

The Baird Star

Our Motto, "Tis Neither Birth, Nor Wealth, Nor State, But the Get-up-and-Get That Makes Men Great."

VOLUME 58—NO. 34

BAIRD, CALLAHAN COUNTY, TEXAS, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1945

MARVIN HUNTER, Jr., Editor

Publics Invited To Open House

On September 20th the City of Baird is holding an "open house" party celebrating the Fifth Anniversary of the Municipal Light Plant and extends to the citizens and friends of Baird a cordial invitation to visit and inspect the modern plant between the hours of 8:00 to 10:00 P. M. Light refreshments will be served and it is hoped that everybody will take advantage of this opportunity to see the plant in detail. This plant is an example of what can be accomplished in Baird and other similar towns with foresight and proper planning coupled with determination and wholehearted support of enthusiastic citizens.

In 1938 the city officials, after considerable investigation and study of the feasibility of a city light plant, decided it was to the interest of the city and its citizens to build a Municipal Light Plant. Construction was started in December 1939, progress being delayed by litigation for short period but the plant was completed and operation started on September 20, 1940. Contrary to information furnished the citizens in the beginning by competitive opposition, five years of successful and efficient operation has been completed. Also the City Tax Rate has been reduced as well as the total assessed valuation having been lowered.

The following is a statement of income and expense of the Municipal Light and Power Plant for the fiscal ending June 30, 1945.

SYSTEM FUND	
Cash	\$4,522.35
War Bonds	\$5,000.00
Total cash	\$9,522.35
and bonds	\$9,522.35
SYSTEM DEPT'N. FUND	
Cash	\$1,975.00
War Bonds	\$8,500.00
Total cash	\$10,475.00
and bonds	\$10,475.00
BOND FUND	
Cash	\$5,837.18
War Bonds	\$10,000.00
Total cash	\$15,837.18
and bonds	\$15,837.18
TOTAL OF ALL FUNDS	
Cash assets	\$35,834.53

Of the total cost of our plant of \$170,000.00, there remains outstanding \$96,000.00 as of June 30, 1945, there being \$4,000.00 in principal retired during 1945. The Municipal Light Plant has made it possible for the Baird High School to have one of the best lighted football fields in West Texas, considering the size of the town. The field is lighted with 48,000 watts, which is a 65 horsepower load. The fine record of this plant for the past five years is something to be considered and it is an accomplishment of which every citizen has a right to be proud of.

S-1-c C. C. POE IN PACIFIC REPAIR BASE

AT AN AMPHIBIOUS BASE IN THE PACIFIC—C. C. Poe, seaman, first class, whose wife, Hanna, lives in Baird, Texas, is serving with this repair and training base which supplied troops and landing craft for major invasions in the Marshalls, the Gilberts and at Okinawa. Carrying a 24-hour, seven-day-a-week schedule, his unit maintained all types of landing and assault equipment and repair supplies. The base also trained personnel in amphibious communications, minesweeping and camouflage operations.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Foy and children, Nancy and Jimmie, of Greenwood visited Mrs. H. F. Foy Sunday.



Establishment and Maintenance of Baird's Fine Municipal Light Plant Is Credited to Farsighted City Councilmen

Credit for the job of obtaining an efficient and profitable Municipal Light Plant for the citizens of Baird goes to the city officials who had vision enough to see the possibilities of such a plant and guts enough to fight for the rights of the citizens to own and operate a plant of their own.

Among the officials who started this project was one of Baird's oldest citizens, not only had he passed the allotted three score and ten milestone in life, but when he was away at the age of 80, he was one of the very few citizens living here who was present when Baird was born. This beloved, loyal and sincere citizen was none other than the former Mayor H. Schwartz. He and his brother Phil opened a business in the early part of 1880 in a tent at the little village of Vickery which was located on the north side of the railroad about even with the new T.P. Railroad Lake east of the present town. As Vickery failed to develop as planned, Mr. Schwartz in the latter part of the year, moved to the site where the town of Baird was staked out. He remained a citizen of Baird the rest of his life and 25 years of this time he served as a city official. Baird or any other town has never had a citizen who had the interest of his town at heart more than Mayor Schwartz.

After he retired from business, he served as Mayor for years without any financial remuneration whatsoever and tended the office as vigilantly as if he were drawing a very fat salary. He carried the problems of the city in his heart and when the going was rough it caused him great personal concern because the city was not able to do the many things its citizens desired. On a number of occasions when the city's financial condition did not permit raising needed funds he supplied same without interest and many times made personal donations to handle certain vital projects. He was slow in making important decisions and one purpose in his mind was to carry out the will of the majority. During his last term of office as Mayor when the idea of a municipal light plant was advanced he studied the proposition carefully, it appealed to his better judgement and personally he was for it, but before he would go all out for the project he wanted the people to express themselves by vote. When the election returns showed a good majority favoring the project he was ready heart and soul to build the light plant and competitive opposition. Litigation or other delays never checked his determination to carry out the will of the people.

It can be rightly said that the Municipal Light Plant stands today as a monument to a Mayor whose personal desire was to serve his fellowman to the best of his ability.

Two other councilmen serving the project was started but who are not members of the present council were Earl M. Johnson,

local Ford Dealer and B. F. Russell, Attorney.

These two public spirited citizens never halted a moment in their efforts to help plan and complete this commendable undertaking and at times it was necessary to neglect their own business, to work in the interest of the building of the Municipal Light Plant. Being sincerely sold on the merits of the city owning its light plant and realizing, if this dream were to come true, each and every member of the council would have to make personal sacrifices and do some real hard work to accomplish the task, they went the limit. Meeting day and night, working out important details, overcoming undue opposition and giving the citizens the true facts of the case was part of the work they had to do. Mr. Johnson served the city well as a member of the Council for a period of six years. He was first elected in 1938 and served through 1943. He has always been a progressive, civic minded citizen, willing and anxious to help with any worthy project for the betterment of Baird. Mr. Johnson was forced to give more of his personal attention to his Ford business due to labor shortage during the war and declined to run for reelection at the expiration of his term in 1943.

Mr. Russell also served from 1938 through 1943 and having accepted a responsible position with the Federal Government, necessitating his moving from Baird, was not a candidate for further service as a councilman. His record as a civic leader reveals his untiring efforts in the interest of his home town.

C. W. Sutphen assumed the title of City Official in 1938 when he was elected as a member of the Council. He has served continuously ever since and has become one of the cogs of the city machinery always carrying his part of the load. "Sut" as his many friends called him has been an active, aggressive citizen all his life and is at present demonstrating his belief in the future of Baird by constructing a very modern business building on Main Street to house his future business, an automobile agency and garage. He operated a whole sale and retail gasoline and oil business for a number of years handling Baird's own and widely known product, Oetane Gasoline. He is a successful business man and an efficient city official. He has a friendly and pleasing personality with determination to see things through. Starting from the very beginning he endorsed, worked for and helped complete the Municipal Light Plant and is backing wholeheartedly other important civic improvements.

It has been said that when J. T. (Jim) Lawrence arrived in Baird he sat his suit case down on the sidewalk at the corner drug store, looked up and down the street, decided this was the location he was looking for, stepped in and bought the drug store and announced he was ready for business. We don't know if that is the way it really happened or not, but Jim's been here for a number of years and has been a consistent booster for the town ever since. Having been elected as city alderman in 1936 and serving continuously since that time, he is the oldest (in terms of service) member of the present council. He has been an ardent supporter of the municipal light plant from the very beginning, vigorously defending the right of the citizens to build and operate a plant of their own. Mr. Lawrence has worked for the betterment of Baird without fear or favor and can always be depended upon for active support in all worthy civic movements.

After serving as a member of the city council for 4 years, Hugh W. Ross, Jr. was elected to the Mayorship in 1942 without opposition and taking up where Mayor Schwartz left off. Mr. Ross has carried the ball with pride and distinction. He is a native citizen of Baird having been born in this fair city and has lived here all his life. He graduated from the Baird High School and is a graduate of Southern Methodist University. A ranchman by profession, having extensive ranch holdings adjoining the city and coming from a pioneer family of this county, whose members were known for their congeniality and thoughtfulness, he is qualified to extend a hearty welcome to all new comers and natives alike as well as to fill the office of Mayor in every capacity. Having served during the hectic days of the light plant construction he is familiar with every angle of the city administration and sees a bright future for the City of Baird. Never before has the city been in a better financial condition and with out jeopardizing addition civic improvements, Mayor Ross is working for, eventually a practically tax free city. He is well qualified



H. SCHWARTZ

to fill the office of Mayor and has made a fine start and deserves the wholehearted support of the entire citizenship. Although not a member of the council that originally started the move to build a city light plant, but having been one of the strongest individual backers of the project from its very beginning, E. L. Woodley, Vice-President and General Manager of the Oetane Oil Refining Co., was elected alderman in 1942 and is one of the present city officials who takes great pride in the successful operation of the plant. Mr. Woodley was instrumental in obtaining considerable support of the plant and being a representative of the largest power user on the Municipal system he is in a position to explain, from experience, the advantages of this set-up. Mr. Woodley has proven a very valuable member of the council and is a strong advocate of many proposed civic improvements. One of his pet projects—the one he believes is the most vital to the welfare of the town at present—a move that would offer the most inducement to industries desiring to locate in Baird, is the building of a lake that would assure plenty of water for proper operation and development of such enterprises. Mr. Woodley believes that a town with plenty of cheap power, water, gas, sewer, sufficient modern housing, nice parks and entertainment facilities, is the kind of town that will go forward under its own momentum, and considering the present highway and railroad facilities that Baird has to start with, in addition to other advantages, he believes these things are all within our grasp—and now is the time to reach out and take hold.

D. J. (Andy) Anderson, is one of the newer members of the council, having been elected in 1944. He is a retired T. P. Railroad employee and has made his home in Baird the most of his life. Mr. Anderson has always been interested in the progress of Baird and the surrounding communities. He has never refused to serve in the interest of his fellowman. Andy devotes considerable time to the affairs and is very enthusiastic over the future possibilities of the town. Since becoming a member of the Council he has given considerable study to the problems of the city and can proudly show you interesting facts as to how the city affairs have improved in the last few years and point out the opportunities for even greater advantages that can be accomplished in the near future. Mr. Anderson believes in moving ahead, taking advantage of every opportunity for substantial progress but he is not a man that can be "promoted" on any and every proposition that comes along. He believes in studying, investigating and weighing the advantages of every problem that comes up, if it is a sound proposition and to the interest of the citizens in general

he will go the limit to help put it over—if he is not convinced that it is to the interest of the citizens as a whole—he will fight it just as hard. D. J. Anderson is a good man to have as a city official.

Looking at W. L. (Dad) Ray you wouldn't think he was the youngest member of the council—well, in age and ways, perhaps he is not—but he joined the official family of the city as the result of the last election and was the only alderman elected at that time. Those who have known Lonnie for any length of time know that he is capable of representing the citizens in his official capacity. While he is not the sensational type of individual he is substantial and dependable. He is the present manager and has been connected with the Ray Motor Co. (Chevrolet Dealer) all his life, his father having started the business 45 years ago and the firm holds the distinction of being the oldest continuous Chevrolet dealer in the state of Texas. Mr. Ray like his father who preceded him has unwavering faith in the town of Baird and is ready and willing to devote his time and energy to every progressive movement which will benefit his home town.

SCHOOL TERM OPENS WITH GOOD PROSPECTS
The 1945-46 term of school opened in Baird Monday morning with appropriate exercises at the high school auditorium, and prospects are good for this to be one of the most successful school terms in many years. The opening program consisted of the invocation by Lloyd Connel, singing by the audience led by Marvin Hunter, Mrs. V. E. Hill's announcements of music classes, a trio by the Shrader sisters, accordion solo by Mrs. Viva Tucker, speech by P. T. A. president, Mrs. C. H. Sladous, a quartette by Messrs. Brashers, Dunwoody, Smith and Shrader, piano solo by Johnny Swinson, address by Judge F. E. Mitchell, announcements by Supt. Olaf G. South.

The address given by Mr. Mitchell was on the subject of world politics in the post war period and how it can effect the lives of individuals. Mr. Mitchell has not missed attending the opening of school in Baird in the past 22 years.

CHAIN DISTRIBUTES MORE TEXAS MELONS
Distribution of Texas watermelons through the Atlantic Commission Company, produce buying affiliate of A. & P. Food Stores, increased 723 per cent this year over 1944. Harvey A. Baum, general manager of the company, announced today. The equivalent of 653 carlots of melons were moved in the season just closed, Baum said, and growers and shippers received \$332,292 for their product. The watermelons were distributed through 46 major markets and many smaller areas in 15 states.

CALLAHAN COUNTY, in Central West Texas, organized 1877; area 882 square miles, pop. 11,600. Rolling prairies, and wooded areas of mesquite, post oak, live oak. Soil sandy to chocolate loam. Elevation 1800 feet. Annual rainfall about 24 inches.

County Men Ask For Big Meeting

The organization of a county-wide civic club to promote Callahan County's best interests got underway at a meeting Tuesday night at Stanley's dining room in Baird with civic men from Cross Plains, Clyde and Baird in attendance. In this initial meeting it was the common expression that the county needed such an organization to promote county projects, and advertise the county outside its boundaries. After short talks by each man present it was decided to hold a meeting to organize on Tuesday evening, 8:30 o'clock, September 25, at the courthouse. The meeting was set at that time to give every community in the county an opportunity to be represented. Leading citizens in all communities will be invited to attend the organization meeting. Judge L. L. Blackburn presided over the meeting after a steak banquet that all enjoyed. He set forth the purpose of the meeting and called on each man to express himself. Their statements were brief and pointed definitely to the need of county organization. Everyone present voiced himself enthusiastically in favor of the measure. Particular reference was made to farm-to-market roads, but other projects that might benefit farmers were set forth.

The Cross Plains group will invite representatives from Atwell, Cottonwood, Rowden and Dressy, to the next meeting. Clyde men will invite the people from Eula, Lanham, Midway, Denton and Dudley. The committee from Baird will invite Oplin, Putnam, Admiral and Hart to attend the organization and take part in the county-wide club.

L. L. Blackburn was elected to serve as temporary chairman, and Marvin Hunter was elected temporary secretary of the proposed organization.

Attending the meeting were Homer E. Swofford, Frank A. Kozczak, A. C. Forester, T. O. Tulaney and Clark Tabor, of Clyde; Fred Tunnell, C. R. Cook, J. A. Catton, and Clyde Bunnell, of Cross Plains; L. L. Blackburn, R. H. Freeman, Ace Hickman, B. L. Russell, Sr., and Marvin Hunter, of Baird.

POST HUT DISCUSSED AT LEGION MEET

The Local Post of the American Legion held its regular meeting Monday night at Stanley's Cafe, as was the custom during the War, there was a Banquet in honor of those going into the Armed Services. Johnny Swinson was the only one present who is soon to be inducted. It was announced that the Post had eleven new members, six of whom are still in the Services. Talks were made by several of them, and by Ace Hickman. Much of the business meeting concerned the new Post Hut and Recreation Center, which will soon begin to be a reality as it is expected that Deed to the Bell property in the north section of Baird will soon be received. The Bell Hets are donating the land. Contributions for the Hut are due to come in Monday. T-Sgt. Buddy Hart, who spent many months in a German Prison Camp and who is now a member of the Post, sent in \$50.00. Others are: Claude Flores, \$25.; A. V. Curtis, Jr., \$1.; Ted Morrison, \$5.; Mr. and Mrs. Joe Alexander, \$7.; Joe Jones, \$10.; W. C. Edwards, \$5.; N. L. Dickey, \$5.00.

Joe Middleton and Sam Wilson of Corsicana were here Tuesday to visit Carey Sidney (Hoot), Mc-Gowen, but failed to see him. The boys served in the 36th Division with Carey Sidney.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Spicer paid a pleasant visit to The Star office Monday. They informed the editor that now since he has been discharged from the service, they will move to their farm in Missouri.



MAYOR HUGH W. ROSS



EARL M. JOHNSON



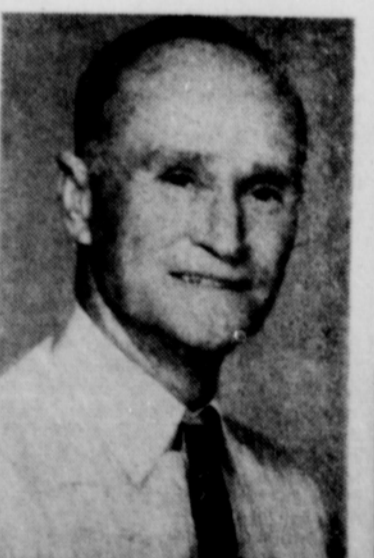
B. F. RUSSELL



C. W. SUTPHEN



J. T. LAWRENCE



D. J. ANDERSON



W. L. RAY

SUBSCRIPTION RATE
\$2.00 Per Year In Advance.
Entered at Postoffice, Baird, Texas
2nd class matter, Act of 1879.

