

THE KNOX COUNTY HERALD

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We believe the story that Santa Claus' sleigh collided with an orbiting satellite is strictly a rumor, and that the old gentleman will be here on schedule.

With a good crop year ending, he should be especially generous to Knox City area children this Christmas... and if he fills all the requests in the letters being published in The Herald this week, that sleigh will be loaded!

In our last column of last year, we observed that "Things look great for '58."

And 1958 WAS a good year, in a lot of ways for a lot of people.

It has been a "growing year," and there has been a good crop of everything... from cotton, wheat, oats and maize to rats, rabbits and rattlesnakes!

Knox City, too, has grown, although the year has seen the passing of such "old timers" as Pappy Smith, Uncle Sam Favor, Mmes Bolin, Hallmark, Benedict and Stubbs, and Ma and Pa Garrison.

Others who will someday be the "old timers" may recall the year with pleasure — "Why, back in '58 we made 40 bushels an acre in dry-land, volunteer wheat!"

"And the cotton kept putting a fruit right up to frost!"

"And the quail were so thick you could go out any afternoon and get your limit!"

Another good thing about 1958 — for the first time in several years there were no disasters to report... no tornadoes, no major fires, no floods, no drought. It has been a good year general, and we hope our readers are pleased and happy to have a Merry Christmas.

Remember... "Things look fine for Fifty-Nine!"

Texas State C of C Being Organized

Operation of a Texas State Chamber of Commerce will be initiated in January. Headquarters will be in Austin.

Organization of the State Chamber by the four regional chambers of commerce in Texas was announced jointly this week by officials of the regional chambers. The four regional chambers are the East Texas Chamber with headquarters at Longview, the Lower Valley Chamber at Weslaco, the South Texas Chamber at San Antonio and the West Texas Chamber at Abilene.

"The growth and complexity of tax problems confronting the citizens of Texas and of legislation regarded as restrictive on the growth of industrial development have created the need for urgent action at the state level on those matters where a common viewpoint may exist," the announcement said.

The regional chambers will continue work in the fields of economic promotion of their own areas of the state, but will "exert unified influence" through the newly-created organization.

1. For economy in government, 2. For a more effective and broader citizenship participation in public affairs, 3. For the preservation of a proper climate for the creation of new jobs in business and industry, and 4. To encourage appropriate restraint on increases in the government-imposed costs of doing business in Texas.

School Lunchroom Menu Announced

Menu at the Knox City school lunchroom for the week beginning Dec. 29 will be as follows: Monday: Barbecued vienna, English pea salad, corn, bread and butter, peach milk. Tuesday: Meat loaf, creamed green beans, cornbread, banana pudding, milk. Wednesday: Tuna tuna, buttered greens, sliced bread, waffle squares, milk. Thursday: Holiday. Friday: Chiliburgers, pork and potato salad, apple de



This is just a small part of the crowd that was in Knox City Friday to see Santa Claus. Following the Knox City School band, the colors and the rest of the parade, Santa made it only to the middle of the main business block before he was stopped

by a surging crowd of teen-agers, tots and parents, and the parade went on without him. The parade was sponsored by the Knox City Chamber of Commerce and arranged by George Houston, C of C secretary.

STUDENTS TO CONDUCT BAPTIST CHURCH SERVICES

Services at the First Baptist Church Sunday will feature students of Knox City High School and college students at home for the holidays, it was announced Tuesday.

High school senior Truman Barnett will bring the morning message. Truman, son of Mr.

and Mrs. Allen Barnett, has surrendered his life to the ministry. Milton Redeker will be in charge of the evening program of inspiration and testimony. A sophomore student in the Simmons University, Abilene, Redeker is music and youth director of the local church.

Young people are especially invited to both services, church officers said, "and all who attend will receive a blessing as they become acquainted with how these students can serve the Lord wherever they go."

Exams Slated for Highway Patrol

Examinations will be given January 20th, 21st, and 22nd for positions with the Texas Department of Public Safety, announced Tom Wood, local patrolman with the Texas Highway Patrol.

