



Coryell County News



The Largest Paid Circulation in Coryell County

VOLUME IV

GATESVILLE, TEXAS, FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 1936

NUMBER 30

New Farm Program Outlined by County Agent

Program For Economic League of Coryell Co. Meeting at Pidcoke

The following is the program of the Spring Meeting of the Economic League of Coryell County, which will be at the Pidcoke Methodist Church in the near future:

Opening: 10:00 O'clock.
League Song—"Texas Our Texas."
Lord's Prayer.
Greetings—Mrs. Fred Rodway, Jr.
Response—Mrs. Pete Powell, Business.
Judging the Projects—Mrs. Jack Morse, Mrs. Rufe Brown.

LUNCH

Pageant—"Texas Under Six Flags."
Musical Background—Mrs. Knox Lovejoy and Class.
Texas of Today—Mrs. Glenn Perryman.
Spirit of Texas Sunshine—Mrs. Letha Patton.
Indian Girl—Mrs. Joe Wilkinson.
Spanish Girl—Mrs. Clarence Woodard.
French Girl—Mrs. Jodie Culp.
Mexican Girl—Mrs. Carl Chambers.
Mexican Boy—Mrs. Earnest Pendleton.
Girl of the Republic—Mrs. Orville Smith.
Girl of the Confederacy—Mrs. Parr Williamson.
Uncle Sam—Mrs. O. C. Gossett.
Columbia—Mrs. Raby Davis.
Choir: Mrs. Marvin Williamson, Mrs. Mat Kemp, Mrs. Spencer Thompson, Mrs. Homer Forrest.
Pianist: Mrs. J. B. Whittenberg.

LOCAL F. F. A. BOYS ATTEND DISTRICT MEETING AT WACO

A district meeting of the F. F. A. was held in Waco, Friday, March 27. There were chapters from McGregor, Whitley, Gatesville, Mart, Marlin, Moody, and others who took an active part in the meeting.

The first thing on the program was a duet by the McGregor boys, after which the house was open for business. Three of the district contests will be held in Gatesville, and should attract many teams.

Among those who attended the meeting from this city were Reb Brown, President; Harry Voss, Edwin Bradford, E. L. Taylor, and Mr. Lasseter, the local advisor.

SINGING CONVENTION TO BE AT SUGAR LOAF APRIL 5

The Bell and Coryell County Line District Singing Convention will meet with the Sugar Loaf Choir Sunday, April 5. Singing will begin at 10 o'clock a. m.

D. W. DISERENS,
Convention President.

In Juiz de Fora, Brazil, police found a marriage license "factory" to which authorities attributed 3,000 fraudulent wed-

APPLICATIONS FOR ALL THE EMERGENCY CROP LOANS NOW BEING RECEIVED

Application for emergency crop loans for 1936 are now being received at the Courthouse by J. M. Johnson, field supervisor of the Emergency Crop and Feed loan Section of the Farm Credit Administration.

The emergency crop loans will be made only to farmers who cannot obtain credit from any other source, as provided by regulations issued by the Governor of the Farm Credit Administration. The money loaned will be limited to the farmer's immediate and actual cash needs for growing his 1936 crops and in no instance may exceed \$200 to one farmer.

Farmers are not eligible for emergency crop loans if they can borrow from an individual, bank, or other concern. Farmers will also be considered ineligible if they have an application pending with Resettlement Administration, have received assistance from that organization this year or are indebted to the Resettlement Administration for an unpaid loan.

As in the past, the security for an emergency crop loan will consist of a first lien on the crop financed. Landlord or others having an interest in the crop to be financed will be required to waive their claims in favor of a lien to the Governor of the Farm Credit Administration.

PROFESSIONAL FORESTERS HAVE BRIGHT FUTURE IN SOUTH

Predicting that it is only a question of time until a comparatively large part of the newsprint paper the United States now imports from other countries will be produced in the South, Professor Gordon D. Marckworth, Director of the School of Forestry of the University of Georgia, today painted a hopeful picture for the future of professional foresters in the South in a radio broadcast from Station WGST, Atlanta.

Though forestry is an old profession in Europe, it is comparatively new in the United States. The number of students enrolled in undergraduate forestry courses has increased in thirty years from about fifty men to nearly four thousand.

H. O. Stabler, Associate Regional Forester for the Southern Region of the United States Forest Service, who participated in the radio program with Professor Marckworth, declared that he believed the outstanding need of the forestry profession in the South at present was the adequate financing, equipping, and manning of a strong school of forestry, comparable with sectional forestry schools in other parts of the country, to attract and train foresters for work in the South.

