

Oplin Observations
By Mrs. Daphne Floyd
Odds and Ends Opportunity
Offered in Open Order

A most enjoyable time was had by a large crowd at the Community Center last Thursday night. The Masonic Band, which is composed of talent from the Home for Aged Masons at

Arlington, was just as good as before. You noticed I didn't speak of them as old folks, for with their wit, humor and talent, I was reminded that age is something to bloom with and not necessarily to fade with. Proof of this was in seeing an eighty-nine year old fiddle player jump to his feet and dance a cute little jig when the orchestra played



And May We Give Thanks

Not only for the fine things in life which have been showered upon us so generously but for the friendship of good people like yourself.

We Will Not Be Open For Business
Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 26th

The First National Bank Of Baird

BAIRD, TEXAS
A MODERN BANK ESTABLISHED IN 1885
Dependable Through the Years
Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
Member Federal Reserve System

"Too Old To Cut The Mustard Anymore."

Mr. M. C. Miller had further X-Ray last week to check on that broken leg. He must have bribed the doctor for he was informed that he could now start putting some weight on it. At that information, Mr. Miller was brave enough to drive the car to Oplin.

Visiting with Mrs. Tommie Windham last Monday evening was her sister, Mrs. Wilson Merrill of Novice. A nephew and family, Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Merrill and children, Patsy and Dub also visited. Both families have recently moved back to Novice from Carlsbad, N. M.

Mr. Tom Poindexter has been sick with the flu, but is feeling much better.

Mr. and Mrs. John Jordan are having their home redecorated. It will be quite a "dressup" job with new paper, wood work refinished, new roof, etc. A brother, Bill Jordan, is doing most of the work.

Let us all join hands in an old fashioned giving of thanks spirit this coming Thanksgiving. This is the first time in several years that we have a perfect setting for the holiday occasion with the smell of frost in the air and nature having waved her magic wand, splashing the mountains with its hue of bronze, gold and still an occasional touch of green. Happy Thanksgiving All!

Rev. and Mrs. Charles Lutrick and children will leave Thursday morning for Amarillo to spend Thanksgiving with their parents.

M. M. CALDWELL

Electrical Contractor
Specialize in residential and R.E.A. wiring
Light Fixtures
Caldwell Furniture Company

Washington
"As It Looks From Here"
OMAR BURLINSON
Congressman
17th District

Farmers do not have publicity agents. Extraordinary as the farmers' achievements have been, they have been pretty generally taken for granted.

With the exception of a few colleges and universities which have an agriculture department, and except the agricultural schools, agricultural economics is a neglected subject. Economics, as it is taught, is related almost wholly to industry. Generation after generation of young city Americans grow to adults, unaware of agriculture's importance, its problems, and pursuits, and therefore, they have little appreciation of how completely their very existence depends upon the farmer.

Industry and its commerce have so thoroughly dominated the education, habits of thought, and means of communication of the American people during the last few decades that many have come to look on the machine as the source of all the best things of life. The world of organic life and growth, upon which farming is based, has only a feeble grip upon our consciousness.

This ignorance of things agricultural extends even to Congress and the Executive Branch of the Federal Government. Worst of all, a similar lack of understanding seems to envelop the Department of Agriculture. The chief concern of the Department now seems economic, rather than agricultural. The statistical formula, typewriters, and calculating machines have replaced, to a great extent, the experimental project and the microscope. Statisticians, not agricultural experts, dominate the Department.

In a word, it appears our na-

tional agricultural policies are being made and administered by men who know little about the sciences and arts in which the farmer himself is expert. The towering bureaucracy of the Department of Agriculture is rooted in the Government Treasury, instead of the nation's soil.

Thus we see a vigorous, thriving industrial business, and an uncertain agricultural economy. Industry points its production to specific and carefully defined demands and markets. Industry knows, within rather close limits, what the markets are and what they will absorb. The industrialist can produce his goods with a confidence that the farmer does not have. The industrialist can cut his production at the first signs that his goods cannot be profitably sold on the market. The farmer cannot do so. Furthermore, the farmer must contend with the uncertain element of weather, which continually presents him with all sorts of hazards.

