

ESTABLISHED JANUARY 1, 1888.

HASKELL, HASKELL COUNTY, TEXAS, THURSDAY, DEC. 23, 1926.—12 PAGES.

FORTIETH YEAR

RURAL ROUTE PATRONS HELD MEETING FRIDAY

The patrons of Route A. met in the County Judges office last Friday morning for the purpose of discussing plans for improving the road that the mail service might be soon reinstated.

The first move adopted and approved was to secure a fifty or sixty foot right of way over the entire route that enough room might be gotten to build up a grade that would be beyond high water.

The commissioners assured the patrons that as soon as the road was secured that the grading would begin. The patrons are now busy in this work and are being assured of success.

That the improvement is needed is generally agreed, and the further suggestion is made that when the road is built up if some plans will be made to keep it dug a good road will be maintained.

The committees below were appointed to secure the right of way and to continue their work until the fences were placed on the new lines.

T. A. Pinkerton and J. H. Goodwin committee on Middle Rule Road to north Rule road.

Robert Herrin, Alf Laird and Will Whitman committee on lane from Segal's Corner to Clarence Norton's S. W. corner.

Clarence Norton, S. W. Green, S. B. Jeter committee on road from Clarence Norton's corner back to Haskell.

IS THERE A SANTA CLAUSE? A MESSAGE TO CHILDREN

A little girl once wrote Charles Dana a great editor, inquiring if there is a Santa Claus. She said her little friends denied his existence. Dana's reply was as follows:

Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age.

They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible to their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's are little.

In this great universe of ours man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole truth and knowledge.

'Yea, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy.

Alas! How dreary would be the world if there were no Virginias. There would be no child like you, then, no poetry, no romance, no tolerable existence. We should have no enjoyment except in sense and sight. The eternal light which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

'Not believe in Santa Claus? You might as well not believe in fairness. You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas eve to catch Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus.

The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not; but that is no proof that they are not there.

'Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world. You may tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man nor even the united strength of all the 'strongest men that ever lived could tear apart.

Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond.

'Is he real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding. No Santa Claus? Thank God! He lives and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, may ten thousand years from now, he will continue to make glad the hearts of childhood.'

W. P. Whitman of Abilene was here Saturday on business.

Ballew School House and Play-Ground Improved

Work will begin this week during the Christmas vacation to enlarge the school house and build a new porch onto it. This work is badly needed, and will be appreciated very much by both the teachers and pupils.

Bids Asked for Repairing Bridge West of Rule

Bids are being advertised for this week by the State Highway Department for the repairing of the bridge over the Brazos River west of Rule, which was partly washed out during the heavy rains several months ago.

The accident to the bridge has worked a great hardship on that section of the country west of Rule, as most of the farmers did their trading in that city, and were compelled to go as far as Sagerton and Aspermont for their supplies, as the frequent rains made fording the stream impracticable most of the time.

The news that the State Highway Department will rebuild the portion of the bridge destroyed will be good news to the people living in that section of Haskell county.

SWEET HOME LADY HOME FROM SANITARIUM

Miss Dottie Cannon, who underwent an operation at the Stamford Sanitarium about four weeks ago was brought home last Wednesday considerably improved. Her friends are very happy over her condition as she has been quite anxious for some time past regarding her health.

BOX SUPPER AT ROSE CHAPEL A SUCCESS

There was a large crowd present at the box supper last Thursday evening and there were thirteen boxes which averaged a little over one dollar. The highest price paid for one box was two dollars and five cents. The crowd waited until late for the auctioneer Mr. W. M. Free, but for some reason he did not arrive. After a short but splendid program the boxes were auctioned off and sold to the highest bidder.

After the sale of the boxes came the contest for the prettiest girl. The girls selected for the contest were Misses Callie and Gladys Cloer, Bernice Piland and Frances Gilley. Gladys Cloer won the delicious cake with 1000 votes, while Bernice Piland ran a close second. Next came the prize for the ugliest man. Mr. Kendrick and Mr. Short were the only ones in this contest with Mr. Short winning the cigars by 10 votes. The total amount received from the boxes and prizes amounted to about \$34.00. The proceeds will be used for the benefit of the school.

HASKELL GINS RUNNING AGAIN THIS WEEK

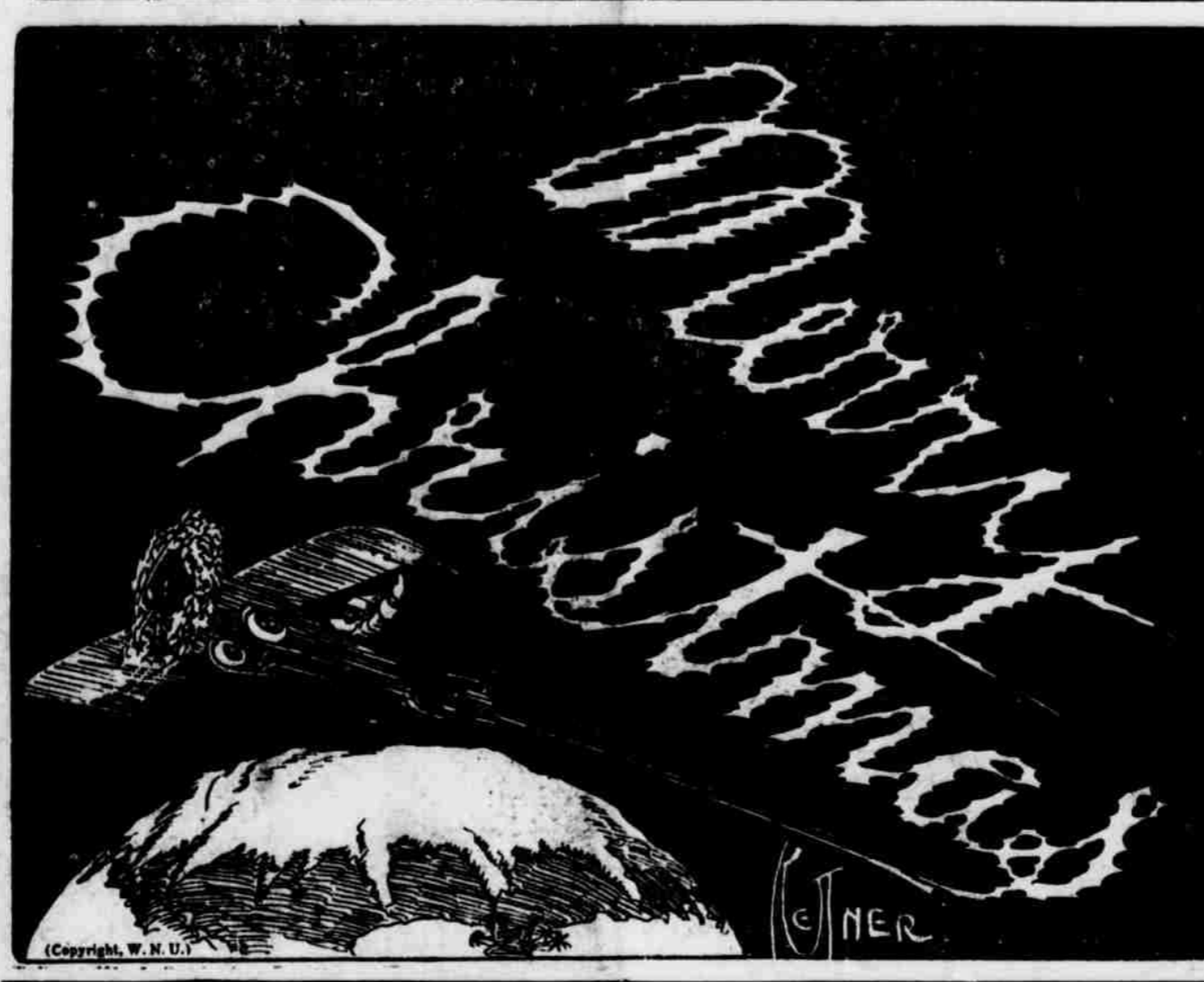
The Haskell gins are running again because of the past days of sunshine which gave the farmers an opportunity to pick a few more days. There is thousands of bales of cotton in the county yet to pull and pick if the weather will permit the farmers time to gather it. Quite a lot of wheat will be sown if the ground gets dry enough within the next few days and the small grain that is sown is up to a good stand and looking fine. Lots of spring oats and barley will be sown next spring.

15,542,249 BALES GINNED IN U. S.

Cotton of this year's growth ginned prior to December 13 totaled 15,542,249 bales, counting 557,729 round bales as half bales and excluding linters, compared with 14,831,846 and 309,610 to that date last year, the census bureau at Washington announced Dec. 20.

The department of agriculture's preliminary estimate of this year's crop placed production at 16,618,000 bales of 500 pounds. The ginning by states follow: Alabama, 1,415,000. Arizona, 82,564. Arkansas, 1,322,054. California, 97,914. Florida, 32,828. Georgia, 1,366,900. Louisiana, 771,790. Mississippi, 1,647,321. Missouri, 179,211. New Mexico, 63,040. North Carolina, 1,081,710. Oklahoma, 1,292,348. Tennessee, 386,434. Texas, 4,889,287. Virginia, 41,879. All other states, 10,214.

To All the World



SEYMOUR LINEMAN IS ELECTROCUTED. A. H. Furrh, 30, storekeeper of the Seymour office of the Haskell Telephone Company, was instantly killed by electrocution Tuesday morning at Seymour.

CHRISTMAS TREE AT BUNKER HILL FRIDAY. Last Friday December 17, 1926 the Bunker Hill school children rendered a program for the patrons and visitors of the community, and the teachers fixed a small tree and invited Santa Claus in to place a present for each school child present on the tree.

TEACHERS INSTITUTE HELD AT STAMFORD. The District Teachers Institute which was held at Stamford this week was attended by more than 600 teachers from the five counties which constituted the district.

Haskell's Christmas Tree. Don't forget to leave a lighted candle in your window Christmas night. These who can sing, are especially invited to meet at the Library at 8 o'clock December 26th. Show your Christmas spirit by helping to sing these old Christmas songs.

ROCHESTER MAN UNDERGOES OPERATION. J. E. Mansell of the firm of Mansell Brothers of Rochester underwent an operation for appendicitis at Knox City Sanitarium last Sunday December 12 and on last report was doing nicely.

Christmas

'Let us now go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass.' It is shepherd speech in homely vein of common sense. For this thing did not occur in a book, nor in a church, but in the night fields under the night sky.

They had heard the Messenger's tidings and the singing of the heavenly soldiers; they had seen the sudden glory; then silence fell and night. And they said to one another, 'Let us go and see.'

At a little distance they could see, in darker shadow than the night, the walls and towers of the little town. Past the spot where the Angel stood, over the space so lately lit with more than earthly light, on through the gates and up through the dark, dark streets they pushed their quest.

At Christmas all the world is Christian. Men have met Christ with John of Jordan; they have met Him confronting with holy anger profiteers of the Temple; they have met Him in great acts of compassion upon the poor and sick and friendless, for He beheld the multitude as sheep without a shepherd.

And because the world is more Christian, the season of Christmas extends itself increasingly through the year. With each succeeding generation Christmas lasts longer and longer, and searches out more places for its light and warmth.

'Let us now go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass . . . And they came and found the babe lying in a manger.'—The Dearborn Independent.

City-Wide Clean-Up Campaign Planned During February

Mayor T. C. Cahill states that a general clean-up week will be designated during the month of February, for the purpose of cleaning up the entire town of rubbish, weeds, etc. Plans will be made to make this the most thorough event of its kind ever staged in the city, and all citizens are asked to watch for the dates and further announcements.

'M' System Store Celebrating Their First Anniversary

Atkinson's 'M' System Store is this week celebrating the first anniversary of the opening of the store in Haskell. To herald this fact, a four-page edition of the Free Press was issued Monday, devoted exclusively to the store's advertising and congratulatory messages from a number of firms and wholesale houses.

