



# THE CISCO WEEKLY CITIZEN

R. W. H. KENNON, Editor-Publisher

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY

105 West Broadway

CISCO, TEXAS

A CISCO-OWNED NEWSPAPER

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

ONE YEAR \$1.00

Entered as second class matter July 24, 1930, at the postoffice at Cisco, Texas, under the act March 2, 1873.

When brought to the editor's attention any erroneous reflection upon any person, firm or organization will be cheerfully corrected.

### BIBLE THOUGHT FOR TODAY

How excellent is thy lovingkindness, O God! therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of thy wings.—Ps. 36:7.

I thank thee, Lord, in this gentle hour  
That the strength of the storm is gone,  
That daylight waits at the windowpane  
And the clouds are hued with dawn.

—Katherine H. Williams.

It is one of the main businesses of our lives to be happy, and to rejoice. We came into the world not to be mournful and full of grief. Else we would not have been given the implements for constant rejoicing. . . . The blessings that are given us are in such abundance that if we dwell on them we will have little or no time to be saddened by our difficulties.—W. D. Jamison.

### OPPORTUNITY OF NEW ADMINISTRATION

When the new administration goes into office, takes up the reins of city government, they do with the full endorsement of the voters as expressed at the polls April 5. The entire ticket, sponsored by the Cisco Taxpayers Association, the local body that stands for certain and definite reforms in city government, including a more economical administration, was elected, giving that group of Cisco people complete power on the city commission which will enable them to work out these reforms advocated by those sponsoring their candidacy.

Nor are these reforms radical, as none composing those who constitute its membership, favor revolutionary tactics that would disrupt business or cause the city any disadvantages in city progress. On the other hand, if the administration carries out the policies advocated by the Taxpayers association, they will endeavor to install those policies advocated by the State Taxpayers association, with which the local body has affiliation through the Eastland county association. These reforms are relief to the taxpayers in further reduction of property values and lower taxes, if possible, as well as economy in administration, that Cisco may take her proper place among the progressive cities of Texas.

Perhaps no administration ever assumed power in Cisco with greater opportunities for accomplishing measures that will be for the weal of this city than those confronting the new administration on its assumption of authority. These opportunities are multifarious, which, if carried out, will perpetuate the present group in power indefinitely. If they fail to grasp the opportunities presented, this, like the preceding administration, will be short-lived, and go out of office just as their predecessors did April 5. The natural result of the election was the repudiation of those who have failed to accomplish those reforms for which they were elected. Consequently, it was to be expected that the people favored a change.

But it is anticipated that all measures enacted by the incoming administration will be conservative in their nature, and for the best interest of the entire community. In other words those elected will endeavor to represent the entire citizenship, rather than special interests, but ever keep in mind the invested rights of individuals and corporations that are cooperating with the city to make Cisco, bigger, better and insure her stability.

The paramount problem that confronts the new administration is the settlement of Cisco's bonded indebtedness. Until this is done no material advance in city building will be possible. The Citizen believes the refunding of the bonds with other issues, to be voted on the full strength of the bonding ability of the city, and the exchanges of the refunding bonds for those outstanding on a basis of that proportion to be determined by our present bonding powers. It is believed, if the proper man is employed to bring about a settlement on this basis, it could be done. The recent proposition of the New York group of bondholders for a settlement on 50 cents on the dollar is untenable for two reasons: First, the bonding ability of the city is inadequate to vote an issue large enough to accomplish this if they were inclined to do so; second, the voters would never consent to give a mortgage on Lake Cisco to secure the payment of these bonds, and it is not believed this group can secure other issues outstanding.

But to wipe the slate clean by issuing refunding bonds to the extent of the city's bonding power, which is all we can do, it is believed that all would finally accept this settlement. Then we could proceed with a program of construction with some hope of accomplishing beneficial results.

