THE VERNON TIMES

VOLUME XXXVIII | VERNON, WILBARGER COUNTY, TEXAS, 1927 | OLD SETTLERS EDITION

VIEW OF VERNON'S SKYLINE AS IT LOOKED IN THE EARLY DAYS WHEN BRICK BUILDINGS WERE SCARCE



This picture shows Vernon in the early days. It was taken from the top of the court house by L. E. Piper and the picture was furnished The Times by Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Hogsett. On the extreme left is an old two story frame building. The top floor was a hotel and the lower floor used as a grocery store by Sebastian & Givens. The Farmers State Bank is now on that site. On the other corner is the old B. K. Wood & Company building. The firmof Denny Brothers followed them in this building and is today occupied by the Massie-Vernon Grocery Company. To the left in the picture can be seen the Church of Christ. This building has been remodeled. About the center and to the right is shown the old Presbyterian church. This building was torn down to make room for the new building now used by the congregation of that church. The home of Dr. R. W. Hix can be seen down Wilbarger Street. The open stretch of country between the business section and the "settlement" to the west was vacant for a long time due to litigation and a clear title could not be given to the land. It was owned by the Cattleman, Col. Adair of Clarendon. Just back of the buildings along the west side of the square can be seen a large wagon yard. This was the leading yard of Vernon in those days and many of the present residents of the county will recall putting up there.

CITY OF VERNON WAS INCORPORATED IN YEAR 1889

HALL AND EAKLE CITY SECRETARY LONGEST TERMS

In looking over the minutes of the city government of Vernon from its start S. H. Hall heads the list as holding the office of city secretary for the longest time, with L. C. Eakle next. Mr. Hall was city secretary first from 1910 to 1914. In 1916 he went back in office as city secretary and has held the job ever since.

L. C. Eakle was city secretary from 1899 to 1906 and in addition served the city as alderman at other times during the early days in Vernon.

The list of secretaries follows:

John Brown, one year.
A. C. McKinney, one year.
A. M. Hiatt, 1892-1896.
J. Y. Scott, 1896-1898.
C. F. Lanter, 1898-1899.
L. C. Eakle, 1899-1906.
R. B. Sherrill, 1906-1910.
S. H. Hall, 1910-1914.
T. P. Lisman, Jr., 1914-1916.
S. H. Hall, 1916-

CITY HAULING IN 1892 BY ROCHELLE

The minutes of the city show that in 1892 the city entered into a contract with W. E. Rochelle to do all the hauling around the town. The contract price for various kinds of work were set out. There was evidently dead animals on the streets just the same as tiday for the first price set out was for hauling dead cats and chickens off the streets for which Mr. Rochelle was to receive 5 cents each. Dead dogs and hogs were to be removed at 10 cents per head. Dead horses and cattle cost the city fathers 50 cents apiece and trash was hauled for 50 cents a load.

The price today is 75 cents for hauling off dead dogs, cats and chickens and $5 for horses and cows.

OLD INVITATIONS ARE INTERESTING

Among the many interesting articles turned in to The Times for the Old Settlers' edition is a group of invitations during the early days here. Today when a party is held most of the invitations are extended over the telephone but in the early days the printed invitation, and very fancy, was the proper thing.

One interesting invitation is an invitation sent out by Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Farrell to attend the wedding of their daughter, Hattie Whitney Farrell to Cullie L. Swartwood at the Methodist church in Vernon on Wednesday evening, December 18, 1889, at 8 o'clock.

Another one is dated 1894 in which invitations are sent out by Dr. and Mrs. J. E. Dodson for the marriage of their daughter, Fannie, to Thornton G. Lomax at the Methodist church.

In 1890 Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Napier sent out invitations for the wedding of their daughter, Hattie, to T. H. Shive. This wedding took place December 18 at the Methodist church.

CITY OFFICIALS GOT HEAVY PAY

In 1897 the city council set the salaries for the various city officials. The mayor, aldermen, city secretary and city attorney received $1 for each session they attended. The city treasurer was given a flat salary of $10 per month. The minutes provided so much for each $100 valuation assessed by the city secretary and so much for each poll and a per cent of the tax collections.

In a game of foot ball at Iowa Park Saturday, Vernon vs. Wichita, resulted in 16 to a goose egg in favor of Wichita Falls. When you bump up against Wichita boys you bump up against a brick wall—they are awful tough.—Vernon Hornet of 1903.

MAYORS OF THE CITY OF VERNON

James R. Tolbert	1889-1890
R. S. Kelly, (resigned)	1890-1892
M. E. Smith	1892-1894
Geo. Anderson, (resigned)	1894-1897
J. S. Massie	1897-1898
J. A. Lucky	1898-1902
S. P. Huff, (resigned Dec. 13)	1902
Bismark Houssels, acting mayor	
R. W. Hall	1903-1908
L. P. Bonner	1908-1912
I. S. Sewell	1912-1916
L. P. Bonner	1916-1918
Harry Mason	1918-1926
H. D. Hockersmith	1926

HIGH FINANCING REQUIRED IN DAYS WHEN CITY HALL WAS CONSTRUCTED

For many years Vernon did not have a city hall and used a room at various places in the business district for this purpose. When Judge L. P. Bonner was elected mayor plans were started for the erection of a suitable building. The present city hall was the outcome of the work and was built by John White, who was the leading contractor of the city. He was paid $5,000 in bonds for the work.

Judge Bonner told of the condition of the city's finances at that time and how the bond issue was carried. This phase of the city will be discussed in another article.

The ground on which this building is located was purchased by the city government. The inside lot was bought and then the corner lot was secured through the efforts of W. H. Evans and J. R. Renfro, and other citizens of the town. These two men paid a large part of the cost of the lot and Judge Bonner said the actual cost to the city was small.

Judge Bonner said he negotiated for the two lots now occupied by the Vernon Theatre building but would not buy them because he thought the price too much. Later they considered buying the southeast corner of that block for the city but as the city treasury was not very full at the time the trade was passed up.

