

From The Editor's Window

The Tax Problem

Naturally all our citizens are interested in the various proposed taxation schemes whereby revenue may be raised...

It is plainly evident that we must have more taxes from some source if our governor's pension plan is carried out...

When development is moving forward, many people are constantly employed, who would have a part in paying taxes...

Representative Bradberry Opposes Legalized Horse Racing

The state affairs committee of the House of Representatives recommended that the Legislature legalize horse race betting under local option...

Gas Well On I. N. Jackson

A flow of gas has been reported at the I. N. Jackson well, survey 16, TPRR land northwest of Putnam, by the Pueblo Oil Company at 1100 feet...

J. M. FREE DIED AT SYLESTER FRIDAY MORNING

J. E. Free received a message Friday morning stating that his brother James had died there early in the morning. Mr. Free was an old timer in this territory...

J. R. PARK HAS SEVERE CASE OF FLUE

J. R. (Uncle John) Park as he is familiarly known, by his friends has been confined to his room at his home in the East-side of Putnam with a severe case of influenza for the past ten days...

Temperature Falls To 16 Degrees Monday

FLOYD PRETZ GOES TO TRIAL MARCH 2 ON MURDER CHARGE

Two murder cases are to be tried in forty second district court at Baird, grand jury for which convenes Monday morning, according to Sheriff C. R. Nordyke. The cases are that of Floyd Pretz, charged with slaying his mother at Baird, and a murder case transferred from Shackelford county...



Sue Ann Everett, above, five months old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Buel Everett of Putnam, who is an entrant in the Baby Parade contest of the Cisco Daily Press.

Mrs. W. H. Norred and Mr. and Mrs. Neil Norred of Seagraves spent Thursday night in Putnam as they were enroute to Seagraves from Dallas. The Norreds have recently moved their stock of dry goods to Seagraves.

John Davis accompanied F. O. Dunlap to take Mrs. Brown to her home in Sweetwater after Mrs. Brown had been visiting her mother, Mrs. C. T. Moon of Baird.

Mrs. J. E. Pruet and daughter, Miss Willie Grace and son, John Allen Pruet were Cisco visitors Sunday.

JESS WALKER BURIED AT ADMIRAL FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Jess Walker passed away last Thursday evening at Baird about 8:30 o'clock. He had been in failing health for more than a year, having had a stroke about a year ago. He died at the Griggs hospital.

Mr. Walker was born in Mississippi in 1870 and moved to Callahan county in 1877, with his parents, where he has resided since. Mr. Walker was married in 1891 to Miss Rachel Wright a step sister of J. M. Shelton of Putnam. There were eight children born to this couple, six of whom are still living.

Funeral services were conducted by the Rev. A. A. Davis, pastor of the first Baptist church of Baird, and burial was in the Admiral cemetery following the funeral services Friday afternoon. J. M. Shelton of Putnam attended the funeral.

MRS. GUS. BRANDON RETURNED FROM GRAHAM SANITARIUM SUNDAY

Mrs. Gus Brandon returned home Sunday afternoon from the Graham Sanitarium, Cisco, where she had been seriously ill from a severe case of influenza. She stood the trip home well and is recovering nicely.

MEADOWS BEAUTY FORCE TO FORT WORTH

Mrs. L. O. Meadows and all helpers of the Meadows Beauty Salon of Baird will leave Monday, February 27th for Fort Worth where they will attend the 8th beauty congress at the Texas Hotel which will last three days. The beauty shop will be closed during their absence. They will announce the latest styles in hair-set, working materials and new ideas in beauty work upon their return.

CALLAHAN COUNTY TEACHERS ASSOCIATION TO MEET IN PUTNAM

The Callahan County Teachers Association will meet in Putnam, Tuesday night, February 28th, in the high school auditorium. J. E. Barrington of Cross Plains is president and R. F. Webb of Putnam, vice president and secretary. A program will be presented with Mrs. Lexie Dean Robertson, of Rising Star, recently appointed poet laureate of Texas, Dr. T. T. Taylor, president of Howard Payne College, as principal speakers. Putnam high school students will furnish other features of entertainment.

Putnam Woman's Cousin Oldest Miss Alumnus

Captain James Franklin Dooley, 97 year old Confederate Veteran of Hernando, Mississippi, cousin of Mrs. Ida Rogers of Putnam was the most outstanding visitor on "Homecoming Day" on the Ole Mississippi campus, when the University of Mississippi Alumni Association presented him with a photograph of himself taken as he posed at the foot of the statue of Jefferson Davis in Jackson's old capitol.