LITTLE FRED MONKE, JR. LAID TO REST FRIDAY

Little Fred Monke's strength, made frail by the long months of struggle gave up the battle last Thursday in the Stamford Sanitarium and his gentle spirit took its flight to its Heavenly home.

President W. M. W. Splawn of the University of Texas spoke at the St. John's Methodist church Sunday night. The program in every way vocal and instrumental was excellent.

MRS. WILLIAMS DIES AT DEMING, NEW MEXICO. Mrs. E. E. Williams, mother of Mrs. Scott W. Greene, Sr., died in Deming, New Mexico, on December 20, after a short illness.

HOME OF FARMER BURNED SATURDAY. The residence of H. S. Gibson on the Gates farm 10 miles north of town was destroyed by fire about 10 o'clock Saturday morning.

GOOD DAY AT SWEET HOME LAST SUNDAY. Last Sunday was a fine day at Sweet Home church. There was a good number out at every service.

HOME OF T. W. C. Miss Floy Overby of Ft. Worth, who is attending T. W. C. at that place is spending the Christmas holidays at home with her parents.

CONFERENCE. A conference of the members of the Baptist Church at Curry Chapel has been called to meet on next Sunday night.

MOTION PICTURES MADE OF LOCAL GIN

Carrying out a plan of the manufacturers of the Centennial Gin Machinery and Hardwick-Etter Cleaners, motion picture photographers were in Haskell last Saturday taking several thousand feet of film of the Sanders & Crawford Gin, one of Haskell's largest gin plants.

Views showing every step in modern cotton ginning, following the staple from the wagon through the different stages to the finished bale, were taken at the Sanders & Crawford Gin, as well as a group picture of the employees, and exterior views of the building and yards.

DON'T CRITICISE IT READ IT SAYS MARTIN. J. L. Martin in the Scurry County Times says, the following regarding the Christmas edition.

ONE FARMER GINS 160 BALES COTTON. According to H. E. Causon of the Howard community who was in the city Thursday Mr. W. A. Hisey a tenant on his farm has already picked 160 bales of cotton from his 1926 crop.

BREAKS ARM. Freddie Hardy who is living with C. G. Burson of the Midway community broke his arm last Sunday evening while wrestling.

Letters to Santa Claus

Haskell Texas, December 18, 1926
 Dear Santa Claus:
 I am writing you to let you know what I want you to bring me Christmas. I have been a real good boy at home and at school also. So I want you to come to see me. These are the following things I want: foot ball, tricycle, horn, toy watch and all kinds of fruits, nuts and candies.
 To Santa Claus, from,
 Marvin Howeth, age 8 years

Haskell, Texas, December 17, 1926
 Santa Claus, North Pole.
 Dearest Santa:
 For Christmas please send me a big doll, doll buggy, trunk, tea set, house slippers, a fairy tale book, and lots of apples, oranges, nuts and candy. Send lots of the last because I like them best. I've been awfully good this year 'cause mama says I have.
 Love,
 Little Melba Christine Ballard.

Haskell, Texas, December 17, 1926
 Dear Santa Claus:
 Please bring us a coster wagon and two little wheelbarrows and bring Buford a little hammer and a sack of nails, and bring me a little watch and lots of nuts and candies and fruit and don't forget baby sister.
 With lots of love,
 Odell and Buford Barton, City.

Haskell, Texas, December 18, 1926
 Dear Santa Claus:
 Please do not leave my toys at Fauding Ohio this year as I have moved away down south and you will find me at my grandmothers in Haskell. Jack Lewis Carothers from Rochester will also be here so please leave him a few things too or he will take all of mine. I am three years old.
 Good bye,
 Tommie French, Jr.

Haskell, Texas, December 18, 1926
 Dear Santa Claus:
 I will write you a few lines to let you know what I want you to bring me. I want a merry-go-round, a ball and some balloons and also some candy oranges and nuts.
 Good bye,
 Elsie Fischer
 Route A, Box 89
 Haskell, Texas.

Haskell, Texas, December 18, 1926
 Dear Santa:
 Please bring a teddy bear, some candy, nuts and oranges. My little sister wants some toys too.
 Your little friends,
 Albert and Dorothy Ruby Thane
 Route 3, Haskell, Texas.

Haskell, Texas, December 17, 1926
 Dear Santa Claus:
 I am a little girl six years old. I do not want to be selfish, there are a lot more little girls and boys who I want you to go to see, although I have been good. Please bring me a doll trunk, a doll buggy, and candies, fruits and nuts. Be sure and don't forget me.
 Your friend,
 Nannie Patterson.

O'Brien, Texas, December 21, 1926
 Dear Santa:
 I am writing you to let you know that I shall be at grandpa and grandma Crow's house Christmas night. Please bring me a doll buggy. I thank you.
 Senamae Davis.

Haskell, Texas.
 Dear Santa Claus:
 I am a very small baby I am six months old. I have been very good and I want you to bring me some fruits and nuts and candies of all kind, also a rubber doll, a rattler and a pair of little white kid shoes. Be sure and come.
 Your friend,
 Winnie Payne Bledsoe.

Haskell, Texas, December 17, 1926
 Dear Santa Claus:
 I am a very small girl, at the age of eight years. I have been a very good little girl, and I want you to bring me a standing black board, and a doll buggy. I do not want to be selfish at all.
 Your little friend,
 Bessie Patterson.
 P. S. I also want some nuts, fruit and candies.

Haskell, Texas, December 17, 1926
 Mr. Santa Claus, North Pole.
 Dearest Santa Claus:
 I have been looking forward to Christmas and I have been a very good little girl. For mamma says if I am not old Santa won't come to see me. Santa please bring me a mamma doll, paint book, doll buggy, tea set, apples, oranges and candy. Please remember daddy and mamma too.
 Love,
 Little Edna Lola Taylor.

Haskell, Texas, December 16, 1926
 Dear Santa Claus:
 I am a little girl five years old. I have tried to be good so you would bring me some nice things this Christmas. I want a big doll that will say mama, a little stove and a little dresser. Don't forget the little children who don't have any daddy and mother to buy them pretty things. I hope to see you soon.
 Noka Loris Bailey.

Haskell, Texas, December 16, 1926
 Dear Santa Claus:
 I hope you will not forget me this Christmas. I want you to remember all the little boys and girls. I want you to bring me a little ford delivery car with rubber tires on it and an airplane. Don't forget the nuts, apples, oranges and candy and everything that makes Christmas a joyful occasion.
 Good bye until next Christmas.
 Rondel Bailey.

Haskell, Texas, December 18, 1926
 Dear Santa Claus:
 I can't say that I have been a real good boy but if you will come to see me this Christmas I will promise you I will be a good boy from now on. I want you to bring me a tricycle, large red and white ball, mule and cart, all kinds of fruit, nuts and candies.
 To Santa Claus from,
 Howard Howeth, age 6 years.

WALTON'S STUDIO
 STAMFORD, TEXAS.
 North Side Square
PORTRAITS THAT PLEASE
 Kodak Finishing a Specialty
 Leave Films Today—
 Get Prints Tomorrow
MAIL US YOUR FILMS
ALL WORK GUARANTEED

Haskell, Texas, December 19.
 Dear Santa:
 I am a little girl six years old. I want a mamma doll, some story books, a little trunk for my doll and lots of nuts, fruit and candy. My little sister is four and she wants a set of dishes and a little broom. Don't forget the little orphans.
 Your friend,
 Dorothy May Morgan.

Haskell, Texas, Saturday Dec. 18.
 Dear Santa Claus:
 Please bring me a baby doll and iron and ironing board. Be sure and don't forget little brother. He wants a choo-choo train and a rubber tired wagon and lots of bananas and chewing gum and every thing. We are going to sleep early.
 June Kennedy.

Rule Texas, December 15, 1926.
 Dear Santa Claus:
 Please bring me a little wagon and a doll bed and little doll.
 Lazelle West.

Haskell, Texas, Saturday Dec. 18.
 Dear Santa Claus:
 Please bring me a wash tub and board and a doll. Be sure and bring baby Faye a doll too so she wont want mine and that little kiddie walker at McNeil & Smith. Don't forget to look on the table for your present too. I baked it myself. Good bye til Christmas night.
 Mildred Mayes.
 P. S. Hurry cause I want to play with my toys.

5 PER CENT FEDERAL LAND BANK
LOANS—5 PER CENT!
 New Rate on all Loans closed after August 1, 1926. This is a net saving of \$10 per \$1,000 over any loan offered by any other lending concern in Texas.
W. H. McCANDLESS, Sec'y-Treas.
RULE NATIONAL FARM LOAN ASSOCIATION, RULE, TEXAS
 Federal Land Bank, Capital Stock \$6,000,000. Loans \$137,000,000
 Rule National Farm Loan Assn., Capital Stock \$60,000. Loans \$1,000,000

Minister's Son Breaks Arm
 Sam Breedlove, 11, son of Rev. and Mrs. R. T. Breedlove, fell from a shed at the Breedlove home Tuesday and broke his arm near the shoulder. A physician was called who found the injury to be so serious that he advised that the little fellow be taken to a sanitarium at once. He was rushed to the Lubbock Sanitarium where it was found impossible to set the broken member perfectly and it is feared that injury will be permanent. The little fellow and family have the sympathy of the entire community.—Lynn County News.
 Note:
 Rev. Breedlove recently moved from Rule where he was pastor of the First Methodist Church for the past four years. The family is well known in Haskell County and have a host of friends who will regret to learn of this accident. They are now at Tohoka Lynn County.

Shower
 The women of the Midway community were to give Mrs. H. S. Gibson a shower Monday evening at the school house, but on account of the rain Monday morning no could get there. It will be given as soon as the roads get to where they can go. Each lady is invited to come and bring something. They lost all they had when their home burned last week.

Had Done Enough.
 Jimmy, aged 13, finding his girl a problem, was puzzled.
 "You see," said Jimmy, "I've walked to school with her three times and carried her books bought her ice cream once, a ice cream soddy twice. Now do you think I oughta kiss her?"
 His chum was thoughtful, "Nah," he decided. "You don't need 'ta You've done enough for that girl!"
 Got your gift list all made out!

Old Acquaintances are not Forgotten

We do not forget our many friends and patrons with whom we have had so many pleasant transactions during the year past, but the memory of our happy associations is one of the things which makes our own Christmas brighter all the while. We are wishing for you a cup of joy brimming over with good things for the holiday season, and throughout 1927.

R. V. Robertson Co.

The Best Christmas Carol

would be a song of gratitude for the blessings of the year, the joys of Christmas and the kindness and confidence of our many friends.

May your Christmas holidays be as merry and as full of hearty Christmas cheer as is the gladdest and best of Christmas songs.

W. P. Trice
 COUNTY AGENT

THE CURTAIN OF THE FUTURE

Conceals from us the things which are to be; the past is with us mostly as a chain of memories; but the present is ours in which to live and do good.

Our relations with you in the past have been pleasant to us; and now at Christmas time we find ourselves wishing that you may enjoy the finest joys of the season; and as the curtain of the New Year rises to reveal its secrets, we hope that it will show you much prosperity and happiness.

ELKS' CAFE

Not alone—
 Because it is an honored custom—
 But because of the sincerity
 Of our appreciation,
 We take this occasion,
 To thank you
 For the part you have played
 In our business prosperity,
 The past twelve months
 And wish you a good old

MERRY CHRISTMAS
 AND A
HAPPY NEW YEAR

GRISSOM'S
 The Store with the Goods

FORMER HASKELL COUNTY MAN WRITES LETTERS

We received a letter from our old friend C. Sears who lived in Haskell County for a number of years and has many friends here who will remember him and be glad to hear from him again. He now lives on the south plains in Terry County near the city of Brownfield. He is doing nicely and in this letter he sends greetings to his old friends and the Haskell Free Press.