During this administration the junior high school building was erected at a cost of $10,000. A wing was later added to the building.

Vernon's water and sewer situation was acute at this time and through a combined bond issue of $40,000 for the city hall, school, water and sewer this problem was met. The beginning of the present water and sewer system was started at this time and the first year something like six or seven miles of the system was laid.

The water works system was started and a sixteen foot well dug on the site of the present pump station. The bond money took care of the main line and the business district and the residence section was gradually extended through people paying for the pipe and taking it out in water and the city paying for the ditching. After a time Judge point to where they would take care Bonner said the earnings reached a of the ordinary extensions. When the citizens paid for a line they were given credit on the books for the amount and paid half their water bill each month and were credited with the other half until the amount paid was used up. Judge Bonner said there were not very many consumers at first but as the number grew they were enabled to extend faster.

JAMES R. TOLBERT WAS FIRST MAYOR OF VERNON; COMMISSION FORM VOTED IN 1916 WITH L. P. BONNER MAYOR

A trip through the old record books at the city hall proves very interesting to any reader. The first meeting of the City Council was held in April, 1889. A special election was called to elect officers after the town was incorporated. The first officers were James R. Tolbert, mayor; S. W. Mabry, Joe Schmidt, W. E. Johnston, John R. Wood and George Langley, aldermen; John L. Hammond, city marshal: John Brown, city secretary and H. C. Thompson was appointed as city attorney.

This form of city government continued until 1916 when the City Commission form was adopted.

The first ordinance on the book is that setting out the seal for the city. It states that it shall have the words, "City of Vernon, Texas," in a circle and a sheaf of oats and wheat crossed in the center of the seal. In running over the ordinances passed in those days it brings smiles to the reader.

For instance, among the early ordinances was one dealing with speeding. The aldermed had their troubles with fast drivers back in 1889 It was "unlawful to ride or drive faster than a slow lope through the streets of said city." Then followed a penalty for violation of this ordinance.

Another interesting ordinance was that pertaining to occupation taxes. Land agents, lawyers, physicians and dentists were made to pay an occupation tax. Practically every one who had a trade or a profession was included in the ordinance and a fee of $2.50 levied on them.

The first franchise granted by the city of Vernon was to the "Vernon Street Railway Company." The ordinance set out that whereas there was a public necessity for a street railway from the Fort Worth & Denver station to the square that an exclusive franchise was granted to this corporation to build and maintain a single track street railway down the center of Main street and a fourteen foot right-of-way was dedicated to the use of the company. A little later this franchise was revoked and a new one granted giving them the right to put in a double track and extend anywhere in the city that they might think it advisable. The franchise was granted for three years.

In April, 1916, the citizens voted the Commission form of government and the following officers were elected: L. P. Bonner, mayor; M. G Neathery, J. P. King, Harper Reed and E. L. Witty, commissioners.

This form of government is still being used by the city.

MILLET SEED ALL LOST ON JOURNEY

W. O. Anderson, who was in the milling business here for many years in the early days, told a good one on a man named Pigg who raised lots of millet. Mr. Pigg had been hauling his grain in and selling it to Mr. Anderson. One day he drove up to the mill and drove on the scales to be weighed. Mr. Anderson asked him what he wanted and he said he had a load of millet to sell him

Mr. Anderson looked at the scales and then at the wagon and told Mr. Pigg either the scales were way off or he did not have much of a load. Mr. Pigg said he had a full wagon load but when he looked back he saw his end gate had slipped out and all his millet had spilled out on the way to town.

J. M. and Bass King have 1100 acres of wheat which they are grazing. King brothers think the outlook for wheat crop could not be better.—Vernon Hornet of 1903.

2.



WILBARGER ONCE BIG TRUCK PRODUCING REGION

SHOOTIN' UP TOWN NEVER BAD AFFAIR

The younger generation reads in novels and wild west stories about the cowboys coming into town and shootin' things up. Old timers say that there was quite a bit of shooting at times but there was no serious damage done. It was just in fun with no harm intended to anyone.

One old timer says that he had witnessed several such celebrations and only two casualties ever occurred so far as he knew. One was a young lady received a wound in the leg and investigation showed that the bullet struck the ground first and glanced and struck the house.

The most serious wound another one tells about was received by a barrel of whiskey. The cowboys were shooting the town up and one stray shot went into a saloon and caught a barrel of whiskey right square in the middle. During all the excitement and noise the terrible accident was not discovered until nearly half the barrel had leaked out. The wound was quickly dressed and the rest of the contents saved.

GEE, OF AGE.

"Wanna buy a car?"
"Not that one. It's smoking."
"Well—it's old enough"

ENTERTAINED LADY INDIANS BY RIDE ON STORE ELEVATORS

In the early days Vernon was a great trading point for the Indians from the Indian Territory. They came in droves and camped around the outskirts of town. Mrs. Dema Griffiths told The Times recently that when a big crowd of Indians came to town she generally went down town to see them. She was a small girl but could run the elevator in the store.

When the Indians would come into the Youngblood furniture store the squaws always wanted a ride on the elevator. Mrs. Griffiths acted as chauffeur and she said as they would be going up or down perhaps a squaw would have her back to Mrs. Griffiths and she would pinch the toe of a papoose strapped to the broad back of the Indian to hear it howl.

The old squaw would look around to see what was the trouble but Mrs. Griffiths would be busy with the elevator rope by that time.

Shopper—I would like to get some diamonds for my wife.
Clerk—Glassware—next aisle.

WHEAT CROP IN 1891 MADE WILBARGER FAMOUS AND BROKE IT NEXT YEAR

The wheat crop of 1891 made Wilbarger county famous as a wheat raising county and the next few years broke the country. This is the way old timers tell about that famous year. Cotton was unheard of and cattle raising was the main thing in this part of the state.

Thousands of acres of wheat were planted and the yield was good nex year. Every kind of device was used to get it cut and most of the threshing was done by a horse power machine. Threshing machine company's representatives rushed in and sold binders and threshers everywhere and two years later a big part of the farmers were sold out through sheriff's sales.

