles operated on a public highway in the state to have displayed thereon proper number plates, etc., and further providing a penalty of not less than \$10.00 for every day such law is violated, will be rigidly enforced in Haskell county.
 4-2c
 W. C. ALLEN,
 Sheriff Haskell County, Texas.

I have for sale some fine cockerels from my prize winning Partridge Wyandottes. Also a few eggs from prize pens at \$2.00 per setting. T. J. Watson, Phone 91, Haskell, Texas. 4-tfo

To Stop a Cough Quick
 take HAYES HEALING HONEY, a cough medicine which stops the cough by healing the inflamed and irritated throat.
 A box of GROVES O-PEN-TRATE SALVE for Chest Colds, Head Colds and Croup is enclosed with every bottle of HAYES HEALING HONEY. The salve should be rubbed on the chest and throat of children suffering from a Cold or Croup.
 The healing effect of Hayes' Healing Honey is felt the third day, and the complete cure of Groves' O-Pen-Trade Salve through the power of the salve soon stops a cough.
 Each remedy may be used in one action and the cost of the combined treatment is 50c.
 Just ask your druggist for HAYES HEALING HONEY.

THERE IS A BEST IN EVERY LINE
 For several years the quality of the merchandise we sell has been maintained regardless of the price, and the Reid name during these years has been synonymous with drugs and drug store goods of the better kind.
 You have always found in your purchases at this store, that the quality has been maintained and never lowered in order to meet a price.

REID'S DRUG STORE
 WE KNOW OUR BUSINESS & WANT YOURS
 HASKELL, TEXAS.
 PHONE 180

The Joy Of The Kitchen
 "LIKE WIFEY BAKES" not "like Mother used to make." That's what "he" will say if you bake with Haskell Flour. There's a difference any man will notice and be quick to say so.
APPETIZING THINGS MAKE LOOSE PURSE STRINGS. Haskell Flour is famous for its flavor. It is made by a new patented process which leaves in the flour that deliciousness and sweet nut-like taste nature provides in the wheat.
ALL THE SWEETNESS of the wheat plus super flour quality make a combination to please the most particular. Try it just once. "He" 'll find it out and ask for more. **ORDER A SACK TODAY! Price \$1.85.**
Haskell Mill & Grain Co.

Speak kindly in the morning, it will lighten all the cares of the day, turn sorrow into gladness, make household, professional and all other affairs move smoothly, giving peace to the one who thus speaks and grateful joy to the one who hears. Speak kindly at the evening hour, for it may be that before the dawn of another day some tender loved one may finish his or her span of life for this world, and then when it will be too late to recall an unkind word, or even to seek forgiveness for an injury inflicted upon the heart of a loved friend departed.—Selected.
 Let us do your Kodak Finishing. First class work, quick service at the old studio. Farmer. 4-2ip
 Plenty of fresh casings for your sausage at the Cash Market. 4-tfc

A PLEA
And an Offer Of REWARD
 In the fulfillment of its service, this Company is often seriously interfered with in many ways.
 Long periods of lack of electric service are experienced by our customers through no fault of the company, but through thoughtless and oftentimes malicious actions by individuals.
 Hunters frequently shoot the insulators on our cross arms, causing a line to burn down. The burning down of a line throws out a switch in the Central Power Station at Abilene, putting in darkness for several hours the territory served by the damaged line.
 Identical consequences are suffered by our customers, and the Company is put to similar trouble and expense, when pieces of barbed wire are thrown across our lines.
 This Company appeals to the fairmindedness of West Texas Citizens for their co-operation in eliminating these annoying, costly, unnecessary and constantly recurring acts of vandalism.
 An exceedingly liberal reward will be promptly paid to anyone causing the arrest and conviction of parties caught destroying our property and violating the service we strive faithfully to maintain.
West Texas Utilities Company

NAMING PHANTOM HILL

place, about forty miles from the mouth of the Pecos river, in Texas, slaying who-ath, and making fresh counties as Bosque people, laying waste ats of the pioneers, women and children he cattle and horses away.

Phantom Hill got its name of a mirage to who had been sent in that vicinity, and day stand as monu- to the first steps ment in the direc- her people in their the west" from the red men.

ed the plains, from Pecos river, in droves the Indians therefore at hand to go where ased to attack the white man and kill, in the most savage to quickly get back rning the tall grass to delay pursuit and up again early the

railroads then in miles on the coast, Houston, being the Following the ad- as a state the Mexi- fought and won and ade, as a result of States had acquired ona and California, discovered in Calif- Western fever" had over the country were flocking west- fortunes. Such a to the Pacific coast amed of, and it was rs before the steam ay across the conti-

plains and moun- arado, Utah and Nev- dangerous and call- dahlips.

uter by way of the in was to be dreaded dly yellow fever and hich snuffed out the spirits while cross- coming from the

ss dangerous route he West was needed, raveled at all times danger of the closed tropic disease.

