# The Ferguson Forum WE ARE AGIN HIGH ITTEREST <br>  

Pathetic Appeal, Made by Mother Who Is Shown to be Real Victim Of Law, by Dallas Woman Writer

By MAMIE FOLSOM WYNNE, in Dallas Dispatch.
Perhaps it is appeals such as the folowing which move the Perhaps it is appeals such as the folowing which move the
heart of Gov. Miriam Ferguson to extend clemency to cer-
tain state prisoners: tain state prisoners:
$\$ 12$ a have three small boys and no one to help me. I earn
I pay $\$ 5.50$ for a little, close, hot, dirty room.
My children are so raged that I cry over them, but I cannot My children are so ragged that I cry over them, but I cannot
help their condition. It is all I can do to pay the rent and
give them a little something to eat. "I have a son in the state penitentiary at Weldon farm
He has been there since February," Faving been sent up from
Wichita Falls, for theft (over $\$ 50$.) "He has been in jail since He has been there since February," "aving been sent up from
Wichita Falls, for theft (over $\$ 50$. . He has been in jail since
Dec. 8, 1924. I feel like he has been punished enough for Dec. 8, 1924. I feel like he has been punished enough for
what he did. Two years, which he has yet to serve, will make
a real criminal out of him. He is 19 years old. ernor Ferguson has written me must what I have to do, but
it takes money to go to Wicihta Falls and get the necessary it takes money to go to Wicihta Falls and get the necessary
papers fixed up. And that is what I have not got, nor do I
see how I can get it by myself. "This was my boy's first offense, and his first time to be
tried. If I could have him home, he would surely help me
and I could raise my three hittle heys in and 1 could raise my three little boys in a better way. It is No one knows what a mother like me goes through. And, it
I should lose my job, what would I do? But now what I want most to do is get my son out of the penitentiary. He is young prison." can read the anguish and yearning between the lines
of this plea and not wonder, with this mother if her son "has
has not been punished enough?", of course, there is a chance that
the boy would, being free, contribute little or nothing to the
support of his mother and little brothers. But, then again, he might.
Is it too much to hope that the penitentiary system of
Texas may yet be reorganized, so that convicts will be able to work and earn money which, will go directly to the suppor There is sound economic justice in such a thought, as well
as an altrusitic appeal, since many families, because of the
offense of one member, become charges on the public bounty

## Denton County Woman, Laughed At

By Husband When She Starts Out
To Raise Poultry, Builds Fine Home

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## THE FORUM OPENS AUSTIN OFFICE

Notice is hereby given that the Ferguson Forum has opened a branch office in Austin. The office is located at 117 West Tenth Street and is in charge of Guy R. Holcomb
An invitation is extended our friends to visit the branch office when they are in Austin. Copies of the Forum will be kept on hand at this office and subscriptions and advertisements are licited with
the assurance that prompt and careful attention will the assurance that prompt and careful attention will
be piven to all business with which the Forum may be given to
be favored.

Remember the location, 117 West Tenth street. COME AND SEE US! A CORDIAL WELCOME AWAITS YOU.

## Jim Ferguson Talks To Lawyers

In Austin a week ago when the Texas Bar Association opened its an nual session Former Governor James E. Ferguson was invited to addres the body and was introduced briefly by Judge R. W. Stayton, president of he association. The talk of Former Governor Ferguson was plain an full duty toward seeing that the courts administer even-handed justice

A sequel to his arraignment of the lawyers came the following day when W. C. Wear of Hillsboro, a candidate for attorney general in the 1924 state campaign, offered a resolution "criticising the granting of too many pardons." President Stayton ruled the preliminary remarks of Judge Wear as well as his resolution out of order. When Former Governor Ferguson was asked as to the attempt to have the association adopt these resolution the press reports say that he replied that there need be no surprise at "what Will Wear said" that he had tried to get into the attorney general's office by the ku klux route and failed.