Young Texans interested in a career in law enforcement may compete in Statewide examinations for the positions of Drivers License Examiner, Patrolman and Highway Patrolman. January 10th is the deadline for submitting applications to the DPS Headquarters in Austin.

"Job security, paid vacation, sick leave and retirement are only a few of the benefits you will enjoy as a State Law Enforcement Officer. Any young man between twenty-one and thirty-five, a high school graduate and in good physical condition can contact any member of the Department of Public Safety for an application," Patrolman Wood said.



Two-Day Holiday To Be Observed

Shoppers in the area were reminded that Knox City stores will be closed two days for Christmas, Thursday and Friday, as was voted recently at a regular meeting of the Lions Club.

Postmaster Jeff Graham said rural carriers will make their regular routes Friday morning. All mail will be dispatched and worked as the usual work day schedule, however window service will be curtailed to meet the needs. He said the windows will probably be closed part of the day.

County offices in Benjamin are observing Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday as holidays. Those having business at the courthouse were reminded to keep the holidays in mind.

Minister Out on \$10,000 Bond; Enters Hospital

Robert L. Dodson, former pastor of the Knox City Baptist Church who was charged recently with a morals offense is in Hendrick Memorial Hospital, Abilene, for psychiatric treatment, S. N. Reed, Baptist layman, said Monday.

He is under the care of Dr. P. C. Palasota, noted psychiatrist, Reed said.

Dodson is slated for trial January 13 in 39th District Court at Haskell on a charge of fondling his 13-year-old daughter. The offense is alleged to have occurred Saturday, Nov. 29 on a country road near Lake Stamford in Haskell county.

The former minister had been in Haskell County jail since Nov. 29. He was released Saturday on \$10,000 bond, District Attorney Adkins said.

Farm Population Still Declining

The sharp decline in Texas farm population which occurred in 1956-57 does not appear to have continued during 1957-58, reports R. L. Skrabanek, rural sociologist, Department of Texas A&M College.

Skrabanek attributes this temporary reversal partly to the economic recession which tended to retard movement from farms because of a drop in the number of off-farm job opportunities. He said there also is some evidence that the recession caused the return of some workers to farm areas.

The 1958 farm population figure of 1,092,000 represents a decline of 335,000, or 24 percent, from the estimated farm population in 1950. It represents an increase of 34,000 from the 1957 estimate of 1,018,000.

As Texas' total population continues to grow, the proportion of farm population to the total population continues to decline. In April, 1958, farm residents comprised 11.3 percent of the total population, as compared to 17.9 percent in 1950.

This decline represents a continuation of a long-time trend. In 1910, about three of every five persons in Texas resided on a farm. The proportion living on farms continued to fall during intervening years, interrupted only during depression years and brief periods since World War II.

U. S. farm population in April, 1958, was 20,827,000. The proportion of the nation's farm population living in Texas remains relatively the same. In 1957 about 4.99 of every 100 farm people in the nation resided in Texas. In 1958 the state's share was 5.05 out of every 100.

Herald Being Mailed Early

Although The Herald this week is dated December 25, it is being published and mailed on Tuesday, Dec. 23, so subscribers in the Knox City area will receive the special Christmas edition before Christmas.

This week's paper contains mostly "Santa Claus letters" from area children, and messages of thanks and good will from local merchants. We want to thank these merchants for their cooperation this week as well as for their patronage during the past year.

And for our advertisers and readers, the Herald publishers wish the best Christmas ever and a happy 1959.

Savings Bonds Are Excellent Gifts

During the month of January the citizens of Knox County purchase U. S. Savings Bonds.

This announcement was made recently by W. E. Braly, chairman of Knox County's Savings Bonds Committee.

"Sales for the first eleven months of this year totaled \$192,578," Mr. Braly reported. "We have now achieved 81.3% of our 1958 goal of \$237,000."

Sales in Texas during the first eleven months of 1958 were \$157,642,990 which represents 90% of the 1958 goal of \$175,000,000.

"For this Christmas, more than ever, people need to give the gift of peace—U. S. Savings Bonds. It's a present with a future; and for the new year, to keep our country strong and free and at peace with the world; to build for all the tomorrows, a land of which we will be continually proud; to provide security for the generations to come in the manner such as we have known, and above all—to keep the precious liberties and freedoms that are a part of our heritage," the chairman concluded.