Except for the elements of nature, farmers are fully equipped with the intelligence, ability, and resourcefulness to solve their achievements in increasing farm production needed during the war.

Now that surpluses are on hand, and more coming, the farmers have been without the leadership necessary to meet changing conditions. For instance, the retention and development of world markets for greater exports of farm commodities is the business of government. The farmer could not possibly have control over such things, and it is therefore the business of his government. It has failed him in this respect, and that is a prime cause for the decline of farm prices today.

Down Memory Lane

November 25, 1910

M. M. Terry has moved back to Baird, from Coleman, where he moved sometime ago. He says business is dull at Coleman and decided to return to Baird, his old home. Marion Terry is one of the oldest settlers in Callahan County, and we are glad he has returned.

J. H. Walker and family and Haynie Gilliland are visiting Capt. and Mrs. J. W. Jones, on Clear Creek.

Sid H. Harwell, one of The Star's readers at Moran, was in town Saturday.

Misses Annie May Wristen and Wren Foy are visiting friends at Ovalo this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Jasper McCoy were in from the Bayou Tuesday. S. E. Settle and N. H. Coleman, of Clyde, spent Sunday in Baird.

B. Sonneshine, of Beaumont, has accepted a position as salesman with H. Schwartz.

Dr. Thaxton has rented out his farm at Eula, and is going to move to Potosi. We hate to see the doctor and family leave us, but Eula's loss is Potosi's gain.

Mrs. R. P. Stephenson and son, Nunnally, spent last Wednesday with Mrs. Rod Kelton.

November 24, 1933

Mr. Ace Walters and Miss Inez Morris, living in the south part of the county, were married in Baird Wednesday evening by T. J. White, Justice of the Peace. Fred Estes, Jr., spent the weekend with friends in Weatherford.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Weeks and daughter, Miss Faye, of Putnam, were in Baird Wednesday.

Mrs. M. A. Brightwell is reported quite ill at her home on Burnt Branch. Mrs. Brightwell has been confined to her room for several weeks.

Mrs. Anna Nordyke of Houston visited her brothers, Lee and Frank Champion last week.

Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Cook and family, Willis, Maurice, Misses Julia, Sarah Nell and little Miss Maurine, are moving to a farm near Winters. The Star regrets to have this esteemable family leave Baird but hopes that they will find every happiness in their new home. Miss Sarah Nell and Maurice, who were students in Baird High School will enter Winters High School.

Denton Doings
Jean Farmer

Mr. and Mrs. H. Farmer and Kay visited Mrs. Forrest Ford and Sue of Winters Thursday night.

Mrs. Howard Gleason and Terry visited Mr. and Mrs. John Ogle Monday.

Mrs. Winfred Scott and Roberta visited her mother of Austin, the past weekend.

Mr. and Mrs. Edd Farmer of Cisco visited the Hubert Farmers Saturday.

Use The Star for Classified Ads.

To Relieve Misery of
COLDS
take **666**
LIQUID OR TABLETS - SAME FAST RELIEF

It's **WHERE** you buy a used car that counts!



When you can trust the dealer who sold you a used car, you can trust the car.

The next question, then, is: Who can you trust most? We Ford Dealers are established business men with large investments at stake. Our business reputation depends on every business transaction—whether it is a new car sale, a used car sale or a service operation. We want your used car business, and some day we

hope to sell you a new car or another used car. And we want your service business, too!

"But," you say, "granted that you Ford Dealers have reputations to uphold, granted that your mechanics and service facilities make it easier to put your used cars in good shape—how do you compare in price?"

Let us give you some facts and the answer will be obvious. Ford Dealers handle used cars and trucks as a service to customers who trade them for new cars. When we get overloaded with trade-ins, our capital is tied up. Like everyone else, we have to pay our bills. So we must always offer used cars at rock-bottom prices to keep things moving.