o the gold fever were o New Mexico and he West, but there

must help to find nauits which would and the delays of

ansaw, was military xas and the South- and Gen. Ar buckle in command of the department.

tain R. B. Marcy Fort Smith to equip mplete outfit, with about eighty men, ve months, and ac- emigrants to their Fe. N. M., and re- ute practicable for the Rio Grande (at o) through what is st and Southwest

raveled all of the de of the Canadian Panhandle and the ous mishaps, but an tribes (Coman- who occupied the especially allotted The distance from Fe he found was

l Paso, then a vil- ople, mostly Mex- Comanche Indian and reared in that he was to find his e engaged him on hat he could carry with water for his the headwaters of ss than a month, to lay out Marcy's Smith, Ark., and a distance of 980 became well known s" and much trav-

Pecos river below now located, camp- gs of the Colorado" and passed about ten Double mountains in

the Colorado river y, he had the fist ber of his party, an started out after a ravine two miles came back. Search- sent out for him, anson, which he es- ard for twenty miles

around, was fired to locat camp for the missing man. The next day the remains of the missing lieutenant were found, horribly mutilated and the camp of his Indian murderers was found, and which they had hastily left, supposed-ly upon hearing the cannon shot.

While passing south of the Double Mountain Fork of the Brazos the expedition was caught in a deluge of rain and a fierce blizzard which caused the party great suffering and the loss of 31 of their Mexican mules and necessitated the abandonment of five wagons

As soon as Captain Masey could get into Fort Smith and make his reports expeditions were sent out to locate two U. S. army posts on the line, or practi-ally the line, that he had traveled on. They were Fort Belknap and Fort Phant-om Hill.

Maps printed in 1854 plainly show his road, laid out and traveled, through Texas from Sherman in a westerly and southwesterly direction. Maps printed as late as 1880 give this road.

It has been generally understood for years that the great Southern leader Gen. Robert E. Lee, was the army officer who located old Fort Phantom Hill, but on the testimony of a Texas veter- an of several wars, Captain M. J. Malt- by, who claims to have been a member of the expedition which located this old fort, there appears to be some doubt on the question. For Captain Maltby as- serted many times before he died that Major George M. Thomas (who after- wards became a general in the United States army during the war between the states) was the officer who located both Fort Belknap and Fort Phantom Hill on the Marcy road in the summer of 1850 and that he was with him and the ex- pedition at the time and he said that in a blizzard just before they reached the site of old Phantom Hill, all of those with the expedition suffered greatly and one of them, named Morehead, was frozen to death.

(The report of the Secretary of War at this period, however, shows that Lieutenant George H. Thomas was at the time detailed an instructor in artil- lery tactics at West Point. That Major Abercrombi was in command at Corpus Christi, that Brevet Colonel Lee was at Camp Snelling, Minn., and that Camp Belknap was the only military post is- sued for all West Texas. At Belknap were stationed ten companies of the Fifth Infantry and Fort Phantom Hill was not then in existence. It was evidently located subsequent to December, 1851. It is evident that Colonel Maltby was in error in the statement credited to him that Major Thomas located Fort Phant-om Hill in 1850.)

The location of the old fort was ideal for the period of time in question and there was plenty of water, wood for fuel and rock for building purposes at hand and fish in the Clear Fork of the Brazos on the bank of which stream it was located.

Some of the buildings of the old fort were constructed of rock, but owing to the fact that it was hundreds of miles from a sawmill or a railroad and con- sequently the hauling of lumber to the fort was extremely slow and tedious, lumber was used sparingly in the con- struction of its buildings. They were covered for the most part with thatched roofs.

Captain Maltby claimed that Colonel Abercrombi was in command there in 1851, and in the latter part of 1852, or early in 1853, he (Maltby) was with an expedition comprising forty-six wagons loaded with supplies at Austin, Texas, which he carried to old Fort Phantom Hill, and returning assisted in remov- ing Colonel Robert E. Lee and his five companies of the Fifth U. S. Infantry from Fort Phantom Hill to Fort Mc- Intosh, near Laredo, on the Rio Grande.

As soon as established old Fort Phant-om Hill became alive with strenuous life, the stir and the bustle of the fron- tier fort, always on the look-out for the hostile incursions of Indians. Ap- proximately 1000 soldiers must have been stationed there.

General Albert Sidney Johnson was the paymaster of the army and made frequent trips to it and the various forts on the frontier.

In 1853 especially Moses Evans, Peter McGreal, the De Cordovas and others of those men engaged in the business of locating land certificates issued by the state of Texas, were busy in having surveys made within a radius of 100 miles of the old fort, under the pro- tection of squads of soldiers from the fort and all of the field notes of these first surveys are given by course and distance from old Fort Phantom Hill.

In 1854, as shown by maps of the period, the overland stage line from Fort Smith, Ark., by way of Sherman, Texas, and carrying the mails, ran through Fort Belknap and Fort Phant-om Hill over the Marcy trail to El Paso, there connecting with the south- ern route from San Antonio for Calif-ornia.