In his address before the bar association Former Governor Ferguson according to the reports made by the Austin Bureau of the Dallas Morn ing News, "reviewed briefly the inequalities of the law as shown by the par don records.

The speaker told his audience that "they knew and he knew hundreds of lawyers in Texas who are violating the liquor laws daily and go unpun penitenet in the court house they are sending hundreds of poor men to the wife and four or five children unable to make a living like the high-toned lawyers."

Mr. Ferguson defended the record of his wife, saying lawyers are criticising without knowing the facts, "yet they insist upon knowing all the facts in dealing with their individual clients and cases." He asked for "that same spirit of fairness" in criticising the issuance of pardons. The records are open, he declared, and if they were investigated before the criticism were made "there would not be so much to raise - about."

In making his address Mr. Ferguson was invited to the stand by Presi dent Robert W. Stayton.

I come to you bringing greetings from the governor of your state," be gan Mr. Ferguson, "and we welcome you to your capital city. The gov ernor instructed me to say that the city is yours, to do with it what you please. Yo volate it, and notwithstanding the howls of the maniacs and politicians, she will pardon you on the spot." (Laughter and applause.)
"Now, speaking about pardons," continued the ex-governor, "I wonder if you understand where all this criticism originated? The unfortunate par
of it is that a great many lawyers are guilty of this criticism. There is not day passes that you don't read in The Dallas News letters from lawyers criticising the issuance of pardons; yet, if a client enters a lawyer's office and asks, 'Can I win my case?' the lawyer replies instantly, 'What are the facts of your case?' No reputable lawyer would do otherwise, and yet men calling themselves big lawyers criticise the the governor for issuing pardons without knowing a single fact in the case. Not a mother's son of them has come to the capitol on yonder hill and asked to see the record to get the facts before making the criticism. Is that fair and just?
"What I ask of the lawyers, and what the governor wants, is that she be given a fair deal. She would like to see this body adopt a resolution giv ing every lawyer the right to unreservedly criticise her for any pardon she might issue, but only after making an investigation of the facts, the sam as you would do before advising your client.
"I think this bar association owes that much to the office of governor of state, not to condemn its occupant without being in possession of all the facts." (Applause.)

Mr. Ferguson said he started in to practice law, but "never did like the profession;" that he was either dreaming about what he was going to do in some case or celebrating a victory in a nother case. He soon abandoned it
"But there is something I would say to you lawyers this morning," sumed the governor, "and it is the view of the man up a tree, as it were. refer to the laymen's view of the legal profession. Are you upholding it dignity and retaining the confidence of the people in the courts of your state and profession generally? It is the duty of the lawyers to do all of that and I ask you are you conducting yoursel ves in such manner as to retain the con fidence of the people in your profession and the judiciary of your country? Frankly and candidly, I say I do not think so.
"In my observation I see where you are paying too much attention to your cases, those of your clients, which is laudable, without giving suffic lent interest in the general administration of the law. I want to say frankly that the law's delay is destroying the confidence of the people in the courts
f our land. As lawyers you do not hear it so much, but those among the

State to be Kept on Cash Basis During Ferguson Administration Treasurer Hatcher's Report Says
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ion, W. Gregory Hatcher, State Treasurer, declared in a
statement released for publication Sunday, July 5 , in which
he said $\$ 11,799,639.29$ in cash was in the State Treasury July 1. This is the first semi-annual statement of finances
issued by Mr. Hatcher. In it he shows the distribution of the
state funds "in state depository" and "reserve depository" Nearly $\$ 50,000,000$ has been handled by Mr. Hatcher since assuming office an. 16, the statement shows. The cash on
hand belongs to forty-six funds, $\$ 4,663,698.76$ belonging to
the highway fund, $\$ 2,193,609.03$ to the general revenue and the highway fund, $\$ 2,193,609.03$ to the general revenue and
$\$ 2,066,151.94$ to the available school fund.
Total receipts during the first half of the year are $\$ 49$,$828,085.63$, with $\$ 41,381,347.98$ the total disbursements.
The receipts and disbursements for the first six month