The Citizen is aware that some of our people believe we should repudiate those issues that are questionable, then compromise with the holders of those issues that are admitted to have been issued as the law prescribes. This course would entail endless litigation at enormous cost to the city, even though we should finally be victorious in our contentions. According to past rulings of the federal court it is believed these questionable issues will be declared valid. In that event, we will have gained nothing by the long drawn out and expensive litigation that would naturally ensue. But if we can effect a settlement, say on a basis of five to one (which is estimated our present bonding powers) this settlement will prove as beneficial as we could hope to do by resisting the attempt to collect the questionable issues.

Then, there is a little matter at Lake Cisco that should not be delayed. That of acquiring what land around the lake that will be needed in protecting and preserving that property. The city has a contract to acquire additional lands of approximately 60 feet above high water mark around the lake. This contract is limited, and if allowed to expire, the

city may find others owning the water front on Lake Cisco. This land is needed, and should be acquired as soon as possible, or an extension should be requested on the contract with the Weddington interests.

Another matter that has been allowed to go by default, which should be attended to while those familiar with its terms are living, and before the statutes of limitations run. This is the securing of title to the water, light and sewer system at Humbletown. There is in existence, so the Citizen is informed, a contract with the Humble Company that specifies in lieu of certain tax concessions this property should revert to the city of Cisco at the expiration of a determined period, which we are told expired in July, 1931. Our information is that the Humble Company prosecuted a friendly and undefended suit in the district court this year for the cancellation of the delinquent taxes of the company, and a judgment was rendered by default, and this, too without the administration securing a bill of sale to the light, water and sewer system, the title of which was agreed should invest in Cisco when the time limit had expired. Parties are now living who can establish Cisco's title to this property, if the contract cannot be located, and no further delay should imperil Cisco's acquisition of this property, but the matter should be given immediate attention. If the title to this property is not perfected it means a loss of half a million dollars to Cisco.

But there are no grounds to apprehend any revolutionary tactics from the incoming administration, as all the new commissioners are loyal citizens, and vitally interested in Cisco and her future progress.

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### Refusing Patronage

(Continued from page 1.)

The example set by the city officials is nothing less than suicide for Cisco, and unless there is a change Cisco will be just another town to commit municipal suicide. It is a baneful example our own officials are setting up—refusing to patronize those institutions which are contributing to the city's material welfare—and patronizing the trust service stations that are doing all within their power to stifle individual competition. The major companies have taken over the filling stations, and those whom they place in charge must sell only the products of that particular subsidiary of the Standard or Gulf petroleum trusts. If a service station manager should happen to make something above a living the trust representative tells him he must place additional equipment, and if he refuses to add this equipment, whether needed or not, there is a new manager to take over the station.

But so far as the city officials are concerned, that is all right. Pay out money gathered in from local taxpayers and spend it with the trusts and outside concerns. They pay no taxes, while local manufacturers and business people are consistent taxpayers, and give employment to local people, who spend their wages in Cisco and help pay official salaries.

If we were a part and parcel of the city administration anything made in Cisco would be good enough for city employees to buy and use. If we were at the head of any of the city departments, and an employe purchased any commodity from others than those doing business in Cisco, he would have to pay it out of his own salary or be dismissed from the service. And if we were a member of the city commission we would never vote to allow a bill to be purchased out of Cisco, or manufactured by outside towns, if that commodity was manufactured or sold by Cisco people.

Municipal suicide is the right name for such acts, even when committed by private citizens, and is inexcusable when city officials spend local tax money to pay for products manufactured and sold by others than Cisco people, when Cisco products can be procured. Probably some of this tax money paid by the White Star refinery will find its way into the treasury of the Standard Oil trust for gasoline and oils used by these city officials. Is it fair, is it right? Certainly it is municipal suicide, and our own city officials are wielding the blade that is opening the veins of the municipal body to let the life blood flow into the arteries of the most rapacious octopus that ever cursed the state of Texas.