During the crop year of 1891 it was hard to get an accurate gauge on the production as the men who raised wheat in those days said that they used a scoop and piled the wheat up on the ground. It was sold for as low as 15c a bushel.

Steve Castlebury states that for about six years following that there was very little wheat raised. The season hindered and then things were so low in price. Mr. Castlebury said that a few years later he raised a fine oat crop. He had 150 acres of as pretty oats as he had ever seen and after getting them cut and brought to town and sold his entire crop brought him a few cents over $34.

J. E. Lutz has a picture of a fine crop of wheat he raised in 1912. This was exceptionally fine grain and threshed out 55 bushels to the acre.

The old timers who tried to farm around in this country from 1890 to 1900 tried to raise wheat. All this country was devoted to that and a scattering of other crops.

With the settling up of the country and the breaking up of most of the large ranches the smaller farms appeared and within a few years after the year 1890 cotton was introduced to this country.

Wheat was brought to Vernon in wagons drawn by horses. The horses had replaced the oxen as freighters. J. A. Gilliland says he remembers when the wheat wagons would come in in trains of from ten to twenty. The Bells from Foard county brought all their wheat here for shipment. This point was made the concentration point for all this section of the country.

ED PURDY'S PHILOS.

The trouble with most humor censors is that they haven't got a censor humor.

CANTELOPES, WATERMELONS AND FRUIT GROWN IN COUNTY IN LARGE QUANTITY DURING EARLY PART OF THIS CENTURY

Wilbarger county was once a famous truck growing country, to hear some of the old timers tell about their big crops. Cantelopes and watermelons were grown by the truck loads and they were shipped out in carload lots.

Among the leaders in the cantelope and watermelon industry were J. H. Pettit, P. Coltzer, J. B. Brite, T. J. Weatherall and A. A. Lloyd. Mr. Lloyd claims to be the champion grower of the county as he crated 501 crates off a little less than five acres of land and he says he lost lots of melons because he did not gather on Sunday.

"We could go out and pick a good sized load early in the morning," Mr. Lloyd said, "and then about 2 o'clock in the afternoon gather another bunch."

Mr. Weatherall truck farmed for a number of years and was also a cantelope raiser who stood near the front rank in production.

Large orchards were planted back in the Nineties and early part of the 1900s. The biggest orchards in the county were those of J. F. White of White City, the E. Lowe orchard, J. P. Bennett and Boone Martin. About the only one left of this early group is that of Mr. White. Later the Blackman's orchard southeast of town was planted and is still standing today.

The White orchard was perhaps the most famous of the group as he had all kinds of fruit and it produced some prize winners. Apples from the White orchard took the prize at the Dallas fair for several years. Mr. White kept it sprayed for a number of years and was not bothered with insects.

SHE WASN'T GEOGRAPHICAL.

Old Colored Mammy—"Ah wants ticket fo' Florence."

Ticket Agent (after ten minutes of wearily thumbing over railroad guides)—Where is Florence, Madam?"

Old Colored Mammy—"Settin' over dar on de bench, suh."

THEY ALL DO.

He—Darling, would you like to help me choose a suit?

She—No, dear, but I'll pick the pockets.



WHEN THE COWBOY

Rode the Plains in the

Early Days of This Country

The Fuel for His Campfire Was Mesquite Sticks, Sage Brush and Other Things He Could Pick Up That Would Burn.

TODAY IN VERNON — A CITY OF 15,000 INHABITANTS — THE MODERN HOMES USE

NATURAL GAS

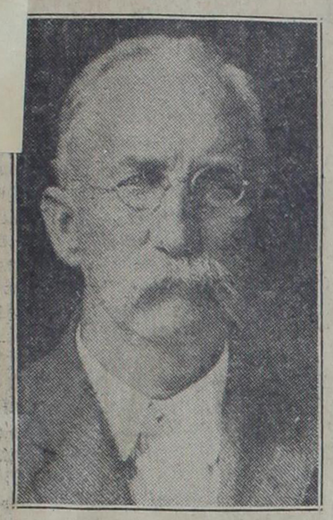
NORTHERN TEXAS UTILITIES COMPANY

1821-23 Main Street Vernon

Telephone 904

3

F. STARR CAME TO COUNTY IN 1889



J. P. STARR.

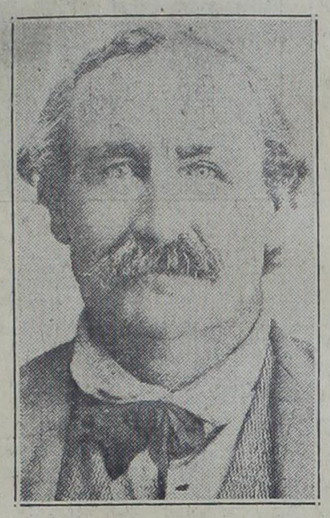
J. P. Starr and his family moved to Wilbarger county in 1888 from Paris in Lamar county and settled on the old F. K. Richardson place six miles south of town. After farming that one year he moved to his place fourteen miles south of town. In 1900 he moved over north of the river where he has a nice country home today.

Mr. Starr has been a stock farmer and after the days of the cattle settled down to farming. He was elected county commissioner three terms and states that things today are much different from what they were during the time he served the county as commissioner.

An interesting article appeared in one of the Vernon papers back in the late 90's about Mr. Starr. He stated at that time that he had made two wheat crop failures since coming here and that he thought it could not be beat as a cattle country. He estimated the cost of a wheat crop per acre as breaking land $1, seeding 60c, drilling 50c, harrowing 10c, cutting 75c, shocking 15c and the threshing and putting in the bins at 11c, making a total cost of $3.21. Mr. Starr estimated the yield for the year he made the estimate at 9 1-2 bushels per acre.

Mr. Starr has reared a family of thirteen children, twelve of whom are living today. Each July the children gather at his home on his birthday and hold a reunion. The children are H. S. Starr of Vernon, Will and Silas Starr of Odell, Sam Starr of Tolbert, Paul and Walter Starr of Quail, Mrs. Emma Turner of Vernon, Mrs. Melissa Boone of Odell, Mrs. Anne Germany of Rayland, Mrs. Lou Kester of Tolbert and Misses Alice and Dora who live at home.