**THE STAR ANNOUNCES
5TH ANNIVERSARY PARTY
AT MUNICIPAL PLANT**

Baird Municipal Light Plant will be five years old next Thursday, September 20th, and the City Council is giving it a birthday party with an open house to be held at the plant. Elsewhere in this edition a page advertisement announces the 5th Anniversary and invites all Baird citizens to attend the party. Business firms of the city are entering into the spirit of the occasion, and their expressions of appreciation have been of such magnitude and wholeheartedness that The Star has found it necessary to publish this special edition. Advertising was not solicited, but advertisers you see represented in this edition were quick to order space when the 5th Anniversary open house was made known last week. Had the editor been relieved of the back shop duties, and could have solicited the city, we are sure that quite a number of pages would have been added. If someone was left out, we assure you that it was not intentional. The purpose of the announcement of the special edition was to notify all, and that none should have failed to know well in advance.

MARVIN JACKSON HONORED

Marlyn Jackson celebrated his eleventh birthday Friday September 7, with a party at the home of Mrs. H. L. Short. Refreshments of cake and punch were served to the following guests: Johnny and J. E. Bullock, George Suptphen, Billy Joe Brashear, Mary Short, Wanda Jo Jackson, Glynda Beth Gilbreath, Gracie Perry and Donald Cummings.

Mrs. T. A. Coppinger of Cottonwood is visiting her daughter, Mrs. B. H. Freeland, and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Philip Ivison of Marshall are visiting their daughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. Archie Nichols.

W. G. Bowlus, Jr., of Fort Worth, visited his sister, Mrs. Cecil West, and other relatives over the weekend.

Recent visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Tee Baulch were Austin Baulch and Mr. and Mrs. O. F. Bagwell of Oklahoma City, and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Mitchell and children of Lamesa.

Pfc. John Fielder is leaving September 16 after forty-five days here visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Fielder. He recently returned from Honolulu after three years in the AAAAW Bn. Fielder will report to Fort Sam Houston at San Antonio.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Services will be conducted by Rev. Willis P. Gerhart at the Episcopal Church Sunday afternoon, September 16, at 3:30 o'clock.

**PROFESSIONAL
CARDS**

B. L. RUSSELL
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW
(Office at Courthouse)
BAIRD, TEXAS

L. L. BLACKBURN
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW
BAIRD, TEXAS

M. L. STUBBLEFIELD, M.D.
County Hospital
Phonics Home 206
Baird, Texas

Wylie Funeral Home
AMBULANCE SERVICE
Lady Embalmer and Attendant
Flowers For All Occasions
Phonics 68 or 38
BAIRD, TEXAS

V. E. HILL
DENTIST
AND X-RAY
Telephone Building
Phone 179 Baird, Texas

L. B. LEWIS
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW
General Civil Practice
Fire and Auto Insurance
BAIRD, TEXAS

BAIRD LODGE
NO. 522 A. F. & A. M.
Meets Saturday night
on or before the full
moon each month,
8:30 P. M.
Members urged to attend,
visitors welcome.
Roland L. Dunwoody, W. M.
J. Brice Jones, Sec'y.

SCHOOL OUTING

The faculty of the Baird Schools was host on Monday night at a picnic supper honoring members of the School Board and their wives. The outing was held in the lovely out door living room of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde White.

A picnic supper was eaten from long tables in the yard—ice cold watermelon following the supper. Mrs. South and Mrs. White directed games which were enjoyed by the entire group.

These present were: Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Yarbrough, Mr. and Mrs. B. L. Russell, Jr., Mrs. Irving Corn, Mr. and Mrs. Temple Brashear, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Ashlock, Mr. and Mrs. Buddy Tankersley, Supt. and Mrs. Olaf G. South, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Banks, Miss Jo Ruth Arvin, Mrs. Mary Armstrong, Mr. and Mrs. Reese and little daughter, Edwina, John H. Shrader, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Ivey, Miss Isadore Grimes, Mrs. Hall, Mrs. Webster, Mrs. Garner, Miss Ellen Hill, Miss Evelyn Frazier, Miss Sibyl Myers, Mrs. Short, Mrs. Dunwoody and Mr. and Mrs. White.

GARDEN CLUB

The old Fashioned Garden Club met Tuesday, September 11, at the home of Mrs. Hubert Ross. Two new members were welcome Mrs. Edwin Reese and Mrs. Poole. Mrs. Clyde White gave a talk on "Flowers to Move Indoors For Winter Bloom." and Mrs. Hubert Ross gave a talk on "Bulbs To Buy and Plant Now For Spring Bloom." A fall table arrangement was also displayed. At the next meeting each member is asked to pay dues and arrange a flower, fruit, or vegetable arrangement to represent the title of a book of her own choosing. Let's all come and guess the titles.

DELPHIAN CLUB MEETS

The Delphian Club met Tuesday, September 4, at four p. m. at the home of Mrs. E. C. Fulton in a business session. The club voted to retain the present officers. The next meeting will be with Mrs. R. L. Alexander and she will review the book, "Papa Was A Preacher."

**SLOW AND EASY OIL CO.
BRING IN WELL**

Slow and Easy Oil Co. of Kerritt drilled in a nice well Sunday on a 552 A track on west side of P. G. Hatchett ranch, at a depth of 452 feet. They will equip and put it on the pumps and start drilling no 2 at once. They hold shallow rights down to 1000 feet. Bud Gelipse of Stamford holds the deep rights on 3500 acres including Windham and Hatchett ranches.

Mrs. Fred Tompson has returned to her home in Englewood, Kansas after spending six weeks with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Mitchell.



"Every Scripture inspired of God is also profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for instruction which is in righteousness; that the man of God may be complete, furnished completely unto every good work." (2 Tim. 3:16, 17).

We are living in an age of progress today. In no age has there been more development than we have seen during the last few years. New inventions of various kinds have taken the country by storm. The automobile, radio, airplane and many others that could be mentioned; have taken their place in the modern things of life. They have become common place to each of us. Still with all this we must remember that "every scripture inspired of God is still complete." With all the inventions, we have come into a period of unrest. Even as there are different brands of automobiles, radios and airplanes in the business world today, each striving to out sell the other even so there are various man made churches striving to sell their doctrine to man kind. Paul spoke of this period and condemned the different doctrines of man. "Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; and they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables." (2 Tim. 4:2-4).

Friends, all denominations will admit that in the beginning of the Church there was but one. Scripture could not be plainer. "There is one Body." This being true there can be only one true Church. God does not approve of the many different denominations of our land or of any other. The teaching, that one church is as good as another is modern doctrine. Such teaching can not be found in the Bible. Will any man strive to show the Bible teaches such? Friends, it can not be done. The Bible was complete when it was finished. Man can not add to it or take from it. Therefore friend, we do not need a modern religion, or modern denominations. What the world needs today is the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ. Invest the teachings of the Church of Christ. It is Scriptural in Name, Doctrine and practise.

Address communications to Lloyd Connel, Church of Christ, Baird, Texas. (Paid Ady.)

**Four Light Plants Loom
Brightly in Baird's Past**

Back in the "good old days" as some of the old timers like to refer to the early period of our town, Baird had three modern "wagon yards"—that of course was in keeping with the times. Quite a few of our present citizens can even remember seeing an occasional wagon drawn by oxen. During the rainy weather it was not uncommon to see a loaded vehicle stuck in the mud on Main Street. This wasn't so odd in those days because many of the larger towns in Texas had dirt streets.

Baird started just like all pioneer towns, it's citizens were of a hardy stock and they came with the intention of staying. They knew what to expect but they would build for the future. The lighting problem was the same here as it was throughout other frontier borders. Candles were prominent and a staple item in all the principal mercantile stores, while "coal oil" lamps were standard lighting equipment. The elaborately decorated hanging lamps—many with glass pendants radiating various hues of the rainbow—were for the rich or well-to-do class. When a business establishment prospered to the extent of installing a carbide generated light system it had really reached the big time stuff. The citizens were proud of these improvements—Baird was keeping step with the times. Even before the streets were paved with cinders (a by-product of the cold-burning engines of the T. P. Railroad) Baird could boast of its first "electric" light plant. Not a very glamorous affair, only a sheetrock building housing a dynamo run by a small engine and was located across the street from the old Baird Star office where W. L. Cooke's carpenter shop now stands (the old Red Top Filling Station). It was built and operated by E. M. Smith and others who later sold out to P. H. Crook. It was built for the purpose of furnishing "electric lights" for the business houses but no attempt was made at street lighting. This plant operated only at night and was shut down during the daylight hours. On real dark cloudy days the plant could be started for rendering more or less emergency services. Nevertheless Baird was keeping up with the times. Later this plant was enlarged in connection with a gin and was destroyed by fire in November 1908. Another progressive move for the betterment of the town was the paving of Main Street with cinders. This was accomplished by donations from the citizens and cinders were hauled from the T. P. Round-house and scattered several inches deep over the entire street bringing the business part of town out of the mud and entering the "chug hole" era.

The cinders did offer a more solid street and eliminated getting stuck but they did not give a permanent uniform surface and after rainy spells a somewhat wash-board effect resulted but the city officials did their best to keep the streets dragged occasionally and the town realized it was quite an improvement over the mud. While the above mentioned street improvements had no connection with the building of the light plants it was an indication of the desire of the citizenship to make improvements of a community interest and from the best information available it was after the said street paving that other attempts were made relative to better lights for the city.

On May 12, 1908 P. H. Crook presented an application for a franchise for a light plant which was granted and a new and larger plant was installed in connection with an ice plant operated by him. This plant serviced a number of residents a few street lights in addition to the business section of town. It was located in the east part of town on the south side of the street, just under the hill near where the present Highways Nos. 80 and 183 cross. Old timers designated its location as "across the street from the old Gilliland Well." This plant was destroyed by fire on September 10, 1910.

On October 12, 1910 a petition with 142 signatures was presented to the city council asking the council to vote to build a light plant in the City of Baird. The vote was two "aye" two "nay" with one councilman not voting and the Mayor casting the deciding vote "nay."

On March 19, 1915 a franchise was granted to the Baird Light and Ice Company that built and operated Baird's third light plant. This plant was located east of R. M. (Bob) Warren's present home and was operated by steam. A dam was built across the nearby creek to provide water for the boilers etc. This plant provided lights for the public in general. However it was too expensive to light the streets as the citizens desired and while the streets were better lit than before the city's income was not sufficient to finance an increased street lighting program. This plant was purchased by the West Texas Utilities Company in 1923 who operated it until services were available from their power lines which had been constructed through this area. More lights added and later a "white way" down the center of Main Street was installed climaxing a stock selling campaign by the company. The light standards placed in the center of the street created a lot of enthusiasm. However later it was proven that the center of the street was not a practical location for light standards and when the streets were finally paved with concrete in 1927

the lights were placed at the curbs. Baird was much better lit but of course could not afford all the lights needed at the rates the city was paying and it was not only impossible to add additional lights on side streets and in residential sections but it became necessary to cut out a number of those already operating, to keep within the budget. It was then the Council began to ponder and grasp for some solution for more income and more electrical power. Ideas were advanced, discussed and abandoned. The situation looked bad, the council didn't give up and the idea of a plant of their own came up. Why not, it might be the answer to their problems? Would it be practical and a safe investment, etc?

Various financial problems of the city were discussed, including street lighting and water pumping. It was then that the city officials of Baird started thinking seriously about municipal ownership for city lights and power. It was decided through investigation of the possibilities of such a plant should be made and it was only a short time until interesting facts had been gathered from a number of cities having municipal light plants. The most accurate data possible was obtained and estimates studied. Investigations continued until it was shown that not only could the city save money on street lighting and water pumping but that the citizens could enjoy reduced rates on their light and power bills.

About the time Public Works Administration funds became available whereby cities could obtain funds for constructions of this kind—including substantial grants with the balance payable through revenue bonds. This was even better than the city officials had originally anticipated as it provided a method of financing a municipal light plant without voting additional taxes on the property owners. Details were worked out and the plan submitted to the voters of Baird for their decision. A substantial majority favored the building of a municipal light plant and the city officials who at that time were Mayor H. Schwartz, Earl M. Johnson, B. F. Russell, J. T. Lawrence, Hugh Ross and Curtis Suptphen proceeded to carry out the will of the people by causing to be built a city light plant. Contracts were let and construction started, litigation by competitive opposition delayed the construction slightly, but on September 20, 1940 the plant was officially accepted and service started. Since that day five years ago service has been off less than

60 seconds. The Municipal Light Plant now serves a nice majority of the citizens of Baird and the larger power users. In addition to the other civic improvements made possible by this city investment, all payment have been made on or before due date and a special fund on hand keeps reserve funds available for payments of several years in addition to the legal requirements.

Citizens are gradually understanding this is their plant and new customers are being added rapidly. The "wagon yards" are gone—the mud and cinders on Main Street have been forever plastered down by concrete—ox drawn wagons are something the younger citizens can only read about—Baird's FOURTH light plant and Baird's first City Owned light and power plant now stands majestically on the site of the former "O. K. Wagon Yard" symbolic of the trend of modern progress.

Yes, Baird, like some 40 other Texas towns who own profitable municipal light plants, is just "keeping up with the times."—Jim Asbury.

**RED CROSS MEETING
AT CROSS PLAINS**

D. J. Anderson was appointed Service Officer for Baird when Callahan County Chapter of American Red Cross met Friday, September 7, in the City Hall at Cross Plains. Attending from Baird were: B. H. Freeland, county chairman, Mrs. Oscar Stiffler, secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Fred Hart, Mrs. Ellen McGowan, Mrs. M. L. Stubblefield, Mrs. L. L. Blackburn, and D. J. Anderson.

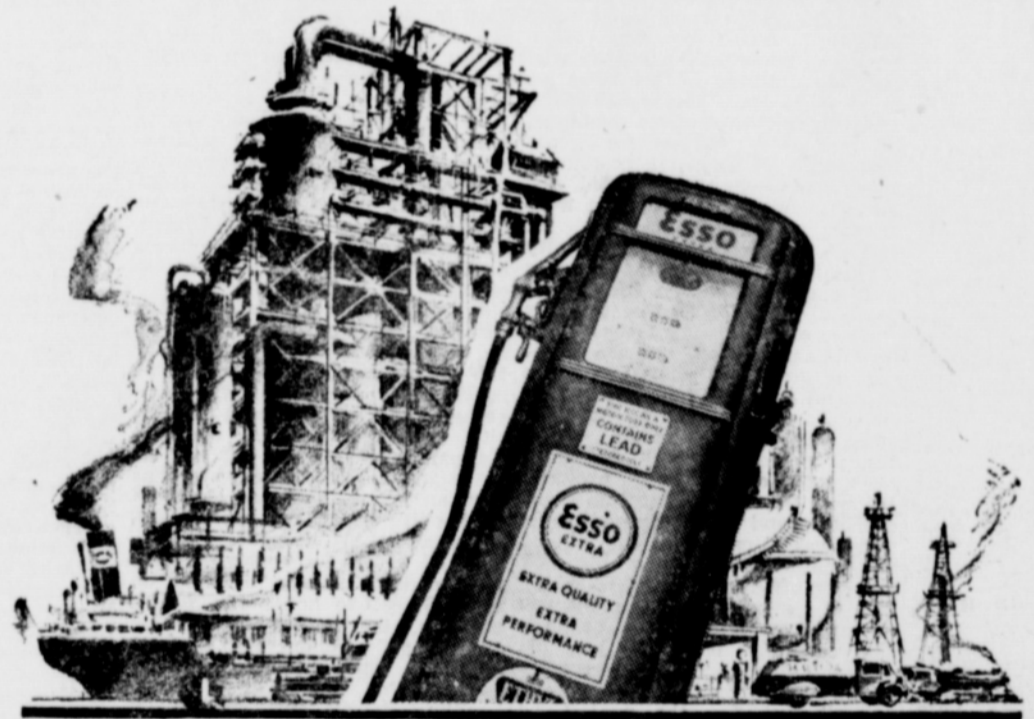
**GLEN R. SWOR DUE
IN U. S. MONDAY**

Miss Janice Ivey left Wednesday for Lubbock to enter college. Glen R. Swor of Opalin is among twenty-six soldiers of this section of Texas who were due at east coast ports from Europe Monday.

Roofing

Let us make your estimate to re-roof your residence or store building. Estimates furnished free. We use Genuine Ruberoid Roofing materials. All roofs guaranteed.

LYDICK ROOFING CO.
Abilene, Texas



**QUICK CONVERSION
gives you better than Pre-War
ESSO EXTRA NOW!**

Today you can fill up with better than pre-war Esso Extra at your Humble station because Humble has already converted—in a minimum of time—the superb manufacturing facilities developed for wartime needs to peacetime use.

The same equipment that made 100-octane gasoline for war planes now makes Esso Extra—a gasoline you couldn't buy in 1941—a higher octane motor fuel than Humble has ever made before. For better than pre-war performance from your car—stop at your nearest Humble station today and fill up with better than pre-war Esso Extra.

COMING SOON!

There's a new, high octane Humble Motor Fuel on the way. It marches just behind Esso Extra, and from it you can expect smooth, easy starting, quick pick-up performance at regular price. When Humble Motor Fuel is available, announcement will be made in this paper.

THANKS!

