

# Canyon City News.

VOL VII.

CANYON CITY, TEXAS, FRIDAY, JANUARY 8, 1904.

NO. 43.

## PRAISES FOR CANYON CITY.

**A Missourian Tells His People of the Great Panhandle.**

**A BEAUTIFUL TOWN.**

**Canyon City, a Town of One Thousand People—no whiskey to be found and even the Barbers Read the Bible in Their Places of Business.**

Hon. James C. Gillespy, who is the present representative of Boone county, Mo., in the legislature, was here the latter part of November visiting his son, James B. Gillespy, who is a citizen of our town and who purchased a residence some time ago from L. G. Wilson. While here he was interviewed by a representative of the News and he praised the Panhandle and Canyon City very highly. He said that he intended to write his impressions of the town and country for the Columbia, Mo., Herald, he being a special correspondent of that great weekly. The article was published in the Christmas edition of the Herald and was given a position on first-page. It was dated as a letter from Roswell, N. M., Dec. 8, 1903. The Columbia Herald is the paper that bears the reputation of being the best edited and best printed country weekly in the United States. Its Christmas edition was a special illustrated magazine edition, and next to the frontispiece was the article "From the Panhandle to the Pecos Valley."

Mr. Gillespy wrote at some length on the Pecos Valley and had the following to say in regard to the Panhandle and Canyon City:

"You can see on the map that Amarillo is situated almost in the center of the 'Pan Handle' of Texas, and a further examination and comparison of the area, the statistics and proportions of the territory termed the 'Pan Handle' will probably astonish you. For the vastness of the southwest cannot be realized by any superficial view nor its attractions appreciated except by personal inspection. Think of it; the 'Pan Handle' of Texas is a little over one hundred and fifty miles square, which gives twenty-two thousand, five hundred sections of land, or fourteen million, four hundred thousand acres. Then consider that it is in latitudes 34 and 35, and at an average elevation of about 3,000 feet above the level of the sea, and you have your climate probably unsurpassed on this continent or the globe.

"This country was little known until of recent years, and only about 25 years ago was the hunting ground and home of the Comanche Indian. Its present name is modern and was given to it that its vastness should only be a compliment to that still greater empire that the Texan loves so well. Its old name came with it from the Mexican, and is down on the old map as 'Llano Estacado' or 'Staked Plains.'

"The panhandle of Texas began to be appreciated by stockmen only about fifteen years ago, since which time it has

been rapidly taken up, until now it is nearly all under fence, mostly in large pastures, too large, however, for the advancement and development of the resources of the country. Some cattle ranches containing nearly a million acres, through which and over which none must pass. The ground everywhere in the Panhandle and in Eastern New Mexico has a thick covering of buffalo grass, with a few streams of beautiful, clear water running through, but what seems strange at this altitude, water plentiful is found everywhere at a depth of from thirty to sixty feet, and a greater flow and better water, is found at about three hundred feet. And one is never out of sight of windmills, for if it is not the stock farmer just settling the sections (none of them take less) it will be some one of the many erected on the greater ranches.

"In order that your readers may properly appreciate the openings and opportunities for business and agreeable surroundings, will suggest a comparison. Boone county has about nine hundred square miles, with a population of about thirty-three persons to the section, or square mile. While the Panhandle of Texas, with its 22,500 sections of land, has as yet only about two persons to the square mile. This includes the total population of Boone county, city, country and town, as it also includes the total population of the thirty odd counties of the Panhandle, with their towns and villages. Some of these counties are just now organizing and inaugurating their county government.

"The thirty odd thousand people in the Panhandle, Texas, are mostly of the same origin and blood as the people here described. A description of one of their thriving towns will sufficiently describe all:

"Canyon City, eighteen miles southwest of Amarillo on the Pecos Valley railroad, has a population of 1,000. It has four churches, Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian and Christian. One graded school, every branch of business being successfully carried on, some on a large scale, and as yet there is no incorporation, no city government. It is the county seat of Randall county; has court house and jail, but there has been no one committed to jail during the past six months. Another is, not a drop of whiskey to be found in the town, not even in the drug stores. And walking into a barber shop I found the barber deeply absorbed in reading the Bible. How is this for western Texas? I am informed that there are over one hundred counties in Texas that have to go dry and that it must soon sweep the whole state.

"The friends of James Boggs Gillespy in Boone county, will be glad to know that he with his estimable wife and bright, sweet, twenty months old Texas baby boy are well and settled in so charming a place as Canyon City, Texas.

JAMES C. GILLESPIE.

### Great Magazine Offer.

The Cosmopolitan—known throughout the world—and The Twentieth Century Home Magazine, equally as good, with the Canyon City News—all three, one year for \$2.10.

Everybody interested in growing cotton in Randall county is invited to come to the meeting to be held at the court house Saturday January 23rd.

## NO TALK OF HARD TIMES.

"It is indeed delightful to live in a country where the chronic talk of hard times is not resorted to," said a new comer to the News man the other day, "and such can be said of the people in the Panhandle. It makes no difference to the people here, apparently, as to whether it rains, the wind blows, or what not, and it is not a lack of energy either, for they evince about as much life as any body." This remark caused the News man to reflect and recall that the spirit of contentment is contagious and has been known to revolutionize even the most hardened fault-finders. This is a most remarkable condition of affairs for it is a well known fact by all who have studied human nature, that since the garden of Eden went out of business, man has ever been disposed to give vent to his feelings for shortcomings in chronic kicking. Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement. The old residents of this country—the great Panhandle—have been of good heart, or their standards of optimistic views would have stood naked in the field without a defender. Through the night of despair he has said, "All is well," and the newcomers rest in his confidence. He sees success for our country and by strenuous hope, by hoping against hope, inspires those who feel less secure in their positions. This is the best view of life anyway and we should turn a dull ear to the lamentations of the habitual Jeremiah.