SHOWERS INTRODUCED CRAB GRASS HERE



JOHN SHOWERS.

In dotting down the early settlers of Wilbarger county who were instrumental in beating out the first paths in the western country, the late John Showers will be recalled by a number of the "old timers" who are living in this county today.

Mr. and Mrs. Showers came to this county from Kaufman county in 1886 and located southwest of Vernon. He bought up two or more sections of land in that vicinity and engaged in stock raising and wheat growing. It has been said of him that he was a great lover of fine stock, especially taking pride in fine horses and mules. Another thing that is often told on this old early-day citizen and that is that he was the first man to introduce crab grass in Wilbarger county. It has been said the crab grass seed was brought to this country when Mr. Showers shipped his implements here from Kaufman county.

While both these pioneer people are dead, Mr. Showers dying in 1915 and his wife in 1925, they left behind them boys who are proud of the name and record their parents made for them. These boys are: I. G. Showers, who lives south of Harrold, W. J. Showers, north of that city, and A. N. Showers, who lives at Bowie and is the father of J. L. and Chester Showers of Vernon.

FIRST SETTLEMENT HERE WAS KNOWN AS "EAGLE FLAT"

(Editor's Note: This article was prepared for The Times on August 30, 1923, by the late J. A. Creager and appeared in the paper at that time. It gives some authentic information about Vernon in the early days).

"Eagle Flat" was the first name given to the settlement which later grew into the city of Vernon. It is said that a large number of eagles frequented these parts in the early days, hence the name. Henrietta was the nearest official postoffice, but a postal stage line was maintained from Henrietta up through northwest Texas and mail was left at Worsham Springs, now known as Condon Springs, to be distributed in this section. R. D. Rector presided over this mail center.

A townsite was laid off here in the latter part of 1880, and early in 1881 application was made for a postoffice. Postal authorities stated that there were already too many "Eagle" towns in Texas—Eagle Pass, Eagle Lake, etc.—and suggested the name of Vernon for some official in the office of the postmaster general. The name was accepted, and thus this city was named for a man that was never known here.

The first settlement in Wilbarger county was made at Doans in 1877 by J. Doan and Calvin Doan. In the fall of 1879 R. F. Jones and the Chownings settled on different sections in the vicinity of modern Vernon. In 1880 it was decided to lay off a townsite and try to locate the county site here.

R. F. Jones agreed to donate the south half of his section of land for locating the town, provided the other town builders would agree to make certain improvements. The half section was divided into twelve shares. The half section was divided as follows: R. F. Jones, two shares; T. Windsor Robinson, three shares for plotting and laying off the town; John Chowning, two for a blacksmith shop; Race Chowning, two for a store; G. W. Darby, two for store; and Tim Chowning, one for a cafe. J. A. Creager later bought a fourth of Mr. Jone's interest, and Uel Musick, C. H. Scott and C. M. Byars bought interests from other original owners.

In 1880 R. F. Jones married Miss Ella Creager of Grayson county, who has lived continuously since then on Pease street near the Methodist church, where she came to make her home as a bride. At that time there was only one other woman in Vernon, a Mrs. Ruppert, who operated a restaurant.

R. F. JONES PUT UP THE FIRST GIN IN WILBARGER COUNTY

R. F. Jones built the first gin in Wilbarger county. After the wheat failures of 1892 and 1893 the farmers started putting in some cotton and from that time on Wilbarger county has been ranking as one of the best cotton counties in West Texas. According to the best obtainable information the ginning figures for the 90's were as follows:

1894	880 bales
1995	630 bales
1896	650 bales
1897	1,400 bales
1898	1,800 bales
1899	1,000 bales

Estimates of B. M. Cobb, public weigher in 1899, placed the estimate of 1,000 bales for the county for that year and the average yield about half a bale to the acre.

Pioneer Hardware Stores

IN WILBARGER COUNTY

Carried In Stock

ONLY....

GUNS, ROPES, AMMUNITION, SADDLES and BLANKETS

TODAY

WE CARRY

EVERYTHING IN HARDWARE

HARNESS, AND IMPLEMENTS, Etc.

J. P. McPHERSON & SONS

PHONE 503

CITY BAKERY & CONFECTIONERY

ESTABLISHED 1889

OLDEST BAKERY

IN WILBARGER COUNTY

THE HOME OF CREAM BREAD

CREAM BREAD was the first bread people ilving in Vernon today tasted.

It's still just as good as it ever was—if not better.

PURE INGREDIENTS AND CAREFUL BAKING KEEPS IT'S REPUTATION UP.

City Bakery & Confectionery

A. C. HILL AND O. N. CRAIG, Props.

CRAWFORDS CAME TO VERNON 1888 FROM COLLIN COUNTY



MRS. S. H. CRAWFORD.

Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Crawford and family came to Vernon in 1888 from McKinney, Collin county. Mr. Crawford bought a block of land across the street from the Central Christian church property on Mesquite street. Shortly after arriving here he bought an interest in the Central hotel.

After disposing of that property he bought in the Commercial hotel that stood on the site where the Underwood Funeral home is today. This building was destroyed by fire several years ago. He sold that hotel and his next hotel owned was the old Vernon hotel. While living here Mr. Crawford bought two sections of land south of town. This land today is in the heart of the oil field. He sold this land before moving to South Texas in 1911.

Mr. and Mrs. Crawford moved to Crystal City where they lived until 1919 when Mrs. Crawford passed away. Mr. Crawford still makes his home at that place with his daughter and is hearty and hale despite his advanced age of 87 years.

He has five children, Mrs. J. E. Peel of Crystal City, Mrs. J. W. Carrington of Vernon, Mrs. W. C. Walker of Frederick, Okla., James L. Crawford of Borger and Quitman Crawford of Crowell.