Brownfield, Texas
Dec. 10, 1926

The Haskell Free Press
Haskell, Texas

Dear Editor, neighbors and friends of Haskell County:

I will drop you a few lines to let you know that we are still hanging on the bush. We still have lots of cotton to pull on the plains. Yet we have been gathering corn as good as I ever pulled off of a stalk. If our cows do not go dry we will stay another year. We have been taking the Free Press ever since 1908, we all enjoy reading it. It is just like getting a letter from home. We enjoy reading the letters from every community, for we know someone in nearly every community in the county. I wish the Free Press bunch could have been here the sixth day of December, we cut a yellow meat water melon which weighed about fifty pounds. I saw my old friend J. O. Wheatley a few days ago and he is going to diversify another year. He is going to plant seventeen acres of okra and twelve acres of gourds. He is also going into the poultry business. He has bought him thirteen guinea roosters and two white ducks. It has been raining the last few days which stopt the cotton gathering for some time. This is the cheapest cotton I have ever seen since 1898 when I gathered my cotton and sold it for 4 cents. It being so cheap now sure makes it hard for every thing else being so high. But we have two much of it and we can not avoid it. I would have sent in my subscription before now but never have gotten enough money out of one bale to pay it. Inclosed you will find \$1.50 for the paper. As ever,

Your true friend,
C. Sears.
Brownfield, Texas.
Route 1, Box 75.

A Game Guy

A young man called at the house of a celebrated diagnostician and asked to see the doctor.

"Have you an appointment?" the office nurse asked.

"No, I haven't," the young man replied.

The nurse consulted the doctors appointment list.

"I think I can work you in after the next patient leaves," she said, "so please go inside that room and take your clothes off."

"Take my clothes off?" the young man exclaimed, "what for?"

"The doctor has made it an absolute rule not to see anybody unless that is done," the nurse said firmly.

"But I don't want to take off my clothes," insisted the young man.

"Then I'm sorry, but you can't see the doctor," the nurse said.

"Well, if that is the case, I'm game the young man said.

A few moments later the doctor entered the room and found the young man awaiting him stark naked.

"Well, sir," the doctor said, "what seems to be your trouble?"

"Doctor," the young man replied, "I called to see if you would renew your wife's subscription to the Ladies' Home Journal."

NOTICE TO OUR PATRONS

We the undersigned Physicians of the city of Haskell do hereby make the request that those who are indebted to us for Medical services call at the earliest possible moment and pay your account or make satisfactory arrangements if you expect us to continue your practice. We are just like other business men, we need our money and must have it in order to meet our own obligations.

We ask that you give this matter your prompt attention and see us at once, not later than January the 1st.

- D. L. Cummins.
- J. M. Gose.
- A. Q. Gentry.
- J. M. Baker.
- L. F. Taylor.
- W. A. Kimbrough.

RAINS REMOVE 20 TIMES AS MUCH PLANT FOOD AS CROPS

Old mother earth's annual bathing bill costs the farmers of the United States more than \$200,000,000 every year. Rain water scouring the countryside, rushing down hillsides, gouging out gullies, and sweeping over gentle slopes of cultivated fields, carries away to the ocean many millions of tons of soil. With this rich topsoil goes 120,000,000,000 pounds of plant-food material lost—to the farmers of the country forever—twenty times the amount permanently removed by cropping.

But this only a fraction of the damage wrought, says H. H. Bennett, soil scientist of the United States Department of Agriculture. The real scourge of erosion is that it takes not only the elements of plant food but soil—plant food material and all—leaving in many instances infertile material very difficult to till. Erosion is constantly shaving off the topsoil of cultivated fields—the richest soil of the land. In one instance it was found that 7 inches of topsoil were removed by sheet erosion in 24 years from a gentle sloping field of Putnam silt loam growing corn under ordinary cultivation in Missouri. Soil scientists agree that most of the worn-out lands of the world are in their present condition because much of the surface has been washed away, and not because they have been worn out by cropping.

A single county in the Piedmont region was found by actual survey to contain 90,000 acres of land formerly productive but now permanently ruined by erosion. Another county in the Atlantic coastal plain has 60,000 acres of former rich land gullied beyond repair. Possibly not less than 10,000,000 ly destroyed by rainwash. Much of mery cultivated has been permanent acres of land in the United States for this could have been saved by timely terracing.

There is need at once for a nationwide awakening to the evils of erosion, says Mr. Bennett. There is immediate need also for fundamental soil data relating to erosion; demonstrations of the value of properly built terraces; and much national education about this menacing agency of land devastation.

HASKELL COUNTY SCORED AGAIN WITH HER PRODUCTS

Haskell County scored again with her agricultural products when 8 of the 9 entries made at the International Live Stock Exposition and Grain and Hay Show, Chicago, November 27 to December 4, 1926, brought home ribbons. The International Show is known as "The Supreme Court of All Agricultural Shows," therefore the winnings carry greater honors with them.

J. D. Hughes Jr., farmer and stockman of the county, took one of the much coveted blue ribbons when his maize was judged to be the best at the International Show which has just closed. This honor comes to only one man in the United States and Canada each year.

This winning adds honor to Haskell County and her agricultural products and especially to the record of the quality of the maize produced here. Haskell County has long been noted for the good maize produced here and has won the honor of scoring the highest record ever made at the Texas State Fair at Dalls, when the county maize exhibit made 195 points out of a possible 200.

SWEET HOME LADY CARRIED TO SANITARIUM

Mrs. Floyd Dugan of Sweet Home was carried to the Stamford sanitarium last Friday where she will undergo an operation. Mrs. Dugan has been in bad health for the past several months and her friends are very anxious concerning her health. However they have hopes that she will soon be well and at home again.

Mr. J. F. Marchbanks of Childress spent the past week here looking after his farm interests south of town.

Miss Kate Chambliss designer for the R. B. Smith Millinery Co. of Dallas is spending the holidays with her sister Mrs. Ross Woodall of this city.

CHILDREN'S FATAL DISEASES

Worms and parasites in the intestines of children undermine health and so weaken their vitality that they are unable to resist the diseases so fatal to child life. The safe course is to give a few doses of White's Cream Vermifuge. It destroys and expels the worms without the slightest injury to the health or activity of the child. Price 35c. Sold by

OATES DRUG STORE

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Friendship is to Christmas what melody is to song, the beauty the joy, the inspiration of it. And if our wish for you is to any manner realized you will spend this Christmas in the congenial company of those you love, untroubled by care, and joyous of heart.

But true friendship, while it shines in unusual beauty at Christmas time, outlasts the Christmas Season and binds together with a golden chain all the other days of the year.

And it pleases us to believe that when you enumerate your list of friends and well wishers, be it Christmas or any other time of the year, we shall be found among the chosen throng.

And we are wishing you a most Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Hancock & Company
DRY-GOODS, CLOTHING, SHOES

HAPPY NEW YEAR

NOTICE

FOR THE BENEFIT OF MY CUSTOMERS

My business will be cash after the 1st. of January. I will use coupon books and have a good discount if you buy them.

Bert Welsh

MAY

Each of us find joy and satisfaction in unselfish service and with it all mixed enough profit to be comfortable and enough satisfaction to feel our duty well done.

May we strive for a better city, for a better business and the spirit of cooperation.

We believe in our city; we believe in our friends; we believe in the future.

Let me thank you, one and all and wish you many joys for Christmas and much progress in the direction you desire during 1927.

F. L. DAUGHERTY

You Can't Beat These Values Anywhere in USED CARS

DODGE BROTHERS

- 24 Model Touring Car..... \$280
- 24 Model Touring Car..... \$325
- 24 Model Coupe..... \$400
- 24 Model Touring Car..... \$425
- 25 Model Special Touring..... \$450
- 24 Model Pannell 34 Ton..... \$385
- 23 Model Touring Car..... \$350
- 23 Model Touring Car..... \$300

These Cars are all good cars, good tires, good shape; worth more than the price. Take cheaper cars in trade and finance on good terms the balance. These are the best bargains I have ever offered.

OTHER MAKES

- 25 Model Ford Coupe..... \$150
- 25 Model Ford Touring..... \$200
- 24 Model Ford Touring..... \$175
- New curtains, good tires, runs right and must sell at once.
- 23 Model Buick Touring..... \$175
- New tires on rear.
- 20 Model Buick Roadster..... \$100
- New tires on rear, runs good.
- 24 Model Chevrolet Sedan..... \$150
- 25 Model Oldsmobile Touring..... \$225
- 2 1/2 Ton Truck, good tires..... \$175

We trade every day, can fit most anybody's needs. This list of cars has got to sell before the end of the year, can't afford to pay taxes, and register them for another year. What cars are left we will sell to the highest bidder Saturday December 18th, so don't wait you will be sorry if you intend to buy a car.

GEO. ISBELL

Phone 116, Munday Texas
Where they surenough sell Automobiles.

TONKAWA COFFEE SHOP

WM. L. CHERRY, Prop.

Delicatessen a la Carte

SANDWICHES COFFEE

SPECIALS

CHICKEN AND TURKEY DINNERS DURING CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

SUNDAY DINNERS AND THEATRE PARTIES

TO MY CUSTOMERS

This is to let my customers and friends know that I have moved from the Texas Filling Station on Depot Street to the Bell-Moore Chevrolet building, on southeast corner of the square. "Call on us—we'll be pleased to serve you."

MAGNOLIA FILLING STATION

SOCIETY and Club

College and University Boys and Girls Haskell's Honor Guests for Fortnight.

Inclement weather may prevail over the whole country and the stock market on the South's principal product may be low but the interior of many Haskell homes are bright and cheery not only with the yuletide's colorings and decorations but with the sunny presence of sons and daughters home from college and university to spend the holidays with home folks. Every train has brought them in from in and out of the state until Friday. Christmas eve will register the coming of the last ones who sayed to finish up their final "exams". These boys and girls will be house guest of their parents but every home is open to them and a warm welcome awaits them where ever they go. The following are listed with their school: C. I. A. Denton, Galen and Ruth Robertson, Thelma Williams, Velma Hambleton, Bruce Bryant and Mildred Darnell; Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Mary Ella Pace, Jack Richey; State University, Walter Murchison, Lucy Cummins; Medical School, Galveston, Frank Kimbrough, Herman Weinert; Baylor Medical College, Dallas, Kenneth Oates, John W. Pace, Jr.; Austin College, Sherman, Henry Wilson, Mary Sherrill, Lewis Pearsey, Johnny Solomon; A. and M. Bryan, I. D. Killingsworth, Jack Sutherland; Baylor University, Waco, Maurine Couch; Baylor Belton, Marjorie Whiteker, Marguerite McCollum; T. C. U., Ft. Worth, Anita Grissom; Texas Woman's College, Ft. Worth, Mamie Jones; McMurry College, Abilene, O. E. Patterson, Jr., Dessie Kennedy; Simmons University, Abilene, Bailey Taylor, Cecil Weaver, Kyrene Simmons, Mary Kimbrough; Washington and Lee University, Virginia, Ernest Sanders; Schriener Institute, Kerrville, Texas, Thomas Merchison.

Haskell Churches Observe Christmas in Last Sunday's Services.