Once let pessimism take hold of the mind, and life is all topsy-turvy, all vanity and vexation of spirit, why, the pessimist cannot think with any degree of pleasure about the hereafter because he is told that he will live on milk and honey in the Celestial home above and he is afraid that particular diet will give him dyspepsia. But they don't make any complaint in the Panhandle. Down! with the kicker, and let us have more of the marching orders of those who look on the bright side of life.

## Pointed Paragraphs.

The business index of a town is its newspapers or newspaper as the case may be. It always tells the tale, the same tale everywhere—a good newspaper, used by the business men of its home as one of the mediums through which to reach their patrons, a live progressive town. Energetic go-a-head men of every calling in life recognize this and in seeking a place in which to live or do business frequently consult the local papers to determine from their pages the progressiveness of the town they represent and then act accordingly. Stop and think one minute and see if this is not so.

Good local papers cannot from the very nature of things, long remain such without the co-operation of the business men of the town in which they are published. And when from lack of that co-operation there is a "falling away" about the paper it is a sure sign that the town is going with it—the newspaper man is dying with his town.

Advertising through the local papers always pays; it pays more now than it ever did; it pays the business man, it pays the farmer; it's money to the consumer; it makes a good local newspaper and is proof of a good town and a prosperous surrounding country.

One of our carpenters, L. A. Robeson has leased the Joe Service two sections three miles south of Umbarger for five years and will move there.

## Texas Says "Aye."

The time has come when the federal government ought to quit nursing the Indians and quit allowing them to be looted by rascally agents and officials. The time has also come when the Indian should be allotted a homestead, divorced from tribal government and made to undertake the position and duties of normal citizenship. In the Indian Territory there are 600,000 whites and 80,000 Indians, and yet the Five Nations and their customs, with added special statutes of the United States congress, control the affairs of that oasis of America and those unevenly divided peoples. The anomaly of minority domination appears under our republican form of government. The whole scheme of Indian reservations is out of date. The solution of the situation that commends itself to all sane men, including those specially organized to safeguard the rights of the Indians, is the throwing of the tribes into the body of the people, giving them the advantages of the free ownership of a homestead and their per capita of Indian funds. Then they will have to work, pay taxes, live like other citizens and take their common chance in the full tide of the national order of civilization. The Indian is far better fitted today for this test of his capacity to survive than the negro was in 1867, when the work of citizenizing him began. He will always be a loafer as long as there are reservations and agencies, as the negro was as long as there was a freedman's bureau, and as millions of white men would be if national socialism were established. The plain justice of the case is with those who plead the cause of equal, and not special, rights for the Indians.—Atlanta Constitution.

It is easier to whip some men than it is to keep them whipped.

## Garza Man Makes Money on Peas.

T. A. McGalliard, a well-known farmer of Garza, had the following to say in regard to raising peas:

"Last spring I bought ten pounds of whippoorwill peas and planted about an acre with them. I gathered thirty-two bushels of peas and about two tons of hay off the patch when the time for harvest came.

"The peas were planted early and received a thorough cultivation. Peavine hay is the finest hay in the world. When it is saved and cured well there is none better. There were probably several bushels of peas wasted in gathering my little patch. There ought to be more peas planted than there are in this country.

"I also have in about two and a half acres of alfalfa, off of which I have already gathered four crops this year, and it is about ready for another cutting. I think alfalfa can be raised in this country, especially in the low, flat lands."

## Denton is Happy and Prosperous.

Denton county farmers will have little complaint to make this year, after all. The present outlook for a much better cotton crop than they had last season is good and there is a better demand for the staple, which makes the market higher. This section has also enjoyed an immunity from the ordinary cotton pests this year that other sections have had to put up with, suffering in many instances great loss and discouragement. The Denton county farmer is provided for, at least, and although he may not come out with quite as fat a pocket book as he had hoped to, yet he will be able to buy the children a few presents for Christmas and still have enough money left to tide him over until the next season.—Denton Record and Chronicle.

## Murphy's Only Job.

Charles F. Murphy, head of the Tammany organization, and since Nov. 3, one of the most important political personages in the country, has held but one public office—that of dock commissioner. It is understood that those who care to do so are able to make a good deal of money while holding that office. At one time a Tammany man gave up a place paying \$8,000 a year salary to accept that of dock commissioner at \$5,000. On being asked why he did so he answered more or less ambiguously: "Well, you see, in the dock department most of the work is done under water."

## Russell as a Decliner.

John E. Russell, the prominent Massachusetts Democrat, who died a few days ago, was a fine type of the public spirited citizen whose powers are devoted to the service of his fellow men without stipulation of reward. Within nine months, at the height of his political importance, Mr. Russell is known to have refused a nomination as governor of Massachusetts, the collectorship of the port of Boston, the Spanish mission, the Italian mission and the post of secretary of the navy. Nor did he decline these tenders in the expectation of receiving one more agreeable. It was his deliberate determination not to take public office. "It would chill my influence with people," he said.

## An Exasperated Composer.

Mr. Maude, the London theatrical manager, tells this story of the composer who furnished the music for Mr. Barrie's play, "The Little Minister." "Sir Alexander Mackenzie, I fear, found the rehearsals of his charming music not a little trying. All rehearsals, let me hasten to add, are tests of temper, and musical rehearsals especially so. What made our musical rehearsals particularly tedious was that, our orchestra being under the stage, it was extremely difficult to get the proper effect and very hard for Sir Alexander to explain what he wanted to our conductor. One day the great composer was especially exasperated. He came up to me, despair written all over his face. 'I say, Maude,' he stammered, 'do you do you—d— it, do you mind if I smash my hat?'"

## Black Buttons on White Vests.

The style of wearing black buttons with white figured vests was established by an exquisite in an accidental manner. Dressing in a desperate hurry to go to a matinee with his wife, he broke a white pearl button off his blue-speckled waistcoat and began to call for his better three-quarters to sew on another one. She had none to match. The garment demanded seven buttons. "Any old thing'll do," he cried. "Give me seven of another kind," he cried. "Give me seven of another kind," he beseeched. "Give me red buttons," he pleaded. Any old vest buttons would have pleased him then, but there were none in the house of any kind. A happy thought! "I'll use shoe buttons; I've plenty in my desk, and a fastener." In a little while he had clamped on seven black shoe buttons. Between the acts some of his chums expressed admiration. "Black buttons are all the go in London," he said, "Made of jet; quite expensive, but we've got to have 'em." Thus are styles set.