WALTER AYRES



G. W. AYRES.

G. W. (Walter) Ayres, is the oldest son of Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Ayres, who settled in Hardeman county, just across the line from Wilbarger in 1883. At that time he was eleven years old and drove the stock along with the wagons that moved the Ayres family from Arkansas to Texas.

Mr. Ayres is now a man of a family and lives at Canadian, Texas. He is a prominent real estate dealer in his country and frequently visits his parents and old friends in Hardeman and Wilbarger county.

GOOD JUDGMENT.

"You have saved my life," said the man to the youthful hero who had rescued him from drowning.

"As a reward you shall marry my daughter."

The young man glanced at the daughter. Then he threw the man back into the river again.

Wonder where we can get a job as an investigator.

POOR BUSINESS MAN.

Firstun—"Bah! You call yourself a boxer. Why I'd knock yer block off for two cents!"

Secondun—"Yes! And a damfin purse for yuh, too."

BREAD

: IN THE EARLY DAYS :



"In my day," said Grandma, "wives baked their own bread."

With all due respect to Grandma's bread—the modern woman answers, "Yes—and the family had to eat it, whether it was good or not, and many times it was very bad indeed."

TODAY

there is no excuse for taking a chance with the family's health—not with Freese Bakery turning out wonderful, appetizing bread—fresh every day—and good every day—at a price for which Grandma herself could not have baked it



FREESE BAKERY

:: "Quality Bread" ::

ER CAME HERE EARS AGO FROM AYSON COUNTY



TAYLOR CREAGER.

Taylor Creager moved to Wilbarger county thirty-nine years ago this coming November. But the first time he was in Wilbarger county dates back forty-two years ago when he was a young man. Mr. Creager went through what is now Vernon with a herd of cattle, taking them up around Mobeetie where he stayed two years.

Mr. Creager said when he came through Wilbarger county the first time there was no town here and the cattle were driven across Paradise creek. The creek was low on water so they scattered the cattle out for about two miles up the stream. After they got water they went on out the trail to Condon Springs where the men in the outfit got some water and then went on.

The cattle were driven across river about where the Denver bridge is today, Mr. Creager stated. He said the river was up but they plunged off in it and the cattle got out on a big sand bar and had to be driven off on foot. He said they tried to ride out on the bar but the horses bogged down so they had to be left and the work done on foot.

He said when they reached Red river it was also up and they could not get the cattle to go in. A negro man came along belonging to some ranch around in that section and told them if they would go down the river about a mile they could find a four foot bluff where they could get the cattle off.

They drove the herd down to the bluff and by crowding them got the cattle to milling around and hooking at each other and as they would a steer would lose his footing and fall off in the water. As he could not get back up the bank he had to swim across. In this way they put the herd across the river.

After staying out west for two years Mr. Creager returned to Grayson county. He was born and reared there and will be 77 years old next August.

He moved to Wilbarger county and settled on a farm near town. The next year he moved to Vernon and has made his home here since. He owns a house out on Paradise street that he built shortly after moving into town and with the exception of being remodeled is the same house today.

ROBINSON SURVEYED FRISCO LINE INTO VERNON FROM OKLA.



A. J. ROBINSON.

A. J. Robinson is not what you would call a pioneer of Wilbarger county, but yet his life has been closely identified with the development of Vernon. In 1901 he was living in Blackwell, Okla., and got notice to come to Vernon and survey out the right-of-way for the Frisco. He reached Vernon on May 20, 1901, and stayed until the line was finished. He then went to Wichita Falls and returned to Vernon in 1909.

He was made city engineer upon his return and from that time on has held the same position.

Mr. Robinson helped in bridging Red river for the Frisco and made the sounding on Pease river for the location of the present bridge over that stream north of town. Judge J. A. Nabers was then county judge and had charge of the letting of the contract for bridging the Pease.

Another interesting event Mr. Robinson relates is surveying out a line for a railroad from Vernon to the southwest. L. G. Hawkins and a group of men planned a road out of Vernon and had Mr. Robinson to make the survey for them. He says the proposed route is practically the same as the route chosen by the Ardmore, Vernon & Lubbock railway now under consideration by the Interstate Commerce Commission.

Mr. Robinson has had charge of the city's water and sewer system and has laid out most of the water system and assisted in the development of the town. He says he has seen Vernon grow from a small village to a modern city.

THE OLD TIME COWMAN

By J. E. COLLINS.

The old time Texas cowman, the type that is fast passing, was the best fellow in the world; living in the open, he was strong and rugged and capable of enduring any kind of hardships and did not have very much respect for a man who was not equally strong.

A man who could not sleep on the ground when it was wet and cold, was called a "sissy boy," and advised to stay home with his mother. He was ordinarily suspicious of strangers, asked few questions and answered none. He was kind, charitable, loyal to his friends, knew his own rights and was at all times ready to fight for them.

Notwithstanding his many g[illegible]

seldom very religious, but at times when seated around the camp fire, would engage in heated arguments on the merits of the different religions.

A long time ago when Wilbarger county was a cow country, two of the old time cowmen met at Doan's store one rainy afternoon and while seated around the stove swapping yarns, they got into a religious argument. One of them believed in sprinkling as the scriptural mode of baptism, the other believed in immersion. Finally the immersionist said, "What is the use for you to argue with me, you don't know anything about religion, you don't know anything about the Bible. I'll bet you five dollars you can't repeat the Lord's Prayer."

The bet was promptly taken and the money handed over to another cowman to hold.

"Alright," said the immersionist, "let's have the Lord's Prayer." And the other repeated slowly:

"Now I lay me down to sleep,
I pray Thee Lord my soul to keep.
If I should die before I wake,
I pray Thee Lord my soul to take."

"Well, well," said the old cowman, with a look of amazement on his face. "He knows it alright, give him the money, there ain't nothin' else to do, but I'm a tellin' you now, I believe there is a frame up some where."

HONEST AT LEAST.

Mary went to a fortune teller the other day and asked him when was the best time to get married. Well, he took one look at her and advised her to grab the first chance.

GGOD INTENT.