Emphasizing timber as a renewable natural resource in contrast with minerals or oil, Marckworth and Stabler agreed that the future of foresters in the South hinges in a large measure on the practice of sustained-yield management by owners of lands that produce timber.

"A man who owns 100,000 acres of productive timber land," Marckworth said, "may elect to establish a sawmill and cut all the timber within a period of 15 or 20 years. Instead of a short-term operation, this man may build a plant that will handle the annual pre-determined cut on an all-time basis, with a permanent community growing up about his development that need never fear the fate of becoming a ghost town, such as one finds scattered throughout the cut-over pine lands of the South.

"Lumbermen and foresters concede the South to be the best timber-producing section in the world. If sustained-yield management is practised on a large scale, the South will offer interesting opportunities for well-trained, capable foresters."

Italians claim to have killed 15,000 Ethiopians. This should simplify the task of civilizing these warlike people.—Grand Island (Neb.) Independent.

Chinese bridges give evidence of the architectural and engineering genius of the Chinese.

China bridges give evidence of the architectural and engineering genius of the Chinese.

Checks in payment of approved loans will be issued by the Regional Emergency Crop and Feed Loan Office at Dallas, Texas.

Plans for the new agricultural program to put into effect the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act have been received by Guy Powell agricultural agent of Coryell County. State and district meetings have been held to acquaint all Extension agents with the substance of these plans, and meetings of farmers will be held all over Texas during the next few days Powell said.

High points in the program are: Crops are all classified. These classes have been set up. These are soil depleting crops, soil conserving crops, and soil building crops.

Two kinds of payments will be made to farmers for land use—soil conserving payments and soil building payments, but the money for both will come in one check. And this money will come only after the farmer has actually put into effect certain practices which conserve the soil on his farm.

Bases established on old reduction contracts will be taken as a guide for establishing the base for 1936 on the soil conservation program, with, of course, due allowance for crops not included in former contracts.

Organization of farmers to administer the program is already under way in many counties. The farm demonstration councils or other key farmers will divide the counties up into "communities" of approximately 500 farmers. Each one of these "communities" will then elect three committeemen. These "community" committeemen constitute a County Soil Conservation and Allotment Board. The County Board will elect three of its members to serve as a County Committee. The County Agent will represent the Secretary of Agriculture in the county.

Since the entire acreage of every farm must be listed on the work sheet in planning for the soil conservation work a neutral classification has been set up as well as the three-crop classification.

In general it will be easy to remember that the soil depleting crops are mostly row crops, while the soil conserving and soil building crops are the legumes, grains and grasses that are used for cover crops and to turn under as green manure. The neutral classification includes idle land, fallow land, woodland, non crop land, pastures, yards, lanes, roadways, vineyards, and so forth.

About 20 percent of the base acreage in soil depleting crops must in 1936, be classified as soil conserving or soil building crops in order to qualify for participation in the program. The actual ratio will be determined by adding 20 percent of the cotton base acreage to 15 percent of the base acreage of other soil depleting crops. In other words, the required ratio of soil conserving and soil building crops to soil depleting crops on a strictly cotton farm would be 20 per cent; on other farms it would probably be less than this figure.

The maximum cotton acreage

on any one farm upon which soil conserving payment will be made is 35 per cent of the cotton base.

No payment will be made for acreage taken out of food and feed crops unless the 1936 acreage in such crops is at least equal to the actual needs of the farm family and work stock.

Corn interplanted with peas will be considered as 50 per cent corn and 50 per cent peas in calculating bases and performance.

The soil conserving payments will be based on the productivity of the land; for cotton it will be five cents per pound; for peanuts 1 1/2 cents a pound; for rice it will be 20 cents for each 100 pounds of the producer's domestic consumption quota, subject to certain specified agreements; and for the other soil depleting crops the rate per acre will vary among the states and counties, depending upon the productivity of the land.

The division of payment between landlord and tenant is arrived at in two ways. The division of the soil conserving payment is 37 1/2 to the producer who furnishes the land; 12 1/2 per cent to the producer who furnishes the workstock and equipment; and 50 per cent to be divided among the producers as the crop is divided.

The soil building payment will be made to the producer who has incurred the expense entailed in the soil building crops or practices.

With regard to wheat the situation is rather different, since wheat growers had signed applications for contracts with the Government for a 1936 wheat program. Congress has voted that existing applications are to be considered as obligations and are to be carried out and payments made on them. Wheat farmers may arrange their fall plantings in 1936 to be included in the new program later.