## Appropriate Monument to Le Conte.

A memorial to Professor Joseph Le Conte, who died two years ago has been constructed by the Sierra Club, of San Francisco, in the Yosemite valley. It is a building of granite, erected under the walls of Glacier point. Everything except the roof is of solid granite. The building is divided into three parts, the main room measuring 28x38 feet. Above the main room a gothic roof rises to the height of thirty-five feet. Inside are a large reading table, comfortable wall seats and a large bookcase in which are kept books and papers pertaining to travel and research and maps and papers furnished by the Sierra Club. The entrance is through a Dutch door on northern exposure of the building, while at the other side is a fireplace, walled in with solid granite. It cost \$8,000.

## Hadn't Verified It.

"I met Bifkins down the street a little while ago, and I took occasion to tell the cur what I thought of him."  
"So? And what did he do?"  
"Oh, he swelled up right away and wanted to lick me whether or no. What do you think of that? Ha-ha!"  
"I think from the looks of that black eye and swollen nose and bloody ear that perhaps he did lick you."  
"Do you, really? Well, maybe he did. I haven't seen a looking glass yet."

# STOCK TAKING IS OVER

And the time has come to clean up winter goods and make ready for our spring stock. We have marked our prices down so that if you need anything in our line you cannot afford to miss this opportunity. Look at some of our convincing prices:

Blue Cashmere, worth 60c at.....40c.	Brown Covert, worth 50c at.....39c	ALL Ladies' Skirts at greatly reduced prices:
Blue Cashmere, worth 30c at.....25c.	Novelty Dress Coods, worth 50c at.....39c	Ladies' Balmorals, worth \$1.50 at....\$1.25
Blue Cashmere, worth 35c at.....27½c.	Grey Cheviot, worth 60c at.....40c	Ladies' Flannel Skirts, worth \$1.25 at...\$1.00
Tan Covert, worth 50c at.....39c.	Novelty Worsted, worth 15c at.....12½c	Ladies' Flannel Skirts, worth \$1.00 at....80c
Men's Overcoats, worth \$6.00 at.....\$4.75.	Blankets, full size, worth \$6.50 at.....\$5.50	A full line of "Star 5 Star" Shoes just received
Men's Overcoats, worth \$7.50 at.....\$6.25.	Blankets, full size, worth \$5.00 at.....\$4.25	1-Lot Men's Shoes, odds and ends, \$1 to \$2.50
Men's Overcoats, worth \$10.00 at.....\$8.25.	Blankets, full size, worth \$3.50 at.....\$3.00	25 per cent off on Ladies' Capes and Jackets
Men's Overcoats, worth \$12.50 at.....\$10.00.	Elegant line of Navajo blankets just received.	All Dress Calicoes at.....4½c

We wish to thank our friends for their liberal patronage during the past year and we shall endeavor at all times to give you the best values that the market affords.

## WRIGHT, GAMBLE & CO.

SUCCESSORS TO PATTILLO & GAMBLE.

### CANYON CITY NEWS. (THE STAYER.)

GEO. A. BRANDON, Prop.  
WALTER R. BRANDON, Editor.

A Weekly newspaper devoted to the interests of Randall county and published at office on West Evelyn St. Canyon City, every Friday.

Papers sent out of the county promptly discontinued at expiration of time paid for.

#### SUBSCRIPTION.

One Year.....\$1.00  
Six months......50

#### Announcement Rates.

POSITIVELY IN ADVANCE.  
District Offices.....\$10.00  
County Offices.....5.00  
Precinct Offices.....5.00  
Please don't ask for credit on announcements.

#### Announcements.

##### COUNTY TICKET.

For County and District Clerk, Randall County, subject to action of Democratic nominating convention if such be held:

L. J. SCOTT.  
J. A. TATE.

For Tax Assessor, of Randall County, subject to Democratic nominating convention if such be held:

C. H. HITCHCOCK.  
P. H. YOUNG.

We have just received the first number of the Texas Stockman-Journal, published at Ft. Worth, the production of the absorption of the old Texas Stock Journal of Ft. Worth and Dallas by the West Texas Stockman, which has been published at Colorado, Texas, for some 8 years. Hec A. McEachin is editor-in-chief, which insures perfection as near as can be attained in an editorial sense.

One good trait about West Texas people and a trait that is commented upon by everyone, is that they have learned that there is no upper class in their country, and no lower, the man who is honest and industrious has as much say in the "meetings" as the banker. The constitution has declared it and it is as it should be.

The year 1903 was a comparatively good year for Canyon City. 1904 bids fair to be a memorable one in the history of the town. It should see the college and the Santa Fe cut off from Washburn and with it the shops, and other railroad constructions too numerous to mention. For particulars see L. G. C.

Setting aside the question of how we acquired Panama, we need the canal in our business and should without delay go after it.

The News has been canvassing among our oldest settlers for opinions as to whether or not cotton will do well in Randall county and the consensus of opinion is that it can be made a success.

#### For County Assessor.

C. H. Hitchcock, residing in the northwest corner of the county and who has been a citizen of Randall county for the past twelve years, authorizes the News to announce that he is a candidate for the office of Tax Assessor. He has strong friends about town who say that he is a first class citizen and fully competent to make for the county a number 1 Assessor. He will run a good race.

The cattle interests of Randall county, barring low prices, are in excellent shape for the winter; better many say, than they have been for years.

The short and sure way to reputation is to take care to be in truth what we would have others think us to be.