Captain Dooley entered the University of Mississippi as a freshman in 1858. When the school closed at the outbreak of the war between the states, the twenty year old youth rode to Virginia with other Lafayette county boys to enlist in Lee's army. He is the university's oldest living alumnus.

Captain Dooley said he "didn't get to enlist with the company at first. My older brother enlisted in the Lamar Rifles and my father didn't want me to enlist so I went to Oxford and commenced studying medicine under Dr. Andrews and Dr. Smithers. But the battle of the first Manassas put an end to that. Just after the battle, 15 or more of us Lafayette county boys had our uniforms made and started to Virginia, arriving there and enlisting on the 9th of August, 1861."

"On the retreat from Gettysburg" Captain Dooley said, "800 Confederates were captured at Falling Waters. We were sent to Point Lookout and established that prison." Finally released from prison, Captain Dooley said the Confederates were sent home until an exchange could be made. "We were not exchanged until the middle of June, 1864, but in May, I met a man who had just joined the company of Webb's Cavalry. He said he had rather go to the infantry and I asked him to take my place in the cavalry. That's how I got into the cavalry."

After the war Captain Dooley started farming. In November, 1866, he married Miss Virginia M. Campbell, member of a pioneer Lafayette county family. Miss Campbell's father helped build the historic Presbyterian Church at College Hill.

While he did not finish his schooling, Captain Dooley was awarded a diploma by the University in 1914. He is very proud of the fact that he has been an active member of the Southern Methodist church for 71 years. He is a veteran attendant of the Lafayette county camp meeting. He has five sons and two daughters, all of whom are living.

It is no wonder he has been rewarded with health and strength for these many years. Superintendent and Mrs. R. F. Webb were Cisco visitors Sunday.

GOOD MOISTURE IN GROUND AFTER 2.86 INCHES OF RAINFALL

The coldest spell of the winter season hit the Putnam vicinity this week when the temperature registered 16 degrees. The cold wave reached here Monday and continued through Wednesday, with the weather moderating slightly Tuesday about noon and continuing.

Rain fall in Putnam to February 20, in 1939, 2.86 inches. Total for 1937, 21.00 inches and for 1938, 29.52 inches. The average for the five years prior to 1937 was 23.85, making the average for the past six years 24.79 inches.

P. H. S. Girls Team Wins Debates

The Putnam debate teams were invited to attend the Brownwood speech contest Saturday, February 18th. Superintendent I. F. Webb took Misses Zada Williams and Sybil Bowers for the girls team and Bonnie Burus Williams and Oliver Culwell for the boys team.

The boys team was scheduled to debate with the C.I.S.O. boys team. They were defeated.

The girls team was scheduled to debate with the Brownwood senior high team. The Putnam team came out victorious and debated the C.I.S.O. white team in the semi-finals. They won this debate also. Then they debated the C.I.S.O. orange team, who won the oil belt debate in December. They defeated the C.I.S.O. by a two to one vote. All three debates were closely matched. C.I.S.O. is Central Texas School of Oratory, a private school in Brownwood.

Former Putnam Man In City Wed

Alvin Jeffers, office employee of the Texas and Pacific railway, located in Dallas, visited friends in Putnam Wednesday. Mr. Jeffers attended the Putnam high school and was quarterback on the first football team of the school. As a young boy in Putnam, he was prominent in church and civic affairs, being a prominent worker in the Methodist Epworth League. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Jeffers operated the Putnam hotel in Putnam and were among the most prominent citizens of the town and surrounding territory.

Local folk will recall on one occasion in the football career of Mr. Jeffers that he was hit on the head the first half of the game. He played nicely during the next half, but declared he had no remembrance of even entering the game the second half. Truly he played football while unconscious of his actions. Jeffers is that type of man. He is absorbed in some project and puts it over whether or not. He is now a married man and the father of a seven months old baby boy.