State Claims $\$ 12,000$ Tax on Gasoline Sold on Government Land
Austln, Tex, July 8. - Distrrct


## Clarence E. Linz of

## Dallas Will Address

Life Insurance Body

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THE FERGUSON FORUM


IF MA RUNS - THEN WHAT?
(From Albany News, Dick McCarty, Editor.)
Gubernatorial aspirants are sparring in the political ring,
putting out feelers, etc., but get this, boys if Ma runs for
 stamps, sucker your corn patch and nurse your political am
bitions for another two years, by so doing you will save lots
of ready cash, time, worry and sweat and sleepless nights
Our oldd-time friend, wyrnch Davidson is is sill nursing an am
bition to be Governor of this State, and a worthy ambition, too yes, his mind in olsesssed with a desire to tuyide the Ship o
State and to that end, all his efforts are being bent. Last year we supported Lynch Davidson, and Shacklefor
county went over the top in his favor. We do not know
whether the political whether the political gods have cut the cards in Lynch's favo
or not, and writ it in the Book of Destin. Time alone wil
solve the political enigma. Somebody said that the gods the keeping of the Book of Destiny, they have charge of the
balance sheet of history, and most always the coming of politi
cal events savors cal events savors of an accident, just a hapenen so, it seems to
be, but not so, as the gods wind the clock and set the hands
and in the Temple of Judgment, only the complex whole tip
the scales the scales, for in the mind of the great common whole there'
wisomom, and all along down the ages political, individual am
bitions have turned up their toes to the daisies, and it's a sa
death, indeed Lynch Davidson is an able man, clean man, and a long
headed financier, and his ambition to serve his State is com
mendable, but if it ain't writ in the Stars, it will never happe
If Ma Runs Moody, our present Attorney-General. He's flitting aroun the flame, and his ambition to climb higher up the ladder is inged. We like that red-headed Dan Moody; he's got tha machines. Step on the gas, and it goes up hill on high, throug
the hell of opposition. His own pastor his neighbors no anybody else haven't any strings to pall, on on this reatheade
native son of this great commonwealth; he's clean and courageous, and we like tre boy, and it may that the gods ar
rocking him in the cradle, but, get this, the danger lies in
premature political births. You have a good job, Dan, and it' yours for another term, just for the asking. If Ma Runs-Then What? Today, the political mill grinding, and the hopper is full of the political grist, and the
gods are manning the over-shot wheel, and just who's goin
to get the toll, aln't been writ on the screen yet. And say pond, you want to watch out for the Ferguson Regime. fis
If Ma Runs For Governor-Then What? That politica If Ma Runs For Governor-Then What? That politica
stormy petrel is still alive, just plain Jim Ferguson, the ma
Who has been maligned, cursed and lied on. His name is
sweet morsel under the tongue of the political preache sweet morsel under the tongue of the political preacher an
the political she-vamps, and if they had the power of banish
ment, he would have been in hell years ago, notwithstandin theirs is the mission of mercy. But God deliver a State or
Nation, or an individual from the ire and the condemnation o
religious fanaticism. The seas have run red religious fanaticism. The seas have run red with blood, and
martyrs of independent thought have been burned at the stake
while religious fanatics shouted for joy and gave praise to Yes, Plain Jimg still lives, moves and has his being in th
their god
political forum of this State. But among the hotel lobby pol ticians, and in the religious harems, just mention his name alls, calico frocks, struggle and toil, his name has a charm and they will ride in wagons and on horseback twenty-five an
thirty miles to hear Plain Jim talk. And take this from a plain country newspaper man, the
artists and the sculptors who have catered to the common
folks, painted and carved their struggles and hardships, theil folks, painted and carved their struggles and hardships, thei
picture writ on canvas and carved in marble adorn the art galleries, and the fiction mongers who have chosen their sub
ject from among the toilers, depicted the life of the rustic
隹 the preacher whose ideals, ambitions and desires, and whos hearts have gone out to the common folks, their troubles an
struggles have been their concern, their names are writ in th Plain Jim Ferguson, among the plain people, he's the great
est political factor in Texas today. He's the greatest cam paigner that ever climbed on the poiitical stump in Texas, an
we like him for his political courage, we like him for his brav ery, stickability, for his convictions, for his plainness, corn
field philosphy and shirt-sleeved democracy, financial acu
men in statecraft, unafraid to express an opinton. He's just men statecraft, unafraid to express an opinion. He's jus
Plain Jim, and say folks, we have never caught Plain Jin
Ferguson in a lie. Always when he says that his political antagonist got drunk and played a game of poker proteg (proteg
of clergy, though they were), his enemies have learned
leave it alone, lest they uncover a damn dirty mess. among the common andys, it in politics and matters of State.
sense, and he can applatical
The political tricksters tied a technicality in the politica skein, and it worked and barred his name from the ticketet, bu
Plain Jim did not die. No, he went down to his humble home had a teke-ya-tete whith Ma, elther in the kitchen or. out i honeysuckle vine to run, feeding the chicks, making flower
beds, and working at the business of raising noble daughters.
The result of this kitchen or back yard conferonce, Ma's name our estimation, a noble woomen and of sound judgment. And
it can be said of Plain Jim Ferguson, he's the only man in this State who could saddle on the State of Texas a petticoa
government. IF MA RUNS THEN WHAT? Boys, it would
be well to evolve this question in your minds calmly and dis
passionately-Selah.