"Give me a sentence with the word vicious?"

"Ye gods and little vicious."

YOU'VE HEARD THEM.

Bill (just back from Klondike)—Some of the guys get on my nerves. They try to pin me down and ask me exactly how much I really made up there.

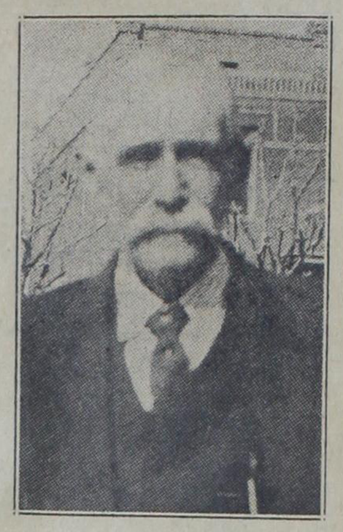
Fille—And what do you tell them?

EVEN EXCHANGE.

"Excuse this bit of sarcasm," said Smith to Jones, "but I must say you are an infamous liar and scoundrel!"

"Pardon this bit of irony," said Jones to Smith, as he knocked him over with a poker.

BUNKER CAME HERE 1885 AND SETTLED AT HARROLD FIRST



T. BUNKER.

T. Bunker came to Wilbarger county from Henrietta in 1885. He stopped in Harrold, at that time the leading city of the county and the terminus of the Denver road. Mr. Bunker said Harrold was a wild place. One day he was going down the street and a Ranger stepped out of a store and shot a man off his horse as he rode down the main street.

May 6, 1886, he moved to Vernon. Mr. Bunker had built a house at Harrold and this was torn down and the lumber brought here and a new house built out of it. In 1888 he took up a half section of land at $2 an acre and he smiled and stated that the same land today was worth quite a bit more. He lived on his farm from that time until eight years ago when he moved to Vernon.

"People now days seem to think they have a hard time," Mr. Bunker said, "but they should have lived here from 1890 until 1896 and then they would know what real hard times are."

Like all the others who lived in the county Mr. Bunker raised wheat and in the early 90s made a yield of 25 bushels to the acre. He said the land down below Talmadge made as high as 50 bushels to the acre. He said the wagons would come by his place and the drivers stop to get a drink. The farmers from down in that part of the county would make fun of the farmers living on the sand and tell them they had better go out of business. "They all left the next year and we fellows on the sand stayed with our land," he said.

Mr. Bunker said when he first moved to the farm his neighbors made fun of him and called him the "city fellow." They gave him two years to get tired of farm life and go back to the city. He said the first few years were tough ones but he stuck it out and within a few years he was the only one left of the original settlers in that part of the county.

When asked when he started raising cotton Mr. Bunker said he never did raise much until he left the farm and started renting it out. Along about 1894 he said his wife kept wanting to plant some cotton so he put in six acres near the house. Of this six acres he picked enough cotton to make one 450 pound bale. He said that was enough of cotton for him and as long as he did the farming himself he put in most of his land in wheat, oats, corn and other grains.

NO SPAKE ANGLISH.

(At the Zoo)—By George! that elephant looks just like Mary's beau.

Big Boy—Why, is that a nice thing to say?

Other—Aw, he can't understand what I said.

JUST LIKE A WOMAN.

She (after a bitter fight)—Well, the only thing left to do is to divide this house in two, you can have one side and I'll take the other.

He—That suits me, what side shall I have?

She—You can have the outside. I'll take the inside.

THE DIFFERENCE.

There are a number of nickel cigars on the market. The trouble is that they charge fifteen cents for them.

YES'IR SUR FACT.

"I've just had a harrowing experience."

"Did you?"

"Yeah—I was working on a f[illegible] and broke up some land."

Early Settlers

of Wilbarger County

[illegible]ce it was you who first settled this [illegible]stern Country and paved the way for [illegible]o sell Furniture in Vernon today—

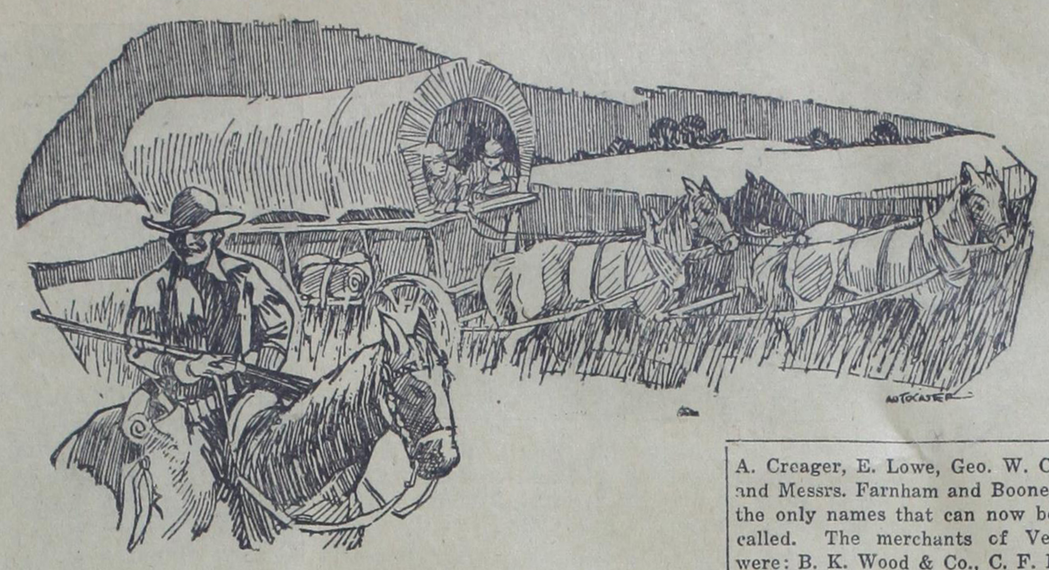
[illegible]t us Your Friends

Hawkins-Williams Furniture Co.
PHONOGRAPHS CARPETS & RU[illegible]