Opportunity, they say, is to be grasped with all one's strength and is never to be allowed to pass by. Once gone, tradition holds, opportunity may never be regained. Many a business man has stared failure in the face for the very lack of knowledge as to how opportunity might be captured. One of the particular opportunities which should be made prisoner is the opportunity to advertise. It is always opportune to advertise, if your business is not worth advertising, advertise it for sale. It is better to be a live man in a dead community than a dead man in a live community, and it is always better in this hustling age for a business man to have his label where everyone can see it for people are not apt to appreciate having run up against a carcass unaware. The physician who advertised "that at the request of his friends he had removed near the graveyard, and trusted that his removal would accommodate many of his patients," was a man who never allowed opportunity to pass by.

The bed rock has been reached on cattle prices and from this on, unless all signs fail, the tendency will be upward.

#### P. H. Young.

Mr. Young authorizes the News to announce him as a candidate for Assessor of Randall county, subject to Democratic primary action if such be had. Mr. Young is a product of old Williamson county and later resided in Coryell county near Evant, from whence he came to Canyon City, some three years ago. His friends, and he has many, say that if elected he will make a good officer as his qualifications are first class.

As will be noticed by the large display Ad this week of the firm Wright, Gamble, & Co., the mercantile business heretofore operated under the firm name of Pattillo & Gamble has changed, again placing Mr. Wright in its management. Mr. Wright is too well known in Canyon City to need an introduction to the public through the News. He has the reputation of always being there with the "goods."

#### Estray Notice.

Taken up as an estray by W. T. Lofland, post office Canyon City, Randall county, Texas, and estrayed before W. J. Redfearn, Justice of the Peace, said Canyon City, on the 17th day of December, 1903, one roan horse, about 15 hands high ten or twelve years old, branded A with a half circle over it and gear marked and appraised at \$10.  
J. H. Garrison.  
Clk. Co. Court.  
By C. N. Harrison, Dep.

W. C. Baird, one of our leading stockmen, says that there are more fat cattle on the range now than he has ever seen before at this season of the year and that both cattle and range are in splendid condition.

In Amarillo, the air is full of booze;  
In Missouri the air is full of boodle;  
Blind justice to Canyon City and her college takes a snooze;  
Alas for Yankee Doodle.—The News devils parody.

Hello!

Begin the New Year by reading  
The Canyon City News,  
The Cosmopolitan,  
The Twentieth Century,  
All three—your local paper and these two great magazines—for \$2.10.

If the News had money to invest it would much prefer cattle to cotton failures.

### BOARD OF TRADE MEETING.

The First Meeting of the New Year Proves to be An Enthusiastic One.

#### NEW OFFICERS ELECTED.

The Brick Plant Proposition Discussed at Some Length.

Board of Trade met at the Court House at 8 o'clock p. m., January 4, G. A. Brandon 1st Vice-President presiding.

The secretary being absent, A. N. Henson was appointed secretary pro tempore.

Minutes of the meeting held October 5, 1903, were read and approved.

M. S. Lusby for the committee on Immigration reported that he had sent photos of Randall county scenery to J. W. Steele at St. Louis for publication in "Farming in the Southwest" and that Mr. Steele had returned the views with thanks, stating that the publication of said paper had been discontinued.

The Board then took up the question of a brick plant for Canyon City. Mr. Powell of Amarillo, presented a letter from the Fearnholtz Brick Machinery Co., relative to samples of brick burned from our clay. Mr. Manson, representing said company, then addressed the meeting, stating that in the neighborhood of Canyon City there is a reasonably good supply of brick clay and that it is the only brick clay anywhere near. He further stated that he would be pleased to negotiate with the citizens of Canyon City to put in a plant.

After considerable discussion a motion was adopted requesting all persons interested in subscribing to a brick plant to meet at the bank at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning.

At the suggestion of Judge Buie, the growing of cotton in Randall county was discussed, and on motion of L. G. Conner a mass meeting was called to convene at the Court House on Saturday, January 23rd, 1904, for the further discussion of the matter.

The chairman then announced the election of officers as being in order, whereupon the following officers and committeemen were elected for the ensuing term:

President, Geo. A. Brandon, 1st Vice-President, A. N. Henson, and Vice-President, J. H. Dunbar, Secretary, A. S. Rollins, Treasurer,

M. S. Lusby.

Finance Committee—J. L. Howell, B. Frank Buie, L. C. Lair.

Reception Committee—Geo. A. Brandon, L. G. Conner, J. I. Campbell.

Public Improvement, Enterprises and Sanitation—B. F. Buie, J. H. Dunbar and L. T. Lester.

Immigration—L. G. Conner, W. R. Brandon, R. A. Sowder.

Jno. Knight and J. H. Garrison made application for membership. No further business occurring the meeting adjourned.

G. A. Brandon, Chairman.  
A. N. Henson, Secretary.

The Dallas News through its efficient correspondent Judge A. N. Henson, this week solicited the opinions of four prominent citizens of this town on the Panama Canal issue and whether or not the United States, in their opinion, should carry the project through to a successful crisis. While we do not particularly like the incubator process of the recent imperialistic creative power, it is nevertheless of a vast deal of interest to Texas as regards this Panama Canal. An illustration which appeared in Sunday's Dallas News in an interview with ex-Governor James S. Hogg places this Panama Canal matter in precisely the light which most people view it. He said: "Suppose," he said, with his face from me and his head drooping slightly toward his left shoulder, for all the world as if he was winking, "Suppose" said he, "you were out in the cow lot with your greyhound, and a rabbit should jump up right before you. Suppose your wife happened to be milking at the time, and the dog, instead of running around the lot after the rabbit, should take a cross-cut, overturn the woman, but catch the rabbit? What would you do?" Then he turned on me and said, "Why, you would whip the dog for taking a cross-cut, but you wouldn't throw away the rabbit. Now would you?" Then he chuckled and nestled somewhat close to me, looked in my eyes, and said in a deprecating yet appealing way, "You wouldn't throw it away. No, sir; wouldn't, couldn't, do it. Now, could you?"