## A RECORD OF ACHIEVEMENT

The Uvalde News takes note of the failure of critical klux-
ers even to mention the fact that through the co-operation o
the legisl ers even to mention the fact that through the co-peration o
the legisiature the insane of Texas for the first time in "man
many years have been taken from the jails." In this connec
tion the News commends the legislature in these words: "One thing alone stands out as a monument of accomplish ment-the
placing them in proper institutions. This has ben acom
plished for the first time in many, many years. The holdin down of the tax rate and passing no tax-increasing measures legislature and a half million deficit in penitentiary system
also a $\$ 2,000,000$ previous allotment by the Highway Com come within the available revenues or face another severa
million deficit. As far as we can observe, no institution ha suffered to its hurt. The University Summer School an
School of Journalism can be continued out of fees and otthe
revenues. Another thing the Legislature passed the appro priation bills in the regular session something not done in
a score of years. These things should be credited to the pres-
ent Legislature. They are entitled to this credit. It is a =isiz

TRUE AMERICANISM.

|  democracy to Jefferson meant far more than represent culdforms of government. He knew that no torms or systems could |  |
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in the world.
That is the Americanism that challenges the nations, and
those who assert ther loyalty to it can prove themselves by
keeping it a living reality.
Keeping it a living reality.
No one would assert this ideal has been preserved in
alt our poilitial or industrial institutitions. The trme has not not
been reached when any nation may aspire to perfection. To










## TWO BOYS.




 ship remained undimmed. One of the boys, James E. Fergu-
sou, beame governo or the state and in 1925 he again re
turned to Austin as the advisor of his wife, the first woman




## THE HAUNTED GATE.

Dedicated to Miriam A. Ferguson, Loved Gove
 Peeping through those bars with hungry eyes
Great shining orbs drowned in black despairSunken wells, and stagnant pools or hate-
Searching for God- just everywhere.