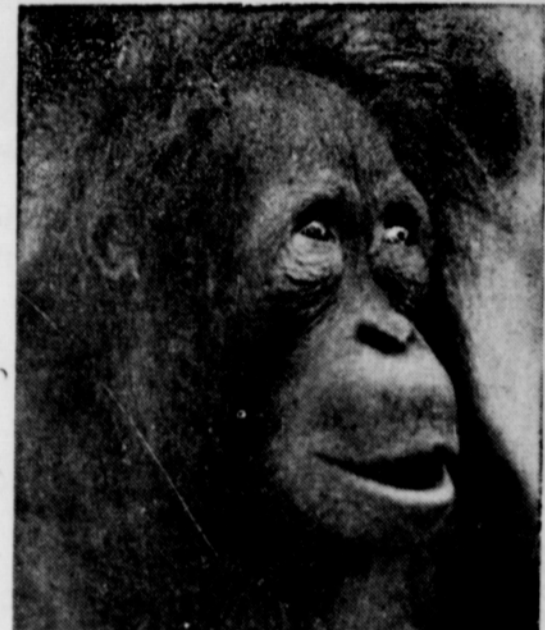
During the war years, Humble men and women worked with magnificent devotion to duty to give Allied arms the petroleum products needed for victory. Now, when their skill and Humble's unrivaled manufacturing facilities have been turned once more to the needs of peace, the Company feels it is a fitting time to let you, the user of Humble products, know of this, and thus to publicly express its appreciation to Humble workers for their outstanding loyalty.

Have Your Motor Tuned For Better Than Pre-War Performance

To take full advantage of the BETTER THAN PRE-WAR quality of Esso Extra, we suggest that you have your motor tuned. Some cars need only a simple adjustment with a screw-driver; others need the attention of a mechanic. But you know what your car needs. When you use better than pre-war Esso Extra, have your motor tuned for better than pre-war performance.

HUMBLE OIL & REFINING COMPANY

HUMBLE For the Performance You Missed During the War Years — Fill Up Today at the Humble Sign



THE baboon is an ugly guy
With pointed head and shifty eye
Because he never went to school
He's also somewhat of a fool
The moral to this verse is clear
He can't control his looks, we fear
But when it comes to getting knowledge
You can attend a school or college

**BACK TO SCHOOL
for fun and knowledge**

And Enjoy Your Share of
VANDERVOORT'S Finest Dairy Foods

VANDERVOORT'S

Milk • Cream • Butter • Sherbets • Ice Cream

CONGRATULATIONS to the City of Baird

We give you 100 for doing a good job.

We acknowledge with sincere gratitude, the help given us by the City in the installation of our lighted football field and lunch room.

Through the cooperation of enterprising people of Baird and surrounding communities, we may also be proud of the Baird school system.

Fully affiliated by the State Department of Education in 37 High School credits as follows:

English, 4
History and Civics, 4
Algebra, 2
Plane Geometry, 1
General Math, 1
Aeronautics, 1

Solid Geometry and Trig, 1
Spanish, 2
Science, 3
Homemaking, 4
Typing, 2
Band, 3

Vocational Agriculture, 4
Shorthand, 1
Bookkeeping, 1
Junior Business, 1
Speech, 2

Baird Public Schools

Member of the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools
OLAF G. SOUTH, Superintendent

O. C. Yarbrough, president
B. L. Russell, Jr., secretary
G. H. Tankersley, vice president
Irvin Corn
Bill Jones
Ralph Ashlock
Temple Brashear

CALLAHAN COUNTY CLUB

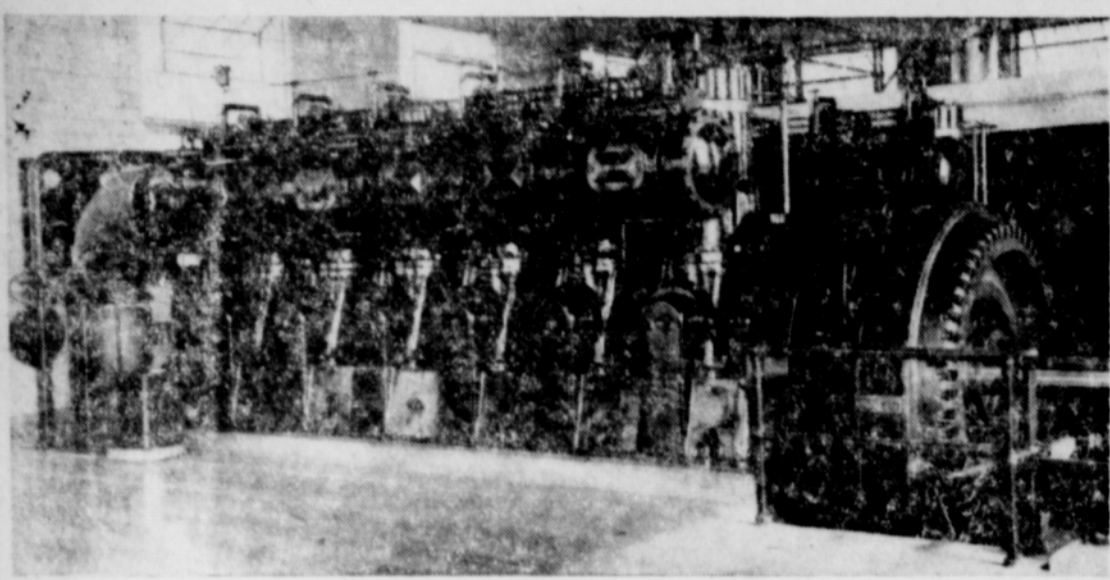
Extends

CONGRATULATIONS

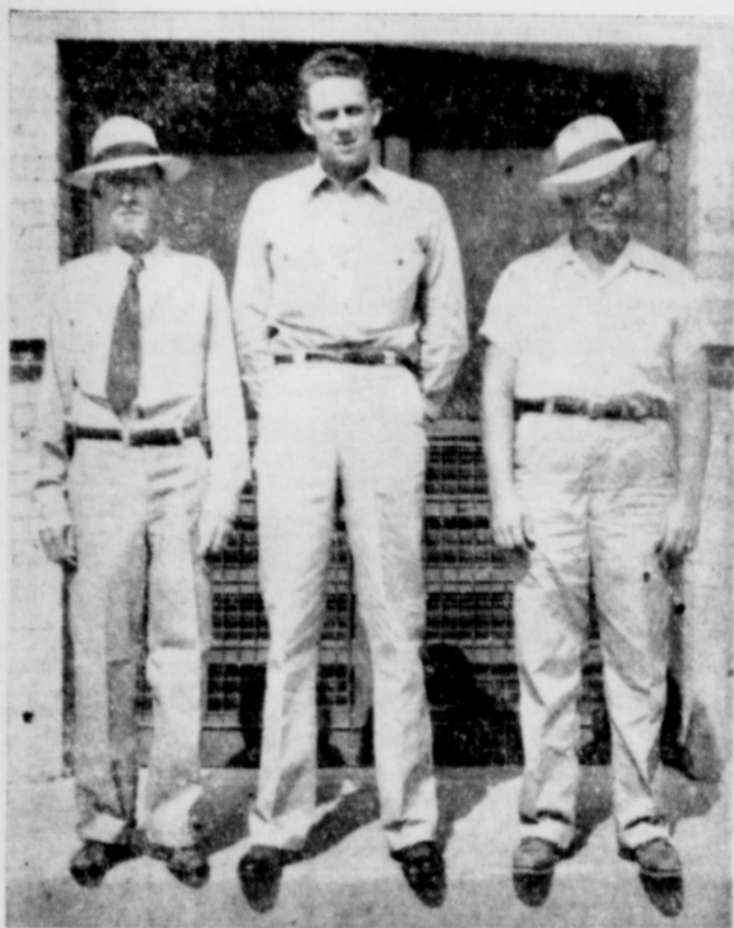
To the City of Baird on its 5th Anniversary of the BAIRD MUNICIPAL LIGHT PLANT

This club, while serving the purpose of a Chamber of Commerce and a general Civic Organization, does not forget the social life of the city and county and may be relied upon at all times to work for the consummation of all worth-while objectives. Our annual Ladies Night is a gay affair. Our regular meetings are held on the first and third Wednesdays of each month, and any citizen of Callahan county whether living in Baird or not, is cordially invited to meet with us and become a member.

Help Us to Make Baird and Callahan County Greater and Better.



VIEW OF BAIRD'S FINE DIESEL ENGINES



Plant operators of the Municipal Light Plant are shown in the above picture. Reading from left to right is Bruce Brown, Lowell Corn and Conley Pruett. These men keep the plant and machinery

in first class operating condition enabling it to turn out continuous uninterrupted service 365 days a year. A large share of the efficiency of this modern plant is due to their untiring efforts.

BOOKLET IS PUBLISHED ON DIESEL ENGINES

Benefits to cities and towns resulting from installing Diesel engines in their own light and power plants, are pointed out in a booklet titled "Diesel Facts," just published by Diesel Engine Manufacturers Association.

Savings effected by use of Diesels, due to their operating economy, have been used by municipalities in number of ways, the booklet states. In some cases such savings have been used to pay for the engine themselves. In other instances the towns have been able to reduce power rates. Various civic improvements have been made possible in still other communities referred to in the booklet.

Statements quoted from mayors of municipalities where Diesels are used to generate current in the town's own plant tell of reduced taxes, or better police protection, or improvements to water-works, street lighting or sewage system, as result of saving made by Diesel engines.

Ten years ago there were 400,000 Diesel horsepower in municipally-owned power plants of the country. In the past decade the figure has more than doubled to 850,000 horsepower, according to "Diesel Facts."

Besides low operating costs, the Diesel's ability to supply uninterrupted service, year in and year out, is also pointed out. As a self-contained unit providing power wherever it is needed the Diesel is used in such varying applications as factories, grain elevators, laundries, mines, saw mills, oil fields, quarries, ice plants, farms and resorts.

One section of "Diesel Facts" is titled "How A City Goes About

Getting Its Own Power Plant." Another describes the wide usage of Diesel engines in generating projects of the Rural Electrification Administration.

A survey of potential peacetime uses of Diesel engines has just been completed by Diesel Engine Manufacturers Association. During the war, the government has used practically all the Diesel engine production for propulsion in boats and ships, and for electric generating sets to be sent overseas. As soon as the war demand is over, the industry will naturally turn to the fields where Diesels were used before the war. The first of such fields to be explored by the association is that of municipal light and power plants.

Mildred Butler, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Butler of Clyde left for Graham where she will begin her third year as a teacher in Graham High School.

Mrs. Cliff Johnson and son, Larry, moved here Wednesday last week from Pecos, to join Mr. Johnson, who is employed at Holmes Drug Co.

Joe Evans with the Merchant Marines visited his grandmother, Mrs. Henry Lambert, and family Sunday and Monday. Joe is the youngest son of Hon. R. I. Evans of Denison.

Lt. and Mrs. Sterling Reynolds and baby of Memphis, Tenn. spent the weekend with Lt. Reynolds's mother, Mrs. S. M. Reynolds. Miss Hazel Reynolds returned with them for a short visit.

TYPEWRITER PAPER and ribbons—The Star office.

PRISONER FROM NOVICE FREED

Among the repatriates interviewed by Bonnie Wiley, Associated Press correspondent at Yokohama with the Hospital Ship Benevolence, was Pfc. Henry Hudson, 29, of Novice, Coleman county.

The correspondent in a delayed dispatch released Sunday, said Hudson was taken with the 60th Coast Artillery on Corregidor.

Hudson told the AP writer the first week was the hardest because "we had to get used to being prisoners."

He said he was removed to Japan in December, 1942, and worked as a medical orderly at Shinagawa for 17 months.

"I didn't lose much weight and am in fine shape," he added. "On August 13 the Japs got word the atomic bomb was to be dropped on Tokyo and so they locked us in the buildings while they all ran away and hid. It's nice to be out. I was condemned to death three times, but here I am."

Pfc. Hudson attended Oplin school. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Hudson, who live near Oplin.

VERNON M. JOHNSON IS GIVEN AIR MEDAL AWARD

Master Sgt. Vernon M. Johnson of Amarillo has been awarded the Air Medal for meritorious achievement while participating in B-29 missions against Japan, an Associated Press story from Tinian related.

Johnson, a flight engineer, recently promoted to Master Sgt. is a member of the 58th Bombardment Wing, first B-29 unit to bomb Japan.

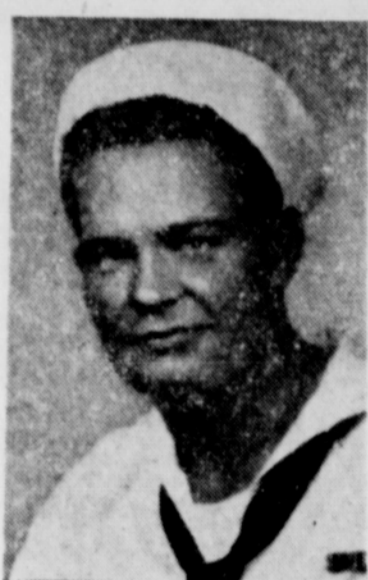
Sgt. Johnson is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Johnson of Baird.

Mr. and Mrs. Willie Langley of Big Spring have been guests in the home of her brother, Alvie Farrar and Mrs. Farrar, in Clyde.

Mrs. Kenneth W. Jamison, field representative of the American Red Cross, stopped for a short visit with Mrs. Myrtle Edwards Monday. She formerly resided in Baird and was connected with the office of old age assistance.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul A. Coppinger and daughters, Taula Kay and Mary Lou of Kansas City were recent visitors of Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Freeland. Mrs. Freeland returned with them for a ten day visit and met Mr. Freeland and the boys Saturday in Dallas, where they visited Mr. and Mrs. Parker Coppinger.

Mrs. W. A. Feterly and Mrs. W. M. Isenhower of Cisco visited Mrs. Feterly's daughter, Mrs. Tom E. Friery, and family at Palacios and W. A. Feterly, Jr. P.M. Le and Mrs. Feterly at Corpus Christi. They returned home Tuesday morning, accompanied by Mrs. Friery and daughters, Betty Ann and Mary Louise, and Mrs. W. A. Feterly, Jr., who will visit her parents in Cisco.



Fabian A. Bell, MM S-2, Municipal Light Plant Engineer, now serving in the Navy. He volunteered for service December 9, 1942, and served twenty months in the Caribbean Sea and is now stationed on Okinawa. His position is being held open awaiting his return.

W. D. Boydston and Leander Watson made a business trip to Fort Worth and Dallas Wednesday.

S-Sgt. H. N. McElrath reported to Fort Sam Houston Thursday. He was accompanied by his wife, who will remain there with him.

Mrs. Jack Sims left Wednesday of last week for San Antonio to visit her mother-in-law, Mrs. Mary C. Sims.

Miss Helen Settle left Wednesday for St. Martinville, La. after a months visit with her mother, Mrs. S. E. Settle.

Miss Eudora Freeland of Fort Worth spent last weekend with relatives here.

T. J. Cole of Chickasha, Okla., was a recent visitor in the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Cole in Clyde.

Mrs. Herman Phillips and son, Herman Barton, from Arlington visited recently in the home of her brothers, W. B. and E. J. Barton, in Clyde.

Your New Fall Hat Is Here



COME and GET IT
The Bonnet Box
At Mayfields

DOWN TO FACTS

Know the actual facts about your insurance. We will be pleased to explain your policies, with any company. Our interest does not end with first premium check. Insurance is a vital need. You will find the facts vitally interesting.

U.C. HAMILTON, Special Agent

Republic National Life Insurance Co., Dallas, Texas
Box 1124
Baird, Texas

Your Cooperation Is Appreciated

Due to a shortage of materials we have been delayed in filling orders for telephones. However, the delay will be as short as we can make it. In the meantime, we are genuinely grateful for your patience and cooperation.

**HOME TELEPHONE
And Electric Company**

SWINSON BAGS JERRIES HUNTING IN GERMANY

Friends of Cpl. Eugene R. Swinson will enjoy excerpts below taken from a letter written to his mother, Mrs. Bob Swinson, relating his experience in Frankfurt, Germany. "I've been down to Nuremberg. I went down to run in the gun Air Force track meet. Boy it was the biggest thing I'll ever hope to run in any more. The meet was held in the Nuremberg stadium where Hitler used to hold his rallies. It's built something like the Rose Bowl. They had about six army bands playing. I ran the mile and threw the javelin. They had some of the best track men in the states there. Boy, those guys could run circles around me, but at that I didn't do so bad. In javelin I took 8th place out of 35. I threw it 145 ft. 176 ft. won. In the mile I came in 6th out of 20. I ran it the fastest I ever did in my life. I topped it at 4.40, and 4.20 won that race. Oh well, even if I didn't do so well it'll kinda get me in shape for college. It surprised me I could even run a mile after what I've just been through. Boy I was sure stiff for a couple day after. Ha. Things around here are still the same, deader'n heck. Not even any plotting around any more. I'm still working on that Book. Boy it's sure a job. We'll have to hurry. We're afraid we won't have it done by the time we pull out. The date when we will probably head that way will be October. But you can't count on it too strong. It might be sooner or it might be longer. I've quit guessing. I know I'll get there some day. That day better come pretty soon. Remember me writing you about that glider I fixed up and few in? Well, here is a picture of it. We pulled it off with a Jeep and boy did I have fun until I tried to do a quick turn too low and summer-saulted it. I had

glider scattered all over a kraut's potato patch. Oh me! It didn't hurt me at all. I hit on my head. Couldn't see straight for a couple of days though. This other picture of us was taken up in the hills where we went deer hunting and wound up with six Jerries. Ha. They heard us cut loose at a deer. (I had my Jerry machine gun, Tug had a M1., Buskurk had a Thompson sub machine gun, and Hoskens had an automatic rifle.) We all cut loose at a poor little deer. I'll agree it sounded like a small war. The Jerries thought we were shooting at them and they came running out of the bushes yelling "kamrad." It like to have scared us to death, but we didn't let them know it.