H. M. Bridges was a pleasant caller at this office Tuesday. He renewed his own subscription to the News and took another copy for his son, N. L. Bridges, of Sherrill, Arkansas. Questioned about cotton doing well on the Plains, he said he was of the opinion that the nights were too cold.

Leghorn Chickens for sale at 25 cents each. This office.

## PLAINS COTTON.

The ravages of the boll weevil in the central, southern and southeastern portions of the state—the great cotton growing region of Texas—has opened up a new era; one of high prices, which, everything considered, promises good if not high prices for this staple for several years to come. So far nothing has been found that will effectually check this weevil pest and many of these cotton farmers are looking toward new fields. The question has of late been frequently asked of the writer, "will it grow on the Plains?"

The News can say that it has done so in the past and that the turnout has been fully equal to the cotton fields of the central portion of the state. This year in the vicinity of Clarendon, the average yield has been over half a bale per acre. Lubbock, about one hundred miles to the south of us, claims for this year an average of ten bales to seven acres, or nearly three-fourths of a bale per acre. To the north of Randall county as far as 140 miles it is also said to do well, in fact from all over the plains comes the statement that wherever tried it grows well and yields well. If this be so, (and why should we doubt it?) it will make of this country what nature intended it should be—the boss farming section of Texas.

Already this matter is being taken up all over the plains and it is now almost a certainty that the adaptability of the plains to the profitable raising of cotton will be thoroughly tested this year.

In the near future there is to be a gathering of farmers and others interested in the growing of cotton at Lubbock, Hereford and several other plains towns and many of our citizens are also discussing the matter.

What has been done at Lubbock and other points on the plains can be accomplished in Randall county—we of the plains are all in the same boat as to climate and soil—and if the truth of the cotton out put to the acre has been told this year there is no good reason on earth why the plains country should not raise cotton and do it successfully.

Mr. and Mrs. L. T. Lester opened their hospitable home to their young friends on the evening of December 31st., where games of the day and pleasant conversation were enjoyed. Those present were composed of the following couples: R. A. Sowder, Miss Bertha Wallace; Jim Pipkin, Miss Maud Pope; Dunlap Lester, Miss Mary Burrow; Harry Howell, Miss Eppie Earhart; J. L. Howell, Jr., and Miss Minnie Donohoo. Appropriate refreshments were served. A participant of the above function assured the News that the entertainment was complete in the minutest details, and all are loud in their praise to the donors of such an event.

## A LEAP YEAR PARTY.

The beautiful home of Dr. and Mrs. J. L. Howell was last Friday evening, the occasion being a Leap Year Party given in honor of Misses Earhart and Wallace and their friends.

The popular games, light repartee and the wholesome amusement of the young ladies reversing the natural order of things as regards courtship and its first advances between the two sexes, which this year, the only one of its peculiar character for the past eight years, is naturally warranted by tradition, was indulged in by the guests. Light refreshments were served to the entire satisfaction of all. Those present were:

Dunlap Lester, Miss Mary Burrow; Earl Cobb, Miss Eppie

Earhart; Jim Pipkin, Miss Maud Pope; R. A. Sowder, Miss Emma Brandon; Harry Howell, Miss Jewel Smith; B. F. Hodges, Miss Lula Webb; Frank Lester, Miss Bertha Wallace; J. L. Howell, Jr., Miss Minnie Donohoo.

1904 is a leap year and many old maids from Yankeedom, if they only knew the true state of affairs in the Panhandle, might be induced to put out a "trot" line and catch some of the will-in' old bachelors we have among us. We have several of the above named fish that might be easily landed by using the proper bait. 'Fishin' has always been pretty good in the Panhandle.—Higgins News.

If the voters of Randall county desire to exercise the privilege of franchise they will have to pay their poll tax by the 31st day of this month. This year is election year and you may want to "whoop 'em" up before the excitement is over.

If you are not already a subscriber to the News, start in with the new year and help make it the best paper Canyon City has ever had. You owe this to yourself and to the enterprise of the town.

Miss Mary Burrow invited a few young people to pass a social evening and meet her friend, Miss Pearl White, of Vernon, at her home last Saturday night. All reported an enjoyable evening, and expressed regret at the thought of losing Miss Burrow from their social circle for the next few months. She left for McKinney Sunday evening.

A. S. Rollins returned Tuesday from Farmersville, where he spent the holidays with his parents. He says the old home looks pretty good to him yet. Mr. Rollins returned alone and Dame Rumor was cheated of one of its choicest morsels.

Bee Hitchcock, the liveryman, brought into our office last Tuesday four of the finest specimens of apples that we have ever had the pleasure of seeing. The apples were grown on George Daugherty's place near Lingleville, Erath county, the old home of our estimable Wallace family and our friend Mr. Hitchcock. Apples from this orchard have taken the blue ribbon twice at the Texas State Fair at Dallas and the fact that this fruit is yet of the experimental stage in this portion of the state makes it doubly interesting. Bee left a specimen of the Ben Davis variety in our possession.

## From Lakeview.

New Year finds the community getting along alright; no complaint that I know of.

Our people contributed liberally to Prof. Foster on account of his house burning up; everybody gave something and I also found a tin spoon and opened my heart and donated it. Two persons who gave \$2.25 refused to have their names appear on the list. Will send you news when we have any.

Geo. Black.

## COUNTY COURT.

Convenes next Monday January 11th. The jurors for the term are as follows:

Clarence Elder, A. E. Brown, Frank Ames, S. B. Lofton, R. A. Campbell, J. M. McNaughton, J. I. Wesley, J. R. Roberts, J. D. Weller, J. C. Jenkins, I. W. Scott, J. M. Black, J. C. Joslin, J. I. Campbell, L. Y. Burch.

Miss Vera Odell left last Saturday for Armstrong county where she will resume the duties of her school after a pleasant stay with her parents and friends during the holidays.

R. E. Foster returned Sunday from Kansas City and brought back with him his little niece, leaving his father and mother there for probably ten days longer where treatment for Mrs. Foster has been secured.