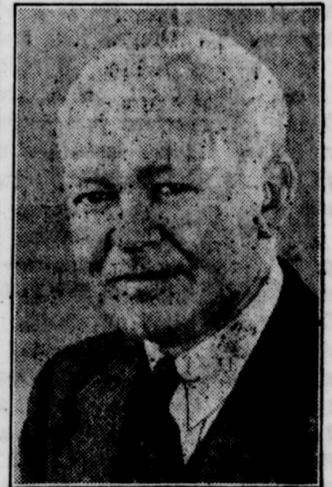
Belgrade is the boom town of the Balkans.

Historic Gal!



Marian Rodgers, of Dallas, is the great-great-grand daughter of a Texas soldier who died in the famous "lottery of beans," after the battle of Mier in 1842. Of the 176 Texans captured by the Mexicans, 17 drew black beans from an earthen bowl and were shot to death. 159 drew white beans and were sent to a Mexican prison. Miss Rodgers, whose grandfather, Horace Isa Houston, was a first-cousin of Gen. Sam Houston, is a ringer for the Texas Centennial Exposition opening in Dallas June 6.

Gets the Crowd



Frank N. Watson, as director of promotion, has the task of informing the public the Texas Centennial Exposition will be in Dallas June 6 to Nov. 29. Apparently it is a task already well done for travel agencies set attendance at 12 million.

If You Desire a NEW DEAL In City Government

VOTE FOR

C. E. Gandy for Mayor and E. Routh for Alderman

(POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT)

The History of Coryell County

By FRANK E. SIMMONS

Authorized by County Commissioners, as Official History for Texas Centennial Celebration.



CORYELL COUNTY AUTHORS

We said somewhere that no people rose, in the cultural scale, higher than their spiritual ideal. Thru all the dark days of the pioneering period there was a smothered spirituality striving to find expression, among the early settlers of Coryell County. Finally, after the gloom of the first fifty years of the county's history, there blossomed as fine expression of the spiritual as may be found in any county the size and population of Coryell. By this we mean the fine expressions of the nationally known literary men, poets, philosophers and the like, that sprung from Coryell. Below we are pointing, briefly to the record of which we are justly proud.

We start with Major General Wm. Graves, U. S. A. retired, who had a long military career. He commanded the American Expeditionary forces in Siberia during the World War. His keen observation and literary works on Eastern Asia have made him an authority on subjects relating to the Orient.

James Britton Cranfill, once a citizen of the county, published the Turnersville Effort, 1881-1882, and Gatesville Advance, 1882-1886. He was a physician and was ordained a Baptist Minister. He has published and edited many books and papers of religious and historical importance. He championed the cause of prohibition in Coryell County when prohibition was very unpopular. At present he is at home in Dallas.

Pat Morris Neff, born near Eagle Springs on the old Neff homestead, Nov. 26, 1871, was successful as a school teacher, lawyer, speaker of the House in the Texas Legislature, Governor of Texas, President of Baylor University, and has served on many commissions. He is a forceful writer.

Out in the east side of the county is Cove Creek, famous as the birthplace and boyhood home and setting of Joe Sappington's humor stories. Joe was born there more than 70 years ago. He is more than a humorist. His writings depict boy life, and their hopes and dreams, hates and loves, and fears. His stories, while ludicrous, are very true picture of the lives of some of the people of the hinterlands. Joe Sappington is a true historian. About thirty years ago Joe began applying his vast accumulation of knowledge of rural life to the building of humorous stories. He at once became a famous humorist and has remained so. He is a benefactor of his race, for he has made folks laugh long and heartily.

Ernest William Winkler, who was born near The Grove January 21, 1875, grew up on a Coryell County farm. He received instruction in many schools and universities. He has been for many years engaged in compiling and arranging historical papers for the State University.

Walter Henry Cousins was born near Whitson, August 18, 1879. He grew up there and received his elementary education in the district schools. In 1898 Coryell County was getting pretty badly crowded for pioneer stock. The Cousins' trekked to Haskell County. Walter was a cowboy for several years. He began recording the lore of the range in verse and story. He later became a druggist. He is now owner and publisher of the Southern Pharmaceutical Journal, and President of the Cowboys' Reunion, which meets at Stamford every year. He is a popular Texas poet and humorist.

Ina Corrine Brown was born in Gatesville, May 27, 1896. She was the daughter of John Dayton Brown. She graduated from Gatesville High School, and her main concern at the present is for American Race problems. She

is the author of several books. Her present address is Nashville, Tenn.