Goun: You whos know the frailt of oferyone-
See Ye the souls you made, manhanded by nat
Ye Yee, weakened, even beerore birth begun-
Yea,
"The sin of the father handed down to the son,
 To deal justice straight from the Keeper-
With all that is sacred in life to receive.
The Wisdom, which was the strong hold of Mary
Who suided you safe throunh the walk the man
Bless the woman who guides a lost brother to Calv Bless the woman who guides a lost brother to
And dares, even though she knows that she can. Oh, Ye Scorners, sitting high in the ego o
Step out in the light of sweet Mery
Gaze in the eyes of your pardoned brothe Step out in the light of sweet Mercy-
Gaze on the eye of your pardoned brother-
Radiating salvation-as he steps through that Haunted Gate Reflecting the eyes of the Savior again in a
Redeemed through the hand of a woman-


## Ma Ferguson Says:

KEEP YOUR ENTHUSIASM.



# The Ferguson Forum's Good Roads Campaign 

# The Immensity of Texas Highway Problems Is Shown 

## EDITOR FERGUSON FORUM:

In order for one to really grasp the bigness of the Highway System of Texas, one should visit the low coastal plains of South and Southeast Texas; the swamps and piney woods of East Texas; the level valleys and rolling hills of Central Texas; the mountains of West and Southwest Texas, and the great plains of the Northwestern and Panhandle region.

In the southern and southeastern portion there is a crying need especially for bridges. There is not, relatively speaking, much hard surface or gravel roads in those sections, and in rainy weather vast sections are literally impassable on account of mud. And, on account of the great length of the rivers which practically cross the State and converge in this section, the rivers may overflow during wet weather, and cut off travel for two or three days at a time, except at the few highwater bridges.

In East Texas the heavy forests and swamps present a difficult problem. Then, too, that section is almost wholly devoid of road materials, such as stone and gravel, and it is therefore very costly to build a high type road of any kind because of long hauls and freight rates.

Central Texas is in some better position relative to road material, but the streams are swifter here and flood damage to bridges and roads is
greater than in the more level regions of the southern and eastern portions.

West Texas presents problems all its own. Material is abundant in most parts of the west except the plains country. Creeks and draws that are absolutely dry during most of the year become raging torrents during rains or even local showers. For this reason there must be numerous culverts and bridges and a good road grade. Then, during drouths, the construction is difficult on account of the high winds which continuously blow the dust and loose particles away, and cause long delays in the settling of the dump for surfacing. This section has numerous mountains of great beauty, with narrow valleys and running streams which make the section a potential pleasure and health resort for all Texas and the Southwest. Especially is this true of the country around Alpine, Fort Davis, Fort Stockton, Balmorhea, Marfa and Van Horn. Many excellent natural and gravel roads traverse this section, but there yet remains vast room for improvement.

The Plains section is really the most beautiful and at the same time one of the most fertile sections of Texas, and road building is comparatively easy, except for the long hauls of road materials. Grading is easy and some of the best dirt roads in Texas are found here but during wet weather the roads get very bad, but hardly ever impassable. This section of the State is far behind other portions in
hard surface and gravel roads, but there has been a general awakening to the need of better roads, and the Plains section, in the opinion of the writer, will be foremost in good roads in the next five years.

All in all, Texas is a big state and has big road problems, but then we have a great citizenship and one can be assured the problem will be eventually solved in a proper manner.

JOE BURKETT,
Member of State Highway Commission.

Co-operation and co-ordination are the keys to the maximum usefulness of the new highway transportation. There are, in fact, three prerequisites of improvement in our whole transportation system - and they are needed all along the line. Road builders and vehicle manufacturers must co-operate in order that the roads shall be built to carry the vehicles and that the vehicles shall not overburden the road. The road-building authorities of the Nation, the States, the counties and the municipalities must co-operate that the roads which know no political borders shall be properly co-ordinated. -William Jardine, United States Secretary of Agriculture.