Mrs. Joe Dugan and children, Gerald and Elizabeth of Clyde left Friday for El Paso to visit another daughter, Madalyn.

It can be done in Baird.

Mrs. Blanton Scott has returned to Houston after spending the past six months in Clyde with her parents, Mr and Mrs. E. J. Barton.

Sgt. and Mrs. Harold Ray have returned to Baird after Sgt. Ray received a discharge from the army. He had been stationed at Laredo.

Home Laundry

Bring your washing to me. We do wet washes, rough dry, finished and flat work. Terrel Apartment House.

Opal Shelton

REFRIGERATOR REPAIRS

And Repairs On All Kinds Of Electrical Appliances

ALSO, RURAL WIRING

PARSONS ELECTRIC AND REFRIGERATION SHOP

LAUNDRY PICK UP

We will pick up your laundry and deliver it to your door twice a week—Tuesday and Fridays. Clothes are sanitarly laundered through nine different waters at

Cisco Steam Laundry

Phone 10, Baird.

O. C. Folmar, Driver

DINE AND DANCE

—TO GOOD MUSIC!
Where Everybody Has A Good Time!
Open Every Night at 8:30
Except Monday, which is reserved for private parties.
Open Sundays at 2:00 P. M.
Air Conditioned, It's Cool Inside.



**LAKEVIEW CLUB
Cisco, Texas**

Partners



We like to think of the customers of our bank as partners in our business. Because a partner will tell you when you do something wrong and congratulate you when you are right. Since we are human and make mistakes we expect you to come to us and tell us about it as a partner would. Then and then only will we be able to serve you as we should.

We congratulate Callahan County and our community for all progress made through the years and anticipate further progress in the future.

**THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK
OF BAIRD**

Baird, Texas

ESTABLISHED IN 1885

**BUILDING MATERIALS
Are Here For You!**

J-B 100% Pure Paint per gal.	\$2.95
J-B Aluminum Paint, per gal.	2.95
90 Lb. Texaco Roofing perRoll	\$2.75
45 Lb. Texaco Roofing perRoof	\$2.00
Cedar Closet Lining, per roll	1.98
Roofing Asphalt per 100Lb.	\$2.00
Kem Tone, all colors, per gal.	2.98

We also have, Plywood, sheetrock, Texaco Shingles, Bric Siding, Cement, Lime, Wall Paper, Glass, Insulation Board, Electric Wire, Barb Wire, Hog Wire, Sheep and Goat Fence, Poultry Netting, and many other items.

BAIRD LUMBER COMPANY

Your Builders Supply Store
Telephone 129



Tee Baulch, City Tax Assessor and Collector and City Secretary. Elected in 1944. He is an experienced tax man having served for a number of years as Chief Deputy in the County Tax Assessor and Collector's office, and former Mayor of the City of Clyde before moving to Baird.



Mrs. S. E. Settle, efficient and courteous office secretary since 1941. Mrs. Settle was former County Clerk of Callahan County and has been a citizen of Baird for many years. Her pleasing personality and untiring efforts make her an asset to the City's personnel.



Arthur Burleson, Water Superintendent has been an employee of the city since 1941. He is an experienced mechanic and a dependable workman, striving at all times to render prompt and efficient service to the citizens of Baird.

I Give You Texas

By Boyce House

"Have you been here a long time?" a visitor asked a grey-haired settler in the Panhandle. He replied, "A right smart while; when I first came here the moon was no bigger than a half dollar and there was only six stars." Similar is the declaration of a Central Texas pioneer. "When I settled in this county, there was only one other man living in 30 miles and that big hill over yonder was a buffalo wallow."

And speaking of elevations, have you ever seen Santa Anna Mountain? It was a landmark of early days. Really, it is two mountains, there being a gap. Citizens explain that the town's original settler hauled in the dirt to build the mountain and he would have connected it up but his wagon broke down.

These are from a new book, "Texas—Proud and Loud," by your columnist. A few more samples from the book: Of a ranchman whose holdings spread over half a dozen counties, it was said, "He's no land hog; all the land he wants is just what joins his."

An old-timer burned whole mesquite trees in the big fireplace and, as the ends burned off, he kept moving the trees on into the flames. He explained, "It saves the old woman a lot o' chop-in."

Texas is so vast that, in early days when travel was primitive, there was one instance of a baby that was born in Texas and, by the time the covered wagon reached El Paso, he was rolling his own cigarettes.

And the famous description of the gigantic Texas steer caused a Missourian to declare: "If all our Missouri mules were made into one, he could rub his ears against the North Pole, with his

forefeet on the Aleutians and Iceland, one hind foot on Havana and the other on Panama; and, if he got riled, he could kick South America 73 miles beyond the South Pole; his hee-haw would make a California earthquake sound like the rattle of one of Henry Ford's old puddle-jumpers; and, if he was properly hitched, he could pull Texas into the Republican Party."

TWO ACCIDENTS ARE REPORTED ON HIGHWAY 80

Two auto accidents on Highway 80 east of Abilene were reported Saturday by the State Highway patrol, one victim required first aid treatment.

Luther Johnson, San Diego, failed to make the curve east of Clyde and struck a car driven by J. E. Nowlin, 1142 Pecan. Johnson was subsequently fined \$14.60 in justice court at Clyde on a charge of driving on the wrong side of the highway. His car was badly damaged.

The second accident occurred on Highway 80, three miles east of Baird, late Friday night, when a truck driven by W. L. DeShazo, 1840 Cedar, was struck by a 1941 Ford driven by Mrs. C. J. McNeal. Patrolmen said she attempted to pass the truck, cut in too quickly, and turned the car over, completely demolishing it. Her 9-year-old daughter, Glenda, was admitted to the Callahan County Hospital for first aid and released.

CARD OF THANKS

I wish to express my sincere thanks to Dr. Griggs and the nurses, friends, neighbors, and relatives for their love, kindness, and tender care, shown me while I was at the hospital. May God richly reward each of you, in my daily prayer.

MRS. W. P. WARREN

WILLIAM TARVER RECEIVES DISCHARGE

SEPTEMBER 5, 1945—Returning to civilian life after long and honorable service in the Army Air Force, T-Sgt. William L. Tarver, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Tarver, Rt. 1, Baird, Texas, is enroute home from Peterson Field, Colo.

Employed in civilian life as a helper on his parents' farm, Sgt. Tarver entered military service in January 1942. He served with the Army Air Force as a flight engineer on a transport plane in the South Pacific theater of Operations for 19 months. He received the Distinguished Flying Cross with one Oak Leaf Cluster, the Air Medal with one Oak Leaf and the Asiatic-Pacific Theater of operations ribbon with three battle stars.

CARD OF THANKS

I wish to thank the ladies of the Midway community who presented and quilted the beautiful quilt for me.

B. HOPTER

CARD OF THANKS

I wish to express my gratitude to the entire hospital staff for their kindness and care during my recent illness. I also want to thank Dr. Stubblefield and the friends who were so kind to come to see me and for the many beautiful flowers, gifts, and cards. All these kind deeds have helped me to recover and you will always have my kindest thoughts and best wishes.

JANE WEATHERS and MOTHER

Miss Vonnie Foller left Sunday for Denton, where she will attend Teachers College.

Pfc. Dan R. Mitchell, son of Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Mitchell, is attending school in France, where he is studying Language and Art.

A Study in Revelation

By

C. L. MAXWELL
Minister, Church of Christ
TAFT, TEXAS

Here is a new book that you will enjoy more and more the longer you use it. It is not a commentary, but a book designed to help you study and understand the book of Revelation.

The author has made a lifetime study of the book of Revelation, and this new publication is the fruits of many long years of study.

Order Your Copy Today
From the Author
Only \$1.00 per Copy

OVERSEAS FUDGE

Mix 4 cups sugar, $\frac{1}{4}$ cup cocoa, 1 cup hot water, 6 tablespoons white corn syrup, and cook to firm ball stage. Add one package of Philadelphia Cream Cheese and $\frac{1}{4}$ pound of butter. Cool, and add 1 teaspoon of vanilla. Beat well, add 2 cups of nuts. Beat thoroughly and pour into greased cans. Cool, then seal.

DOROTHY WILKERSON
Co. H. D. Agent

HOUSE AND HOME

By MARY E. DAGUE

From now until frost we'll be harvesting the main crops from our gardens. So, the big canning drive is on with the presiding genius in the kitchen always ready to take care of the fruit and vegetables just as soon as they are picked and gathered.

All fruits and vegetables used for canning must be fresh and perfect. The process of canning isn't going to improve the condition.

Given fresh and perfect produce, it must be canned immediately. If you let it lie around, spoilage begins before you ever get it in the cans.

The jars must be clean and free from nicks. Otherwise you are providing nice little nest for bacteria and you can't be sure of a perfect seal.

The lids must fit and you must know how to use them. There are many varieties on the market these days but the very one you particularly want may not be available and you'll have to take what you can get. So read the instructions and test the seal.

Once you begin a canning job, you must stick to it until it's finished. If you leave warm produce in a warm kitchen, you invite spoilage before the stuff is even processed.

Be sure of the processing time for each fruit and vegetable. Keep a time table in the kitchen and look it up every time. Even experienced canners cannot remember all the different timings for all the different foods.

When the jars are out of the canners, put them where they can remain undisturbed for at least 12 hours. Handling during the cooling period may break the seal before it sets.

Watch your storage cupboard. Remember it should be a dark, cool place because light will fade the color of the food and warmth will harm the texture, making it mushy.

When it comes to the actual work of canning, there are certain precautions that make for safety. Such a simple thing as a potholder, its size and thickness may be responsible for a burn. They should be made of finely woven non-heat-conducting material large enough to completely protect the hands and flexible enough to permit a firm grasp on the cans.

Protect your hands with several thicknesses of toweling when completing the seal on hot jars.

Inspect the wire baskets that hold the jars in your canner. Flimsy baskets which might collapse when loaded with filled cans are a definite accident risk.

Covers of all canning containers filled with hot contents should be lifted so that the edge away from the face rises first. This lets the steam escape away from you rather than coming up in your face.

CAKES AND CANDY FOR MEN OVERSEAS

The war's end has not solved the problem of sending food to service men overseas and "food from home" is the first thought most of the boys have when they are asked what they would like to find in their Christmas package.

Callahan Home Demonstration Clubwomen have found through reports from "their boys" that foods should be canned in tin cans if at all possible, at least, it is essential to pack the food in light metal containers.

Reports from service men indicate that foods not sealed in cans were usually molded, infested with insects, soaked in oil or water, or it was dried out or old.

Proper canning will be even more important this year with the bulk of the packages going to the Pacific, where the climate and distance of travel will be harder on the contents.

When sending the food to the service men, it is best to send a variety unless he has asked for one special food. Some Clubwomen planned a menu on this fruit cake. Others might choose

order: 1 can turkey, 1 can cranberry sauce, 1 can nuts, and 1 can cheese, 1 can pickles, and 1 can crackers.

Fruit cakes were the most popular item sent by Clubwomen last year. It is one of the most desirable products, and will continue to be the most appreciated gift. However, the Agent's demonstration this year on "overseas cookery" is to be on hot tamales, fried chicken, devil's food cake, and overseas fudge. If you want recipes on foods for overseas, you may be able to get them from the County Home Demonstration Agent's office.

DALLAS NEWS DELIVERED DAILY ABILENE DELIVERED TWICE DAILY

See-or-Call
Mrs. Cecil West
PHONE 160
Reporter-News
BAIRD, TEXAS

Bring It To Us!

For service any time of the day or night, drive your car in here. We are on the job to make your car perform better. Washing, greasing, tire repairing.

Texaco Products.

Mac's ServiceStation

West Texas FAIR

ABILENE

Sept. 21-29

- * FREE HORSE RACES (Each Afternoon Except Sunday)
- * PALOMINO HORSE SHOW (Sept. 21-22 Nites—Sept. 23 Afternoon)
- * CHAMPION MATCHED ROPING AND RODEO EVENTS (Sept. 24-25-26 Nites)
- * QUARTER HORSE SHOW (Sept. 27-28-29 Nightly)
- * HEREFORD SHOW (Sept. 21-22-23-24)
- * JERSEY SHOW (Sept. 26-27-28-29)
- * SHEEP AND GOAT SHOW (Sept. 21-22-23-24)
- * SWINE SHOW (Sept. 26-27-28-29)

FREE EXHIBITS
Agricultural—Poultry—Industrial—Educational

*** BILL HAMES MIDWAY**
West Texas School Day (Sat. Sept. 22)
Grandstand Attractions
FREE

order: 1 can turkey, 1 can cranberry sauce, 1 can nuts, and 1 can cheese, 1 can pickles, and 1 can crackers.

order: 1 can turkey, 1 can cranberry sauce, 1 can nuts, and 1 can cheese, 1 can pickles, and 1 can crackers.

FIVE BILLION DOLLAR FAMILY BUSINESS

WHEN Grandma was a farm girl, she tended the chickens, milked the cows, churned the butter (72 percent of the nation's butter was home-churned then; less than 20 percent today). When she produced more eggs and butter than the family could eat, she would trade the rest for "pin-money" or frills.

Today, Grandma's "pin-money" has become **BIG** money. Last year it added more than five billion dollars to the income of U. S. farmers. That's more than hogs brought in—or cattle—or sheep. Just look:

1944 Gross Farm Income

Dairy Products.....	\$2,969,000,000	\$5,264,000,000
Poultry Products.....	2,295,000,000	
Hogs.....	2,796,000,000	
Cattle and Calves.....	2,607,000,000	
Sheep, Lambs and Wool.....	450,000,000	

And believe it or not, dairy products alone returned more money to farm families than the entire corn and wheat crops combined!

Any way you look at it, cows and chickens is a great industry. It is nation-wide, too. California and Texas are crowding close on the leaders—Wisconsin, New York, Minnesota, Iowa, and Pennsylvania. From millions of small dairy herds and chicken flocks in every state, as well as from large-scale operations, comes the enormous volume of dairy and poultry products that are such a vital source of our nation's food.

LET'S KEEP THE MACHINE IN GEAR

F. M. Simpson

In these days of mechanized farming practically everyone is familiar with the gears that make the wheels of tractors, combines, and other equipment go 'round. We know that should one gear be removed or get out of line—or even if a single gear-tooth is broken—the machine won't run smoothly, if at all.

It is much the same with the livestock and meat industry. The three main gears are the producer, the processor and the retailer. When any one of these "driving gears" gets out of order, then the entire industry suffers. Coordination of their interests can contribute greatly to the smooth functioning of the industry as a whole. None of us gains by insisting too vigorously that our part of the industry is the only one which has problems that matter. We gain more by trying to look at our particular problems as they affect all of us. In other words, whatever hurts or helps the producer hurts or helps the processor and the retailer also.

The livestock and meat industry is an important part of the national economic structure. We at Swift & Company believe that we can contribute most to the welfare of America—and ourselves—by promoting harmonious practical working relations between producers, processors and retailers.

F. M. Simpson.
Agricultural Research Department

Here We Are Again!

This series of advertisements is renewed in this issue and will appear monthly. We again invite you to send in good ideas which will help others in the business of farming and ranching. We will pay you \$5 for each good idea accepted by the judges, whose decisions are final. And don't forget to come in and see us whenever you are in Chicago—or if you haven't time to visit, phone us at Yards 4200, Extension 710, or write us at any time about any matter which pertains to agriculture. Remember our address: F. M. Simpson, Agricultural Research Department 128, Swift & Company, Chicago 9, Illinois.

Reclaim Croplands with Wheatgrass

Ranchers who have need of extra grass can often bring abandoned croplands back into production with crested wheatgrass. In tests conducted by the Colorado Agricultural Experiment Station, in cooperation with ranchers, and reported by Clinton H. Wasser, good stands of crested wheatgrass established on abandoned croplands in northeastern Colorado have supported as much stock per acre as two to four acres of good native sod will in the spring and early summer. And it makes pasture two or three weeks earlier in the spring, and later in the fall when the moisture is good.

Time to Reseed: September is a good time to reseed lands to either crested or western wheatgrass. The job may also be done in the late fall or early spring. For best results, try six to eight pounds of seed per acre drilled into grain, sudan, sorghum, millet or weed stubble. Land badly grown up to perennial weeds may first require heavy disking or even plowing before seeding.

LIVESTOCK MOVIES FOR YOU

We will lend you films for school, church, or other farm meetings: "Livestock and Meat," "A Nation's Meat," "Cows and Chickens... U.S.A.," and two brand new animated movies—"By-Products" and "Meat Buying Habits." All for 16-mm. sound projectors. You pay transportation one way only. Write Swift & Company, Department 128, Chicago, Illinois.