Walter R. Adams, born in Coryell County near Ireland, 1897, was the son of farmer parents. He is a nationally known poet. To Mr. Adams every rural landscape is a poem. Every rustling of the wind is a song. He transforms every kind of scene and landscape to beautiful word pictures. We love our hills and valley more for his being in this county. His book of verse "The Dead Lie Down" has been read by all English speaking people.

Owen Friend Watkins, born in Gatesville, April 20, 1884, grew up in Gatesville as other boys, enjoying their boyish fun and frolics. He served in many capacities in his home town. He studied law and was admitted to the bar. He volunteered for World service and during the war was promoted to the rank of Captain. He is now a lawyer at Mexia. Mr. Watkins, however, has reached his greatest fame as poet and playwright. He is the author of many popular poems and plays that are nationally known.

Lucy Belle Morgan was born at Bee House in Coryell County January 1, 1884. She received instruction from many schools. She is a gifted linguist, a poet, playwright, and author of "The Way Triumphant," and a number of Spanish plays.

Music and song are the highest expressions of poetic sentiment. Gatesville is the birthplace of two young men, Murray Kendrick and Lytle Powell, who have mastered poetic expression in these lines. Murray Kendrick is American trained and owing to his fine tenor voice, has sung to the most distinguished audiences in America. Powell attained the highest average examinations ever made by any student at the Tobias Mathey School of Piano Forte Music in England. He was then only twenty years of age.

Mrs. J. P. Kendrick has done very distinguished service for the history and literary interests of Coryell County. Her extensive collection of historical data, folklore, and songs, are invaluable. She has served as Vice-President of the Texas Folklore Society. Mrs. Kendrick is widely known for her keen interest along the above lines.

All of the foregoing writers have attained state wide, nation wide, or international recognition for their literary labors in their chosen fields. This is not all, as is evidenced by the good poems and other literary materials being produced by the younger writers. Some of the poems by younger writers may not be mechanically correct, but we prefer to judge them by the high moral, and spiritual values the authors convey.

IRELAND NEWS

The dry weather continues, if it does not rain soon, the oat crop will be a failure. So dry not anything doing any good.

Mr. R. E. Newton of Valentine is here visiting his son, Willard and family, and is also helping to catch up with the work on the farm.

The Epworth League social at the Methodist Church Friday night was well attended and enjoyed by all.

Aunt Sallie Durr and also Mr. B. A. Briley are each quite sick and no improvement reported. We hope conditions will soon change for the better.

Mrs. Keith of Granbury, who manufactures poultry medicines, was here several days the past week making quite a few sales.

Mr. F. A. Waldrup of Waco was here the past week and was on the market for some good cattle.

Mr. Bill Morwitz, our popular daily mail carrier, serving for

fifteen years, has traded the two daily routes out of Ireland to Mr. Knight of Atlanta, Georgia. The exchange has been made, both families left for their new homes Sunday.

Mr. Bud Mayberry of Gatesville has the contract to move all household goods for both

parties by truck. Bill Morwitz has made many friends and rendered efficient services on both routes. He and his family are held in the highest esteem. We wish them well in their new home.

Bill's new patrons on his new route will all live on paved roads in the city of Atlanta, where he will have over 600 boxes to serve.

I don't know why Bill wanted to move to another state. I never heard him say, unless, it was that he had been reading after those early pioneers and that he would go and take up where they left off.

Best Equipped Shop

PAT OLSEN'S GARAGE

Always Open

PHONE 11

LIKE NEW!



Your car needs a complete washing and greasing at least once a month. Our service includes checking batteries, tires, etc.

OUR WORK GUARANTEED \$1
(Complete Job)

E. SWIFT CONOCO STATION
North Lutterloh
Joe Satterfield, Assistant

Courtesy

Carrier boys serving this newspaper have been selected because of good training in their homes, their excellence in school work and because of their conduct as young gentlemen. Their contact with the public is expected to reflect these qualities. However, any breach of courtesy or good service should be reported to the News—Phone 69.

Service

● If you do not have your paper by 8 a. m. telephone 69 and ask the News to send you a copy. We won't know you missed getting your paper if you don't call 69.

Hornets Nest

Brack Curry.....Editor-in-Chief
 Jack Hestilow.....Sports Editor
 Norman Painter.....Club Editor
 Jack Straw.....Humor Editor
 Bob Thomas.....News Editor
 Miss Ernestine Durham.....Faculty Sponsor

Dramatic Club

Wednesday in the regular meeting of the dramatic organization, a program concerning plays and playwrights was held. The one-act play will go to Waco next week end for the district tourney. Gatesville has no competition in Coryell County in this event which is a regular part of the Interscholastic League Meet. Miss Martha Lawrence is the director of this production, "A Message to Khufu" which has its setting in an Egyptian pyramid, and practices are held every afternoon.