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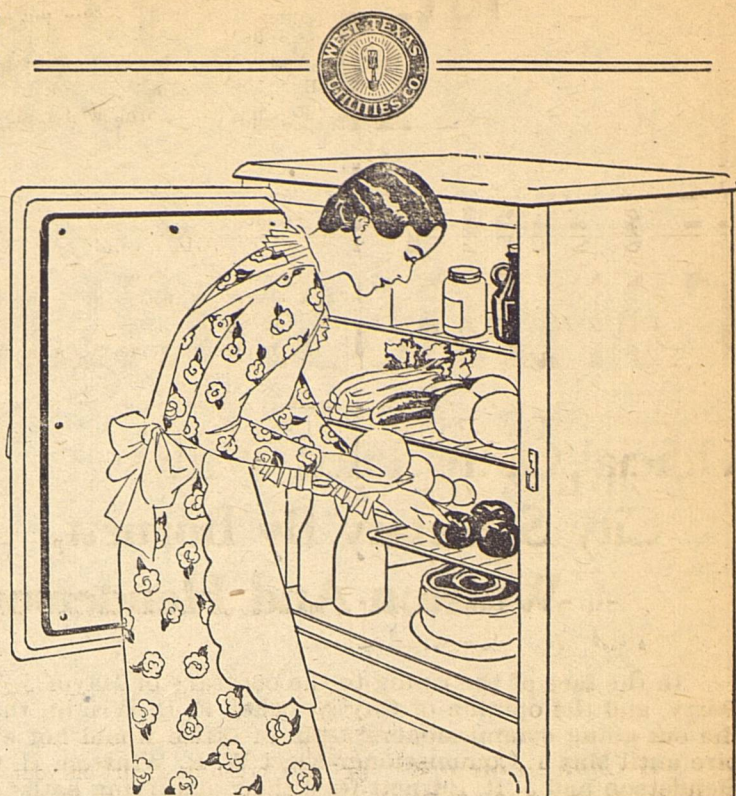
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**MY LEGACY TO THE WORLD**  
Anonymous

"When I shall leave this mundane sphere  
And journey to the land of bliss,  
I'll not consult a lawyer keen,  
For my last words will read like this:

'Gold I have not, and my purse is dust;  
Let him who would seek the worthless thing,  
But I have wealth and I leave it now  
To make the veriest clod a king.

I leave the blue of the evening sky,  
The golden circle of sun-drenched rain,  
To those who have eyes to see it there,  
When the heart is heavy with pain.

I leave the soft winds of eventide,  
The sweet scent of dew damp bloom,  
The twitter of sleepy birds a-nest  
In some leafy elm tree's gloom.

I leave the clasp of baby arms,  
The brush of a curl on your cheek,  
To the mother love of the whole wide world—  
No other heaven need one seek.

I crave no funeral grand and great,  
Nor a marble shaft to the skies,  
Only the memory of friends who can see  
Me riding the spring sunrise.

And sometimes when the shadows creep,  
And loved ones call kiddies from play—  
I'll wander back, if God wills it so,  
Just to hear the little ones pray."

**TAX COLLECTIONS FOR LAST QUARTER OF 1931**

County Auditor W. S. Michael reports collection of taxes for the last quarter of 1931, and during January, to have been \$358,998.77, which is approximately 57.3 percent of the total levy of \$625,586.45 for county purposes. For the corresponding period one year ago there were collected \$490,851.26, a difference of \$131,852.49.

**SMALL TOWNS DON'T DIE—**  
**—THEY COMMIT SUICIDE!**

Towns do not die, they commit suicide, said a newspaper recently. And it is true.

If everybody who makes his money in this community would spend his money in this community the home town would double in population in a few years and everybody in and around it would be prosperous. Why are filling stations out of proportion to every other line of business in number? Because people buy most all of their gas and oil at home.

It is really inexplicable, why people will persist in spending money out of town needlessly, when the results of this practice are so costly. We know of one individual in the city now out of a job. This particular individual rarely spent a cent in Eaton Rapids, even when he could have saved money. Some two or three years ago this person was informed that if his practice of spending money out of the city continued, he would work himself out of a job entirely. And that is just what has happened. How can the business men, or any one else, hire employees if they have nothing for them to do, or any money to pay them? When you spend a dollar outside you take it right out of the pockets of some local citizen.