[illegible]he Furnishers

ROSTER OF PIONEERS WHO ORGANIZED WILBARGER

VOTERS CAST BALLOTS TO FORM WILBARGER COUNTY



The Vernon Guard, which was at time published by B. Wilson Ed- issued a booster edition on No- ber 18, 1899. In this paper Mr. Edgell gives a brief history of the organization of Wilbarger county and an account of the hardships endured by some of the early settlers As near as The Times can find out Mr. Edgell's history is verified by some of the old settlers living here today. So using the Guard as authority we are producing a history of this county as it was told in 1899. The story from the Guard follows:

"At the dawn of the nineteenth century, when the rising sun lighted up the features of old Father Time, he whetted his scythe, which bore many nicks from reaping hard customers of 1700, inverted the glass of time, flapped his wings with befitting gusto, gazed throughout the precincts of space, and formed himself into line as the inaugural procession of the age wherein invention and liberty were to be twin sovereigns, and swept across the world That Father Time is a great man no one controverts; but of his origin little is known, however, the best authentic report, gathered from the 'early comers' is that first he was a 'cow boy,' and roamed the wild, wild plains, after which he reformed, married a doctoress, turned 'nester' and settled on Beaver creek, and was quietly pursuing the even tenor of his way, when he was ordained dispenser of destiny, and when patches thus ascend it proves that he was a democrat and would have been a staunch adherent of Wm. J. Bryan and John H. Stephens.

"This brief history of old man 'Time' is a digression, but it may be pardoned when it is considered how essential it is that the rising generation should escape total ignorance of him, without whose photo calendars are pretenser, and the potatoes of seed pamphlets are watery. Well, a part of 'Time's' proclamation for 1800 was to settle the Southwestern country, strengthen the legions of civilization, lay seige to the battlements of nature and drive the artless savage close behind the hills of the retreating buffalo. Father Time's edicts are inexorable and are always obeyed Following his mandates, first came the buffalo hunter, to prepare the way for the cowboy and his herd of long horns. The first ranch being the old R2, which was purchased by W. B. Worsham, within a few months after it was moved to Wilbarger county in 1879. Soon after the establishing of the Worsham ranch, Judge J. Doan came to the county and located at Doans, opening a small trading post to supply the cowboys and buffalo hunters. About the next man was R. D Rector. Others continued to come until when the county was organized on October 10, 1881, there was 56 eligible voters. Those that can now be recalled being: John Chowning, Steve Edwards, Bill West, P. C Spencer, Alex Dawson, Ben Simmons, Chas. McLean, A. T. Boger, A. J. Byers, G. W. Darby, Judge J. Doan, L. J. Hensley, Dick Stamey, Judge J. W. Drury, John Drury, Bill Drury, R. D. Dector, J. A. Creager, J. and Geo. Probasco, R. F. Jones, C. M. Byars, M. T. Hutchinson, J Campbell, Uel Musick, C. F. Doan, Cal Doan, Dave McBride, Dr. Johnson, Jim Wilson, J. R. Sumner, John D. Burnett, Couch Bros., Joe Norris, L. N. Perkins, F. C. Beckett, J. L. Holmes, W. A. McKinney, J. T. Estes, B. F. Ackley and Mr. Brown.

"The roster of the first county officials elected on the 10th day of October, 1881, was J. Doan, judge; Uel Musick, sheriff; L. N. Perkins, clerk; F. C. Beckett, attorney; J. L. Holmes, assessor; W. A. McKinney, treasurer; W. J. Westmoreland, surveyor; G. W. Darby, justice of the peace; Joe Norris, constable, and Geo. Probasco, J. W. Drury, Jim Burdick and C. H. Scott, commissioners.

"On January 19, 1893, The Guard issued its first number. At that time it was estimated that there was 500 people in the county, including the town of Vernon. The county's population being distributed, as near as can now be learned, as follows: On Beaver Creek, Dr. Cushman, B. F. Ansley, F. C. Flack, J. G. Scurlock, S. W. Turner, J. T. Estes, Ed Norris, A. D. Moore, Winans brothers, Messrs. Uphold, Hawkins, Ogle, Brown and one or two others; on Pease river east of town, B. F. Simmons, A. T. Boger, A. J. Byars, C. McLain, D. A. Turner, Jules Alvord, J. P. King, M. T. Hutchinson, Steve Edwards, P. C. Spencer and Mr Golden; on the north side of Pease river, Dick Staney, J. G. Ayers, John Miller, J. K. Payne, Geo. McTaylor, J. W. Drury, Bill Drury, J. E. Spears, J. W. Campbell and the Partite family; west of town, B. F. Ackley, Geo. and Joe Probasco, H. D. Rector, J. A. Creager, E. Lowe, Geo. W. Creed and Messrs. Farnham and Boone, are the only names that can now be recalled. The merchants of Vernon were: B. K. Wood & Co., C. F. Doan & Co., Kinsey Bros., general merchandise; C. M. Byars, dry goods, J. R. Sumner & Co., drugs; Paul Hoefle and D. J. Sullivan, saloons and gambling houses.

The great cattle trail from the southern ranges to the north ran through what is now known as Oklahoma, and for a number of years during the early history of Vernon over 300,000 head of cattle were annually driven north on this trail. Just west of the bridge the trail crossed Pease river, and Doans, fifteen miles north of town was the crossing on Red river. This trail trade was the chief support of the town during these days. During 1883 and 1884 were the vigilante days, when it became necessary to have the rangers maintain peace. During the war, as it was known locally, three men lost their lives, sixteen or seventeen head of horses at the burning of Jim Wilson's livery barn. This war was a necessary incident, without which, no new western town seems to thrive or do well. By 1885 peace had been restored and in 1886 the railroad reached Vernon, since which time we have cast aside our "wild and wooly" ways and have adopted up-to-date metropolitan styles."

OMIGOSH!

"Did you ever know that you look like Helen Brown?"

"That so? I look even worse in blue."