Junior Class Meeting

Last Friday morning at the assembly period, the Junior Class of '36 met in room five and the class finances were discussed by Mr. Lasseter, co-

sponsor of the class. A plan was introduced by which the Juniors of this year's class could pay for the coming Junior-Senior banquet in installments. This liberal measure called for a payment of seventy-five cents this year and fifty cents next semester. However, it was not favored and will not be used as the Juniors preferred to pay for the banquet this season. The banquet feting the Seniors will be held early in May.

The Junior class will have charge of the assembly program soon and work will begin on that.

Sophomore Class Meeting

The Sophomores held a class meeting under the sponsorship of Mr. MacLaughlin. A party was discussed and the date has been set for July 21.

Suggestions were made for next class meeting and after that president, Jack Hearn, dismissed the class until further notice. Upon Mr. Thompson's departure, Mr. MacLaughlin took over the sponsorship of the Sophomore Class.

Freshman Class

Miss Carlil and Coach Ewing are the Freshman sponsors this year. At the first of school officers were chosen, and they are as follows: John Frank Post, president; Mildred Ray Gandy, vice president; Martha Moore, secretary; Billie McBride, reporter; Martha Jean Patillo, chairman of program committee. The class has had several meetings and have had some good programs prepared. They are preparing a chapel program for May 1. The class hasn't decided on an entertainment yet, but will have some form of one in the near future.

Cracks From the Campus

By the Jester

Buzz Colgin: "That new boy struck me as having a lot of money."

Jack Hestilow: "That must have been after he struck me."

Erle Powell: (as Hamlet); "There is something rotten in the state of Denmark."

Voice from the gallery: "If you were there, you would be it."

Miss Scott: Can anyone tell me what a myth is?"

Sonny Hair: Please, Miss Scott, it a female moth."

Agriculture Reporter Appoints Two New Assistants

The Vocational Agriculture class probably has more news than any other class in school. Such things as are of interest to the parents of the pupils are performed everyday.

Every Thursday morning at 10:45, the Future Farmers hold their regular meeting with Reb Brown as president, Nathan McDonald, vice president; Ray Byrom, secretary; Henry McDonald, bookkeeper; Elwood Young, reporter; Earl Scott, parliamentarian; and Woodrow Hall as Farm Watch Dog.

At the last meet it was decided that there was to much news for one reported, and two assistants were appointed. Those appointed were S. F. Ludwick and E. L. Taylor. Both of these men are fully capable to hold this position.

Future Farmers Attend Judging Contest at John Tarleton

The local F. F. A. chapter will be represented at the John Tarleton Judging Contest Saturday by fifteen contestants. There will be three different teams who will participate in the contest, out of the fifteen contestants. The different contests will be Dairy Cows, Poultry and Field Crops. The representatives were selected by the highest grades made in judging the past few weeks. The contestants who will represent the local F. F. A. chapter are: Poultry: Edwin Bradford, Earl Scitt, Tom L. Robinson, Alternates, Clyde Boyd, Nathan McDonald.

Field Crops: Alson Quicksall, Joe Robinson, Milton Coward, Alternates, Reb Brown, Johnny Schloeman.

Dairy Cows: William McDonald, Raby Alford, Truman McCorkle, Alternates, Henry McDonald, Gayle Calhoun.

Campus Lowdown

Author Unknown.

Overheard on a lonely road— Well, we're out of gas and no fueling. This rift between 'Doc' Hamilton and Grady (tearemup) Dickie is the real McCoy. And then someone wants to know why the Sophemales became so interested in playground ball. (We'll give you a tip—he wears trousers). Dave Culberson wants to know why Mary Ann (weinieroast) Post gets in an hour later when she has a date with someone else. Nomination for the sweetshot of GHS—Arlene Bates. Professor McLaughlin is probably the highest salaried tutor in school. G-Man ditty—"I'm Putting All My Yeggs in One Basket." Did you know that their names were Frank Leon Williams, Lonnie R. Briggs, Precious Earle Worley, Martha Elizabeth Lawrence, Glen Henry McLaughlin, William Ernest Lasseter, Maurice Sample Ewing, and Virginia Frances Worthy? The crew that constitutes the orchestra are Erle Powell, Turkey Straw, Tommie Robinson, Hindy Wallace, Waddie Clark, Buzz Colgin, Jack Hearne, Jack Reising. Wendell Lowrey is the manager and yours truly is the publicity agent. It's still nameless. We hope you aren't dis-

appointed when you hear them. Our chief ditty when the censor comes 'round (she likes to cut-up and cut-out) is "Are we going to have trouble from you?"