And speaking of the "Penny wise and pound foolish" policy, this is it. Save a few cents by spending your money in some other city, and then in the course of time find your husband out of a job because business conditions here will not warrant his remaining in some one's employ.

The fight is on in all small cities. This does not only apply to Eaton Rapids. It is becoming a very serious question, and one that must be reckoned with in the near future. Just as mentioned above—the small city is not dying, it is committing suicide inch by inch. Instead of casting this idea off like so many snow flakes, it is time, and right now when every individual should give the matter serious thought. Otherwise there'll be more vacant stores in the city than we regret to report today.—Eaton Rapids (Minn.) Journal.

**RECENT CASES FILED WITH DISTRICT CLERK**

In 88th District Court: In Re. liquidation Texas State Bank, Eastland, approve February expense account. M. W. Coll vs. J. R. Stubblefield, suit on note. J. S. Brimberry, et al, vs. E. J. Keough, collect debt. In Re. liquidation Desdemona State Bank and Trust Company, approve expense account. Fannie Souter vs. Tillman Souter, divorce.

91st District Court: In Re. liquidation Texas State Bank, Eastland, to settle indebtedness of Corzelius Bros., et al. T. H. Foley vs. Farm & Home Savings and Loan Association, for debt. In Re. liquidation First State Bank, Carbon, approve February expense account. T. H. Foley vs. National Liberty Insurance Company, for debt. In Re. liquidation Brownwood State Bank, Brownwood, sell Alfrey note. Conner & McRae vs. James Shaw Commissioner, et al, for deposits made in Texas State Bank. West Texas Construction Company vs. J. A. Beard, et ux, foreclosure paving lien. West Texas Construction Company vs. Mrs. E. A. Guest, et al foreclosure paving lien. West Texas Construction Company vs. Frank Davis, foreclosure paving lien. West Texas Construction Company vs. R. L. Rust, et ux, foreclosure paving lien. Pernecia Fletcher vs. T. F. Fletcher, divorce.

**COUNTY AND CITY BONDS OBLIGATIONS \$12,590,440**

AUSTIN, April 13.—The taxpayers of Eastland county paid the county, its cities and school districts a total of \$1,438,137 taxes during the year 1931, according to reports filed with State Auditor Moore Lynn.

The report showed the county collected \$817,818; cities, \$323,114; common school districts, \$59,153; and independent school districts, \$238,050.

Out of these collections, there was applied \$331,992 to interest and sinking fund.

The report showed the total bonded indebtedness of the county and cities and districts to be \$12,590,440.

These figures did not include state taxes paid by the county; nor automobile license fees nor the four-cent gasoline tax.

**INTENTIONS TO MARRY AND LICENSE ISSUED**

Notice of intentions to marry: T. J. Parker, Cisco, and Miss Rosie Bragg, Eastland. James T. Duncan, Eastland, and Miss Dollie E. Lacey, Eastland. Tom James, Ranger, and Miss Rosa Mae Harris, Ranger. Robert Jamison, Ranger, and Miss Merle Thomas, Ranger.

Marriage license issued: Leonard Chambliss and Miss Kittie Perdue. C. L. Sylvester and Miss Trophie Ray Todd. T. J. Parker and Miss Rosie Bragg.

**MOTHER OF EASTLAND WOMAN DIED AT MORAN**

MORAN, April 14.—Mrs. R. H. Rodgers, 80, pioneer resident of this community, died here Monday morning. Burial was in Moran cemetery Tuesday.

Mrs. Rodgers came to Shackelford county in 1883, from Lamar county. She was preceded in death by her husband in 1928.

Six children and a number of grandchildren and great grandchildren survive. The children are Marion Rodgers, Dallas; Mrs. Bert Brooks, Mrs. Cora Huskey, and Mrs. Bert Overby, Moran; Dock Rodgers Breckenridge, and Mrs. D. S. Thomas, Eastland.