Practically every church in Haskell had special services of some nature honoring the greatest of all holidays. The Christmas Eve. The First Christian Church observed their annual White Christmas which was beautiful beyond words and impressively sacred. The main auditorium was darkened and lighted candles furnished the light. The entire stage was in white, a rising billowy cloudy mass of snowy whiteness to the rear of which was hung the star and to the front was the cross all in white. The piano was encased in what looked to be snow and ice with pendant icicles and in it burned long white candles and also the sacrament table was white with lighted tapers. Mrs. Wallace Cox presided at the piano and as she played a prelude of soft Christmas carols the processional was forming in the vestibule, these were three teachers, Mesdames Mamie Barron, George Morrison and T. Pinkerton with their classes, came down the aisle singing Holy Night and as they stood all clothed in white the congregation joined in the singing of this favorite Christmas song; prayer by Rev. Forrester; Van Dyke's story, The Other Wise Man, Mrs. Virgil Meadors; vical solo, The Infant Jesus, Mrs. Wayne Koonce; The Legend of Cathay, Helen Barron; then came the presentation of gifts that were laid at the foot of the cross by the classes; and as they wended their way Christmas songs like, "Away In The Manger," "Oh, Little Town of Bethlehem," were sung; as Mr. Henry Smith lead his class he read from the 1st to the 14th chapters of St. Luke. Classes 5 and 9 came singing "It Came Upon A Midnight Clear;" these all brought varied gifts and money, but class 6 brought paper money and checks and these were pinned to a white ribbon and laid at the foot of the cross; then came the men and women's classes 7 and 8 carrying sacks of flour and such substantial packages. As the communion was administered Mrs. Cox played, "Light With Ebon Pinion." And then after Rev. Forrester had extended the invitation all of the congregation sang "I Gave My Life For Thee" there was one addition to the church. The White Christmas is not only beautiful and impressive but deeply spiritual.

Baptist Church Has Christmas Celebration.

The First Baptist Church observed the season's holiday, beginning Sunday morning in the beginner and primary departments with the cradle roll, beginner and primary pupils under the leadership of Mrs. Vaughn Bailey, Mrs. John Fouts and Mrs. Bob Glenn in charge and there was the Christmas tree loaded with toys and candy, fruit and nuts and dear old Santa Claus to give out the gifts and there were quite a number of visitors but as usual Santa proved equal to the occasion and there was an abundance for all. In the Junior Department also the ever appealing green and red Christmas bags of fruit candy and nuts were given to all pupils and teachers. In the evening a beautiful pageant was directed by Mesdames I. N. Simmons, M. B. Lebo and W. E. Kirkpatrick who have in charge the three divisions of children's work under the auspices of The Woman's Mis-

sionary Society, with Mrs. Harry Stalcup presiding at the piano. The Christmas story as told by St. Luke in the 2 chapter was ideally depicted in pageant form, after little Frances Walling had read this chapter. There were five foreign countries represented besides scores of others and all of the names not be obtained. It was a real depiction of the birth of the Christ child in the manger and those who were present will always remember it.

Presbyterian Church Tells World Old Story of Birth of Christ.

An impressive dedication service in pageantry was directed by Mrs. H. S. Wilson and Mrs. C. P. Petty at the Presbyterian Church last Sunday evening. Mrs. M. L. Baker and Mrs. John W. Pace presided at the piano. Outstanding biblical characters from the days of Abraham were impersonated by the following: Abraham, Mr. R. E. Sherrill; Isaac, Hugh Mack English; Hannah and son, Mrs. Hester and little son, Floyd; the Mother of David and little David, Mrs. Felix Frierson and Monty Frierson; the baby Moses, Hugh Mack English, the mother of Moses, Mrs. John Tubbs; Moses' sister Miriam, Alberta Orr, the Princess, Mrs. C. P. Petty; Daniel, Merton L. McDonald and the three other captives to Babylon were Meshack, Shadrach and Abed-nego impersonated by Joe Pearsey, Gilbert Wilson, and Lewis Solomon; the Angeles were Olive and Ola Frazier; Joseph and Mary, Mr. and Mrs. John Tubbs; shepherds, Richard Frierson and David Solomon. And then followed the dedication service when the deacons were represented by Mr. John W. Pace who made the cash offering, other organizations sent their offering as follows: The Woman's Auxiliary, by Mrs. R. R. English; Session of Church, Mr. Felix Frierson; Men of the Church, Judge Jas. P. Kinnard; Sunday School, Mr. R. C. Montgomery Christian Endeavor, Addie May Whiteker; Cradle Roll Mrs. Tom Davis.

If interested in a business career, write for Catalog C and Holiday Rates. Draughon's College, Abilene, Texas.

Methodists Observe Christmas and Yearly Offering.

In the beginner and primary department of the Methodist Church presided over by Mrs. C. M. Kaigler and Mrs. W. J. Sowell the Christmas observed began last Sunday morning when Mrs. Sowell told the Christmas story in language that they could understand and Mrs. Kaigler sang, Holy Night and Low in A Manger. Then came Santa Claus with gifts for all besides the bags of candy, fruit and nuts. And then in the basket in the center of the room the little tots made their yearly offering to the Methodist Orphanage at Waco. Also in the Junior department a program was directed by Mrs. W. B. Vaughn and the first was a song and prayer service with Mrs. O. E. Peterson at the piano, next Lillian Kaigler sang, O, Little Town of Bethlehem accompanied at the piano by Anabel Burt; The birth of the child Jesus beautifully told in story form, Mrs. Guy Mays; Reading, Frank Fuller Bryant; then came Santa Claus with his bountiful supply of candy nuts and fruit. At the eleven o'clock hour Rev. W. B. Vaughn pastor gave a complete history of the Texas Methodist Orphanage at Waco, he was especially fitted to this task as he has been a pastor to this great institution of the Methodist Church of Texas. At the close of the service an offering was made for the orphanage, this being a yearly custom not only of the local church but all over the state in every Methodist church.

Mrs. H. D. Neff Has Piano Recital.

Mrs. H. D. Neff one of Haskell's leading music teachers and who herself is an accomplished pianist, giving of her time and talent to many worthy causes sponsored by school, church and clubs, presented her piano pupils in recital at the Haskell High School auditorium last Thursday evening interspersed with songs and readings. The program follows: Greeting Chorus, Class; Spanish Dance by Behr, Kathleen Crawford; A Trip on The Rocking Annie Maud Taylor; Mary Helen Neff Pastorale by Bachman, Beulah Cass; Melody by Thome, Eunice Redwine; Cautionetta by Eggeling, Vivian Bernard; Little Darling Heart by Gaynor, Annie Maud Taylor; Mary Helen Neff Gypsy Rondo, by Haydn, Judith English; Gondolieri by Nevin, Katherine Rike; Valse Blue by Margis, Fred Ellis; solo, Stars, David Ray Neff; Purple Shies by Heurter, Anita Collier; Moonlight and Fairies by Reuard, Mildred Simmons; (A) Catch Me, (B) Slumber Song, Howard Albertson; Pianologue, Counting Daisy Petals, Nella V. Wheatley; Hikh and Day by Thayer, Mary

Sue Hester; At Evening, Ruby Martin; Hungarian, Agnes Fields; Good Night To All, by class.

Presbyterian Ladies Auxiliary Meets With Mrs. Perry Smith.

In spite of the cold inclement weather, of the outside every thing bright and cheery on the inside of Mrs. Perry Smith's home on Monday afternoon December the 13th, when the Woman's Auxiliary of the Presbyterian church met with her. Mrs. R. E. Sherrill conducted a bible study founded on 2nd Samuel after which there was a social hour when the hostess assisted by her mother Mrs. Dobkin served waffles, stuffed dates, cake and coffee to Mrs. R. E. Sherrill, Mrs. Jas. P. Kinnard, Mrs. H. S. Wilson, Mrs. R. R. English, Mrs. M. L. Baker and Mrs. C. P. Petty.

Pains disappeared

"SEVERAL years ago I was badly run-down," says Mrs. John Bunch, R. F. D. 8, Columbia, S. C. "I could not do any of my work. I was so weak I could not wash a dish. My back and sides hurt me at times dreadfully. I dragged around until I finally got down in bed." Then, explains Mrs. Bunch, she happened to read about Cardui, the women's tonic, and decided to give it a thorough trial, the results of which she describes below:

"It seemed to reach the cause of my trouble at once. I did not take it long before my appetite began to improve. I gained in weight from 114 pounds until now I weigh 136 pounds. I soon was able to be up around the house. I took up my household duties and was delighted with my returning strength."

"I now do all my own work. The pains in my sides and back have disappeared and I feel like a different person."

Cardui has been helping suffering women for nearly 60 years. Sold by all druggists.

CARDUI

For Female Troubles

Happy Recollections

Cluster around the Christmas enjoyments like flowers in the fragrant fields of May. May your Christmas holidays this year add another host of pleasant memories to afford you comfort and inspiration all through the coming hours of the New Year.

Oates Drug Store

"ON THE SAME OLD CORNER"

MERRY CHRISTMAS


1927

HAPPY NEW YEAR

We thank you for your patronage during 1926 and want you to know that our plans for 1927 call for a program which we conscientiously believe will fully merit your continued good will and business.

We appreciate every trust placed in us and will never give you cause for regret, if within our power to prevent it.

"M" System Store



At this joyous season our thoughts revert gratefully to those whose courtesy, goodwill and loyalty have made possible our progress.

We extend our heartiest wishes for a Merry Christmas and Happiness and Prosperity throughout the New Year.

JONES COX & CO.
Haskell, Texas.

The Haskell Free Press
Established in 1886

Sam A. Roberts, Editor and Publisher

Mailed as Second-class mail matter
at the Haskell Postoffice,
Haskell, Texas.

Subscription Rates
One Copy, One Year \$1.50
One Copy, Six Months75
One Copy, Four Months50



Haskell, Texas, Thurs., Dec. 23, 1926.

RECKLESS DRIVING

Only a relatively small per cent of automobile drivers are reckless, but they are sufficient in number to make driving on the highways hazardous. On a Sunday or holiday many people refrain from driving because of the hazard. It is neither fair nor is it necessary that careless drivers should drive others off the highway to which and on which everyone has an equal right.

Automobiles are safe, highways are safe and driving practices must be made safe.

It is reported that an oil company, operating several hundred trucks, has not had a collision or accident on the highways or at railroad grade crossings for a number of years, although during that time its trucks crossed railroad tracks more than 31,000,000 times.

It selects its drivers with proper care, instructs them in safe practices and gives them to understand that failure to stop, look and listen before crossing a railroad track or failure properly to observe traffic rules and safe practices on the highways will result in dismissal from the service.

It logically follows that public regulations of the same character would accomplish a like result, and with automobiles increasing in number, with proportional increase in congestion and hazard of accident, the point has been reached and the time has arrived for affirmative legislative action in this regard. Failure to properly observe traffic rules and safe practices on the highways should work a forfeiture of the offender's license in addition to other proper penalties.

MIDWAY SCHOOL CLOSED FOR HOLIDAYS

The Midway school closed last Friday afternoon for the holidays. It will start again January 3, 1927. The teachers left Saturday morning for Stamford where they are attending institute. We have started a very successful term of school this year and hope to finish in that way.

First Baptist Church
Sunday school at 9.45.
Preaching at 11 a. m.
All B. Y. P. U's meet at 6 p. m.
There will be no preaching at the evening hour on account of the cantata at the Methodist church given by the Harmony Club.
W. H. Albertson.

NOTICE TO OUR PATRONS

We the undersigned Physicians of the city of Haskell do hereby make the request that those who are indebted to us for Medical services call at the earliest possible moment and pay your account or make satisfactory arrangements if you expect us to continue your practice. We are just like other business men, we need our money and must have it in order to meet our own obligations.

We ask that you give this matter your prompt attention and see us at once, not later than January the 1st.

- D. L. Cummins.
- J. M. Gase.
- A. Q. Gentry.
- J. M. Baker.
- L. P. Taylor.
- W. A. Kimbrough.

ELEVEN-CENT COTTON AND FORTY-CENT MEAT

Mrs. S. C. Ford, Frisco, Texas.

Eleven-cent cotton and 40c meat! How in the world can a poor man eat? Flour up high, cotton down low, How in the world can we raise the dough?