Read the Board of Trade minutes and see what's going on.

## News Roll of Honor.

Under this heading will be found the amounts received on subscription to the News during the past week, and names of the parties paying. This will serve as a receipt to those of our subscribers forwarding the money by mail.

J. R. Skidmore, \$1.00  
C. L. Gordon Cumming, \$2.00  
Newman Loffland, 50 cents.  
Ed Shuford, 25 cts.  
L. A. Robeson, 50 cts.  
C. H. Hitchcock, 50 cts.  
H. M. Bridges, \$1.00, also for N. L. Bridges, \$1.00  
Rev. J. T. Burnett, \$1.00

C. N. Harrison and wife were pleasantly surprised by the advent of a little "girl" visitor in their home last Monday evening. It was the handsome doll that was given away in the drawing contest held by Mrs. W. D. Street, the milliner, during the holidays. Number 6 entitled the holder to this prize.

One day this week Eli Dunlap sold his cows, about 100 head, to G. C. Kilburn of this county at \$20 all round. He also let his steers go to a Mr. Ward, also of this county, at \$21.

A fine girl came to live with Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Thompson the 31st day of last month.

J. R. Harter has taken into partnership with him in the blacksmith business Charles McDade and will after the first of this year make a reduction in all kinds of their work for cash. The new firm had the News print them a good supply of advertising literature which they will scatter all over the Plains, giving figures of their reductions.

Dr. J. Ed Crawford left early Monday morning for Silverton at the instance of a message to the effect that his mother had been stricken with pneumonia and was in a precarious condition.

Mrs. Joo. A. Wallace, and little son Jeffie, and D. B. Hitchcock returned last Saturday from Erath county where they spent the holidays with relatives and friends.

Rev. F. T. Charlton will preach at the Presbyterian church next Sunday. Everybody invited.

Horace Price and wife were made happy by the arrival of a baby boy last Sunday night.

## Rothchild's Maxims.

From the New York Herald.

The following twelve maxims form part of the will of the Mayor Anselm Rothchild, the founder of the great banking house at Frankfurt. They are now attracting attention in Europe and are recommended to those who desire to succeed in life:

1. Seriously ponder over and thoroughly examine any project to which you intend to give your attention.
2. Reflect a long time, then decide promptly.
3. Go ahead.
4. Endure annoyances patiently and fight bravely against obstacles.
5. Consider honor as a sacred duty.
6. Never lie about a business affair.
7. Pay your debts promptly.
8. Learn how to sacrifice money when necessary.
9. Do not trust too much to luck.
10. Spend your time profitably.
11. Do not pretend to be more important than you really are.
12. Never become discouraged, work zealously and you will surely succeed.

Miss Oma Long, who spent Christmas with her parents, returned to school at Whitewright, Saturday, accompanied by her brother, Bunk.

## A PANHANDLE BOOK

The Southern Kansas Ry. Co. of Texas has printed a little book descriptive of the Panhandle of Texas and setting forth its advantages to the homeseeker. This book is intended to be used in the work of developing and settling the country and we are pleased to offer it to our friends for this purpose. Anyone interested is requested to send us names and addresses of friends in other states to whom they would like this book sent. We shall be pleased also to send out these books to lists of prospective patrons sent us by real estate agents in the Panhandle. If you want a copy send me your name and address.

DON A. SWEET,  
Traffic Manager, Amarillo, Texas.

## SOMETHING ATTRACTIVE.

You can always depend on something well worth while when you come here. We furnish the things you like to carry away with you. The price is right; the goods are pleasing; our methods are attractive. Come and get the most attractive things you ever bought for the price.

## CANYON DRUG COMPANY.

## SANTA FE

## WE MAKE THE RATES

The Short Line determines the passenger fare between any two points and will always be found to offer the best service and connections.

**THE PECOS VALLEY LINES**  
Make the Rates to Kansas City, St. Joseph, Omaha, St. Louis, Chicago and all points east.

Sleeping car to Wichita, Kas., connecting direct with through cars to Kansas City and Chicago. Direct connection in Union depot at Kansas City for St. Louis and points in the southeast. Chair car through from Amarillo to Kansas City, free to all passengers.

DON A. SWEET,  
Amarillo, Texas. Traffic Man.

## HARTER & MCDADE

PIIONEER BLACKSMITH  
Dating from January 1st we cut prices for spot cash on all blacksmith work. Only the very best of material used. Come in and see us, we will treat you right.

## If You Want

Your Boots or Shoes Made-to-Order and in a servicable manner Do Not Fail

To see me. Repairing a specialty.  
JOHN MEISTERHANS.

## PROFESSIONAL CARDS.

DR. J. ED CRAWFORD,  
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All calls answered promptly, Day or night. Office at Canyon Drug Co., Canyon City, Texas.

O'DELL & STEWART,  
Physicians and Surgeons,  
Office over Thompson Drug Company's

MERRILL & BROWN,  
PRACTICAL TINNERS.  
Manufacturers of

Tanks, and Flues,  
and  
All other Galvanized Iron Works.

SHOP ON S. EVELYN ST.

How Editors Die in Oklahoma.

Kansas City, Journal.

Another name has been dropped from our territorial exchange list. The valedictory of the editor of the defunct paper is as follows:

"With this issue, the Herald-

Banner folds its lily-white hands upon its bosom and turns its pink little toes to the daisies, and Miburn, I. T., U. S. A., is without a paper, having witnessed the death of two. It has cost the present firm \$263 to advertise the town, the beautiful blue and fertile soils, and we now throw up the sponge and vacate to make room for another sucker. Ta, ta, au revoir, goodbye. We are going to do something for you that the devil will never do; that is leave you.

## S. V. WIRT, DRUGGIST.

You will always find our stock of Drugs and Druggist sundries fresh and complete

We also carry a nice line of Paints and Oils.

We will appreciate the patronage of the public.