Martha Logan's Recipe for SKILLET DINNER

Pan fry 1 lb. bulk sausage meat with 2 tablespoons onion until brown. Pour off the drippings. Add 2 cups cooked rice, 1 1/2 cups canned tomatoes and 1/2 cup chili sauce. Blend well. Cover and cook over very low heat for 30 minutes. Do not raise the cover. Serve with lettuce salad and crusty bread. Serves 6 to 8.

CULL THE NON-LAYERS NOW!

Hens in your flocks that are still producing eggs regularly in the early fall months are superior layers. They are the ones to save for breeding stock, writes H. L. Kempster, chairman of the department of poultry husbandry at the University of Missouri.

Mr. Kempster says it's easy to select the good layers. They are the hens with white bleached shanks and with old, frayed and brittle plumage. The slick hens with yellow legs and smooth feathers are the ones that should be culled out of your flock to make room for mature, ready-to-lay pullets now on the range. As it doesn't pay to sell laying hens, try to examine all individuals in your flock carefully. A red comb and moist, expanded vent are sure signs of a layer. If the vent is dry, puckered and yellow, you may be certain that hen has stopped laying for some time.

ROY GUY REALLY KNOWS SHEEP

When Roy F. Guy, head lamb buyer for Swift & Company at Chicago since 1931, was a lad of 17, he answered an ad in a Kansas City newspaper. That led to his first job with Swift as a \$4-a-week messenger boy. Before his first year ended, he had doubled his salary and was getting a start in calf buying. At the ripe age of 22, Roy Guy was head calf buyer at Chicago. He held this post for 10 years and then went back to the starting line to learn lamb buying. In his 46 years with Swift, Roy Guy has bought many million lambs and judged in many a show ring. But his greatest pride is in the boys he hired and trained who have made good with the Company. "I always told a new boy to be careful in choosing his Company... and to stay with it," he says.

Swift & Company

UNION STOCK YARDS
CHICAGO 9, ILLINOIS

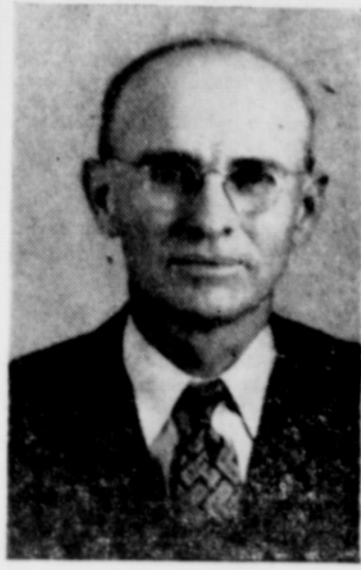
★ ★ NUTRITION IS OUR BUSINESS — AND YOURS ★ ★
Right Eating Adds Life to Your Years, and Years to Your Life

Prominent Baird Attorneys' Help Defeated Litigation Procedure



HON. L. L. BLACKBURN

Hon. L. L. Blackburn, prominent local attorney, whose interpretation and rulings were largely responsible for the defeat of all litigation proceeding the construction of Municipal Light Plant and who has for many years furnished to the City of Baird, sound reasoning and legal advice and has always supported all worthy civic improvements.



HON. F. E. MITCHELL

Hon. F. E. Mitchell, County Attorney, who assisted in defeating the litigation with his efficient presentation to the District Court, Court of Appeals, and Supreme Court of Texas in the numerous law suits involved in the construction of the Municipal Light Plant. He stands high as a leader in the Church and Civic Life of the Community.

Miss Lillie Frances Bains visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Bains in Eastland over the weekend.

Capt. and Mrs. Tom Barton and daughter, Ann, have returned to their home in Waco after visiting Mr. and Mrs. Tee Baulch and the W. B. Barton family in Clyde.

Saturday Misses Vernemna and Mary Lloy Freeman were accompanied by their father, J. S. Freeman, to Lubbock, where they entered Texas Tech. Miss Mary Lloy is entering as a freshman and Miss Vernemna is beginning her third term.

James N. Walls was promoted from Private first class to Corporal July 31. He is stationed at L. A. A. F., Laredo. He learned of his promotion upon return to Laredo after a recent visit here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. V. Walls.

Enos J. W. Baulch, Jr., stationed at Oakland, Calif. visited Mr. and Mrs. Tee Baulch Saturday. They spent a fifteen day leave with Enos Baulch's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Baulch, at Clyde.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond J. Saenz of Galveston announce the birth of a son, Raymond Charles born on August 14. Mrs. Saeny is the former Magdalene Jones of Baird. The baby is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Jones and the late Mrs. Juanita Saeny of Galveston.

Jack E. McCanlies, WT 2-c, brother of Mrs. H. L. Short, arrived here Saturday, September 8, for a thirty day furlough. He spent twenty-two months in the South Pacific with the navy. McCanlies is spending a week of his furlough here and is visiting his wife and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. McCanlies, in Cisco.

WEST TEXAS FAIR SEPTEMBER 21-29

ABILENE, September 19—this area's best livestock, agricultural, poultry, home and manufactured products are slated for exhibit at the 22nd annual West Texas Fair to be held at the Fair park in Abilene September 21 through 29.

Catalogues and entry blanks have been mailed to 2,000 potential exhibitors, Fair President Merle Gruver announced.

A special day for school children—Saturday September 22—has been set aside by Fair officials. On this day, until 6 p. m., all students in West Texas will be admitted free to the Fair grounds and the Fair invites schools of the area to bring groups of students to see the agricultural, poultry, industrial and educational exhibits and the special attractions.

Eight days of horse races, each afternoon except Sunday, will be offered. Championship matched roping and rodeo events will be featured the night of September 24, 25 and 26.

The Texas Palomino Exhibitors association will present its official state show, the Sixth Annual Texas Palomino Horse Show, at the Fair grounds September 21, 22 and 23. Entries are expected from all over Texas and from out-of-state breeders who are registered with the national organization.

Another state-wide event will be the Texas sale of the Texas Jersey Cattle club which will be conducted September 29 as the climax of a four-day show.

Quarter horse breeders from over the state will be competing for trophy awards and prizes. Quarter horse shows before the grandstand on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights, September 27, 28 and 29, will present a square dance team, roping contests, cutting horse contests, ladies time events and specialty acts.

Set for September 21, 22, 23, and 24 is the sheep and goat show. The swine show will be September 26, 27, 28 and 29.

Bill Hames shows, widely known carnival, will play on the midway throughout the Fair.

Premiums listed for departments include: Hereford cattle, \$807; Jersey cattle, \$1,039; swine, \$440; sheep and goats, \$365; Palomino horses, \$1,212.50; quarter horses, \$715; general agriculture, 4-H clubs and FFA, \$440.50; poultry and turkeys, general and 4-H, \$342.

Typewriter Paper—Star Office.

JENNINGS FAMILY REUNION IS HELD AT BUFFALO GAP

The 15th annual reunion of the descendants of the late Elizabeth Jennings and his four sons, Ab, Perry, Tom and Drew Jennings, who came to Texas from Missouri by ox-wagon in 1872, was held at the Presbyterian encampment in Buffalo Gap August 29th and 30th.

The reunion has been held at Buffalo Gap the past 13 years, the first two meetings being held in Coleman county and Fort Griffin, near where the original families settled when they came to Texas, later moving to Taylor and Callahan counties.

The program included speeches by two visitors, Sam Ribble and H. L. Boring, Church of Christ ministers of Clyde, who with their families attended the reunion, and group singing. Lon Thomason of Oklahoma was also one of the speakers.

Four generations of one family were present at the gathering, W. A. Jennings of Clyde, his son, J. A. Jennings, also of Clyde, W. B. Jennings, son of J. A., and Jack Robert Jennings, 4, son of W. B. Jennings, of Anson. Oldest member of the family registering was Mrs. Alice Martin, 75, the former Alice Jennings of Brownwood. New officers elected were H. P. Lilly of Abilene, president and Alice Jennings also of Abilene, secretary.

President for the last four years were Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Jennings. A closing feature of the reunion each year is a song rally held at the Buffalo Gap Church of Christ the last night of the reunion.

Of the twenty-four members of the family serving in the armed forces only four were present this year. They included Sgt. Leroy Eason and Mrs. Eason of Merkel. He has been in the Army Air force since 1942 and was spending a delay enroute from Chanute Field, Ill., to Randolph Field. Mrs. Eason is the former Betty Jennings, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Jennings, Merkel.

Forrest Lee Jennings, seaman second class, son of Alvie Jennings, Abilene, home on leave from action in the Pacific, attended the reunion. As a member of the Armed Guard of the Navy he spent 12 months aboard the SS Sara Teasdale, a Liberty ship and the SS Flying Mist, C-2 freighter. He was wearing three major engagement stars for action at Siapan, Guam and Leyte.

Earnest Scarbrough, carpenter's mate second class, with the Seabees until he was given an honorable discharge a few days ago, attended the reunion with Mrs. Scarbrough the former Lela Jennings of Clyde and their three-months-old daughter, Shirley Fae, who was the youngest member of the family present. Scarbrough, whose home is in Brownwood, served in Australia, New Caledonia, Goodenough, and Russell Islands.

T. B. Townsend, who served as a member of the Naval Reserve in the Merchant Marine three years, attended the reunion with his wife, the former Betty Kendrick of Clyde, and their daughter, Gyle. Townsend received a medical release from service after making several trips across the Atlantic and Pacific.

Others present were Mrs. Ernest Reese, San Angelo; Mrs. E. K. Vance, Sweetwater; Mr. and Mrs. Ray Jennings and son, Charlie Ray, Jewel Chaney and Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Williams, all of Merkel; Mr. and Mrs. Dew Jennings, and Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Jennings and children, all of Elbert; Mrs. G. P. Philley and children, George and Glenda of Big Spring; Mr. and Mrs. A. N. Davis and Mrs. Bruce Smith, Lockney; Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Mimms, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Mimms, A. E. Jennings, and Mr. and Mrs. Earl Jennings, all of Abilene; Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Barton, Mr. and Mrs. Will Jennings of Clyde; Mrs. Frank Drake and children, Bobby, Frankie and Joan, of Midland; Mrs. Joe Kendrick and Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Townsend of Albany; Hollis Townsend, Grand Prairie; Verna Kendrick, Wichita Falls; Mr. and Mrs. Aalf Jennings and children, Terrell, Quanah; William Lee, Julia Williams, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Collins, T. K. Thomason, all of Maryneal; Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Lilly of Coahoma; and Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Thomason of Hollis, Okla.; Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Jennings and daughter, Wilma, Mr. and Mrs. M. B. Maxwell of Clyde and June Nichols of Baird, a guest of Wilma.

These names are a part of the crowd which was estimated at two hundred Thursday at noon. Lunch was served picnic style with meat barbecued on the ground.

JOEL GRIFFIN, CLYDE, FREED

Mr. and Mrs. Joel Griffin of Clyde received a message from the War department Saturday informing them of the liberation of their son, Cpl. Joel Wayne Griffin, from a Japanese prison.

The telegram from Edward Witsell, acting adjutant general, read, "The secretary of war has asked me to inform you that your son, Cpl. Joel Wayne Griffin, was returned to military control on August 29, 1945, and is being returned to the United States in the near future. He will be given an opportunity to communicate with you upon his arrival in the States."

Gunner on a Flying Fortress, Corporal Griffin was shot down over Rabaul, New Britain, June 26, 1943, and has been a prisoner of the Japanese since.

Having enlisted in the armed forces January 30, 1942, Corporal Griffin went overseas in March of that year, being stationed in Australia for several months. He attended gunnery school in Australia and went on his first mission September 5, 1942.

Corporal Griffin attended high school at Midway and Clyde.

It can be done in Baird.



R. L. ELLIOTT, JR.

Mendon McWilliams accepted a job in Morgan's Feed Store last week.

Mrs. Amy Walker, who has been visiting her sister, Eliza Gilliland and family, left Sunday for her home in Balmorhea. Mrs. Walker visited her brother, Haynie Gilliland, at Sanatorium, enroute home.

Mr. and Mrs. Don C. Carter of Seagraves visited Mrs. Carter's sister, Eliza Gilliland, and family Wednesday of last week. They were enroute to Marlin, where Mrs. Carter will take treatment for rheumatism. Mr. Carter returned home Sunday via Baird.

Mrs. Lorena B. Shelton of Snyder, visited her sister, Miss Lillie Frances Bains, this last weekend. He small daughter, Miss Laquita Joy Shelton, who has been with her aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Huff, in Eastland, returned to Snyder with her.

Mr. and Mrs. K. V. Lewis left the first of the week for Fort Worth to meet their daughter, Mrs. Billy G. Hatchett, who arrived there by plane from Cove Spring, Fla. She will return to Baird with her parents. Ens. Hatchett will follow soon for a visit with his wife and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. G. Hatchett.

George Oscar Smith, brother of Mrs. Tee Baulch, passed through Baird on a troop train enroute to California September 4, after spending fourteen months with the army in Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Baulch and Mrs. Tom Barton visited with Mr. Smith at the USO for a few minutes.

Manager of City Utilities Earned His Position by Diligent Effort

R. L. Elliott, Jr., manager of the City Utilities who has been an employee of the city for the past nine years has served in various capacities earning his present position of trust and responsibility solely on his ability.

In 1936 he was elected City Marshal. At that time the city was also City Tax Assessor and Collector, keeper of the pound, collector of stray stock, dogs and what-not, general water superintendent, with various other jobs thrown in. Previous to his election, the office had been handed down from time to time to the successful candidate who accepted the office as he found it and operated same along the lines of his predecessor—usually without attempting to make any progressive changes or corrections of the obsolete methods then in use.

When Elliott took over his duties he found a very thorough conglomeration of records, practically no office equipment and hardly a place to begin. After several months hard work he was finally able to locate a starting point and establish a system that would eventually put the office operating under an efficient modern system. He accomplished this and auditors who make periodical checks of the City records compliment the City Officials very highly on the way they handle their affairs and the methods of keeping the records up to date.

In checking over the expenditures and benefits derived therefrom Elliott found when he went into office the City was paying a high rate per month for street lights. There was not a single street sufficiently lighted and practically no lights in the residential section of town with one at each church and school. The records showed the normal light bill to be above the city's ability to pay when all lights were being used. After giving this matter much thought and consideration the idea occurred to him that the \$700, or \$800, per year for street lights, etc. would go a long way towards financing a small plant capable of not only furnishing sufficient light for the main streets but more lights than they were getting and many additional lights for the residential sections which were badly needed. After some investigation as to approximate

cost of such a plant the matter was discussed with individual members of the Council. Finally the idea gathered momentum and was being seriously considered—but it kept growing and the Council began to see even a larger plant—and about this time funds became available through the Public Works Administration for the constructing of Municipal Light Plants. The city made application to the PWA, it was accepted and approved and in due time the funds were available—and the city now has a fine efficient Municipal Light Plant and is one of the best lighted towns in Texas.

Under Mr. Elliott's supervision the water department and entire water system has been improved and is functioning nicely and while Baird needs "more" water, the present system is now wholly approved by the State Department of Health. He was instrumental in the City finally acquiring the local sewer plant which enabled the customers to obtain a substantial reduction in rates, something they were heretofore unable to do, and as soon as material and labor are available to make additional connections, etc. other reductions will be forth coming.

As stated Elliott's duties have been numerous since his connection with the city in fact he has really filled the position of City Manager for several years with contracts, bonds, refinancing, programs, etc. taking much of his time necessitating numerous trips to Dallas, Fort Worth, Austin and even Washington, D. C. His responsibilities cover such widespread work as supervising practical maintenance of all working equipment of the City light plant, water works, sewer system, repairs and electrical service work for the city.

Elliott has been a valuable employee to the City of Baird, and while he is by no means a super human, the members of the past and present Council who have burned midnight oil with him working out the problems that have confronted the City, and those who have been in a position to see the improvements he has made in the different departments can and will tell you that Baird has been fortunate to have this capable, hard working fellow helping build a better town.

Congratulations

TO THE CITY OF BAIRD

Upon the Occasion of the

Municipal Light Plant's

5th Anniversary

We have been in business in Baird for 50 years, and can appreciate the progress our city has made during the lifetime of the Municipal Light Plant. Here's hoping we will continue to go forward.

B. L. BOYDSTUN

HARDWARE

Congratulations

to the

CITY OF BAIRD

upon this

5th Anniversary

of the

Municipal Light Plant

Wylie Funeral Home

Our Compliments

To

**GOOD
MANAGEMENT
of Our City**

All of Us May Well Be Proud
of Our Marvelous

Municipal Light Plant

And It's Outstanding Record.

City Pharmacy

Congratulations

To Our Progressive City Council
For the Fine Record of Our

Municipal Light Plant

May More Good Things Come to Baird.

AUTHORIZED DEALER
WHITE AUTO STORE

Everything for the Home, Auto or Farm.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

AND BEST WISHES

on this the

5th Anniversary

of the

Municipal Light Plant

and

Congratulation to our Mayor, Aldermen, City Secretary, Manager and all employees, that have in any way contributed to city welfare.

We have been selling merchandise in Baird over 50 years and hope to serve the public many more years.