Mission Program W. M. S. Home

The following program will be given Wednesday at the First Baptist church in observance of Home Mission Week of Prayer: devotion, Reverend F. A. Hollis, Changes Wrought in the Mountains, Mrs. S. W. Jobe; Missions in the Homeland, Mrs. W. M. Tatum; The Only Way Out, Mrs. W. A. Ramsey; Chinese Work in Mississippi, Mrs. W. M. Crosby; Special song, Mrs. L. B. Williams; Italian Baptist, Mrs. S. M. Eubank. Lunch. The afternoon program will consist of Mexican-Texas W.M.U. Fruit, Mrs. W. E. Pruet; Is Jesus Real to Them? Mrs. Fred Cook; The Story of Aunt Susan Owl, Mrs. Ben Brazil; Opportunities Among New Mexico Indians, Mrs. Fred Golsen; Saved Foreigners, Mrs. A. D. Everett; An Example of Faith, Mrs. F. A. Hollis; Special music; Our French Work in Louisiana, Mrs. John Cook, Ernestoes Conversion, Mrs. Elmer Butler.

Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Thompkins of Corpus Christi spent from Monday until Thursday in the home of her brother, J. S. Yeager and family.

Advertisement for First National Bank. Features: Preparedness, Modern Safety Deposit Service, Equipment for the needs of business is the business man's permanent consideration. This is The BANK that SERVICE Is Building. First National Bank IN CISCO, TEXAS Member Federal Reserve System

(Continued on Back Page)

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MILDRED YEAGER, Editor

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Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation that may appear in the columns of The Putnam News will be gladly and fully corrected upon being brought to the attention of the editor.

Cards of Thanks, Resolutions of Respect, and any kind of entertainments where admission fee or other monetary consideration is charged, will be charged for at regular advertising rates.

DR. B. A. COX ON PRICES FROM 1909 TO 1914 AGAINST PRESENT PRICES

Dr. B. A. Cox of the research department of the A. and M. College gives out some very interesting figures on prices at the present time, compared with the present prices and buying power of the consuming public. He makes the following comment, "Industrial wages have doubled in the last twenty five years; but prices paid farmers for their principal crops cotton, corn and wheat have sunk to less than half what they received a quarter of a century ago."

Cotton three of the south's chief money crop, brings only 54 per cent of the average price it brought between 1909 and 1914, the economist said corn is only 49 per cent of the parity price for that five year period; wheat 47 per cent and peanuts 55 per cent.

The livestock industries have fared better, beef cattle prices are 96 per cent of the 1909 to 1914 average; hogs 80 per cent; butter fat 71 per cent, wool 88 per cent; chickens 93 per cent and eggs 75 per cent of the 1909 to 1914 average.

It will be noticed from the above analysis that the consuming public, can purchase only 70.8 per cent of the goods that could be purchased during the period from 1909 to 1914, or in other words the consumer's dollar will only purchase 70 per cent of the necessities of life that it would during the period mentioned above, while the industrial worker's income is more than 200 per cent as compared with the 1909 to 1914 period. On this basis in terms of goods the industrial worker can purchase about \$2.85 worth of goods, against what he could purchase in the period from 1909 to 1914, while the farmer and the consuming public can only purchase 70 per cent of the thing he could buy during the above mentioned period. We may hate to admit it, but the New Deal has accomplished this with their plan of increase the wages paid the industrial worker so that the farmer might have some place to sell his products. Prices and wages have gotten to high for the public, which is about 80 per cent of the people. The plan that has been practiced has been to increase the purchasing power of the 20 per cent and losing more in the decreasing of the purchasing power of the 80 per cent. The analysis shows that the 20 per cent have increased their purchasing power by 100 per cent; but the other 80 per cent have lost 30 per cent of their buying power they had in the above mentioned period. These figures disclose the reason of the country not getting out of the depression. Don't you think the disparity is too great?

WE ARE OPPOSED TO THE TRANSACTION TAX

We will say to start with, that we are in favor of paying the old people pensions, but we think that the State's business should be handled on the same basis as any private business, and after the legislature has used all methods of cutting the expense of the state government, and it is found that the state does not have sufficient revenues to pay the pensions, then it would be wise to enact some revenue legislation, to make up the deficit. But as for as I have been able to see here's no honest to God effort to reduce expenses. There has been several bill introduced that proposes to raise the expense, by allowing additional expenses for people on the public payroll, permitting them to travel at the expense of the tax payers. No one can figure out just what amount of money the O'Daniel transaction tax will bring in. It is estimated by some at more than \$200,000,000 annually. Reading from a letter published in this paper in another issue from Mr. Borkett and Mr.