50 YEARS' EXPERIENCE

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Scientific American.

A handsomely illustrated weekly. Largest circulation of any scientific journal. Terms, \$3 a year, \$4 a month. Sold by all newsdealers.  
MUNN & Co. 361 Broadway, New York  
Branch Office 625 F St., Washington, D. C.

The Rogerson hotel has suspended business and Mrs. J. I. Williams the former proprietress, has returned to Waxahachie, her old home.

THANKS—To the many friends who so kindly remembered us during the holidays with poundings and other tokens of appreciation. May many blessings be upon you one and all, is our earnest prayer. J. E. Stephens.

**OUT ON THE RANGE.**

**Col. Slaughter Tells of His Recent Trip.**

Col. C. C. Slaughter, who has a cow or so grazing around on the West Texas Plains, has just returned from that country, where he has been making an investigation of conditions. The colonel is not exuberant over the result of his trip. When seen at his office the other day and asked for a comparison between the old days on the range and those of the present, he launched instead into a description of his journey over the plains.

"I started from Stanton on the Texas and Pacific," said Col. Slaughter, "and drove overland in a four-horse ambulance, taking a northwest course through to Portales, N. M., on the Pecos Valley railroad. Part of the way we drove a herd of cattle. The drive was a matter of 250 or 300 miles. The trip took nearly three weeks in all, but I made a good many stops, examining the grass on the range, and so forth.

"The grass is short and scarce on the range, on account of scarcity of rain in that belt. There is only about half the usual amount of grass, and it is only about half as long as usual. Many places show the marks of fire, and in many places the range is burned up with drouth. There have been numerous fires, either incendiary or accidental, on the range.

"On my range north of Midland and Big Springs I found the grass so short that it was a foregone conclusion that I could not winter all my cattle there, so I sold 4000 cows, weaning their calves, and 200 bulls, and drove the whole lot to Fort Sumner, N. M.

"Then I left Sam Cutworth of Stanton have 700 cows and calves to winter on his range, paying 25c a month for the cows and 12 1-2c for the calves. There has been plenty of rain on his place, and they have had surface water for the cattle.

"I found several places on the range where the drouth had been broken, but the areas, as a usual thing, were not large. On the range of the old Nunn headquarters, north of my range, there has been no great scarcity of water, and in parts of Garza county the range has not suffered from the drouth. They made good sorghum and Kaffir corn and some little Indian corn. They had a good rain last spring.

"But the greater part of the range is in a very deplorable condition, as far as grass and feed are concerned. If the winter is at all severe, the cattlemen expect big losses. There is a great difference in spots, however, for I found that where one man reported good grass his neighbor often had none. The rainfall has been of small compass. I might say that one hundredth part of the country has had showers enough to keep up the range, while all the rest is suffering.

"From Portales, N. M., I went to my farm near Roswell, N. M., where I found everything in prosperous condition. I then went over to Carlsbad and down the Pecos Valley. All this country is, except for small spots, very dry, having had no rain since last June, and the stockmen are feeling very blue.

"However, what grass there is seems to be very strong and nutritious, and that helps out the cattle-man to some extent.

"The range now, as compared with the old days? Well, there is a great difference. I could not help thinking, while I was making my long, overland drive, of the contrast between the past and the present on the great western plains. On this trip I had to open gates every few miles, whereas, when I first went there there were no such things as gates, hardly, and one could move over the range without stopping for anything.

"I first moved cattle there in 1878. The wire fences came about 1885, and with them came the end of the old-fashioned cowboy. Most of the cowboys of the range now are merely fence riders, who ride along the wire fences to see if there are any breaks. Of course, there is some herding, but the old-fashioned cowboy has almost passed out of existence.

"But on my range there are specimens of the original cowboy, and I saw some work by men on this trip that I don't think could have been bettered by any cowboys of any decade. Twelve of my men received orders to gather up 2000 and 2000 bulls, wean the calves from the cows, change the marks and brand them over, and drive them away from the weaning place. This was done in three days and three nights of the hardest kind of work. The men went at it like clockwork. There was no time to lose. When a cow refused to go into the chute

they picked her up and carried her in.

"My men, and other cowboys also, had some hard work to do during the summer putting out fires on the range. When the men strike a fire running along the grass they kill a beef, split it open, tie a rope to each hind foot and with one man on horseback holding each rope they take the carcass between them thus and drag it along the line of fire, while the other men follow with whips, brooms, slickers or blankets and beat out the flames that are left after the body of the animal is dragged over them. It takes quite a large force of men to command a fire on the range, for it spreads very rapidly, often going faster than a horse can run.

"The cattle business is not what it used to be by a good deal. The cattlemen feel the pressure of drouths and financial depression, and the fact that more cattle have gone to market than should have gone is deplored. Men who owed money were compelled to ship cattle during the depression, and many shipments were not of good quality. Others, cattlemen who were not tightly pressed for money, were also forced to ship because of drouth.

"I have heard it stated, and I do not think it much of an exaggeration, that the cattlemen of West Texas have lost at least \$20,000,000 this year as compared with last year on account of various depressions.

"The actual settlers in the range country are feeling very blue, and I am sorry for them. They have raised nothing in the way of crops because of the drouth, and so have nothing to sell. Many of them have to borrow water, and numbers are living in small habitations badly fixed for the coming winter, and with no wood for fuel. What little sorghum they had grew up twelve to eighteen inches and then burned out.

"Where they have had rain the settlers are doing very well, but the places where there has been rain are few and far between. I heard many of the settlers say that the cattlemen who had told them all along that the range was not a farming country were right; and the settlers realize that if it were not for the money they get from the cowmen being compelled to lease their lands, they would be in even a worse state than they are now."