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[^0]Denton County Woman
Has Fine Home Built
From 150 Fine Eggs

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## Jim Ferguson Talks To Lawyers

laymen do hear it. If you would get out and mingle with the people you would be alarmed at the distrust which has grown up.
"Of course you know, and I know our judiciary is generally clean and pure, but when it takes three years to decide a lawsuit there is something wrong and evenhanded dustice, as the people call it and see it is not being
administered in Texas as it ought to be. We heaea there is no o class or distincadminstered in exas as it ought to e. We hear there is in class or distinc-
tion before our courts and that the law looks alike to loll, he rich man and the poor man being on an equal footing, but that is not true. I will show you that it is not from the records. I wish you could see the 400 convic
tions in licuor cases which have come under my observation. That would convince you of the accuracy of $m y s$ statement. Not four of the 400 were worth over $\$ 500$ in this world's goods. This has become so serious that the governor is thinking seriously of offering a reward of $\$ 250$ for the arrest and conviction of any person violating the liguor law who is wortho ver
$\$ 5,000$. We have the money to pay it, if earned, as there is $\$ 12,000$ up $\$ 5,000$. We have the money to pay it, if earned, as thore is $\$ 12.000$ up
there for that purpose, and I don t think five of it would be earned in any
ear. How many well-t-dodo, high-toned lawyers are every day violating the
 that fact you will get down from your high horse about hee eardons for the
poor fellows. It is up to you to load the way and you are not now doing your part toward the fair enforcement of the law. You know and I know there are hundreds of lawyers violating the liquor law every day, yet you and your courts ares sending the poor devils to the penitentiary who have a family of wife and four or
fortale living like you do.
"I am no alarrmist or radical, but unless something is done the American people will do like the ancients did, rise up and burn the lawbooks. It will not happen in our time, but you lawyers have the opportunity to take the
situation in hand and bring the speedy reforms in the justice and administration of the law in this country and you should do your duty in that direction.

In conclusion I want to say that we are doing our best. My wife, the governor, is giving all of her time, and I am giving my aid. Of course we
are going to make mistakes and it is your right to criticise us All we sal are going to make mistakes and it is your right to criticise us All . Al we ask
is that you be fair and know the facts, ike you would in dealing, with your is that you be fair and know the facts, like you would in dealing
clients, and then there won't be so much to to raise hell about."

| New Textbook Board Chosen by Governor Under New Statute |  | Colorado Klan D |
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|  | Seateme | Denies Wizard E |
|  |  | Asked Him to Resign |
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## Woman Commander of Texas Guand to Review State Camp

| view State Camp | names accordingly, the immigration agents will be obliged to contract severe colds to pronounce them. |
| :---: | :---: |
| Austin, Tex., July 8.-Governor Miriam A. Ferguson, the first woman commander in chief of the organized troops of Texas, will hold her first at Camp Mabry next Monday, when | $\begin{aligned} & \text { "While the wise guy is waiting to } \\ & \text { become rich enough to marry the } \\ & \text { fool has children old enough to sup- } \end{aligned}$ port him"-but they do not. |






hatching every week in the ye
ernor
State exposition winners. I am t

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 Your Help Is Needed Now---political and governmental affairs, THE FORUM has been rewarded with the confidence and esteem of the people. We want to increase with the confidence and esteem of the people. We want to increase the number of Forum readers and so spread the gospel of truth

## IF YOU HELP US

It will be easy to do this, but Texas in area and population is an
enormous state. The task of reaching all the people is a tremendous The Forum is the only messenger of the policies advocated by
Governor Ferguson. It is the only newspaper in Texas which for Governor Ferguson. It is the only newspaper in Texas which for
years has made a consistent fight for better government and lower
taxes. Its usefulness can be increased a hundred fold if our friends

## The Forum Is $\$ 2.00$ a Year

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## The Forum Company

JIM FERGUSON, Editor.


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    contributed by public spiris in Texas, being
    citizens who contributed by public spirited citizens who
    have at heart the best interest of this great have at heart the best interest of this great
    state, and whose advertisements will appear from state, to time.