SPECIALS FOR SATURDAY

12 Blankets for	\$6.95 each
12 Blankets for	\$3.95 each
12 Chenelle Robes	\$8.50 each
12 Chenelle Robes	\$10.00 each
All the above for \$1.00 down and \$1.00 per week.	
100 pair of unration Shoes at	\$1.50 pair
100 pair unration Shoes at	\$1.95 pair
50 Bed Pillows at	\$1.20 each
1 roll Cotton at	.75 each
2 Kotex and 1 Kleenex for	.60
3 Razor Blades for	.25
2 bars Sweetheart Soap	.15

WILL D. BOYDSTUN

Your home town refinery
has paid \$35,000.00 to the
Baird Municipal Light
Plant over the past four
years for a good and de-
pendable electric service
to manufacture.

Octane

SWEET CRUDE BETTER GASOLINE

And Water White Kerosene



Meet Mr. and Mrs. Baird

Whether it be for better homes, better gardens, or better municipal enterprises, they will always be found planning for the future.

Yes, it's fine to know folks like Mr. and Mrs. BAIRD! They are feeling good today, because they are the owners and managers of a prosperous and profitable business—the MUNICIPAL LIGHT PLANT—that is not only paying for itself faster than anticipated, but has kept additional money flowing into the city treasury, brought lower electrical and sewer rates and additional civic improvements that would not have been possible.

MR. AND MRS. BAIRD are rightfully, pardonably proud people today as they celebrate the FIFTH ANNIVERSARY of their fine MUNICIPAL LIGHT PLANT.

As they look over the budget they can see more improvements for BAIRD in the near future.

"Now" says MRS. BAIRD, "we can invest the saving we are making in reduced rates on something else nice for our town."

"Yes," answers MR. BAIRD, "now that money can be invested for other improvements here, but some of it can go into the City Treasury and probably reduce City Taxes."

And they are BOTH right! BAIRD can do things now.

You may be wondering just who Mr. and Mrs. BAIRD are. Well—they're the grocer you buy food from, they're the railroad man who brings food into town; they're the school teacher, the doctor, the jeweler, the man next door—and YOU. They're the people who have had enough vision to SEE that BAIRD'S CITY-OWNED light plant was a marvelous investment for the citizens. And they bought city lights and power.

*Today they're PROUD they did! Aren't you?
"This is YOUR plant—Patronize it!"*

BAIRD MUNICIPAL LIGHT PLANT

Corporal John Fowler Tells About Customs And Religion on the Island of Okinawa

Cpl. John Fowler wrote from Okinawa, Shima, June 12, to Mr. and Mrs. Cecil A. Nichols. The letter, in part, follows:

Conditions here have been rather warm, especially along about the time we first landed and for several days afterwards. We were in range of the Jap artillery and I can tell you when those babies come whining over, you hunt a fox hole and you get plenty deep down in one. The Japs were actually attempting to shell an air strip which lies on beyond our area, but occasionally the gunner would let go a short one, and a fellow never knew which one night have his number on it. At night almost at the exact moment of an air raid this whistling Charley, we called him, would start sending his shells over. Our artillery would knock one out of commission but the next night, there'd be a new one. It's been a long while now since one has been fired over us. I suppose those days are all over, and I'm not a bit sorry of it.

These Japs, some of them, are pretty queer ducks with strange ideas in their noodles. One of our flight of Corsairs came in from a down patrol, and a Jap plane came in with them in formation. Our Pilots spotted him and radioed in ahead to alert our gunners. Then the pilots agreed among themselves that at a given location they'd all peel off at the same instant and leave Mr. Nip all to his lonesome. Well, they did just that, and exactly at the same moment when our planes were all clear, and the Boogie hadn't comprehended the trick, our gunners gave him the works. He folded up and checked in his chips for the most honorable Hirohito.

I'm sure you've read in the news papers of these Jap suicide pilots. Radio Takyo gives them the glorified distinction by calling them the fearless "Deck Busters." The other day I watched them try to do their stuff on our ships here in the harbor of Okinawa. There were three of the Nips. They came in at about six or eight thousand feet, and immediately the naval gunners went into action. You've never seen a sight like that with the sky full of tracers and shell bursts. The anti-aircraft fire seemed almost a solid flame coming to a point up near the plane. One Nip circled calmly selecting his target and then nosing over calmly into his dive. That's when you hold your breath

too. And you wait desperately each slow second, sweating out the exact second he'll burst into nothing; for you know if he comes all the way down and hits his target, he may sink one of our ship, and if not sink it, he'd be sure to kill some Americans. They got this one however, at about five hundred feet, there was a sudden flash of flames, and then he was no more. I heard later that one of the Nips did succeed in diving into one of our ships. The other got shaky and flew back toward home.

There are very few planes getting through our outer defenses now. You'll have to hand it to these naval flyers. So far they've done a grand job in keeping the Japs either scared away or all of them knocked out of the sky. When one Boogie gets through, you can bet your last dollar that there were plenty of them who attempted to pass and failed.

These natives here are a bunch of sad, sad sacks. They are the human race gone to seed, scrawny and brown and ugly and filthy smelling. The people who lived on this island, were mostly farmers living on a little plot of land consisting of a few tillable acres. These people were very poor. They had no modern conveniences. They lived in crude, stone, one-room huts whose roofs were made of grass and mud. The goats and hogs and chicken lived there also. Naturally from such a collection, fleas and lice and all manner of crawling things become plentiful. These Okies, I'd say, are a complete throw-back to a race perhaps lower and more degraded than our American Indian. I understand down around Naka, the capital city, the people were fairly modernized. But they were still Japs.

These Okies have this idea of ancestor worship ingrained into them. They go for a fancy looking family burial tomb. These tombs, built in the shape of a tomb, are constructed in the side of hills, and they are scattered all over Okinawa. In these tombs they place their dead, usually in a sitting position with food and water nearby and his personal articles. The bodies are preserved as long as possible and then eventually the bones are placed in a box and stored or buried.

These people have Shinto as their main religion, the same as the Japs of the main islands. Shinto means "The Way of the Gods."

It is a cult of the dead based strictly on ancestor worship, which teaches that hara-kiri is the ultimate sacrifice and that war is man's greatest glory. It gives Herohito divinity and ascribes him to the lineage of the Sun Goddess. Its precepts are unquestioning obedience and the utter denial of any individual desires. It is, in a word, the biggest bunch of tripe, the most amazing fairy tale, ever crammed down a people's throat.

The main crops here are sweet potatoes, a white meated variety compared to our negro-chokers back home, some sugar cane, some rice, and other garden vegetables. What they used as a money crop I cannot say. I doubt if the richest man in this neighborhood was worth \$5000.00 American money. What little wealth a family had seems to have been invested in their family tomb, making it as elaborate and distinctive as possible. These tombs are built of stone and concrete and most all are built on the same design. The entrance is barely large enough to crawl into, but the chamber proper is usually fairly large, being, I'd say, perhaps fifteen feet long and twelve feet wide. Naturally with their belief they'd spend their money that way.

The native women are a pretty sad lot too. They carry their urchins on their backs like an army pack, and quite often you'll see one with the largest sort of a bundle on her head, dog-trotting along in a gait that only an oriental can do. They are not too particular about covering their body from the waist up, especially the old ladies. Both sexes wear a lot of these kimono type apparel, and sometimes it's hard to distinguish whether the guy is a man or woman.

I suppose the final strategy of this war is shapping up. Japan by now can certainly see the writing on the wall. It's just a matter of time now until the whole Rising Sun will be blown into little bits. The sooner the happier I'll be.

President Truman is surprising some of the boys, me for one. He definitely has a few ideas all his own. Perhaps with some cooperation from congress he'll bring this war to a triumphant end. I wish him luck. He took over at a critical time, but maybe he has the ability to handle the job.

WAR CUTBACKS POINT UP RECONVERSION NEED

By Al Jedlicka

Already cut 9 per cent under peak March levels, war production is scheduled for a further 23 per cent reduction during the remainder of 1945, pointing up reconversion problems facing the nation following the defeat of Germany.

Totalling 16.3 billion dollars, cutbacks during the first six months of 1945 have affected 2,500 plants, but whereas many workers remained untouched because much of reduction was in future contracts rather than in actual work, the situation will tend to reverse itself during the last two quarters of the year when present programs peter off.

Indicative of the trend, 31 per cent of the contracts cut back in April were for scheduled future production, with the total for May 14 per cent. In June, however, the figure was only 5 per cent, with the remainder consisting of working contracts.

Even as the senate was asked to act on liberalization of unemployment legislation to absorb reconversion distress, and there were rumblings that the whole reconversion program was moving too slowly, OPA took steps to facilitate manufacturers' switch over to civilian output and the Securities and Exchange commission revealed that American corporations with issues listed on the national stock exchanges possessed 63 per cent more working capital than in 1939.

In seeking to speed up manufacturers' reconversion, OPA formulated price policies designed to guarantee the producers an adequate profit margin while at the same time keeping cost within reasonable levels to avert the danger of inflation.

Under the OPA plan, manufacturers doing an annual business of \$200,000 or more will be permitted to add wage and material cost increases over prewar prices, and then include half of the industry-wide profit margin for 1936 to 1939.

Firms with an annual \$50,000 to \$200,000 business will follow the same procedure for determining cost, but will be allowed to substitute their own 1936 to 1939 profit margin instead of half of that for their particular industry.

In the case of business with a yearly volume of less than \$50,000, they may use their current cost as a base and then add their own profit margin for 1939, or if that is not available, then the net for 1940 or 1941.

To help speed the manufacturers along, OPA will pass upon final prices set up by companies doing an annual business of \$200,000 or more, while the charges of the smaller firms will be considered approved unless OPA notifies them otherwise within 15 days.

In revealing that 1,299 American corporations listed on the nation's stock exchanges possessed 63 per cent more working capital than in 1939, the Securities and Exchange commission indicated that U. S. industries was well heeled for the cost of switching production from war to peace.

Listed as \$20,258,000,000 for the 1,299 aforesaid corporations, total assets of all companies was estimated at \$45,500,000,000.

In reviewing the finances of the 1,299 corporations, the SEC reported that the net working capital of 25 aircraft and related equipment companies jumped from \$79,000,000 in 1939 to \$470,000,000 in 1944, while the liquid assets of 84 railroads soared from \$347,000,000 to \$1,548,000,000.

With half of the firms engaged in war work, 837 manufacturing corporations showed increases in working capital from \$9,669,000,000 in 1939 to \$15,167,000,000.

Analyzing the working capital, the SEC reported that nearly one-third of the liquid assets consists of cash on hand and in banks, and about one-fifth in U. S. tax and savings notes.

Holding of U. S. government securities jumped from \$46,000,000 in 1939 to \$6,633,000,000 in 1944, representing about one-fourth of the total capital at the end of 1944. Meanwhile, holdings of other marketable securities dropped from \$491,000,000 in 1939 to \$361,000,000.

Still anticipating widespread distress during reconversion despite government efforts to remove restrictive barriers to quick turnover to civilian production, Sen. Harley Kilgroe (Dem., W. Va.) asked congress to liberalize grants to the unemployment to help tide them over the period.

Under Kilgroe's proposed legislation, federal, maritime and agricultural processing workers would be included in unemployment compensation payments, along with workers in plants with less than eight persons. At the same time, the federal government would pitch in the difference to bring unemployment compensation payments of the states up to a level of \$25 for 26 weeks. Single vets would be allowed \$25 and those with dependents \$30 for 52 weeks.

While Kilgroe appealed for liberalized unemployment payments, figures revealed that many Americans have been looking ahead for postwar stress, with savings for the first three months of 1945 estimated at \$8,500,000,000. Of this, almost \$5,000,000,000 was deposited in banks; \$1,500,000,000 in U. S. Bonds; \$1,000,000,000 in national service life insurance, and \$900,000,000 for private premiums. At the same time, consumers debt was cut \$200,000,000, exclusive of mortgage obligations.

REFRESHING TO SIP ON

Enthusiastic about frozen watermelon juice that she'd had deep in the heart of Texas, a Westinghouse home economist worked out these directions for making it. Press juice from pulp by hand

or through a sieve. Strain or not as preferred, but remove all large pieces of pulp. Pour into ice trays, adding a tiny pinch of salt to each trayful. It will be refreshingly cold—just right to sip from a glass—in about three hours. Don't expect it to freeze solid.

Mrs. J. T. Lawrence visited her mother, Mrs. Henderson, who is ill, in Cross Plains Sunday. Mrs. L. A. Reese and daughters, Billy Jean and Martha Sue, have returned from a week's visit in the Rio Grande Valley with relatives.



CITIZENS OF BAIRD WE SALUTE YOU



Yes, big things can be done in Baird. The municipal light plant has proven this fact. All of us may well be proud to call this plant our own, for it is the property of the citizens of Baird. We join the citizenship this day to pay tribute to those far-sighted men who worked long hours to accomplish this goal. To those who are responsible for the plant's smooth operation, its neat appearance and enviable service record, we extend hearty congratulations.

Other good things can also be done in Baird—we have really just started to grow. When progressive men and women cooperate for the progress of any city, that city will grow in leaps and bounds. We are traveling the big broad highway that will lead to Baird's success.

Ray Motor Company, the oldest Chevrolet dealer in Texas, is known for fair dealing and efficient automobile service. We intend to keep abreast of the rapid progress and development of our city.

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SCISSORS PREFERRED

Kitchen scissors are preferred to a knife at the Westinghouse Home Economics Institute for such jobs as dicing celery, green peppers, or trimming fish and cubing meat. With scissors the work goes faster, and obviously one's fingers are out of harm's way.

HOW MUCH IS ENOUGH?

Allow one-half to two-thirds cup of prepared, ready-to-cook vegetables per person and, say Westinghouse home economists, you'll lick the leftover problem.

KNOW YOUR BEANS

There's more food value in green snap beans than in yellow wax beans, but, add Westinghouse home economists, to get your money's worth of food value, the pods should be slender, smooth and free from blemishes and the ends should snap easily.

WHEN GLASS SPLINTERS

When it comes to picking up splinters of glass, Westinghouse home economists use a damp wad of either absorbent cotton or toilet tissue.

The Story of Johnny Ledbetter's Disappearance

By CLAY CHRISMAN

Closely associated with the early history of this section of the state was the Ledbetter Salt Works, located in Shackelford County approximately eight miles southwest of Albany, on the Salt Prong of Hubbard Creek. The accidental discovery of this saline bearing water was made in 1861 by Cal Greer, William King and Vol. Simonds, three cowboys, whose horses had broken loose from them in the neighborhood of Fort Phantom Hill and forced them to walk to their home, which was located near the Shackelford-Stephens County line. On their return, they camped one night near the banks of this clear stream and soon discovered the saline nature of the water, and on reaching home reported their findings to George Greer and Calvin Hazelwood, who repaired to the creek and soon laid in a years supply of salt.

For ten years these works represented the point furthest west between the white settlement and the wild Indian country of West Texas. The Works were located near the head of Salt Creek on the old military trail that ran through a gap in the mountain range of western Shackelford County, which served as a common highway for both white settlers and Indians to and from the open prairie in the direction of Fort Phantom Hill.

The Works were located in a small valley surrounded by rugged mountains, near a deep water hole in the creek which was fed by a strong saline spring, where the water was raised by a force pump into large kettles and boiled until crystallized into salt.

The discovery and location of this spring was traditional among the Indians, and by reason of it becoming a resort for wild life, it became the favorite hunting ground in this section for the Comanche tribe. During the Civil War, salt from the Ledbetter Works supplied the Confederate forces in Texas and the Trans-Mississippi region. And a company of rangers was stationed at the works.

While the rangers were stationed at the works during the Civil War, several families took advantage of their protection, and moved into the little valley and engaged in the profitable business

of manufacturing salt for the market. Before the close of the war, all these families had returned to their homes with the exception of the Ledbetters.

For years, there was a continuous warfare between the Ledbetters and the Indians, which necessitated the building of three blockhouses within range of the kettles.

The importance of the supply of salt was so great after the close of the Civil War, that the Commander at Fort Griffin loaned the Ledbetters a small cannon to defend their works.

In the late 60's, the works were attacked by a band of about twenty five Comanches, led by Cato, a renegade negro, who was the husband of Indian Kate, who lived on the outskirts of Fort Griffin for a number of years. When attacked on this moonlight night, Mr. Ledbetter and his wife and children were sleeping in the blockhouse, which was used as a family residence. Mrs. Ledbetter loaded the guns while Mr. Ledbetter fired through the loopholes at the Indians, who were making an effort to break into the store-house where the supplies were kept. By the aid of a cross-fire from the blockhouse, where the men were sleeping, the Indians, after a determined attack, were compelled to retreat, carrying off their wounded, including their leader, Cato.

The next morning while Ledbetter and his men were burying the four dead Indians, Lieutenant Turner, in command of a squad of cavalry and a bank of Tonkawa scouts under Chief Johnson, arrived from Fort Griffin on the trail of the Indians. Halting long enough to prepare a hasty breakfast, and feed and water their horses, the troop pushed on after the Comanches. The Indians were overtaken in the mountains and after a desperate stand of thirty minutes were defeated and retreated to the west, leaving nine dead and three wounded on the field. Lieutenant Turner and the soldiers dashed after the fleeing Indians and kept up a running fight for several hours. The Tonkawas were left behind and killed the wounded and scalped those left on the field.

This severe punishment broke up the moonlight raids for more than a year, giving the Ledbetters a feeling of security.

Not only is "eternal vigilance the price of liberty," but in an Indian country, it is the price the settlers paid for safety.