Our clothes worn out, shoes run down, Old souch hat with a hole in the crown, Backs nearly broken, fingers all sore, Cotton going down to rise no more.

Eleven-cent cotton and ten-dollar pants!

Who in the world has got a chance? We can't buy clothes, we can't buy meat.

Got too much cotton and nothing to eat.

We've got no homes, we've got no wealth.

Losing our credit and ruining our health.

Can't help each other. What shall we do?

I can't solve the problem—so it's up to you.

Eleven-cent cotton and a carload of tax!

The load's too heavy for our poor backs

We're a good set of farmers, we all

know well, But there's something wrong as sure as—well!

We all worked hard, we groaned and sweat—

Now we are ruined—we are a blowed up set!

No use talking, any man's beat, With eleven-cent cotton and forty-cent meat.

H. L. Jeter of Lamesa was in the city Saturday. He is visiting his brothers, Frank and Will of the Center-point community. Henry likes to happen in about hog killing time to get a few square meals. He used to live in Haskell County and he knows that there is something good to eat here especially at this time of the year.

E. N. Baker of Abilene was in the city Friday. Mr. Baker is a brother of Tom J. Baker of Midway.

Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Boedecker of Bunker Hill were shopping in Haskell Friday.

Mrs. Vaughn Bailey has returned from a visit to friends in Dallas where she spent last week end.

A LETTER TO SANTA CLAUS

Dear Santa Claus: Please bring me a doll, a pair of rubber boots and a parasol, and my little brother a ball and a kiddie kar and my little sister a rattler.
Your little friend,
Catherine Wair.

Presbyterian Church

Sunday December 26, 1926. Sunday school will begin at 9.45 a. m. The attendance has been increasing the last few Sundays, and all are urged to come on time next Sunday. The pastor will be out of town. There will be no preaching service either morning or night. The Christian Endeavor will meet at 6 p. m. The public is most cordially invited to attend all these services.

Odie Kreger Improving.

We are glad to report that Odie Kreger, who underwent an operation for appendicitis a short time ago is at home again, and is able to be up.

Entertains With Party.

Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Cavitt of the Powell community entertained a number of the young people Saturday night with a party. They departed at a late hour, expressing many thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Cavitt for the nice time they had, and wishing they would entertain them again soon.

Earl Bishop and family of Crosbyton are here to spend Christmas with friends. They formerly lived in the Howard community and have many friends who will be glad to see them again.

To Our Friends and Patrons:

We take this method of extending greetings and compliments of the season, and expressing our gratitude for the patronage we have enjoyed and the privilege extended us of being of service in the past.

We wish for you all the joys of the Christmas Time, and abounding health hand prosperity for the New Year.

We prize above all else the goodwill shown us by your favors in the past, and hope to merit a continuance of same in the future.

W. M. MASK

Groceries, Feed and Meat Market

A Merry Christmas—
1926—1927
—A Happy New Year

We utilize this method to reach as many as we can with our message of thanks and the season's choicest greetings.

HASKELL ELECTRIC GIN CO.

TEXAS THEATRE

SANTIAGO
Hawaiian Troups

All Hawaiian Players, presenting High Class Entertainment—playing on fifteen different kinds of instruments.

Hawaiian Songs and Dances

They will introduce Native Instruments of every kind—Come listen to the weird, enchanting music of Hawaii that everyone likes to hear.

Don't fail to see this Big Attraction at

TEXAS THEATRE

Friday and Saturday Nights
Midnight Matinee Friday Night

THE Flying Feet

ON THE BUSY DAYS



have brought us around to Christmas again, made us all young again with the spirit of merrymaking and good fellowship, reminded us once more that the best things gathered in our lives are the confidence and good will of our friends.

It has been our pleasure to deal with and serve many patrons during the twelve months just past, to take in your welfare a personal and abiding interest, and it is now our privilege to wish for you one and all a full and unfeigned enjoyment of the pleasures of the Holidays.

McNEILL & SMITH HDW CO.

Old Father Time

IS DRAWING THE CURTAIN BACK ON A NEW YEAR

And we hope it will be a good year for one and all. Especially do we feel an interest in the people who have shown an interest in this business. Whether it was patronage or a kind word spoken in our behalf, we want to thank you sincerely.

We are looking to 1927 with renewed energy and bigger program of service and values.

Let us count you in as one of our big family of "the satisfied."

FOUTS & MITCHELL
VARIETY STORE

We would not risk a Christmas Card

For fear some one may be overlooked in the rush of the holiday season, so we have reserved this space to broadcast our

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

To all who have favored this business in any way during the year past.

We feel very grateful for the patronage we received during 1926 and will strive earnestly in 1927 to make our service the best possible.

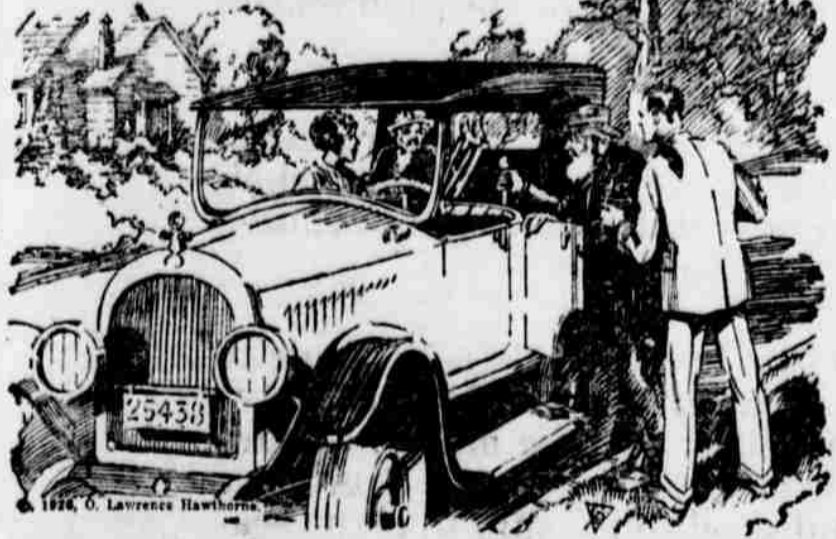
HASKELL LAUNDRY COMPANY

The Good Samaritan

by
O. Lawrence
Hawthorne

Oh, what a sacred sentiment
Is man's humanity to man!
That life is gloriously spent
Whose constant thought and daily plan
Are governed by a love for men—
A love so generous, indeed,
That happiness comes only when
It serves to meet another's need.

The Good Samaritan, who tries
To minister to those in pain,
The name of friendship sanctifies,
And he will not have lived in vain.
No monument of crumbling stone
Such eminence can hope to give,
For in the hearts of men alone
Does honor through the ages live!



Entertains With Farewell Party

Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Coleman of the Plainview community entertained a host of young people with a party last Saturday night. This was their farewell party as they will leave this community soon. They will reside near Sagerton. The people of this community regret to see them leave as they are good citizens to every one. At a late hour the young people departed thanking the host and hostess for such a splendid time.

Ballew School Progressing Nicely

Ballew school has been progressing nicely under the management of Mrs. Bert Trice of Haskell and Miss Alice Wright of Anson. Mrs. Trice taught in this school last year, and both the pupils and patrons are proud to have her back. There is quite a large enrollment already and every one is expecting a fine term of school.

Out of Town Guests to the Shower Given Miss Estelle Tenayson.

Special guests who were in the house party, Mrs. J. W. Todd of Rochester and Mrs. E. B. Harris of Rule. Other out of town guests were: Mrs. V. Alvis and Mrs. J. M. Kay and Mrs. W. H. Howell of Rochester.

Miss Ellen Clifton who is teaching school in Cimarron, New Mexico finds that she is not very far from her sister Mrs. Henry Johnson (nee Miss Doroth Clifton) and she will spend the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. Johnson in their lovely ranch home in Santa Cruz.

NOTICE

Written application will be received by the City Council of the City of Haskell, Texas, on January 6, 1927, for the position of Water Superintendent for another year. Please state salary required and experience.

M. H. Post, Secretary.

Mr. J. F. Marchbanks of Childress spent the past week here looking after his farm interests south of town.

Miss Kate Chambliss designer for the R. B. Smith Millinery Co. of Dallas is spending the holidays with her sister Mrs. Ross Woodall of this city.

Our Christmas Days as They Used to Be

SOMETIMES it seems as if the "elder days" were the best. Think of their Christmases! Where is the grace and generosity of those times? The warm welcome, the large cordiality, the mellow fun of innocent celebrations?

Perhaps we look back through the softening glow of distance, but there is a romance, a delicate, fine flavor of something which indeed seems lost to us now.

How the neighbors rode through the snow on horseback to large gatherings! How the pretty girls were muffled in furs and furs, skimming over the road in sleighs! How the bells rippled and rang! And how the wide doors flew open to greet these guests!

Light of candles . . . breath of pine wreaths . . . sprigs of holly . . . and the high thrill of holiday thoughts.

Laughing faces . . . graceful and the Virginia reel in the evening.

It is a handsome thing to think about. Let us try to insert some of this gentle beauty and spirit into our Christmas day. We have not the leisure and spaciousness of those times, but hearts can reflect just as truly the invisible yet invincible power of love and loveliness!—Martha E. Thomas.

(© 1925, Western Newspaper Union.)

BABY CHICKS—We are now booking orders for chicks from farm raised flocks of the leading varieties. Place your order early if you want to get them when you want them. We will also do custom hatching at \$3.00 per 100, will be ready Jan. 3rd. We also carry the largest complete line of poultry feeds and supplies and remedies in the west. Munday Hatchery, W. C. Bevers Manager. 2tc.

STOLEN—Boys bicycle, size 28, has nameplate with name "Res" on front. Stolen last Saturday night, suitable reward for return. Notify Free Press 1c.

C. E. Program for December 26

Leader: Lewis Pearsey.
Topic: "What has the coming of Christ meant to the World?"
Music.
Hymn, "More About Jesus."
Prayer—John Solomon.
Scripture reading—John 1:1-14.
Leader's talk.
Prayer by leader.
Hymn.
Talk—"What do you think has been the greatest result of Christ's coming?"
—Charles Solomon.
Special music—Galen Robertson.
Talk—"What Christmas stands for?"

—Edna Solomon.
Duet—Mary Pearsey and Mary Sue Hester.
Talk—"The Spirit of Christmas"—Henry Wilson.
A Christmas Prayer—Ruth Robertson.
Hymn.
Business.
Mizpah.
No hard times for office help. Big demand. Write for Catalog C and Holiday Rates. Draughon's College, Abilene, Texas.

SYD CHAPLIN THE MAN ON THE BOX

WARNER BROS
Classics of the Screen



READY TO SERVE YOU AGAIN

I take pleasure in announcing to my many friends and former customers that I have purchased the Field & Maxwell Confectionery, and extend a cordial invitation to the public to pay me a visit.

You will find the same courteous service, and a large stock of confections of all kinds, hamburgers, sandwiches, cold drinks, cigars, cigarettes and tobaccos. All kinds of fountain and bottled drinks.

J. W. LOONEY
Field & Maxwell Aid Stand.

We Feel Indebted

To Our Patrons for Many
Courtesies in the Past
and as We Come to

EXTEND GREETINGS

For Christmas and
the New Year.

We would not forget to

THANK YOU TOO

and tell you that in the days to come it is our hope and ambition to SERVE YOU BETTER.

PEARSEY AND STEPHENS

Phone 28. Haskell, Texas.

AT THIS GLAD CHRISTMAS TIME WE ARE THINKING OF OUR FRIENDS

Christmas times remind us the true measure of success of any business is its accomplishment in making friends. Old Scrooge made plenty of money, but he loved no one and no one loved him; the singing of a Christmas carol by his window filled him with anger—till he got the true vision of Christmas, the vision of Good Will.