Crossley of Eastland county, in which it reads, "As to the proposal of the governor to raise the revenue by a transaction tax. For your information this proposal was given to the legislature in the form of a proposed constitutional amendment to allow the people to say whether or not they desire a transaction tax, and eliminate State ad valorem taxes. We want to state to you frankly that in the main we are for the governor's plan and feel like if this is done that the wealthy interest owning a large percentage of the real estate, bonds and oil properties in this state would be exempt and it would cause an additional burden to be placed on the little man, or common citizen who now pays more than they should pay." It would appear from the above quotation they are for the transaction tax. As we see it the proposal to submit legislation of this kind to the people is just passing the buck, and not facing the situation as it exists. If it is submitted there is very little doubt; but what the people will defeat it, as the people are not financially able to take on this enormous tax burden that is being proposed. As to eliminating the ad valorem tax, it would aid the tax payer very little, as it would not prevent the local taxes, collected by the different subdivisions of the State, and there is the greatest load on property.

THE LITTLE MAN OR COMMON CITIZEN

As to taxing the small man. They have talked about getting a tax that would not be placed on the small man, but every tax of any kind has always been paid by the people least able to bear the burden, and should this transaction tax be passed, it will fall on the people who are the least able to bear it. The consuming public are the people who will pay the bill. The manufacturer will not pay the tax; but will pass the tax on to the public, the wholesaler will not pay the tax; but it will be passed on to the jobber and the jobber will not pay the tax; but it will be passed on to the retailer, and he will not pay the tax it will be passed on to the consuming public. Figuring that the tax had only been collected one time before reaching the manufacturer, this would be collecting the tax five different times which equals 8.6 cents tax that the public will be asked to pay on everything purchased. The owners or operators of all of these classes mentioned, together with all of their employees will be exempt as it will be passed on to the last purchaser. We will use a few examples, to show just how far reaching this tax will be. A farm changed hands north of Putnam a few days ago, that brought about \$8000, then the tax at 4.6 would equal \$128. Take a person who wanted to borrow one thousand dollars for sixty days, then his tax would be \$16, and when he paid the money back it would cost him \$16 more making \$2. tax on a thousand dollar loan. A farmer who wishes to secure a loan of three hundred dollars when he goes to the bank the banker tells him, in addition to the interest you will have to pay \$4.80 and when it is paid back he will have to pay another additional tax of \$4.80 making \$9.60 tax paid on a loan of three hundred dollars. We will take a Ford car that would cost \$850, the tax would equal about \$40.00 just figuring the tax from the factory to the purchaser. While the average customer would be deceived, as all of the tax would be a hidden tax except the \$13.00 charged to him at the time of his purchase of the car; but the purchaser will pay the \$40 regardless of what he thinks.

As to creating more boards and bureaus. If this tax is put into effect it will create another commission, that will have the state full of paid employees who will be running about over the state snooping around into the peoples business amounting to several thousand men at a big salary and an expense account.

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And her simple toys and the joy she gave,
And the end of the dreams you'd made.
But heal your hurt with this sweet thought—
That now the angels smile
To see your baby playing dolls
In heaven's golden aisle!

Our doctor likes for us to have a big company dinner. It always means that he not only gets a good meal but he gets a good fee the next day too.

Sometimes you can trip over an imaginary obstacle and fall harder than you would over a real one.

"Bird Below the Waves" by Benjamin F. Musser is a collection of this well-known poet's spiritual verse, written in a period of thirty years. The huge volume of more than seven hundred pages gives

Recently a group of us were discussing prayers to teach children. I was surprised at the number who said that our old stand-by, "Now I lay me" had brought terror and confusion to childish hearts because of the suggestion in "If I should die before I wake." There is a definite lack of suitable prayer poems for small children but they can be found. If you are interested in a new one for your child and will write to me in care of this paper concerning your special needs I shall be happy to assist you.

Cousin Fanny told the photographer that unless he made her look as she did in her girlhood, some sixty pounds ago, she wouldn't accept her new pictures.

The current issue of the Year Book of The Poetry Society of Texas is now available. Besides

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Mr. Babitzer's girl friend says that the only persons she excuses for using poor English are the ones who know better.

Our doctor likes for us to have a big company dinner. It always means that he not only gets a good meal but he gets a good fee the next day too.

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