Sport Notes

After the county get together is over, spring training will start. About eight lettermen will be back, but a great number of sophomores and juniors will be striving to impress the coaches.

There are few golfing stars in Gatesville High. Wendell Lowrey, Erle Powell, Albert Dickie, Buster Cummings, and J. W. Clark are the better golfers. Freshman Utensæ Sellers is probably better than any of those mentioned.

Hot-Man Chamlee will be the manager of the Hornets next season. A sophomore will be appointed as his assistant and the soph will be manager for two years.

Whether or not Gatesville High gets in today's track meet depends largely on the ability and the showing of Lowell Holt and Foy Wicker.

John L. Moore and Ray Jones, members of the Army quint, are former stars of Gatesville High. Jones starred in basketball and Moore was a gridman and also a basketeer.

Latin Newspaper

The Latin II Class is preparing a newspaper. It includes sports, news, personals, advertisement section, society, and contemporary news. Several Latin students are responsible for each section with the help of five or more other Latin students. Thursday, the Latin class voted on a name for the paper, "The Trumpet." Work has been discontinued until the themes are handed in.

Woods in Springtime

By Jean Pattilo

I wandered alone into the woods
 One early day in Spring;
 I left all my cares behind me
 And took with me not a thing.
 I was tired of man's creations
 Of buildings, lights and noise;
 I hungered for God's creations
 With all their peace and poise.
 I thrilled when my feet touched
 That carpet
 That no man had laid for me
 there;
 As I paused on this threshold
 to heaven
 I offered my thanks in a
 prayer.
 I found such sweet grace in one
 tiny place
 That God had chosen for me;
 I smelled the perfume in this
 dear little room,
 Of the violets under the tree,
 I lay down on the ground with
 tall trees all around,
 And gazed at my ceiling of
 blue;
 And marveled that really these
 things which I saw
 Were so graciously perfect and
 true.
 The birds made the music
 which lifted my heart
 And seemed to take it away;
 While a spry little squirrel
 In his own little world,
 Completed my most perfect day.
 I hated to leave this small
 heaven of mine
 And return to that man
 made place,
 But I'll go back someday to
 those woods of mine
 And enjoy God's beauty and
 grace.

F. F. A. News

The Future Farmers of Gatesville High School will be sponsors in a popularity contest beginning Wednesday, April 1st, and ending at 4:15 o'clock on Friday, April 24th. The purpose of this contest is to select the most popular boy and girl in Gatesville High School, and (Continued On Last Page.)

HOLD
 THIS
 CHARMING
 YOUNG
 GIRL

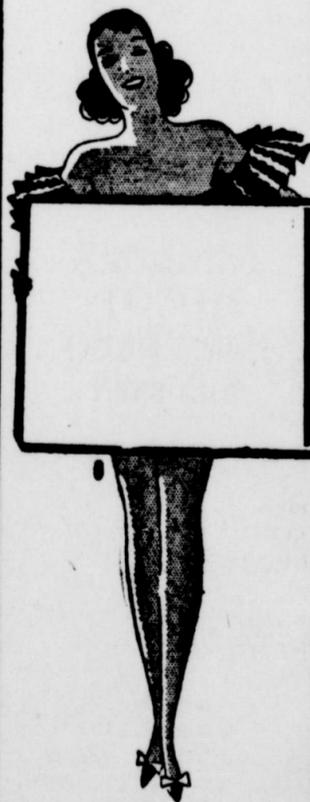
Up to the Light
 And Give Her
 The
 O. O.
 (ONCE OVER)



EVEN
 PETER PAN



NEVER HAD
 NUTTIN'
 LIKE THIS



We Don't Care Where You Put Your Napkin!

We serve Eats—
 ing the County
 Eat and Be



Not Napkins, dur-
 Meet. Come in.
 Comfortable.

COZY CAFE

Kay and Bill Ament

Wall Paper and Paint Demonstration

APRIL 3rd AND 4th

You Are Cordially Invited to Attend.

Wm. Cameron & Co., Inc.

W. C. GUGGOLZ
 L. D. MARTIN ROBERT EARL McCURRY



Hi,
Buddy!