It is a matter of much satisfaction to us that we account the good will of our friends and patrons among the chief assets of our business. We have long had the vision of Good Will and helpfulness among men, and now that the merry Christmas times are here again we hasten to express our wish that our friends and patrons and all others will enjoy a most happy Christmas, and a Prosperous New Year.

M'COLLUM ELLIS & COUCH

LIKE AN OLD FRIEND—

We linger to say good-bye to 1926 because you patrons of ours made it a good year.

LIKE A NEW FRIEND—

We welcome 1927 because we hope to hold our old friends and make many new ones.

Accept Our Best Wishes for Peace,
Plenty and Happiness During 1927.

ENGLISH MOTOR CO.

Sales and Service

Ford Fordson Lincoln

See What Old Kris Brought



Bostick-Simon

A wedding of interest took place at McConnell in the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Simon, when their daughter Miss Willie Simon was united in marriage to Mr. Jack Bostick of San Angelo, Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Rev. J. H. Bunch performed the ring ceremony which united this happy couple as man and wife. Those witnessing the ceremony and served to supper at 6 o'clock were the family of the bride and Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Bunch of McConnell, Mr. and Mrs. O. R. Jones and nephew, Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Simpson, Mr. and Mrs. John Harris and daughter, Callie, Mr. and Mrs. Claude Day and R. Lee Holland all of Stamford, Misses Rubie Hanson of Plain View, Lillian Brewster of Ozora and Valentine Bland of McConnell, Messrs Jim Peary of Ozora and J. D. and Chris Jones of Stamford.

The many friends join in wishing this couple a happy and bright life. Mr. and Mrs. Bostick left Monday morning for San Angelo where they will make their home.

CARD OF THANKS

We take this means of thanking our friends and neighbors for their many deeds of kindness and sympathy during the illness and death of our son and brother, Fred Monke, Jr. We wish also to thank our friends for the beautiful floral offering, and it is our prayer that each and every one who was so kind to us may find the same love and sympathy when sadness comes to you. May Heaven's richest blessings rest up on all of you.
Itp.
Mr. and Mrs. Fred Monke.
Erma Monke.

Why Bill Turned Over a New Leaf

Presented Heart to Wrong Darling at New Year's Eve Party.

By MARION R. REAGAN

NOT since the days of his early youth had Bill Johnson experienced such a thrill at the thought of a party. The New Year's Eve costume ball at the Palace hotel was to offer, besides the usual gaiety, a surprise in the way of a novelty dance. At twelve o'clock the lights would go out, the gentlemen would be asked to find the one woman they loved, and present her with one of the small hearts which would be distributed earlier in the evening. Johnson had secured two of the hearts which were to be given out. And therein is involved the story which was occasioning Bill a great thrill.

He had become very fond of Miss Jenkins, the new teacher at the school. Miss Jenkins was to be at the ball New Year's Eve, dressed in a shepherdess' costume. Bill had it all planned carefully in advance. When the lights went out he would be as near Miss Jenkins as possible, give her one of the hearts, showing that she was the woman he loved, then quickly before the lights again went on, get back to his wife, make some excuse about the difficulty in finding her in the dark, present her with the other heart, and so keep peace in the family.

Nothing could have worked out more perfectly, even despite the fact that Mrs. Johnson had chosen to wear a shepherdess' costume also.

At twelve Bill found himself in the most advantageous position possible, with Miss Jenkins on one side and his wife on the other. Only an instant and the lights would be turned out. A beating of the drums, a brief announcement, and then darkness. Quickly Bill grasped for the shepherdess' look of Miss Jenkins, took her hand—"My darling," he whispered softly—when—(something had gone wrong with the signaling of the electric lights)—the lights came on suddenly, to the embarrassment of many a couple, and particularly to our friend Bill, who was too confused even to look at the lady beside him.

The lady, however, was beaming with pleasure. "Why, Bill, you old dear, I didn't think you were so affectionate," she said, and laid a tender hand on his arm. He turned quickly—to greet his wife.

"Saved," he thought, and the consciousness of the predicament he had been so narrowly saved from, made him so grateful to the gods he slid an affectionate arm around his wife's waist. "You really don't know me so well, after all, dear," he said aloud, with more truth than Mrs. Johnson realized, and to himself he said: "From this out, if I am to die, I shall never do another isidreest thing."

TWENTY YEARS AGO

Taken from the files of the Free Press December 22, 1906.

Mr. Vernon Cobb was in town Thursday.

The Wichita Valley brought in seven cars Saturday loaded with immigrants and their effects, all from Bell County.

Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Andrus of Dublin are visiting the family of their son, Mr. G. W. Andrus, Jr. of this place.

Mr. W. S. Fouts, our popular ex-commissioner, was circulating in the city Tuesday.

Mr. Will Gilbreath from Sulphur Springs has moved to this county and located near Weinert. He is a relative to Mr. I. N. Furr of this city.

There is considerable talk of incorporating the town, and the sentiment in its favor seems to be growing. Mr. H. S. Wilson suggested that we ought to incorporate for the purpose at least, of building gravel or plank walks, there should be a good walk laid from the square to the school house.

Miss Dulin Fields has returned from a visit to friends and relatives at Willis Point and Kaufman.

Mrs. D. B. English left Thursday to spend Christmas with friends and relatives in eastern Texas.

Dr. E. E. Gilbert and small sons Morris and Carl, left Thursday to visit the doctors old home in Kentucky.

The many friends of Miss Mamie Kelley were saddened Thursday on receipt of the news of her death at her home in Belton.

Mr. R. H. Davis, one of Haskell's interpreting real estate agents, returned from Stonewall county a few days ago where we understand he closed some satisfactory deals.

Mr. Lee Pierson was in town yesterday and said to the reporter that he was preparing to build a good tenant house on every hundred acres of his place six miles west of town. As he has three and one-half sections that means twenty-two houses.

Mr. Paul Zahn of Austin County has purchased 266 acres nine miles north of town.

The following new settlers from Bell county who purchased land in this county last summer arrived this week to take possession of their new homes, to wit: G. M. Baker, Sam Treat, E. N. Baker, J. H. Goodwin, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Hutchins and Mr. Calhoun.

Allcorn-Lee

Mr. M. C. Allcorn and Miss Pauline Lee were happily married Saturday December the 18th by Rev. W. H. Albertson at his residence in this city at 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

These young people are from the Post community where they have many friends who will join the Free Press in wishing for them many years of Happy wedded life.



Give Golden moments and hours of restful, easeful transportation, this Christmas. Give princely luxury and beauty.

Give a Buick!

The ransom of a prince could buy no more princely gift.

The Greatest

BUICK

A 20-10

Ever Built

HARDY MOTOR CO.

BUICK DEALERS STAMFORD
J. L. Wileman, Sales Manager
W. B. Silvers, Local Representative

THE GROWING FIRELIGHTS

at the Christmas hearths will soon be lighting up the many circles of happy faces, bright also with the spirit of the glad season which is upon us.

It is our sincere hope that our many friends are finding their places in these choicest of all earthly gatherings—these chosen companies of true friends.

The year has been a satisfactory one to us in a business way; you, our friends, have made it so; and now we take much pleasure in wishing for you all the finest fruits of friendship and good fellowship that the season can bring.

And may the New Year bring to you an ever-increasing meed of joy.

J. W. GHOLSON GROCERIES

We're Just Hoping

That Old Santa Claus will be better to our friends and patrons this Christmas than he ever has before and that the New Year will be better than the Christmas we wish for each of you.

Accept if you please, our sincere thanks for your 1926 business.

HARRISON SPURLOCK GIN COMPANY

We Haven't Forgot

That you were our friend and patron through the year just closing and that your patronage and good will means a lot to the success of business. And now that the Holidays are here we are wishing for you a very merry Christmas in which all the elements of good cheer will combine to make you happy, and a New Year in which each coming day will add a new measure to your store of joy.

HASKELL MILL & GRAIN CO.



SPECIALS FOR THE HOLIDAYS

- 6x9 Congoleum Rug
- 27x52 inch Congoleum Rug to match the above.
- 27x52 inch Congoleum Rug in several patterns.
- All Three Rugs for **\$5.75**

Just the thing to improve the appearance of the home for Christmas.

McNEILL & SMITH HDW CO.

The Pecan in Texas

Reprint from The Granbury News)
Looking backward with our mind's eye centuries before the advent of the white man on Texas soil, we see the majestic, majestic pecan trees along the banks of almost every river and stream in the country, covering thousands of miles of water front with their delightful shades and with their long, willowy, graceful branches bending almost to the ground under their loads of rich, delicious concentrated food; furnished food for both the wild animals and the wild Indians who roamed the vast stretches of the Texas virgin soil.

Here, along the beautiful streams, the Indians pitched their wigwams and gathered pecans for food, and in their journeys to other parts of the state carried these nuts in their pouches made of animal skins, dropping them along other streams, where they sprang up and bore nuts and aided by crows, rodents and flood waters until now almost the entire state has been set in pecans.

Until recent years no particular value had been placed upon pecan trees in Texas and many millions of valuable trees have been destroyed to make room for annual crops, which often do a single pecan tree is capable of producing on the entire farm what during. There are official records kept of many of these giant trees of Texas forests which show a production in a single year of from 500 to 1400 pounds of nuts, and it is no uncommon thing to find trees whose crops sell annually for from \$50 to \$100 each.

Texas is the original home of the pecan and produces more native pecans than all the balance of the world.

The commercial value of the pecan is only just beginning to be realized. With modern machinery for grading and cracking the pecans, there will never again be an overproduction. Their uses in foods and confections are almost limitless, and what for many years was considered a holiday luxury has now become a part of the daily menu in thousands of American homes and that number is doubling every year. Why should we not use pecans instead of importing nuts from South America, Mexico, Africa and other countries when we have right here what all the leading dieticians tell us is the richest most concentrated food that is grown anywhere.

There are very few farms, ranches or even city lots in Texas where from at least one to many hundreds of thousands of pecan trees could not be successfully grown, making a beautiful ornamental tree and furnishing a wonderful cooling shade, while also bearing loads of delicious nuts.

We hope the time is not far distant when every home owner in Texas will plant or set some pecans about his residence on his farm or ranch, that Texas may always be known as the pecan state of the world.

Every park should be set with pecans in place of worthless (except for shade) elm and hackberry.

Since Texas has named the pecan the official state tree, then every school campus, every street and where possible every state highway should be lined with pecan trees, that future generations may say that we left our state better instead of worse by having lived here, and that we emulated the Indians and the crows by sowing seeds that others might reap a harvest from our efforts hundreds of years after we have gone to our rewards, and that we added well, not looking out for today only, but for the centuries yet to come.

Through the diligent efforts of the Nut Division of the State Department of Agriculture and of our A. & M. College, backed by the untiring efforts of a number of individual pecan specialists of Texas, many valuable pecans have been discovered and propagated through nurseries and by top-working, budding and grafting native trees, thus improving the size and quantity of our pecans. These improved varieties show as much improvement over the average pecan as the thoroughbred Hereford stock shows over the old-time longhorn, or the modern Poland China hog over the old razorback.

There are many thousands of acres of fertile land in Texas which within the next ten years will be set to pecans and we feel that no one part of the state is especially favored, since almost every county will find room for some large orchards; and to those who act now and start their orchards will fall the cream of the pecan land of Texas.

Let every man, woman and child talk pecans—boost pecans—and every one who has a place, even though only large enough for one tree, plant pecans. To those wanting data on any line of pecan propagation, our A. & M. College, hundreds of County Agents and many individual pecan experts over the state are at your service for only the asking.

Christmas Tree at Jud.
The school had a Christmas tree at the Jud school house Friday afternoon. The school room and tree were beautifully decorated. R. G. Brannon the teacher made a short talk. Then Santa came in and the presents were taken off the tree by Santa and given to the children.