You can trust your **FORD DEALER'S**
A-1 USED CARS and TRUCKS

Rockey Motor Co. BAIRD TEXAS

Just a few more days to—

trade
McSave

with a New Automatic Gas Range

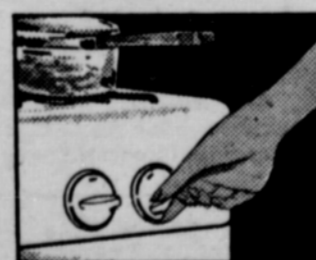


Hurry!

November 30 is the last day of the Old Stove Round Up, the biggest appliance sales event of 1953. Shop now. You'll find special values and every modern cooking feature in the world at Gas Range Dealers' stores.

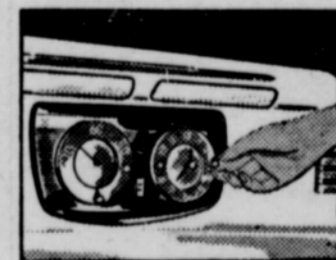
From griddle-tops to decorator color styling, Gas ranges give you biggest choice of modern features.

New GAS Ranges are so modern, so fast-no other fuel can catch up!



FASTER

Only Gas gives you high heat... any heat... off heat instantly. No waiting. Cooking is twice as easy (and fast) as with any other fuel.



AUTOMATIC

On many new gas ranges oven clock control lets you load oven and leave. It lights itself... cooks by itself... turns itself off automatically.



CLEANER

Only Gas broils without smoking. Live flame consumes normal surface smoke and greasy vapors. None escapes; door is tightly closed.

SEE YOUR GAS RANGE DEALER OR LONE STAR GAS COMPANY

INFORMATION IN REGARD TO THE PROPOSED \$200,000 Revenue Bond Election - Dec. 1, 1953

This information is furnished by the City Council of the City of Baird, in order that the qualified voters for the coming election, December 1, 1953, will be fully informed and understand the purpose of the said election.

We, the Council, believe we are acting in the best interest of the citizens of Baird, in calling this election for the purpose herein stated and have taken this step after long and deliberate consideration.

Some of our citizens perhaps, are not familiar with the operations of the Municipal Light and Power Plant and the value of same to the City of Baird, and a background sketch may be of interest to all.

In 1940 when the plant was placed in operation it started with two diesel fuel engines with generators capable of developing 300KW each or a total capacity of 600KW. These engines and generators, including switchboards and other necessary equipment, cost approximately \$45,000.00 each, later in 1948 an additional engine, generator, etc., was purchased (out of the net earnings from this plant) the contract price not installed, was approximately \$34,000.00. The City did the installation which added approximately \$6,000.00 to the cost of same, making the cost of the third engine approximately \$40,000.00.

HOW IS THE MONEY FROM THIS BOND ISSUE TO BE SPENT?

The \$200,000.00 will be used as follows.

- (1) \$61,000.00 will be used to refund the presently outstanding Electric Light and Power System Revenue Bonds.
- (2) An estimated \$122,000.00 will be used to purchase a new dual fuel 900KW engine, generator, switchboard etc. and pay the freight and installation expense. This engine will equal the capacity of the three engines now in use, thereby doubling the capacity of the present plant.
- (3) \$17,000.00 will be used for extension of present building and other needed improvements.

WILL THIS INCREASE TAXES? IF NOT WHY NOT?

Absolutely, NO. Because these bonds are strictly REVENUE BONDS and taxes can never be levied to pay this obligation. REVENUE BONDS are special obligations of the City, payable as to both principal and interest solely from and secured by a first lien on and pledge of the revenues of the City's Electric Light and Power System, after deduction of reasonable operation and maintenance expenses as said expenses are defined by statute. Each bond issued shall contain this clause:

"The holder hereof shall never have the right to demand payment of this obligation out of any funds raised or to be raised by taxation".

As a property owner, you are not paying, and have never been required to pay on bonds previously issued against the Light and Power System of the City of Baird, because they were Revenue Bonds, and you will not have to pay on these Revenue Bonds.