WHEAT CROP ESTIMATE IS 1-4 BILLION BUSHELS

Crop production this year reached an all time high—11 percent larger than the previous record.

Reporting this, the Agriculture Department said high yields were mainly responsible, as the harvested acreage was the third lowest in over 20 years.

All crop production was estimated at 118 percent of the 1947-49 average. This compared with the previous high 106 percent first set in 1948 and matched in 1955 and 1957.

The department said weather generally seemed to be working for farmers throughout the entire cycle from before seeding time until after harvest.

This was the biggest production year of record for wheat, corn, soybeans, barley, sorghum grain, hay, popcorn and tung nuts. Large to near record crops of oats, peanuts, potatoes, sugar beets, drybeans, apples, peaches and pecans were raised.

The final 1958 report put this year's corn crop at 3,799,844,000 bushels and the wheat crop at 1,462,218,000 bushels.

The corn estimate is 14,300,000 bushels more than last month's forecast of 3,785,544,000 bushels, the largest of record. It compares with last year's revised estimate of 3,422,331,000 bushels and the ten-year (1947-56) average of 3,144,304,000.

The wheat figure is 12,720,000 bushels more than last month's estimate of 1,449,498,000 bushels,

Bumper Cotton 95 Percent Harvest

Harvest of the 1958 cotton crop—the best in recent years—is approximately 95 percent complete, ginners estimated this week.

The O'Brien Cooperative Gin, with three plants, has turned out 18,715 bales. The gin is still using day and night crews, and Bert

Davis, manager, expects perhaps 1,000 more.

Brazos Valley City has ginned 4,000 bales.

Paymaster Charles Moore, manager, expects 200 more.

Although the Mexican ginners are having a hard time getting both the Valley and the Brazos Valley ginners being hampered by ginners continue until February.

Funeral Services Held at Goree For Mrs. Moore

Funeral services for Mrs. W. L. Moore, Knox County resident since 1919, were held at the Goree Baptist Church Monday at 2 p. m. Mrs. Moore, 80, died at 4 p. m. Saturday in the Knox County Hospital after an illness of eight months.

Mrs. Moore, the former Lizzie Pearl Thornton, was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Thornton and was born in Lampasas County. She married Leander Moore June 18, 1893 in Desdemona. The couple celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary in the spring.

The couple moved to the Goree area in 1919 and had lived in the same farm home since that time.

Conducting the funeral were the Rev. H. C. Adair, pastor of the First Methodist Church in Goree, assisted by Rev. W. W. Baughman, pastor of the Goree Baptist Church.

Survivors include her husband, five daughters, Mrs. Lola Perdue, Mrs. Etta Chamberlain and Effie Mae Chamberlain of Goree, Mrs. and Mrs. Lula Lovins of Goree, Mrs. Roy, Alberg, Gordon and Estell Moore, all of Goree, and Nealey of McCamey; one brother, W. L. Thornton of Goree; 22 grandchildren and 26 great grandchildren.

District Basketball Play to Start Jan. 9

Knox City basketball teams will begin a double round robin of District play Friday, January 9 when they play Megargel at Megargel. Both boys' and girls' teams will play.

Practice games for the boys' A and B teams are set for Tuesday, January 6, when they are hosts to the Haskell teams. January 2 is an open date.

The telephone security office has far more than these past few days, districts from people monthly retired survivor checks are concerned increase the Congress recently.

Mr. Tate security benefits increase in the come to the do not have visit the to request of application for

The checks which will be first of February the full increase, an average seven percent. These increases will be \$7.50 more amount of fit. Where reach \$254 other than may show increase.

Meeting For Soldiers

A speech by the secretary of the American Legion, Peteron will be given at the meeting of the Soil Conservation District at Abilene. Association of soldiers to a which will Friday night



Pvt. Aubry L. Watson, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Watson of Knox City, has arrived in Korea where he is stationed with the 23rd Transportation Group, First Cavalry. Pvt. Watson entered the Army in April of this year and received his training at Fort Carson, Colo. He expects to remain in Korea 13 months.