They all enjoyed the afternoon, hoping to see Santa again.

Several visitors were present, and all were invited to come back and visit the school.

All left with a smile on their faces and wishing everybody a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

Rubie Catherine the baby daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Bunkley of McCannell who has been ill the past week is improving of which the host of friends will be glad to learn.

CLUB BOY WRITES OF HIS EXPERIENCE WITH POULTRY

The following experiences were related by Herbert Hannsz, Haskell County Club boy, in his report submitted to County Agent Trice on the completion of his poultry project for the year. Herbert with John R. Watson Jr., another club boy, and County Agent Trice attended the short course at the Texas A. & M. College the past summer.

We moved to a new place about the first of the year and found things, about the supposed-to-be poultry yard, in very bad condition. In fact, the one small piece of a house used for the chickens here-to-fore, had only one side and one end, and the droppings under the roost were about 18 inches deep.

The first thing to do was what? Well! I hardly knew what to do or where to begin, but I started in and cleaned everything as clean as possible, and tore down a portion of the house and rebuilt it. I then moved an old house which had been formerly used to house pigeons to the poultry yard. This house was 8' x 12', and was found to be densely inhabited by many lice and mites.

After the houses were erected and fences and yards built it was time to consider the mating of the birds. I used two pens and the flock on the outside. One pen consisted of 8 females and one male while the other pen consisted of 3 males and 36 hens and pullets.

The first month and half after moving the hens the egg production was exceedingly low, but after the birds were settled and cold weather had ceased production increased slowly gaining up to about 90 per cent average for a period of 50 days.

I sent for a brooder in February, but the company was out of them at the time, so I did not renew my order as it was already late in the season. I tried to brood a portion of the chicks by artificial heat in small boxes, yet time proved that this was not a very successful method.

The egg production from the 15th of February until the 11 of March was 89.4 per cent on my flock. On March 12, I marketed 64 hens that I did not want to keep for breeders.

The chicks hatched grew off very well considering the limited opportunities they had in the way of breeding.

I purchased 25 baby chicks from the best breeder of Black Leghorns in the United States, yet very unfortunately I lost about 60 per cent of them when I had a bunch of chickens to smother to death. About two weeks later I ordered 10 more baby chicks from the same breeder, from his very best matings. They were nearly frozen when they arrived, in fact, one was dead and the others in bad shape. I succeeded in raising two of these and

they were both pullets.

I raised about 150 chickens to maturity. Some were Black Leghorns, Some Barred Rocks and some Rhode Island Reds. The Reds and Rocks were from eggs I bought.

On account of lack of time I did not do anything in the way of conditioning my birds for the Haskell County Fair. I entered 2 pens, 5 cockerels and 4 pullets and won all awards. I also won 1st, display of all varieties in club, as well as, the most ribbons.

I entered several birds at the Dallas Fair, adult division, and won 1st cock, 1st hen and 5th pullet.

Here are a few figures to show the monthly and yearly records of the flock from the 12th of February until the 11th of March when 64 of the hens were sold, the average daily production was about 57 eggs. The two high months were February and March due to the extra number of hens, and late of the hens went broody.

The total number of eggs laid during the year was 7,741. Of this number 3156 or 263 dozen were sold on the market. The others were consumed at home or used for setting purposes.

Herbert Hannsz, Club Boy.
The data accompanying the above composition showed that Herbert had

on hand at the beginning of the year \$160 worth of poultry and supplies, while at the end he had \$402.07 worth. This gives him a gain of \$240.07 on his project during the year, as well as, some valuable experience.

Ineffective But Acceptable.

"Let me kill those tears away, sweetheart," he begged very tenderly. She fell into his arms and he was very busy for a few minutes. But the tears flowed on.

"Can nothing stop them?" he asked breathlessly.

"No," she murmured, "it's my hay fever, but go on with the treatment."

Mr. R. G. Brannon and Miss Oweda Fendleson, teachers of the Jud school are attending the teachers institute at Stamford.

The school closed Friday afternoon with a Christmas tree. School will open again after two weeks of holidays beginning January the 3rd.

The attendance of the school will increase after Christmas.

Mr. Marshall Lett of Winters and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Cain of Miles are visiting their parents Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Lett of the Jud community.

FRIENDSHIP

And now since Friendship with its priceless joys is one of the essential ingredients of Christmas and Christmas cheer we are not going even to taste the long-awaited sweets of the season without first having sent out this wish to all our friends that the Goddess of Goodness will empty everything enjoyable into their laps.

Seigels Dry Goods Co.

Happy New Year, Too!

THE GOODWILL

of our patrons and friends is one of our most valuable assets. The spirit of the season brings to us renewed appreciations of old associates and of the value of new friends.

May your Christmas be a happy one and success attend your New Year, is the cordial wish of

JONES & SON

Service Station and Sheet Metal Works.
HASKELL, TEXAS

The Unwritten Pages

of the New Year will soon unfold before us, inviting us to write thereupon some worthy records for the archives of Time to hold in store.

Each of us of course wants to write Success in larger letters than was our privilege the year just closed, and it has been one of the proud claims of this business so to identify its interests and concerns with those of its friends that its success falls or rises with theirs.

This being true it is most natural that we should greatly appreciate your patronage and friendship as it has been given us during the year just closed, and seek the pleasure of writing together with you better things for us all in the white book of the new year.

HASKELL COUNTY ABSTRACT CO.
V. W. MEADORS

A YULETIDE EXPRESSION BUT WITH US IT IS AN EVERYDAY WISH

Were it not for happiness we derive from the loyalty and friendly interest of the people our business would grow cold and dull to us. We feel deeply indebted to our patrons not only for their patronage but for their FRIENDLY INTEREST in our business.

We rejoice at Christmas time and sincerely exchange

THE SEASONS GREETINGS

But we do not stop at wishing you the joys of the season. We hope and trust that the days ahead of you will be happy days.

As for us, we will count each day a happy one when we are privileged to serve you. As the last word of this Holiday message to all our patrons let us add our thanks for all favors of the past.

J. F. KENNEDY GARAGE

Red Front Garage.

East Side Square.

SOCIETY and Club

Mrs. J. W. Gammill Honors Husband's Birthday and Son Walton's Visit.

On last Sunday at Sunnyside Farm the country home of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Gammill there congregated a large concourse of friends in answer to the invitation of Mrs. Gammill to help her honor the birthday of her husband, Mr. J. W. Gammill and her son Mr. Walton Gammill who has been on a visit for some months but will soon return to his base in New York where he is a United States recruiting officer. We believe that Mr. and Mrs. Gammill will not object to being called old fashioned when we explain that the affair was entirely informal, the whole house was turned over to the guests to do as they liked. And some intimate information was gleaned that the old time "smoke house" could boast of no greater supply and variety than could the cellar and pantries of this modern country home. This was given when the guests were assured that two thirds of the bountiful repast was raised on the farm. There was baked turkey, chicken, pork and beef, canned vegetables and fruits and fresh grapes and greens and young onions from a late garden. Added to this was an array of some dozens of pastry, cake and sweet salads. We cannot remember such a feast served in the good old fashioned way since the days when the infare dinner following the wedding was in vogue. In looking over the dining room, side tables and kitchen after the tables of guests had dined, one was reminded of what was left after the parable of the loaves and fishes and before the guests departed. Mr. Gammill got down the family bible and Mr. Vaughn read a chapter and led in prayer. Those enjoying this hospitality were Rev. and Mrs. W. B. Vaughn, Mr. and Mrs. O. E. Patterson, Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Richey, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Wood, Knox City, Mr. A. B. Brothers and Dr. Logan, Rochester; Mr. M. H. Hancock, Mr. F. M. Squyres, Miss Emma May McCall, Rule; Judge P. D. Sanders, Mrs. C. M. Kaigler, Mrs. Sue Eastland and Ray Eastland, Wiley James and William Wood, The Dell Equyres, Emma Kate Richey, Louise Cannon, Margaret Richey, Doyal Eastland, Wayne Vaughn, and Calaway Gammill, the hostess and honorees.

Thursday Luncheon Club Enjoys Christmas Frolic.

Departing from the usual custom of spending the entire day the Thursday Luncheon Club met in the home of one of their members, Mrs. A. C. Pierson on Thursday afternoon and had a most enjoyable time. The house was beautiful with cut flowers in the Christmas colors and a Christmas tree ablaze with red and green lights, popcorn and red and green horns filled with candy and also gifts that the members had made one another. Some months ago they drew names and then was making hand made gifts that were put on the tree. A number of games of forty-two were played but the usual interest seemed to be lacking. The hostess assured them that no presents would be given until after the meal and she had served the refresh-

ment plate the latter carried cheese balls, date pudding topped with whipped cream and cherries, hot chocolate and coffee. The real fun began at last however when the guests were invited to gather around the tree and Mrs. Wiley Reid and Mrs. H. S. Wilson called off the presents to the following: special guests, Mrs. John Draper and Mrs. Marshall Pierson, club members, Mesdames R. J. Reynolds, Wiley Reid, John A. Couch, H. S. Wilson, F. L. Daugherty, O. E. Patterson, M. B. Lebo, B. M. Whiteker, Sam A. Roberts, Elmer Irwin and the hostess, Mrs. A. C. Pierson.

Freshmen Have Christmas Party.

The Freshman Class of the Haskell High School enjoyed a delightful party in the basement of the High School last Friday evening. There were about fifty present including the class sponsors, Miss Corinne V. Moore and Mr. David Ramsey. The decoration committee, Effie Moser, Selda Maples, Vivian Bernard, Clara Lampkin, Lola Nell Schaffer, Cecil Leflar and Hamby Wimberly soon had the basement decorated with Christmas emblems and the inevitable tree well doaded with gifts brought by the class for each other. All kind of indoor games were enjoyed and then Mr. Ramsey invited the entire class to pass by a large box and take a sack each which they did and found that the bags contained a quantity of candy, fruit and nuts. Next the refreshment committee, Clara Weaver, Bessie Bee Kaigler, Luella Woodson, Ruby Cox and Myrtle Roberts served all day suckers, hot chocolate and cake to the class.

Miss Helen Harbison Resigns From Grissom's

Miss Helen Harbison who has been the popular milliner for the Hardy Grissom Store for the past three years resigned her position last week and left for her home in Fayetteville, Arkansas. Miss Harbison was not only one of the best milliners that Haskell ever had but endeared herself to all who knew her and was quite a favorite in the social circles. Miss Nettie McCollum accompanied Miss Harbison as far as Wichita Falls, where both were week end guests of Mrs. Clyde Grissom. Miss McCollum returned to Haskell Monday and Miss Harbison continued on to her home.

McDowell-Carrigan

Mr. Robert McDowell and Miss Gertrude Carrigan were married Thursday December the 16th by Rev. W. H. Albertson at his residence in this city at 4 p. m.

The happy young couple were from the Post community where they are well and favorably known and have a host of friends who wish them much joy through life.

MOTHERS

Watch for symptoms of worms in your children. These parasites are the great destroyers of child life. If you have reason to think your child has worms, act quickly. Give the little one a dose or two of White's Cream Vermifuge. Worms cannot exist where this time-tried and successful remedy is used. It drives out the worms and restores the rosy hue of health to baby cheeks. Price 35c. Sold by

Oates Drug Store



Ready to help you get More Eggs at Lower Cost!

POULTRY raisers say our service is worth talking about, and you can bet we are mighty glad of that. But, what pleases us most is that our customers who are feeding Purina Poultry Chows are making more money from their flocks. These customers stay with us and the growing number of new customers is proof that Purina Chows get results. We can help you get more eggs from your hens. When we sell you Purina Poultry Chows we will give you egg record cards free to check up. Then in your own figures you will have positive evidence that you are getting your money's worth and then some by feeding Purina Poultry Chows. We are ready right now to help you get more eggs at a lower feed cost.