The City can never levy a tax for these bonds that would be a lien against your property.

WHAT ARE WE PAYING PER MONTH ON THE OLD OUTSTANDING \$61,000.00 OF BONDS?

We are now paying \$650.00 per month on the presently outstanding Bonds.

HOW MUCH WILL WE HAVE TO PAY PER MONTH ON THE \$200,000.00 OF BONDS?

We will have to pay an average of \$1,150.00 per month over the life of the bonds.

HOW MUCH WILL THE CITY SAVE IF THEY BUY THE NEW DUAL FUEL ENGINE?

Engineers tell us that we can save approximately \$1,000.00 per month on fuel costs alone by using a dual fuel engine. In other words, we will not be required to pay the \$650.00 per month which we are now paying and, in addition thereto, we will save approximately \$1,000.00 a month on the costs. Since we will only have to pay an average of \$1,150.00 per month, we will actually be saving \$500.00 per month. The City can double the capacity of the present plant at a cost of \$500.00 per month less than we now pay.

OVER WHAT PERIOD OF TIME WILL THE NEW BONDS MATURE AND WILL THEY HAVE AN OPTION?

The new bonds will mature over a 25 year period and they will have a 15 year option in them. In other words, the City can call them in and pay them off in 1968.

DO WE NEED A NEW ENGINE?

Yes, we need a new engine. Our energy load is increasing and the most important thing is that, if we get a new dual fuel engine, we will make considerable savings on our fuel oil. Since the new dual engine will use natural gas. A constant rise in the use of electricity has increased the load of the City plant from 1,505,300KW generated in 1951 to 3,512,400 in 1952. The increase in the use of electricity does not apply to the City Plant alone, but as well as to the power companies and Municipal Plants all over the country. All have had like increases in loads during the same period and are adding additional generating units as rapidly as possible. The following is a list of some of the cities who have during the past few years added additional power, or are in the process of adding additional power: Weatherford, Brady, Teague, Farmersville, Tulia, Vernon, Denton, Crosbyton, Floydada, Brownfield, Sonora, Coleman and Greenville.

WHY A DUAL FUEL ENGINE?

Thirteen years ago when the present plant was built diesel engines were bought because they were, at that time, the most economical type of liquid fuel engines on the market. Diesel oil was more or less a petroleum by-product of very little demand. From time to time it became more generally recognized as an economical fuel and railroads and steamship lines switched from coal to diesel fuel, oil drilling rigs, trucks, etc., began using it and by the normal process of supply and demand the price was advanced considerably. In 1940 our fuel cost 3 1/2c per gallon, the present market value is approximately three times that amount. While the Municipal Power Plant has made good profit every year it has operated, for several years it could have made several thousand dollars more profit were it not for the increased price in fuel. At this time converting to natural gas for fuel, will save approximately \$1,000.00 per month on fuel alone and as a dual fuel engine will run on gas or diesel fuel and should ever the gas supply fail, for any reason, you merely have to switch to diesel fuel and continue to operate with practically no interference. These are the reasons we expect to buy a dual fuel engine.

HOW MUCH MONEY HAS OUR ELECTRIC LIGHT PLANT BEEN MAKING?

The plant has made a reasonable profit every year from the time it was put into operation. While it is customary for cities to have annual audits, bonding companies require annual audits by outside Certified Public Accountants and the City has always met these requirements and figures furnished herein on the profits of the plant are those of Certified Public Accountants and not figures furnished by city officials or employees. For the past few years the City has employed the firm of Ben M. Davis and Company, of Abilene, Texas, to make the annual audit. This is a reliable and well known accounting firm serving the West Texas area. Their report shows Electric Light and Power surplus for the last three years at over \$17,000.00 per year.

For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1953, our income from the electric light plant operations was \$68,116.50. Our operation and maintenance expense was \$48,528.44, which includes the cost of fuel in the amount of \$23,369.76. This left us with net earnings of \$19,588.06. Out of this net revenue we paid \$7,500.00 as principal and interest on the outstanding bonds and we also spent \$1,245.09 for line extensions, leaving a net profit of \$10,542.97

However since \$5,477.97 was paid retiring the bonds (or paying on our Light and Power System) and \$1,245.09 was also addition to our system our actual surplus for the year was \$17,266.03.