Notwithstanding Judge Ledbetter's vivid experience with the Indians, and the realization of the necessity of always being on guard against the Comanches, he allowed himself to be lulled into a feeling of security and relaxed many of the ordinary precautions he had always taken in defense of his family and property.

The months rolled by, and there was every indication that the Indians had abandoned the Salt Trail forever, and Judge Ledbetter allowed his family more liberty. With the help of other ranchmen, Judge J. C. Lynch established a school at his ranch home on Hubbard Creek, and those living to far away to ride to and from school during the day, boarded their children with the Lynch family.

Among those who made up the boarders, was Johnny Ledbetter, the son of Judge Ledbetter of the Ledbetter Salt Works. He had a peculiar habit of wondering off by himself, notwithstanding the admonition of this teacher and Mrs. Lynch. One evening he slipped away so quietly that he was not missed until nearly night, and when searched for, no trace of the boy could be found.

A courier was immediately dispatched to inform Judge Ledbetter and his family of the missing boy, and Judge Lynch summoned all available men on the ranch to circle the ranch for the missing boy.

It was midnight when the messenger arrived at the Salt Works with the news of the missing boy. He continued on to other ranches and notified the Reynolds, Matthews, George Greer, Maxwells, Collins and Mauldins.

The probability that their son had been killed or captured by the Indians added a load of grief to the Ledbetters they could hardly bear, but there was no time for grief, for there was the possibility that their son might be found wandering on the prairie. The Commander at Fort Griffin was notified with instruction to send out a scouting party.

After the arrival of the carrier at the Ledbetter home, hasty preparations were made for an early start to join the party at the Lynch ranch. At the time, there was only three available men at the Salt Works for the journey—Ledbetter, Thornton and Reynolds. It was agreed that Ledbetter and Thornton start the journey at daylight and Reynolds would remain behind and guard the women and children.

Preparations were made for a journey of several days, and at the first break of day in the east, Ledbetter and Thornton struck a beeline for the ford on Hubbard's Creek. So preoccupied was Mr. Ledbetter with his thoughts, that he and Thornton had ridden a number of miles in an easterly direction when they were startled by the report of fire-arms. This firing came from a ring of trees that bordered Hubbard Creek. The two men reined their horses and

kept a sharp lookout in the direction from whence the firing came. Intermittent firing was kept up for a few minutes, then a man was seen to break cover and dash across the prairie for a liveoak tree which was surrounded by a thicket.

The fight between the white man and the Indians was now on in earnest. After he had gained the shelter of the thicket, three puffs of smoke arose from the trees on the bank of the creek and three painted warriors dashed into the opening and began to circle the liveoak thicket. At this phase of the fight, Ledbetter and Thornton forced their horses to a run, and at the risk of their lives, dashed down the hill to the rescue of the lone white man. When within range of the Indians they opened fire, the Indians taking alarm and making their escape up the valley of the creek. Ledbetter and Thornton hearing and seeing nothing in the liveoak thicket, dismounted and entered, where they found the body of George Hazelwood lying from a wound in the breast.

He did not gain consciousness after their arrival, and in a few minutes drew his last breath, and one more name was added to the long list of victims who blazed the path of civilization in West Texas.

Having no instrument with which to dig the grave, Hazelwood's body was tied to Thornton's horse, which he led, moving slowly to the place where Judge Lynch and his cowboys were cooking their noonday meal over a campfire.

While partaking of the meal, Ledbetter and Thornton related the details of the last stand of George Hazelwood in the liveoak thicket. No one seemed to have any idea as to why Hazelwood was in that locality at the time. Hazelwood was engaged in cattle raising, with his ranch headquarters located on Sandy Creek in the Northwestern part of Eastland County, his range extending into Callahan, Shackelford and Stephens Counties. It was suggested at the time that he was in the locality hunting horses, but later, it was found out that Ed Tucker, who had carried the news of Johnny Ledbetter's disappearance to the salt

works, had by request of the parents rode on to the Clear Fork, and had met Hazelwood returning from Fort Griffin and had informed him of the lost boy. Hazelwood had expressed a determination to join the Lynch party on the Hubbard, and was on his way when attacked. With a mattock and shovel, carried for a like emergency in case they found the remains of the lost boy mutilated by the Indians, the body of George Hazelwood was buried.

Following the above mentioned events, the entire party set out for the deep water hole on the Gonzalos ranch in order to arrive at this place before darkness set in. Here they were joined by Joe Matthews and Ben Reynolds. Before night fell, Lieutenant Turner, with five Tonkawas, including Chief Johnson, accompanied by Ed Tucker and Luke McCabe arrived in camp. The chief subject of conversation for the night was the disappearance of Johnny Ledbetter. Had he been captured and carried off by the Indians or had his body been mutilated and left on the prairie.

Finally the camp fire burned low, the conversation ceased, and was quiet with the exception of the hum of nature, so characteristic of the creek bottom and always pervades the night air in that locality, and the whispered conversation of the four men who were placed on guard for the night. By early dawn in the east, the camp was once more filled with the noise of awakened men making preparation for another day of strenuous activity. Out over the prairie, led by Chief Johnson, they moved along and at noon they arrived at the ranch home of Uncle George Greer. The home of Uncle George Greer was a synonym for hospitality. For a number of years his home had been one of the stage stands, where the horses were changed and the passengers enjoyed such accommodations as Uncle George had to offer. This gave Uncle George a reputation for hospitality which he never failed to live up to.

Being a democrat, Uncle George saw no reason why both private soldiers and officers could not enjoy his hospitality at the same table, and at this request, Captain Grant, son of the President, broke

a rule of army life and enjoyed the hospitality of his table with his private soldiers at the request of Uncle George.

Consequently when the searchers arrived at his home, Uncle George insisted on killing a fat calf for the occasion.

After the noonday meal, the journey was resumed, and several miles from the Greer home, Chief Johnson found pony tracks of the Comanches. These were followed up the North Prong for a number of miles, where the accumulation of tracks indicated the party had been joined by a party from the southeast, coming from the direction Hazelwood had been killed.

Following several days of search after the disappearance of Johnny Ledbetter, the friends of Judge Ledbetter assembled at the Salt Works. No trace of the boy had been found. The last Comanche had left the country, and as the party was not prepared for a long journey, the search was abandoned. Years passed by and no tidings ever came to the parents of the lost boy, and his fate is a sealed mystery to this day.

On one occasion, years after, an attempt was made by someone to establish their claim as being the long lost son.

Later, in 1879, Judge Ledbetter, abandoned the Salt Works, and one of the kettles used at the works for a number of years may be seen at the present time on the courthouse lawn at Albany.

Judge Ledbetter served as the first County Judge of Shackelford County, and I understand his descendants still reside in the neighborhood at Fort Griffin.

The three kettles used in the manufacturing of salt at the Ledbetter works were cast at a foundry in Birmingham, Alabama and transported by water to Jefferson Texas, from which place they were hauled overland to the site of the Ledbetter Works. At the present time one of these kettles may be seen on the north west corner of the courthouse square in Albany as a silent tribute to the courageous men and women who dared to face the dangers of a hostile frontier in order that future generations may live in peace and plenty.

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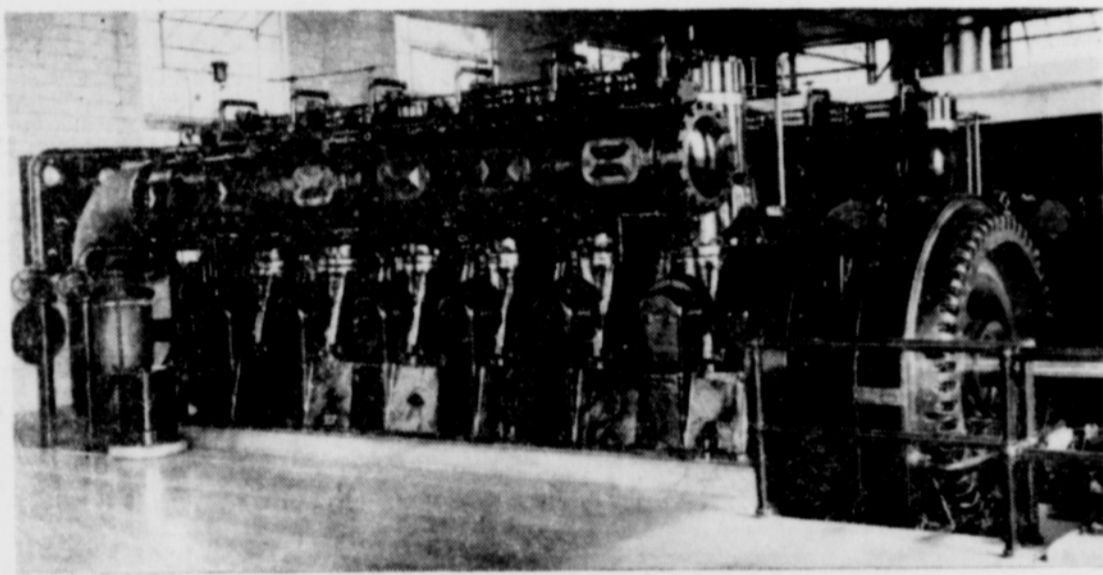
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Congratulations to the Officials of the City of Baird upon their successful operations.

It has been a pleasure to serve.

HIGH OCTANE GASOLINE AVAILABLE TO CIVILIANS

Houston, Texas, September 6—Long-awaited high-octane gasoline for civilian use today became a reality for motorists, according to Frank A. Watts, sales manager of Humble Oil and Refining Company.

"This gasoline," said Mr. Watts, "is, in fact, better than pre-war, with a new high-octane rating which is only exceeded in the fuel used by airplanes in combat."

He pointed out that the Humble Company is able to offer improved gasoline less than three weeks after the Japanese surrender because of quick conversion of plant equipment developed for wartime needs. The high-octane gasoline available at Humble stations today, Mr. Watts said, is of premium grade, but it will be followed within a very short time by a similarly improved gasoline at regular price.

"In order to provide our armed forces with the gasoline necessary for the prosecution of the war, a necessary lowering of quality in civilians gasoline was inevitable," continued Mr. Watts. "The public recognized this and has been most patient and understanding of our problems during the war years. We feel now that it is our immediate obligation to provide them with products which result from the important technological advances made by us during the course of our war work."

Humble's ability to make this high-octane gasoline available so quickly, Mr. Watts pointed out, is due to its unusual background as the world's leading producer of 100 octane gasoline for wartime aviation.

A pioneer in this field, Humble in 1938 built the world's first plant for the commercial manufacture of alkylate, the most important blending ingredient of 100-octane gasoline. With the coming of World War II and the growing importance of air power, Humble increased its facilities for the production of this vital fuel. Last December in an important ceremony, Humble's Bayton Refinery was honored by high-ranking government and military officials for having produced one billion gallons of 100-octane gasoline, more than any other plant in the world.

"While Humble had done considerable research and made such progress in developing high-octane gasoline before the war," said Mr. Watt, "there is no doubt that the urgency of wartime demands speeded up the process. Technological improvements that might have taken a decade were telescoped into a much briefer span."

Both the premium and regular grade gasolines will contain a patented solvent oil, which minimizes the formation of harmful substances in engines.

"To the motorist who has been waiting patiently for a return to pre-war gasoline standards," concluded Mr. Watts, "we feel sure that Humble's announcement of the immediate release of this much better than pre-war gasoline will come as a pleasant surprise."

MUCH LOST MOTION IN HUMAN SPEECH

There's much lost motion of the air waves which are set up by human speech; in fact, the energy that people put into their voice could be cut in half without affecting the clarity of conversation.

Although 60 per cent of the energy in sound waves produced by the human voice is contained in the low notes having a frequency of less than 500 vibrations per second, according to S. W. Pierce, executive vice-president of the Sonotone Corporation, leading maker of hearing aids, all notes with frequencies under 500 could be filtered out without materially affecting clearness of speech. It might sound little thin to the ears, but the conversation would be intelligible. However, if all the notes with frequencies beyond 1500 are eliminated, then one-third of the speech sounds are missing and conversation becomes difficult to understand but is partially intelligible because of our ability to guess at and fill in some of the missing sounds.

Human speech consists largely of sounds in the frequency range from 500 to 2,500. These sounds are relatively high-pitched, but the energy behind them is substantially less than that in air waves of low notes.

The fact that high pitched sounds are essential to intelligibility of speech is taken into consideration in the design of radio, telephones, walkie-talkies and hearing aids.

Your ears become tired easily when exposed to monotonous sounds, says the Sonotone research laboratories. It takes about two minutes for the ears to show fatigue to a continuous tone of 3,000 cycles with an intensity of 100 decibels. Greatest oral fatigue can be produced with a tone of 400 cycles.

REFRIGERATE MILK SOONEST

The sooner milk and other dairy products are popped into the refrigerator, the better. If early morning delivery makes immediate refrigeration impossible, ask the milkman to set them in the shade or put a box outside to shield them from the sun. This advice from the Westinghouse Home Economic Institute is prompted by the fact that milk allowed to stand in the sun for several hours will have increased 10 to 20 degrees in temperature, thus causing a tremendous increase in bacteria which no amount of chilling afterward can reduce.

CURTAINS COME CLEANER

Cotton curtains absorb more dirt than meets the eye, and if they've hung for several months, Westinghouse home economists believe it pays to give them one or two immersions in clear lukewarm water. This removes the worst of the soil and makes the actual washing easier, cleaner, faster.

America Offers Credit to Help Bridge Lend-Lease Gap

With the termination of lend-lease in the face of wholesale demands for goods aboard for reconstruction, the entire question of U. S. postwar help to needy nations has come to the fore.

To temporarily fill the gap created by the ending of lend-lease, the administration has formulated a six billion dollar credit program, which cannot begin to satisfy the requirements of Britain, Russia, China and other friendly nations. Along with some other board, overall scheme, the stop-gap program may well serve to tide distressed countries over before the inauguration of the 20 billion dollar Bretton Woods bank and fund in 1946.

In the termination of lend-lease, Foreign Economic Administrator Leo T. Crowley admitted that suspension of the multi-billion dollar project would work hardships on needy states. But, he pointed out, lend-lease was a wartime measure never meant to be used for postwar rehabilitation.

Making a public statement right after both Prime Minister Attlee of Britain and his predecessor Winston Churchill had rapped the U. S. for discontinuance of lend-lease, Crowley outlined a comprehensive program under which friendly nations could continue to receive American material assistance on liberal terms:

1. Where Allied governments wish to pay cash or procure Export-Import bank credit, the FEA will continue to procure goods for them.

2. Former lend-lease recipients agreeing to equal annual payments over 30 years at 2 3-8 per cent interest can purchase materials now ordered or being manufactured in the U. S.

3. Allied governments will be given the opportunity to obtain inventories of U. S. materials now on their soil with cash or credit.

At the same time, Crowley announced that the U. S. would continue to extend its great shipping facilities for 30 days after V-J Day to permit deliveries of such goods, and maintain lend-lease until V-J Day to allow interested governments opportunity for making new procurement arrangements.

Previous to making his statement, Crowley had indicated that the U. S. stood ready to advance up to six billion dollars to friendly nations, of which 3 1/2 billion would be extended for cancelled lend-lease goods and 2 billion 800 million for the purchase of other materials.

In protecting against the cessation of lend-lease, Attlee gave a closeup picture of the peculiarity of Britain's economic position, so different from that of a near self-sustaining nation like the U. S., with its vast industrial plants and array of natural resources and manpower.

Normally, British industry must produce goods for export to pay for vital imports to sustain the

United Kingdom's living standards. But under the joint U. S.-British war effort, Britain's industrial machine was converted largely to war production, with American supplying much of the material formerly bought abroad.

Even so, Attlee said, Britain was spending about 8 billion dollars abroad yearly at the end of the war, while selling only about 1 1/2 billion dollars of goods and building up a balance of 1 billion 800 million dollars from expenditures of American soldiers in the isles.

While the situation was ideal for war, Attlee averred, it ultimately worked to Britain's disadvantage to the extent that the country appreciably depleted its assets abroad when it fell behind in the development of its export machinery.

The subject of discussion even before V-E Day, the question of postwar financial aid to Britain has assumed many angles, with some quarters even suggesting an outright gift of 5 billion to the United Kingdom. Along with Britain, Russia also has been in the market for from 4 to 10 billion in U. S. credits, with so far only about 1 1/2 billion earmarked for the Soviets in the Export-Import bank, however.

At the time of the passage of the bill increasing the lending power of the Export-Import bank to 3 billion dollars, it was contended that the additional funds would help tide over foreign purchasers in the U. S. until the beginning of operations of the Bretton Woods monetary agreements.

Information since divulged has it that the 10 billion dollar bank of reconstruction and rehabilitation will commence functioning by mid-1946 or later, thus leaving a gap of almost one year for interim financing.

As additional details of the bank were revealed, it was reported that efforts would be made to avoid pitfalls encountered in the almost willy-nilly financing of former foreign projects. Not only would the bank itself insure private loans made to foreign countries for rebuilding devastated economies or developing new industries, but the government of the borrower also would guarantee the obligation, thus assuring double protection.