Haskell Mill & Grain Co.

TO THE PATRONS WHOM IT HAS BEEN OUR PLEASURE TO SERVE

WE EXTEND HEARTY GREETINGS AND BEST WISHES FOR 1927

In this holiday message we are joined by all the members of our organization. We only hope that your dealings with us have been as pleasant to you as they have to us and that during 1927 it may again be our good fortune to continue to claim you as our patron.

Accept our hearty thanks for your patronage and for any kind words spoken in our behalf in 1926.

R. B. SPENCER & COMPANY
J. A. COUCH, Manager.

The Crowning Season

of joy for the entire year is the Christmas period. In these few holidays are gathered together the chief pleasures of the other fifty-one weeks which have passed away since the year began.

In summing up our assets to be thankful for as revealed in the history of the year we find your patronage and friendship to hold an important place among our matters of satisfaction.

And we are venturing the hope that you have found your dealings with us pleasant and satisfactory and that our agreeable relations may be continued on through next year.

Meantime we are hoping that the present Christmas will be the merriest and best you have ever enjoyed and that nothing shall stand in the way of your complete happiness.

Haskell Telephone Company

THE FARMERS STATE BANK

This bank of the Christmas spirit sends hearty Yuletide Greetings to its depositors and friends.

May the "back log" in the fireplace keep Life's fire burning brightly on this sacred holiday.

The steady progress we have scored is, we think good cause for our gratitude toward those, who have not found their confidence in us misplaced. To them—Greetings.

To those whose acquaintance we have yet to make, Greetings also, and a cordial invitation to come in and enroll their names upon our books—books that stand for safety, service, and a desire to please.

THE FARMERS STATE BANK

R. C. MONTGOMERY, President. R. C. COUCH, Active Vice-President.
J. B. POST, Cashier. J. B. RIKE, Assistant Cashier

DIRECTORS:
T. C. Cahill J. B. Post T. E. Ballard H. S. Post R. C. Couch
J. E. Grissom R. C. Montgomery J. C. McKenney

The Best Newspaper Buy In TEXAS OR OKLAHOMA

These rates will be in effect for a short time only.

WICHITA FALLS RECORD NEWS
By mail in Texas or Oklahoma Daily and Sunday A Complete Year **\$3.00**

THE HASKELL FREE PRESS
One Year **\$1.50**
By mail in Texas or Oklahoma A Complete Year Total **\$4.50**

BOTH PAPERS 1 YEAR
For **\$4.00**

Where can you beat this for Newspaper value?

Orders taken at this office.

Violet and Her Christmas Catch

By ETHEL AUGUSTA COOK

Girl's Kindness and Understanding Appealed to Handsome Young Dick Barnes

Aunt Sophia Played Clever Part by Supplying a Dinner Party

RICHARD BARNES was the "best catch" in Williamsville. At least that is what the mothers of unmarried maidens there told themselves and sometimes each other. But what is more, the maidens themselves thought so. And Violet Martin, who was neither the prettiest, nor the richest, nor the cleverest of the maidens, agreed with them in their estimate of the big, handsome, wealthy fellow. But it was, with her, not his riches, or his good looks, or even his great popularity that gave her this thought. No, it was a feeling she had for the whole two years since he had come to Williamsville, that he would make one of the best comrades in the world. She understood his special sense of humor. She loved his laugh. Violet Martin was honestly in love with this big, congenial boy.

Richard was in love with Violet, too. He was quite certain of that. But he was spoiled. Anyone would be spoiled who was adored as Richard was adored. You see, it was not only the girls—there was his mother who had spoiled him from infancy. That is why Richard, although he knew he loved this girl who wasn't the prettiest, nor the richest, nor the wisest in Williamsville—no, not by far, had not quite come to the point of proposing. For Violet, who was honestly in love with him (not like the others who were in love with the idea of perhaps being loved by this hero) dared not show her adoration. No, she dared only be as frank and comradely as a boy, and treat him like an equal.

And Richard was a little put out with this. Any reflection of himself in a girl's eyes short of a hero's reflection made him feel strange.

Besides, he wasn't sure it was possible for a man to be in love with a lady unless she was in love with him. He had pride, too.

But Christmas night the drama came to its crisis.

Violet had agreed to go to a musical comedy with him, a good show that



"Let's Go to the 'Movies' Instead," She Whispered Eagerly.

had been a success in New York, and was in Williamsville just this one night. All the Williamsville youths would be there with their ladies, and Richard, deep in his heart, was glad that they were to see him with Violet.

"I don't know why I feel this inordinate pride in her," he told himself. "There are prettier girls, and as pretty. And girls that are nicer to me, too. But it's Violet I'd rather be seen with than any of 'em."

When he called for her the whole family was sitting around the open fire in the big front parlor. Evidently they had had a family Christmas dinner, for Violet's aunt and uncle and her cousins were still there, and unmarried Aunt Sophia.

"Time to start for the theater?" Violet's father exclaimed in amazement when he saw Richard. "Well, we'd better get our things on, too."

It seemed that not only youth was going to the musical comedy. But Aunt Sophia was not going. She had not thought to get herself a ticket, and apparently no one had thought for her. Aunt Maud was going with her husband. The young cousins were going with their beaux. Mrs. Martin with Mr. Martin. And Violet was going with Dick.

Aunt Sophia until this minute had not realized how lonely a Christmas night she had in store for herself at home in her tiny apartment. She stood now, gazing about almost like a child afraid of sudden loneliness.

But no one noticed the look, and Sophia had never meant they should. Oh, yes. Someone had noticed. Violet's clear eyes had caught it and with a pang at her heart understood.

New Year's Wish for You

Dear friends, I wish this wish for you: The strength to stand for what is true, the will to serve howe'er God wills, the power to smile at seeming ills, the vision that can pierce the dark and see the dawn and hear the lark, and wear all God's sky of blue—Dear friends, this is my wish for you. —Janie Cree Bose, in Western Recorder.

Should Include Whole Year

"Happy New Year" is a wish that should include the entire year rather than the mere day which bears the name.

UNCLE JIM'S CHRISTMAS

By MARION R. REAGAN



IT WAS just a week before Christmas. The Jacks— that is to say, the J. J.'s, the R. P.'s and the W. J. Jacks—had all met in the home of the latter to discuss what was referred to as their "predicament." The oldest son of the W. J. Jacks had just gone into business some few months before and his father, and his two uncles, J. J. and R. P., had endorsed his note. In the meantime the business had failed and the Jacks were now called on to make the note good. To pay, as they certainly would have to, meant to sacrifice what little they had, and none of them was any too prosperous.

"How about asking Uncle Jim for the money?" R. P. suggested. "He's rich enough and it wouldn't hurt him."

"Yes," interrupted his wife, "but you forget he's just as tight as he's rich, and there isn't one of us that's even laid eyes on him since Cousin William's death four years ago."

"That's all right," replied her husband, "people get generous impulses at Christmas time, and you never get anything in this world unless you ask for it."

Everyone agreed that what R. P. said was true enough, but none would stoop to ask a favor of him. "It wouldn't do, that was all. It wouldn't do."

However, after the little meeting broke up and the families went on their various ways, each had the idea that after all it wouldn't hurt to try Uncle Jim. They would say nothing to the rest and if it did not turn out well, no one would ever know.

And so that night three letters were sent to Uncle Jim—one from R. P., one from W. J., and one from J. J. Jackson, asking for \$5,000 to pay off the note of the young Jackson, and thus save three families from utter ruin.

Uncle Jim, an irate, extremely close old bachelor, was furious the morning of December 23. He paced the floor, his face crimson, three letters crumpled in his fist. "By George, what nerve! The begging beasts!" he exploded. He sat down to write a



"And One From J. J. Jackson Asking for \$5,000."

terse note to each saying "No." definitely, but found it a little difficult—especially to be so cold. Finally he thought the easiest way to get out of it gracefully would be to write saying that he himself had had reverses and was poorer than any one of them. To make it a little more graphic, he even referred to his "cold garret."

Mrs. J. J. Jackson appeared at the breakfast table next morning with a letter in her hand.

"From Uncle Jim," she answered simply to her husband's inquiry.

"Nothing doing, I suppose," he asked.

"Oh, it's much worse than that. Jack, the poor old man—read this. Isn't it too bad, after all he's had?"

"Let's invite him here for Christmas dinner," suggested Mrs. J. J. "It's pretty hard on him, you know, being alone and old like that."

It was agreed. Mrs. J. J. sat down and wrote the following:

"Dear Uncle Jim: We are so sorry to have bothered you with our note, but we never knew of your reverses. Won't you come and spend the Christmas holidays with us? The enclosed is a postal order for \$2,500 to cover the fare. Do come. We are most anxious to see you.

Your affectionate niece,

"ANN."

The peculiar thing was that precisely the same thing happened in the home of the R. P.'s and W. J.'s, with the result that Uncle Jim again received three letters from his nieces, all enclosing the fare to Evansville for Christmas dinner.

Old Uncle Jim was genuinely touched. Of all the things that might have happened, certainly this was the last he would have expected.

That night, Christmas Eve, the Jacks met again at the J. J.'s to discuss what could be done about the note, which had to be met on the 26th. They had not gotten far with their plans when the noise of a high-powered motor was heard outside and the bell rang.

"Gracious, Uncle Jim!" exclaimed Mrs. J. J., when she opened the door.

"Of course, Uncle Jim," said the old man. "I was only teasing you when I wrote that letter. I had intended coming all along and paying off the little note. Here take these—just a few Christmas greetings for each of you."

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LOST—Brindle grey hound dog, John Clifton, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Clifton is reported ill at his home. He left school sick a week before the holidays set in and is still confined to his room.

WITHOUT FORMALITY

AND JUST LIKE WE WOULD MEET YOU ON THE STREET WE SAY "HOPE YOU HAVE A NICE CHRISTMAS AND THAT OLD SANTA CLAUS WILL BE GOOD TO YOU." AND THEN ADD "WE SURE APPRECIATE THE GOOD BUSINESS YOU HAVE GIVEN US. HOPE WE CAN SERVE YOU NEXT YEAR."

C. O. DAVIS

SUNSET POULTRY FARM

Rule, Texas.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

When the Xmas dinner is spread and friends from far and near gather; all are joyously thankful for the good things that have been done and said.

Now that everything is ready—"Please pass the bread" (Harcrow's Milk Dandy.)

Pure honey cream fruit cake, home made.

All kinds of cakes and pastries for Xmas. Visit our store before you buy.

HASKELL BAKERY
Phone 32. South Side Square.

We're Satisfied With You

Because you—our patrons, have been generous and loyal to us. We thank you for every favor, large or small, and wish you to know we are thinking of you today, of what you have meant to this business.

MAY THE SANTA CLAUS OF GOOD CHEER BE WITH YOU

During Christmas and each day of the year to cheer you on your way to success and true happiness.

FOUTS & DOTSON SERVICE STATION

Greetings, Friends

Just like we should meet all of you face to face, we say: Greetings, Friends!

WE HOPE SANTA CLAUS WILL BE GOOD TO YOU

And that the New Year, so near at hand, will usher you in to days of pleasure in which you will find contentment in the service you give to make the world better.

R. J. REYNOLDS
Groceries.

1926 1927

Ring Out the Old

Ye Bells of the happy Holidays, ring out the old year with its sins and sorrows, its errors and imperfections; ring out all unpleasantness and misunderstanding between man and man; ring out all uncharitable thoughts and unkind deeds; ring out all selfishness and greed. And while you ring,

RING IN THE NEW

Ring in the New Year with its myriad hopes and promises of dreams to be fulfilled; ring in more love and goodwill among men; ring in high aspirations and honest endeavor; ring in an era of better understanding, better fellowship, better cooperation; ring in unselfishness, ye merry bells, ring in the Golden Rule.

Reid's Drug Store