You Won't
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Read the
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County
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WON swen

THE PRISONER OF SHARK ISLAND

A novelization of
DARRYL F. ZANUCK'S
20th CENTURY PICTURE

with WARNER BAXTER,
GLORIA STUART and
a cast of 1000 players

SYNOPSIS

One by one Dr. Mudd had seen seven poor wretches undergo a court martial for conspiracy in the assassination of President Lincoln. Now it was his turn. He was so unfortunate as to have set the fractured leg of John Wilkes Booth, who had, a few hours before, shot President Lincoln in a Washington theatre. The doctor, knowing nothing of the assassination, did what he could for Booth, as he would have done for any stranger in need of aid. But for this assistance to this murderer, he may have to pay with his life!

Chapter Five

Seated on the long bench before the wooden counter, Dr. Samuel Mudd stared out of the tall courtroom windows at the lazily moving feecy clouds in the Summer sky and thought of his comfortable home in Maryland, the singing of the negroes in the field, of Rosebelle and her twelve children.

It was only by pretending this was a bad dream and he would wake up and find himself back on the plantation, that he managed to hold onto his self-control. And he dared not think of Peggy, his wife, or little Martha, his daughter.

This morning, crossing the prison yard to the courtroom, he had not trusted himself to look toward the gate, where he knew they were standing forlornly watching for him, as they had stood every day of this interminable trial.

So this is what it is to be court martialed, he remarked to himself, as he heard the carpet-bagger, whom he had ordered off his place, called to the witness stand.

"What do you know of Doctor Mudd's loyalty to the Federal Union?" asked the Judge Advocate General.

"Doctor Mudd was a slaver," with a triumphant glance toward the prisoner's bench.

Bit by bit the evidence—not so much evidence as material calculation to inflame Northern prejudice—piled up against him.

"Dr. Mudd served in the Confederate army" . . . "Dr. Mudd denied that he had ever seen Booth" . . . "Dr. Mudd's name was on the prescription I filled" . . . Dr. Mudd denied everything until I showed him Booth's own boot right in his own house" . . . "Dr. Mudd confessed to me that he set Booth's broken leg and then aided him with directions how to reach the Potomac and Virginia."

All that day, all the next day, Dr. Mudd heard the Government's case against him.

Then, late one afternoon, a voice said in an official monotone:

"The case is ended."

And it was then that Mudd found himself on his feet.

"The case is not ended," he cried. "You're going to hear one defense whether you want it or not!"

Horried at such unseemly conduct, the President of the Court Martial broke in: "The prisoner will observe order!"

"Why?" demanded Mudd, facing them, his unshaven face pale, his eyes blazing. "Why should I keep quiet? What more can you do to me? What threat have you got left?"

Holding his manacled hands in front of him, Mudd spoke quietly, but with deadly earnestness:

"You can hang me—you can hang us all—the innocent as well as the guilty, because you, nine gallant officers and gentlemen, have stripped yourselves of your pride and your honor. But I'll not go without fight, and I'll not go without trying to blacken your memories with the insane injustice you will carry on your souls till the day you die!"

"I object!" shouted the Judge Advocate General of the court martial. Ignoring him, Mudd continued.

"And till the day you die ask yourselves in your heart three questions: Does an assassin confide his plans to anyone? Was I, a physician, in the plot because it was a part of John Wilkes Booth's plan to break his leg and need me? Does a man whose first devotion is no longer to a lost cause, or to any flag that flies, but to his wife and child, risk any act that could only bring misery and heartbreak on their innocent lives? . . . In the sight of the holy God I worship, I am innocent!"

Shaking violently, he sank back on the bench. There was a dead silence.

Then the cold voice of the Assistant Secretary of War, "The court will ignore the remarks of the prisoner."

A soldier stepped up to Mudd and quickly dropped the burlap bag over his head. He was led from the room.

Outside the soldier was posting another bulletin—the last one.

"The case against Dr. Samuel Mudd, charged with conspiracy in the assassination of the President, was disposed of today."

Peggy Mudd stared despairingly at it.

There was nothing for her to do but go back to the prison gate. Standing there, clinging to the cold iron bars, she suppressed a scream at what she saw. In the penitentiary yard workmen were rapidly building a scaffold.

The next day Peggy Mudd, wan and trembling, sat with her little daughter, Martha, in the prison waiting room, a large stone chamber with barred windows. This was to be her first meeting with her husband since his arrest. It might be her last. She had little hope left for his freedom. All she dared to pray for was his life.

After a few minutes the iron door was unlocked and General Ewing, her husband's counsel, made his appearance.

He took her hand with a gesture of sympathy. "He is coming now," he told her.