No. 000 No. 000

City of Baird, Texas, Bond Election, December 1st, 1953.

NOTE: VOTER'S SIGNATURE TO BE AFFIXED ON THE REVERSE SIDE.

SAMPLE BALLOT

PROPOSITION NO. 1

- FOR ... THE ISSUANCE OF \$61,000.00 ELECTRIC LIGHT AND POWER SYSTEM REVENUE BONDS AND PLEDGING THE REVENUES OF THE CITY'S ELECTRIC LIGHT AND POWER SYSTEM TO THE PAYMENT THEREOF
- AGAINST THE ISSUANCE OF \$61,000.00 ELECTRIC LIGHT AND POWER SYSTEM REVENUE BONDS AND PLEDGING THE REVENUES OF THE CITY'S ELECTRIC LIGHT AND POWER SYSTEM TO THE PAYMENT THEREOF

PROPOSITION NO. 2

- FOR ... THE ISSUANCE OF \$139,000.00 ELECTRIC LIGHT AND POWER SYSTEM REVENUE BONDS AND PLEDGING THE REVENUES OF THE CITY'S ELECTRIC LIGHT AND POWER SYSTEM TO THE PAYMENT THEREOF
- AGAINST THE ISSUANCE OF \$139,000.00 ELECTRIC LIGHT AND POWER SYSTEM REVENUE BONDS AND PLEDGING THE REVENUES OF THE CITY'S ELECTRIC LIGHT AND POWER SYSTEM TO THE PAYMENT THEREOF

To vote FOR the bonds your ballot should be marked as above.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO VOTE AT THE ELECTION DECEMBER 1st?

Any person twenty-one years of age who has property (real or personal) on the tax rolls, who has a current poll tax receipt or an exemption, who has lived in the City six months and in the State one year can vote in the election. In other words, any person who is eligible to vote in the City election or in the primary who has property (either real or personal) on the tax roll can vote.

CAN A CITIZEN WHO IS QUALIFIED TO VOTE AND WHO IS GOING TO BE OUT OF THE CITY ON THE DATE OF THE ELECTION VOTE BEFORE HE LEAVES THE CITY?

Yes. This is known as absentee voting and attorneys advise us: "An absentee voter may cast his ballot at a time not more than twenty days before the date of the election and not less than three days before the date of the election. Therefore, an absentee voter can vote from now through Nov. 28. In this connection, an absentee voter may cast his vote at the City Hall.

HOW MUCH HAS THE RATE ON ELECTRICITY INCREASED SINCE PLANT WAS BUILT?

You are paying the same rate for electricity today that you paid 13 years ago when the plant started operation.

We, the members of the City Council will appreciate your support of this Revenue Bond Issue because we believe it is to the best interest to the City of Baird and will provide sufficient power for several years to come. Baird is fortunate in now having an abundant supply of water and we desire to maintain our other facilities in keeping with our water supply.

Respectfully,

(Signed)

- J. T. Lawrence, Mayor
- J. E. Bullock, Alderman
- W. C. White, Alderman
- W. L. Ray, Alderman
- F. E. Neal, Alderman
- B. H. Freeland, Alderman

Baird, Texas
November 23, 1953

We the following Attorneys of Baird, Texas, having read and studied the "Notice of Election for the Issuance of Bonds" in regard to the proposed \$200,000.00 Electric Light and Power Revenue and Refunding Bonds and find that these bonds are strictly Revenue Bonds and are not Tax Bonds and will not, at any time constitute a Tax Lien on property of anyone, nor will said bonds be payable from Tax moneys of the City of Baird.

(Signed)

- J. Rupert Jackson, Jr.
- Randall C. Jackson
- L. L. Blackburn
- F. E. Mitchell

If You Believe In Your Town -- Vote For The Bonds