Under the regulations of the bank, money would be loaned only for the purchase of goods or services abroad, and none for payment of goods bought inside the borrowers' state. Though the bank is authorized to make loans directly, it may only avail itself of the privilege in the cases of small countries for the sake of convenience.

Because the money will have to be spent abroad, and inasmuch as the U. S. stands as the greatest unimpaired producing unit in the world, much of the bank spending will probably be made in this country to insure an indefinite period of postwar prosperity.

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THE CITY OF BAIRD
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THE BAIRD STAR

Two-Way Radios for Buses Sought By Intercity Radio

CHICAGO—Permission of the Federal Communications Commission to equip up to 100 intercity buses with two-way radio communication and to operate a central control transmitter is being sought by Intercity Bus Radio, Inc., a division of the National Association of Motor Bus Operators. The experiment is being under-taken by the Greyhound Corporation in cooperation with several other intercity bus lines running into Chicago. Unless delays are encountered in the granting of licenses, the complete system will be in operation within 90 days.

The tentative plans, which are expected to lead to the development of a nation-wide system of two-way radio communication on highway buses, provide for the operation of a 250-watt central transmitter in the Chicago Loop. Negotiations are underway for this installation atop the Board of Trade Building.

The buses will be equipped with 50-watt transmitters, combined with receivers. Greyhound plans to install the radio sets on buses of four of its lines—Pennsylvania, Central, Northland and Illinois—running into Chicago. Similar equipment is expected to be placed on the coaches of several other operating companies.

In addition, there will be three relay receiving stations located in outlying sections of Chicago. These will serve to pick up messages from buses on the highways for automatic relay by land wires to the control points of the various operating companies in Chicago. While the 250-watt central transmitter will be able to reach buses on the highway as far distant as 75 miles, the lesser power of the bus transmitter and the static interference in the Chicago Loop may not always permit clear reception except through the remotely-operated relay stations. Consideration is being given to the possibility of installing antennas for these relay stations atop the large gas storage tanks that fringe the city.

The central and mobile transmitters will be Frequency Modulated (FM) and will operate on two frequencies of between 30 and 44 megacycles. These are in wave bands previously reserved by the FCC for assignment to intercity bus lines.

Not only will the central office be able to talk to and receive messages from buses on the highways, but drivers will also be able to communicate with one another while enroute.

"Many advantages should be derived in added convenience for passengers and increased efficiency in operation from the use of two-way radio," said Arthur M. Hill, president of the bus operators' association.

"The use of radio control of bus traffic will improve the efficiency and safety of passenger handling in several ways. Advance information on incoming passenger distribution will insure prompt connections to other points and also make it possible to provide additional sections in case of overloads. Departing buses can be held when the delay time is known and thus avoid inconvenience of missed connections for passengers.

"So far as safety is concerned, we will be able to route buses around highway obstacles where storms have caused washouts or hazardous road conditions. Prompt help and transportation could be provided in case mechanical failure stops a bus. Immediate aid could be dispatched in case of accidents. We will be able to locate and guide buses during severe snow and ice storms. The ability of one operator to communicate with other buses along the same route provide a means of warning against temporary road blockades or other conditions that require extra precautions."

The development of the project is under the direction of Frank W. Walker, who recently joined the Greyhound organization in the newly created position of communications engineer. Mr. Walker was formerly chief radio engineer of the Michigan State Police and it was under his supervision that a state-wide radio system was installed at the beginning of the war. He has served two terms as president of the Associated Police Communication Officers.

SCHOOL BUSES PERMITTED TO TRANSPORT BALL TEAMS

AUSTIN, TEXAS, September—School buses may be used again this winter for transporting football teams, pep squads, bands, and school kids to inter-school football games and meetings, Roy Bedichek, director of the University of Texas Interscholastic League, has announced.

After checking with officials of the ODT, Mr. Bedichek was assured that the war-time restrictions on school transportation have now been lifted, and school buses may be used in accordance with policies approved by the state, county, or local school authorities.

"This lifting of restrictions will help our small schools tremendously," Rodney Kidd, athletic director for the League, said. "Those schools who have been dependent upon the use of school buses to transport teams will now be able to resume their football and basketball activities."

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HUMBLE TO SPEND \$3,500,000 FOR GAS CONSERVATION

Authorization of four gas conservation projects costing \$3,500,000 and designed to conserve for productive use 56,000,000 cubic feet of natural gas daily was announced by Humble Oil & Refining Company today. The projects involve five fields in the Gulf Coast. They are West Clear Lake, Friendswood, Anahuac, and Lovell Lake Fields in Texas and the North Crowley field in Louisiana. Humble will construct two natural gasoline plants, one at West Clear Lake and the other at Anahuac, and install compressors at Lovell Lake and North Crowley.

The plant at West Clear Lake will process daily 5,000,000 cubic feet from Clear Lake, 20,000,000 cubic feet from Friendswood, and 6,000,000 cubic feet from the Dickinson-Gillock field. This plant is expected to recover from the gas 25,000 gallons of liquid products daily.

The plant to be built at Anahuac will have a capacity to process 12,000,000 cubic feet of gas daily and recover 5,400 gallons a day of liquid products.

The Lovell Lake project involves the installation of additional compressors in order to gather 4,500,000 cubic feet of gas daily and to boost the pressure so that the gas may be delivered to a transmission line which is already connected with the field. Additional equipment will also be installed at the North Crowley field in the Louisiana Gulf Coast which will deliver approximately 8,000,000 cubic feet of gas daily into transmission lines.

These projects represent an expansion of the Humble Company's gas conservation program which has been carried on for a number of years. The most important project by Humble last year was the installation of equipment at the Tomball field to conserve 8,000,000 cubic feet of gas daily by compressing it for gas lift and delivery to gas lines. The shortage of critical materials during the war has prevented the development of other projects previously.

The gas which the West Clear Lake and Anahuac plants will process is that which is being currently produced with the oil from the fields the plants will serve. Completion of these projects will make possible full utilization of all the gas produced with oil in these fields.

Sgt. Jessey McIntosh, returned from E. T. O. visiting in the home of his sister, Mrs. S. I. Smith.

Mrs. Maggie Holder of Wichita, Kansas arrived Friday to visit her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Holder.

COTTON PICKING WAGE HEARINGS ANNOUNCED

TEXAS A. & M. COLLEGE, COLLEGE STATION, September 14—Two hearings looking to the establishing of wage ceiling regulations for cotton picking and pulling, and the services or crew leaders in 39 counties of the Low Rolling Plains area of Texas were announced today by E. R. Alexander, chairman of the Texas USDA Wage Board. Cotton producers in the counties affected petitioned the Wage Board for hearings.

One hearing was held in Sweetwater at the southern end of the area at 10 a. m. on September 4, and the other at Vernon in the northern end at the same hour on September 5, to give producers and laborers opportunity to express their view on setting up a wage ceiling, Alexander said.

The counties represented at the Sweetwater hearing were: McCulloch, Concho, Tom Green, Coke, Runnels, Coleman, Midland, Martin, Howard, Mitchell, Nolan, Taylor, Scurry, Callahan, Fisher, Jones, and Shackelford. The hearing at Vernon was attended by representatives from these counties: Kent, Stone-wall, Haskell, Throckmorton,

Young, Dickens, King, Knox, Baylor, Archer, Motley, Cottle, Hardeman, Foard, Wilbarger, Wichita, Hall, Childress, Donley, Collingsworth, Gray and Wheeler.

Alexander explained that organized committees from the counties affected would express the wishes of the farmers they represent whether they desire to establish a wage ceiling program and assist in the setting up of county advisory committees. Individual farmers and other interested persons attending had the privilege of submitting statements as to what they believed would be a fair wage in view of existing conditions, for cotton picking and pulling, and for crew leaders services.

Testimony taken will concern the type of work to be controlled, the exact areas to be subject to control, the wage rates to be paid, and other related matters, Alexander said. Administration of the wage ceiling program, if one is set up in the counties, would be under the direction of D. A. Adam, Executive Officer of the Texas USDA Wage Board. He would work in close cooperation with county and community advisory committees.

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Its Employees

and to the people of Baird whose foresight made this wonderful institution possible.

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Watch this paper for further announcement

C. W. SUTPHEN

HUMBLE TO BROADCAST FOOTBALL GAMES AGAIN

HOUSTON, TEXAS—Humble Oil & Refining Company announced today that it will again broadcast Southwest Conference football games this fall. This will be the eleventh consecutive year that these games have been broadcast under Humble's sponsorship.

Humble will bring listeners all Conference games and many other important inter-sectional games in which Conference teams play. A full schedule of interesting games has been arranged, and, with many service men back in college uniforms for the first time since Pearl Harbor, the 1945 season promises fans the best football they've enjoyed in years.

Back at the mike will be these old favorites, veterans of many Humble broadcasts, Kern Tips, Ves Box, Charlie Jordan, Bill Micheals, Dave Russell and others. These top Texas sports announcers will give accurate and colorful play-by-play accounts of each game, as well as bring listeners the interest in high-lights that add so much to the enjoyment of the game.

Following its past custom, the Humble Company is also distributing pocket-sized schedules which are now available at all Humble stations. These schedules show all games in which Conference teams participate and indicate which games will be played at night.

Further announcements of the stations carrying each game, times of broadcasts and announcers will be carried each week in the newspapers as well as posted in Humble stations.

R. M. Pyeatt, Clyde merchant, was a business visitor in Baird Monday.

Pete Bouchett, Gulf service station operator of Clyde was attending to business in Baird Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Grover C. Maddux and daughter, Sharon, of Detroit, Mich., were guests last week of Mrs. Bea Woolley in Clyde. They were accompanied here from Whitefate by Mrs. Maddux's mother, Mrs. Ben L. Graham.

Weekend guests in the home of Mrs. O. G. Killingsworth and family in Clyde were Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Chisum, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Fisher from Pampa, and Mrs. Aubrey Johnson of Abilene. Guinette Killingsworth returned home after spending the summer with her aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Chisum in Clyde.

It can be done in Baird.

NATION'S BANKS GEARED FOR POSTWAR LENDING

With total victory, 15,000 national and state banks throughout the country are geared to meet the credit needs of postwar America, Robert M. Hanes, chairman of the postwar small business credit commission of the American Bankers' association, declared.

Since money serves as the great transmission belt permitting the flow of services and materials, Hanes' statement was not without significance to postwar prosperity. Backed by two years of study of the credit needs of the nation's economic machine, the banks' peacetime lending apparatus was oiled up for the inevitable return to normalcy even while the war raged.

"Banking has produced a new postwar credit product—the bank credit group," Hanes declared. "There are now 40 such groups with total resources in excess of \$600,000,000, whose operations extend throughout every area of the nation. These credit groups are designed to provide a third source of bank credit within the banking structure itself, the local bank being the first and its correspondent the second.

"The individual banks themselves, with deposits in excess of \$140,000,000,000, constitute the greatest reservoir of potential credit in the history of banking. In addition these banks are rapidly becoming skilled in the uses of credit methods that were developed in the years just prior to the war. Many of these were used primarily by large business, such as term loans, accounts receivable, and field warehousing. Today, however, all these useful credit methods are being applied by the banks to the needs of small business.

Backing up the local bank in this postwar credit activity is an active correspondent system whereby loans are being made in co-operation with the country banks in cases where the country bank, because of its size or for some other reason, is unable to make the loan itself. Too, many banks where the volume of business warrants are creating special facilities for providing expert business. Banking is determined that small business shall live and shall be given the opportunity to grow and prosper.

Banking's program, according to Hanes, will provide the means for making available jobs to the veteran and the war worker, and it will speed the reconversion process of business and industry and will permit many enterprises, particularly the small ones, to swing rapidly into peacetime production. He sees through its operations the re-establishment of many concerns blacked out by wartime restrictions, priorities and manpower shortages.

"This constructive credit program," Hanes declared, "will be made available to the people of America out of the credit resources and through the facilities of the banks of the nation. It will be done without placing any additional burden upon the taxpayer through the creation of government subsidized lending agencies or through the operation of new and unnecessary government bureaus for insuring, guaranteeing of making loans."

Hanes' assertion that the nation's banks were equipped to handle important postwar financing was corroborated by the U. S. treasury's announcement that assets of over 5,000 national banks totalled nearly \$82,000,000,000 as of June 30. The figure represented a gain of almost \$11,500,000,000 over the same date in 1944.

Of the \$82,000,000,000 in assets, the treasury revealed, \$77,000,000,000 were in deposits. Investments in U. S. government obligations soared to over \$47,000,000,000 and unimpaired capital stock stood at over \$1,500,000,000; surplus almost \$2,000,000,000; undivided profits \$500,000,000 and reserves \$281,000,000.

Further indication of the nation's banks' strength was furnished by the Federal Deposit Insurance corporation, which stated that no insured institution went into receivership since May of 1944.

Income of the FDIC itself totalled \$61,000,000 for the first six months of 1945, from premiums and earnings of surplus funds. With expenses and deposit losses amounting to only \$2,000,000, the FDIC was able to shift \$59,000,000 over mounting reserves.

F. S. Bouchett, of Clyde, made his usual Monday visit to Baird to transact business. He was accompanied by Mrs. Bouchett.

Pfc. Billy Mac Jobe arrived in Putnam September 5, from Scott Field, Ill to spend a ten day furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Earl D. Jobe.

Jim Newton, aviation cadet, son of Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Newton, has been transferred from the Naval air base at Norman, Okla., to Corpus Christi. He recently visited his parents in Clyde.

Miss Mary Frances Stubblefield is returning to Denton Sunday where she will resume studies at the Teachers College. Dr. and Mrs. M. L. Stubblefield will accompany her to Denton.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Morrison and son of Paris, visited in the home of his father, A. H. Morrison, and his sister, Mrs. Mack Hayes and family in Abilene, enroute to Hagerman, N. M. to visit her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Mann.

Mrs. J. H. Watson has returned to Clyde from a trip to New Mexico where she visited the Carlsbad Caverns and other points. She was accompanied on the trip by Mr. and Mrs. G. D. Watson and daughter, Dixie Lynn of Abilene, and Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Watson and daughter, Wanda, of Kermit.

TODAY AND TOMORROW

COUNTRY

Now that the war is over, that peace country seems to have become stronger than ever.

Maybe it is the general shifting around of employment and new kinds of work to be done—maybe it's an after-effect of war weariness—but whatever the reason, any real estate man will tell you that the demands of city people for a place in the country has reached an all time high.

During the war the movement of people was definitely away from the farms and to the cities where lucrative war jobs were available. Some of the men and women who left the rural communities may not return for some time to come. The total rural population may be a long time in reaching its prewar figure. For many of the farm-raised boys and girls are finding city work easier, more remunerative and more adventurous.

Those who have lived on farms and left for the city probably won't return until employment and high wages in the cities are difficult to obtain. It is the men and women who have always lived in the cities who are clamoring for country life—for the peace, the independence and the slower pace of living which they picture as existing in the quiet rural communities.

MONEY

This desire for the rural life seems to exist more among the educated and well-to-do people than among the poorer classes. Or at least it is more evident among the better-off people who are able to get the money together to make the down-payment on a farm.

I know one man who makes about \$20,000 a year as manager of a large company who is right now dickering to "retire" at the age of 41, to a farm-life in an unpopulated but beautiful section of Pennsylvania. He has carefully worked out the details of his postwar farm life and figures that, if all goes well, he will be able to earn \$2,500 a year in addition to supplying his family with food.

A lot of his friends can't understand why he would be willing to give up an income of \$20,000 a year for an uncertain one of \$2,500, but he is glad to explain, to anyone who will listen, that it is infinitely more worthwhile to enjoy life than to devote all of your waking hours to earning a good living.

He hopes, when he has his farm, to have plenty of time for hunting and fishing and riding. He thinks it will be a fine thing for his

children to have a healthful, outdoor life. And he likes the idea of being entirely independent—of having his success or failure depend entirely upon his own efforts.

I am summarizing this man's outlook, because I think it is typical of the outlook of thousands of city business men who are right now flirting with farm ideas.

There is only one big difficulty that stands in his way—most of them don't know the first thing about farming.

During the past few years dozens of books and magazine articles have been written to instruct these would-be farmers on what they are facing. Some of the books tell how families have left the city and managed to make a success of farming. Others warn that farming is one of the most difficult and hazardous methods of existence and that any man who doesn't have a farm background is facing almost certain failure and disappointment if he pulls up stakes and heads for the farmlands.

But among the would-be farmers, the books which sell best are those which take the optimistic viewpoint—which say, "It can be done."

Probably, in the final analysis, it depends on the individual. There

are certainly many cases where a city business man who happens to know how to use his hands, who understands machinery, who is willing to work hard and learn hard, and who takes the advice of his more experienced neighbors, has made a success of farming. But there are also countless examples of the man who "retired" to the country, put in a couple of the hardest and most discouraging years of his life at unsuccessful farming and was only too glad to return to the city when an opportunity presented itself.

There is no question that city life is becoming less and less attractive to those who live and work in cities. The noise, the bustle, the severe competition, the sharp business methods are unnerveing and taxing the constitution of more and more people.

But it is very much of a question whether the grass is really greener in rural America for these over-taxed people, or whether a flight to the farmlands will just be a matter of jumping from the frying pan into the fire. The sounder answer might be to make city life more attractive—to decentralize industry—to get rid of giant metropolises and add a more rural touch to urban life.

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