**INCOMPLETE PERSONNEL RURAL SCHOOL TRUSTEES**

Some of the rural school trustees elected April 2, include the following:

Colony, D. Anderson; Reich, R. N. Hazlewood; Long Branch, S. N. Poe; Cottonwood, Sam Yeager, Joe Bateman, Grover Cleveland; Bluff Branch, R. A. Latham, C. C. McFadden; Dothan, Joe Coats; New Hope, G. W. Wood, G. B. Hallmark; Bullock, Paul Smith; Cook, O. D. Carver; Ballard, Lee Lieseke, F. Hagaman; Center Point, Ned Norris, A. S. Jackson; Bedford, Newt Lewis, Joe Hatten; Mangum, J. A. May; Reagan, N. J. Bishop; Olden, Fred Gertz, C. L. Little, O. M. White; Pioneer, Gus Dennis, Jim Brown. Reports from other schools not received.

**Historical Facts Gleaned From Old Newspaper Of 1898**

The Ranger News says:

Lee Williams of Ranger brought to our office Wednesday a copy of the "Ranger Success," a weekly newspaper published here bearing the date of April 15, 1898, being 34 years old.

The paper carried an account of the death of B. W. Williams, father of Lee.

Many interesting things are noticed in looking over this ancient copy among which is a large advertisement of a livery and feed stable, appearing on the front page. In looking through we find a few names that are still familiar to the Ranger people. On the last page is an advertisement which reads: "G. L. Davenport, Shaving Parlor, When in need of a Shave, Shampoo or haircut, you will find me ready to serve you." G. L. is now the dignified judge of the 91st district court at Eastland.

In the political announcement column we find some more names that are familiar to the present residents of Eastland and Ranger. The column carries the announcement of E. P. Davenport, now practicing law in Stamford, for district clerk; John R. Stubblefield, for county attorney, and S. J. Dean for collector.

A list of the county officials is given in the "Success" which were as follows: County judge, B. F. Chastain; county attorney, J. R. Stubblefield; county clerk, Richard Gray; district clerk, Ernest Wood; sheriff, J. W. Whitesides; tax collector, R. L. Ramsey; tax assessor, J. T. Foster; surveyor, R. A. Wells; commissioner precinct No. 1, H. K. Martin No. 2, W. V. Garrett No. 3, E. C. Anderson No. 4, G. W. Graves, J. P. Precinct No. 2, W. W. Flournoy, constable, precinct No. 2, R. T. Russell.

**CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH SERVICES**

"Doctrine of Atonement" is the lesson-sermon subject in all Churches of Christ, Scientist, Sunday, April 17.

Hebrews 9:28 furnishes the golden text. "Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation."

The lesson-sermon embraces the following verse from the Bible (II Corinthians 5:17): "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."

Included in the service is the following citation from page 18 of the Christian Science textbook, "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures," by Mary Baker Eddy: "Jesus of Nazareth taught and demonstrated man's oneness with the Father, and for this we owe him endless homage. His mission was both individual and collective. He did life's work aright not only in justice to himself, but in mercy to mortals, to show them how to do theirs, but not to do it for them nor to relieve them of a single responsibility."

**SCHWARTZ NAMED BAIRD MAYOR FOR FIFTH TERM**

H. Schwartz was re-elected mayor of Baird in the city elections April 5, being his fifth election to that office without opposition. Other city officers elected were: Price McFarlane city marshal by a small majority over J. C. Barringer, who has held the office for the past six years. W. T. Hensley was third in the Marshal's race.

Five Aldermen were elected from a list of eight; they are S. L. McElroy, Borah Brame, G. H. Corn, Lee Estes and Olin Jones, who was a member of the present council. Other names on the list were V. F. Jones, W. L. Cook and J. R. Reid.

**BAIRD C. OF C. SECRETARY HANDS IN RESIGNATION**

James C. Asbury, secretary of the Baird Chamber of Commerce for the past four years, has handed in his resignation effective May 1. He gives as his reason that he wishes to devote his entire time to his private business.

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