

RANGER TIMES


## Wait for the 'Big Stick'

ericans find the temptation to "talk back" to the dictators
almost irresistible. During these days, the government and almost irresistible. During these days, the government and
private but influential citizens must be more careful than ever about what they say.
When Norway, Belgium, Holland, Luxemburg and finaly France fel to the Axis, Americans were plumb scared Benito, but sometimes they trembled a little and made the
cracks behind the palms of their hands. They realized cracks behind the palms of their hands. They realized
that with a paltry, badly equipped army and a general de-
fense system of almost no effectiveness, it wasn't smart to make too many threats
$\qquad$ to provide for war equipment and to draft a large army
were passed. Almost overnight, the country became de-fense-cons

What was done is all very well. It was the only thing
Congress could have done, under the circumstances. But ystem that exists today is precisely the same we had whe
rance fell. The United States is not prepared for war. Ships ca
e built on paper within a few weeks-even days-but
tkes months and years to get them in the water. Equip Wes months and years to get them in the water. Equip-
lent can be ordered with a stroke of the pen, but it re
uires years to build it. An army can be mustered by a at of Congress, but it takes 12 long months to provide even
he basic training.
We have provided for defense; we have not yet acomplished it. We have started the ball rolling, but it has It is too early to take too much encouragement from
ritain's unexpectedly gallant stand against Nazi invasther the Atlantic or Pacific ocean. It is one thing to take a firm stand on matters of world
sicy and domestic security. It is another to invite, through
atuitous utterances, trouble we can't meet at equal crms. Evolution of hatreds toward any other peoples is not
ecessary to our defense. All we need to do is insist that we be allowed to mind our own business-and keep arming,
just in case.
$\square$ 3 advance man for a circus?
oss grenades. Could it be that Joe Goebbels once served Steel men hail scrap ban, says headline, but there are


Wildcat Finds His Claws


| High School | Hunch Backs Get |
| :---: | :---: |
| Grid Scores | $\begin{array}{r}\text { Veterinary Aid }\end{array}$ |

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 $\begin{array}{ll}\text { Sunset 7, Dallas Tech 6. } & \text { ians, there are fewer hunchbacks } \\ \text { San Antonio Tech the world today, according to } \\ \text { San Antonio 0). }\end{array}$ $=5=-2=$ $\operatorname{san}=5=5$ $=5=5=$ $=\mathrm{F}=\mathrm{E}=$ $=2=2$
 $\pm==5=5$ $=4=5=$ $=2=6=$ $=5=5$


# AN OPEN LETTER TO THE PEOPLE OF RANGER 



An election for the legaiization of four per cent beer has been called in Eastland Coun-
ty for Wednesday, October 23rd. This election ty for Wednesday, October 23rd. This election
was not called by the so-called beer barons, nor was not called by the so-called beer barons, nor
by the white slavers, the bootleggers or others of that sordid ilk. Adolf Hitler had nothing to do with it. As a matter of fact Adolf Probably is too busy trying to whip England to care
whether or not there is legal beer in Eastland whether or not there is legal beer in Eastland
County, It wasn't called by the business men in County. It wasn't called by the business men in
Stephens, Palo Pinto or Callahan Counties who Stephens, Palo Pinto or Callahan Counties who
don't want Eastland County to legalize beer because it will lose them business.

This election was called at the request of a large group of business men representing the majority sentiment of business in Cisco, East land and Ranger, who faced facts, not fancie
and wishful thinking.

These business men do not claim to have any special revelation about the morals of drinking. They are just human beings, like the drys. But they do know a fact when they meet up with it, and they respectfully ask
give their side of the case a hearing.

They know : that thousands of people in
and around Eastland County drink beer. They like it and they want it, which is their privilege as democratic Americans. They know tha these people are going to drink beer whether

They know the vast majority of these peo ple are not whiskey drinkers. They prefer
beer. If they cannot get it at home they will beer. If they cannot get it at home the
drive to other towns where beer is sold.

They know when beer was legal in Ran ger, sold openly in the cafes that wanted to sell it, many thousands of dollars was spent in territories who came here to eat. These visitors have stopped coming. The cafes and the service stations and other legitimate businesses that benefitted have lost this business. Tourist traffic that once came through Ranger be cause of the ttraction of legal beer has been
diverted to another route where beer is obtain-

They know these visitors who came here with their families not only spent money for fond and gasoline and car expense, but they also visited stores selling other merchandise trade now lost.
It is a coldblooded fact that Eastland County communities have lost a great amoun of sorely needed business which would have paid more workers, more taxes, increased property valuations and made profits for commun-
ity prosperity since legal beer was voted out one year aro. The promise of the drys that one year ago. The promise of the drys that a
beerless community would be a prosperous beerless community would be a prosperous
community has not proved true. Instead, it has
meant loss business. It has meant near stagnameant less business. It has meant near stagna-
has ever found a way to successfully meet his bills without the cash that Uncle Sam says is legal tender. Either a man pays up or he even

If a moral issue is involved in drinking beer, these business men also ask : Is not a morissue also involved in a bankruptcy which deprives the employer of his own means of
livelihood? If people want beer and if the lack of legal beer drives business out of town, is
there any logical reason why the beverage should not be sold at home where those who want it can drink it openly and keep their ed when the demand for beer sends customers ed when the demand for beer sends customers
to other towns or to illicit dealers where drinking is done on the sly, without the governing

## The business men of this community did

 not create the demand for beer. They are simthat it will be sold, and that unless Ranger deals with the fact in a realistic way, Ranger is losing business and morals, tooIf it were merely a question of allowing drinkers to satisfy a craving for alcohol these business men would not be interested in legal-
izing beer. The drunkard can get liquor now izing beer. The drunkard can get liquor now
any time he wants it, in wet or dry territory. $S$ can anybody else. It is not the profit from b
sales that these business men want.

It is, on the contrary, a problem of meeting a public demand in the sanest way, governing it in the most satisfactory fashion possible, and protecting the business which supports our communities and their institutions against the
drain that legal beer attracts to competing towns.

The merchant whom you meet on the street, who is your neighbor and fellow citizen, ness in mast maintain a respectable place of busiguardian of the youth who would be tempted than the bootlegger who doesn't care a whoop about the boy or girl beyond the dollar he gets out of that boy or girl.
It is our program, as business men who becal solution, to legalize the sale of beer, keep cal solution, to legalize the sale of beer, keep primarily for the sale of such drinks, eliminate the issuance of licenses to operators of indecent places and clean out such places along with the bootleggers

Experience has shown that when beer is sold legally in decent places it is easy to control the indecent. Experience of this community under conditions of legal beer and conditions of prohibition shows clearly that open, most satisfactary method, both from the standpoint of community morals and the standpoint point of community morals and the standp.

Business needs support. The community needs the prosperity that good business creates to give jobs to its people, to support its public institutions, to pay its taxes, and to arrest a trend away from the community that is threatening to close doors that many merchants are
struggling desperately to keep open struggling desp
Won't you try to see this issue from the side of the people who are trying to keep these
doors open next Wednesday? doors open next Wednesday? We have no
quarrel with the drys. They are entitled tem their opinion. And we believe that they are
earnestly trying to solve a bad situataion in earnestly trying to solve a bad situataion in

But do you think that business men who live here, maintain their investments here, em-
ploy workers, support schools and churches ploy workers, support schools and churches
and work earnestly to build their community, are entitled to be called criminals when they insist upon a solution they think best?

We urge you to
Ranger Wednesday

This advertisement contributed by Ranger Business Men.