**The Farmer's Advantage.**

The farmer who owns his own home and who is sensible and industrious ought to be the happiest man in the world. Why? Because he is hedged in against every calamity. If his house is burned his land, stock and fences are not consumed; if a cyclone sweeps his crop from the field, his soil is left; if the boll weevil, the boll worm, the army worm or all of them pay him a visit they will touch nothing he grows but cotton; all of his other crops are safe from attack by these pests. Then again, if a financial crisis comes, and they do come, he has less clothing to buy and very much less of other necessities than any other class of people, besides he grows more for the table and the barn than is grown by the man who is not a farmer. Yes, the farmer ought to be happy, and he ought to feel that Providence is on his side. Even now, while the editor pens these lines, the farmer is soundly sleeping. It is now 10 o'clock p. m.—of course he is asleep.—*Mineral Wells Index.*

**Using the Valuable "Now."**

Don't be afraid of a little fun at home, good people. Don't shut up your houses lest the sun fade your carpets, and your heart lest a laugh should shake down some of the dusty cobwebs there. If you want to ruin your sens, let them think that all mirth and joyal enjoyment must be left on the threshold when they come home at night. When once home is regarded as only a place to eat, to drink and to sleep, the work is begun that ends in gambling houses and degradation. Young people must have fun and relaxation somewhere. If they do not find it at their own hearth-stones it will be sought in other, perhaps less profitable places. Therefore let the fire burn brightly at home, ever delightful with all those little arts that parents so artfully understand. Don't suppress the buoyant spirits of merriment around the lamp and firelight of home that blot out the remembrance of many a care and annoyance during the day; and the best safeguard they can take with them into the world is the unseen influence of a bright and domestic sanctum.—*Hutto Enterprise.*

An Arkansas man was recently bitten by a mule with fatal results. This merely shows that the mule is dangerous at either end.

**He Knows What He Talks About.**

The American Swine-Breeder, Chicago, says: No state has made greater advancement in the swine breeding business recently than Texas. There have been foundations laid for a number of good herds by level-headed, intelligent people. Men of ample means have bought their herds and paid cash for them. Farmers who are ambitious to build up-to-date herds of the most popular breeding, with good individuals as well as pedigree have launched herds in many localities.

They have gone into this business in a sensible manner, making their selections from the best bred animals and from some of the most able breeders' herds.

They are giving much study to the feeding and to the profits and success of the business.

They are of the opinion that their state, by proper feeding and management, will enable them to make pork as cheap if not cheaper than any other portion of the United States. These breeders will be able to sell to the farmers of their own state as good stuff as can be found anywhere and, therefore, it will not be long until great improvements will be shown in the pork hogs of Texas, as the saving in matter of express alone will be greater than the price of the pigs in many instances. This will be an inducement to the farmers who are breeding and raising hogs for the pork market in getting their supplies close at home.

Keep your eye on Texas, for she will figure in the hog industry with some of the greatest states in the near future.

**Using the Precious "Now."**

There are almost numberless little jobs that "we intend to do as soon as we finish picking cotton," that we could do at such times as we are not picking cotton if we would, but the habit of putting these items off, waiting for "a more convenient season," has grown so strong on many of us from habitual neglect, that we actually get into the habit of deceiving ourselves (not others) into the belief that many things we fail to do by reason of our carelessness and neglect, are chargeable to lack of time and opportunity.

The individual who never "waits for the convenient season," but does promptly and diligently what his hands find to do, generally makes bright, cheerful, happy and trustworthy citizen, and is rarely found wasting much of the time in gadding about the country hunting for a "better place," but is usually at home engaged in some useful employment during the working hours of each day of the six set apart for the purpose, else is out on business or at proper (usually rare) times and intervals, attending to some necessary errand or taking needed recreation.—*Uncle Zekiel in Boyd Index.*

**Lake Has Dried Up.**

Lake Shirwa, which has covered a considerable area of country to the south of Lake Nyassa in Africa ever since that region has been known to white men, has now dried up completely and local opinion leads to the theory that it has vanished for good. Still, it would scarcely be advisable for settlers to attempt the creation of any garden cities or other establishments anywhere on the bed of the old lake, which might fill up again at any time. Men drive their buggies and ride their horses along the soft, sandy beds of the Australian rivers in times of long drouth, but when the rains come the rivers resume their old place on the newly flushed streams. It is very odd that this great Shirwa lake should vanish so completely without any assignable reason and apprehension is felt lest something of the kind will happen to Nyassa or Tanganyika.

**They're Doing this Very Thing.**

Some years ago when wheat and cats in Texas were a failure, on account of the blight and rust, the farmers sent north to get their seed, and as a result, they had good oats. Now, if they would send off for their cotton seed, they would, in all probability, find the same results. Raise better cotton and plant less. Plant more feed and raise more hogs; diversify your crop and starve the boll weevil out of business, or run him onto the cockleburr. Try improving your cotton as you would your stock.—*Blanket Signal.*

**The Happy Poor.**

Wiseman—"I thought you said he was very rich. Why, I heard him pitying the poor to-day."  
Jenkins—"Well, doesn't a rich man ever pity the poor?"  
Wiseman—"Not if he's very rich; then he envies the poor."

**ANY WAY YOU FIGURE IT WE CAN SAVE YOU MONEY!**

Our stock of furniture is a winner. We are constantly adding to the quality without increase in the price. We are constantly subtracting from the cost in many grades without reduction in quality. Multiply your wishes as you will, you'll be surprised how well our stock keeps within the reach of your pocketbook. Divide your expenditures between parlor and bedroom as you wish, our stock still meets your needs. If you want Furniture—a little different and better than the ordinary—let us show you ours.

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**THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK,**  
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**A BOOM**  
does not, ultimately, bring about the best results to a community.

**THE PAN-HANDLE**  
is NOT on a boom, but is enjoying the most rapid growth of any section in Texas.

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Because only recently have the public at large realized the opportunities which this northwest section of Texas offers. The large ranches are being divided into  
**SMALL STOCK FARMS.**  
Wheat, Corn, Cotton, Melons and all kinds of feed stuffs are being raised in abundance, surpassing the expectations of the most sanguine. A country abounding in such resources (tried and proven), together with the  
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**TAKE THE NEWS.**