"But General," she said through white lips, "isn't there any possible way of—stopping things—just for a little while anyway?"

The Union officer sighed. "My child," he said gravely, "I'm using every legal means that I know of. Be brave, my dear."

Again the iron door opened. Peggy Mudd sprang up, and rushed forward.

Without a word she put her arms around him and laid her cheek to his.

Forgotten for the moment by both of her parents, the child stared at them, perplexed and frightened. Then she cried, "Daddy . . . are you all right?"

The man straightened, managed to smile down at her.

"Of course, honey," he said. Caressing the scars on her husband's wrists, Peggy Mudd was on the verge of breaking down.

"Darling! Darling!" she moaned. He patted her shoulder. "Don't sweetheart. It can't be long now. We'll all be back together soon."

"Sam . . . Don't you know? Haven't they told you?"

"Told me?" You mean you've heard . . .

Clinging to him, her sobs breaking out at last, she was unable to answer.

Slowly Mudd swung around and looked at Ewing. "What is it?" he asked steadily.

"Sam . . . the verdict was . . . guilty."

"Guilty!" Mudd was stunned. Even though he had expected it, he could hardly believe it.

In the stricken silence that followed the sounds of hammers at work on the scaffold outside became clearly audible. Dazed Mr. Mudd brushed a hand across his brow, as though he could brush away the horrid dream and awake to his own, normal and happy everyday life.

But when he opened his eyes the barred windows were still there and the sound of hammering in the courtyard was louder than before.

His wife, both arms around her husband, her white face turned up to his, cried frantically, "But we haven't given up yet, Sam! Oh, Sam, you mustn't either. Not yet! There is, oh, there must be something we can do! I won't let you go. I won't! I won't!"

Oblivious of anything but her husband, Peggy Mudd tightened her arms around him as though she could, by her own frail strength, keep him from the awful doom spelled by the half-constructed scaffold she had seen.

"We haven't given up yet," she repeated.

"No," said her husband. And then more firmly, "No! We're not giving up—you and Martha and I!"

Gently he put his wife aside and dropping on his knees before his young daughter, who shrank back from him, still whimpering, he said, in his everyday voice,

"Listen, darling, it's daddy talking to you. Your own daddy, sweetheart. Don't you know your daddy?"

With a happy cry, the child threw her arms around his neck. The man bent his head, ashamed of the quick tears which came to his eyes.

Holding her close he forced himself to speak quietly.

"Martha dear, daddy may have to stay away a little longer. I want you to look out for mamma. Don't let her cry . . . try to make her happy."

As he finished the door opened and another soldier appeared. "Let's go," said the soldier.

Quietly he embraced his wife, who was trying in vain to control her tears. "We're not giving up," she cried again, clinging to him.

In the corridor outside the waiting room a sergeant met them.

"Take him downstairs," he told the soldiers brusquely.

"But my cell's up here," said Mudd, blanching.

"You ain't going to need a cell any more," was the laconic answer.

Is Mudd to be the first victim of the gallows which has been hastily erected in the prison yard? Is there no hope for him? Don't miss this tomorrow.

HORNETS' NEST—

to obtain funds for the Future Farmers to attend the State Judging Contest at A. & M.

The rules for the contest are as follows:

1. Contest open to all students in Gatesville High School.

2. Each application for entry must be accompanied by 25c which will count as 25 votes after they are in the contest.

3. Each vote will count 1c.

4. Votes will be counted by placing coin in an envelope with name of candidate written on outside of it.

5. First candidate, boy or girl, receiving 100 votes will be given 500 additional votes.

6. Winners of the contest will be formerly presented at the next all school night.

7. Appropriate awards will be given to each winning candidate. One for boy and one for girl.

8. Contest shall begin Wednesday, April 1st, and continue until Friday, April 4th, closing at 4:15 o'clock.

9. Decisions of the contest committee concerning all matters pertaining to the contest shall be final.

10. Anyone with a penny is eligible to vote.

11. Only cash votes will count.

12. One may vote as often and as many times as he sees fit.

13. A vote to be counted must have the name of the candidate printed or plainly written on the envelope.

14. A candidate may withdraw from the race but the proceeds go to the Future Farmers.

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to our neighbors and friends for their kindness shown to us during the illness and death of our dear mother and grandmother, Mrs. Adaline R. Belk. (Signed) Her children and grandchildren.

CARD OF THANKS

We take this method of expressing our sincere thanks to our friends and neighbors for the help shown us after our home was completely destroyed by fire.

(Signed) Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Wallace and family.

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