There was not then a fort north of that line, and the nearest one to the south was near Waco, while an im- mense tract of Texas, comprising a dozen counties to the west of Gillespie county, was allotted to the Comanche and Lipan Indians.

When a little later Fort Chadbourne in the north part of Coke county was

established, the overland stage line was routed through the latter place.

Here at Fort Phantom Hill the sol- diers and the officers who had seen service in the Mexican War recounted their experience and the reminiscences of the marches and the campaigns and the bloody battles of war in far away Mexico. Here the young officers and the tenderfoot recruits got their baptism of fire in border engagements with the redskins; here many were the officers who later wore both the blue and the gray, who made themselves ready for the great responsibilities placed upon them in that great struggle.

But before that great conflict com- menced, Fort Phantom Hill, as the early abode of of the soldier, became a mem-ory and a tradition.

Early in February, 1861, when Texas decided to join the other Southern States in the formation of the Con- federacy, General Twiggs, then in com- mand of all United States soldiers in Texas, surrendered all forts to the auth- orities of Texas, and General H. E. Mc- Cullough was appointed to take charge of the Northwestern frontier, and the officers with squads of Texas Rangers were sent out to the various forts oc- cupied by United States soldiers to secure compliance with the surrender as made by General Twiggs.

Captain Maltby is authority for the statement that Colonel Buck Barry was in command of those sent to demand the surrender of Fort Phantom Hill.

Drew Middleton, for many years a respected citizen of Abilene, but now dead, told the writer some twenty years ago that he was a member of the ranger force which called for the surrender of the old fort, and he stated that he had just come from Camp Colorado, occu- pied by United States soldiers in Cole- man county, where surrender had been secured, and that when demand was made of the officers in charge of Fort Phantom Hill for its surrender, he at first refused, but in a short while, after consultation with his officers an- nounced in a very sullen manner that he would vacate the fort, and proceeded to do so without delay and the fort was vacated with a distinct air of sullenness on the part of its officers and troops, who marched out and camped that night about four miles east of the fort. He said that the Rangers were camped several miles away, and when the gar- rison evacuated the fort all its buildings were left vacant. That night these buildings were burned, and as the Rangers did not do it, they had a feel- ing that some of those who had just vacated them went back in their sullen mood and set fire to them, in all prob- ability without orders.

The buildings of the old fort were never repaired. The war came on at once, and when the smoke of battle cleared away Fort Griffin was built in its place, some twenty miles away, and helped to stop the marauding of Indians. But here was the first post- office established for hundreds of miles in any direction, except east, where was Fort Belknap, in Young county 75 miles away.

In 1874 the Texas & Pacific railroad then building from Fort Worth west to El Paso was routed to go by old Fort Phantom Hill, and the Austin branch of the Houston & Texas Central railway was slated to have its terminus there. As late as 1880 old maps indicate that it was one of the important points in west Texas, still on the route of the Texas & Pacific railway. But that road was built fifteen miles away.

And now the soldiers have been gone many years; and it has been many moons since the redskin has made a trail of murder, destruction and theft over any part of Texas; and that vast expanse of Texas that the old fort was located to protect, then containing a few hundred pioneer settlers, scattered over regions of hundreds of miles away, has grown and developed into an empire in itself, with vastly more people in it than were contained in the entire state when the old fort was located, with thousands of prosperous ranches and farms, with railroads, the auto and the auto truck to carry its people and its commerce in place of the old slow mov- ing ox-cart and stage coach.

And the buffalo is gone, while the antelope, the wild turkey, the cougar, the Mexican lion, and even the coyote are all things of the past in the region of Old Phantom Hill—all giving away to the man with the hoe, with his prosper- ous farms all around, in the County of Jones, now noted as being one of the banner cotton raising counties of the state that raises one-third of the cotton of the nation.

But those old chimneys, walls and ruins of the old fort still stand as mute but living monuments to the first steps taken by our government for the win- ing of a great section of the West from the white man's enemy, which was looked upon as a worthless desert waste How different now!

Captain Marcy in his report called them the "Llano Estacado," or the great Sahara of North America. He says: "It is a region almost as vast as the trackless ocean—a land where no man, either savage or civilized, perma- nently abides. It spreads forth into treeless, desolate waste, of uninhabited solitude, which must continue uninhab-

ited forever. Even the savage dare not cross it except at two or three places where they know water can be found."

How different the picture now, all over West Texas!

And how much is the vast difference due to the forces turned loose in that region where Old Fort Phantom Hill was established.

"Where the Elm and Clear Fork mingle as they Journey to the sea; Where of old the dusky savage and the shaggy bison trod; Where the twilight loves to linger, ere night's sable robes are cast, 'Round grim-ruined, spectral chimneys, telling stories of the past; There upon an airy mesa, close beside a whispering rill, There today you'll find the ruins of Old Phantom Hill."

—Chittenden.

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