COURT WAS NOT SO BAD IN EARLY DAYS

Serving as a juror in the early days of Wilbarger county was not such a bad job as most folks imagine it was. A number of the old settlers have told of scenes around the court house in those days that would probably mean a reversal of a case today.

Before the present court house was built a wooden building just south of where the Farmers State Bank now stands served as the hall of justice. One old timer said he had been in a store on the corner where Lee's Service is now and watched the judge, court attaches and jurors file out of the court house and go down the street to a saloon and take a few drinks and return and resume their work. This procedure would take place several times during the day.

Men who served on the jury then had a little diversion from the usual routine.

ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM VERNON HORNET DATE YEAR 1904

J. D. Summerour and son Tom, aged 13, went out ducking Tuesday near their Oklaunion farm. They found a flock of Teil ducks on a pond. J. D. let his son Tom, fire the first shot and he fired as they rose. After the smoke had cleared away, and they finished gathering up the game, they counted 43 ducks. He brought them to town and divided them with his friends. The Hornet was one.

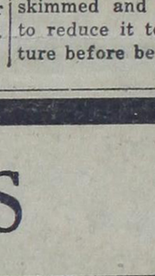
J. H. Carson who had his house insured with T. P. Lisman for $800, and which was burned three weeks ago, received a check Monday for $7.26.

At the gun shoot the following scores were made out of 50 rocks: Houk 41, Basham 39, Youngblood 39, Hawkins 39, Houssels 38, Wells 37, Reese 37, McColloch 23. The sporting editor wishes to call attention to the rapid scores made by Mr. McColloch and predict for him after several years practice a second Dr. McCarver.

GILLILAND DAIRY FOUNDED 26 YEARS AGO IN THIS CITY

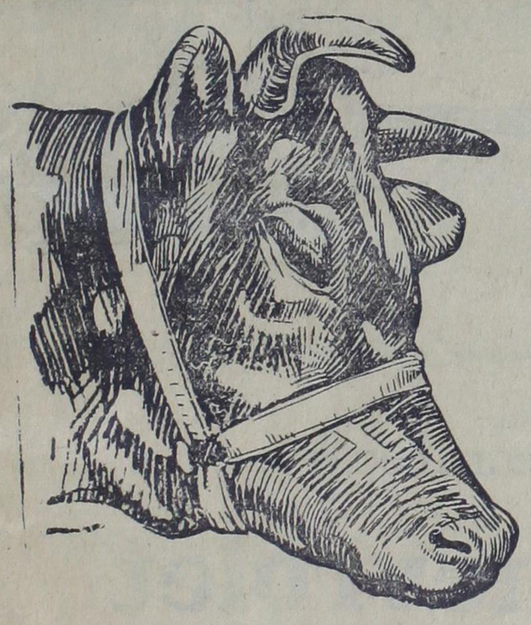
The Gilliland Dairy was founded in Vernon twenty-six years ago by J. A. Gilliland. At that time the herd of cows consisted of seven milch cows. During all these years Mr. Gilliland lived in the southwest part of town until a few years back when he leased a large ranch west of town in order to have more room for his herd.

Since the war Mr. Gilliland's sons, J. C. and John Gilliland, have been associated with him in the business and J. C. has charge of the office. Last year the city and milk depot of the dairy was moved to a building constructed for them on Fannin street. The latest type of machinery for handling the milk was installed. A large vault was built and all milk is kept in this and the correct temperature is maintained by a cooling system. In this plant is also the machinery for manufacturing butter and Bulgarian buttermilk.



J. C. GILLILAND

"When my father started in the dairy business, J. C. Gilliland stated, "he had a small herd of seven cows. Today we milk an average of eighty cows a day from our own herd. They are tested regularly to insure our customers pure milk at all times. In addition to this we use milk from three other herds and they are also tested. For several years our plant has been using a large part of the milk and cream produced in the county. At our dairy barn we endeavor to have everything as clean and sanitary as any individual would want. Our cows are milked with the latest type of machine milkers and this insures cleanliness. Each can has a cover on it to keep out all dust and impurities. The milk is then brought to town where it is skimmed and put through a cooler to reduce it to the desired temperature before being bottled."



IN THE EARLY DAYS

VERNON PEOPLE KEPT AND MILKED

THEIR - OWN - COWS

TODAY

PURE MILK AND BUTTER

(FROM GOVERNMENT INSPECTED COWS)

IS SUPPLIED BY

J. A. GILLILAND DAIRY



1310 Fannin

Phone 312

W. O. ANDERSON HAS BEEN RESIDENT VERNON FOR THIRTY-EIGHT YEARS AND HELPED IN DEVELOPMENT OF THE TOWN



W. O. ANDERSON

W. O. Anderson has lived in Vernon for the past thirty-eight years and during that time has seen it grow from a small frontier town to its present size. Mr. Anderson is perhaps one of the most interesting business men of the city. When a young man he sailed the seas as a sailor and following that settled in Fort Worth.

He moved to Vernon and opened up a coal yard on the place now occupied by the home of Mrs. J. R. Allison. Later he moved his business to North Main street where Puckett's store is today. In those days Mr. Anderson said coal sold for $5.50 a ton and he had customers from the western part of the county and as far north into Oklahoma as Mangum, Okla. Practically all of southern Oklahoma traded at Vernon or Quanah in those days.

In connection with the coal business Mr. Anderson ran an elevator. This was a large structure for those days and at one time he said he had 75,000 bushels of wheat in his bins. This business was combined with another elevator in 1906 and the Kell Milling company started with Mr. Anderson, Robert Houssels and Frank Kell as owners. Mr. Anderson is still a stockholder and vice-president of the Kell Mill & Elevator company.

Vernon had two ice plants in the early days but neither did very much good and shut down. The machinery was shipped out and the buildings were purchased by Mr. Anderson and in 1900 he built an ice plant at the location of the present plant of the Texas Central Power company at the Denver tracks. Later he sold his plant to the light company.

In June, 1899, the Waggoner National Bank was organized and today Mr. Anderson and W. T. Waggoner are the only two men left of this original organization. Mr. Anderson is the only one still connected with the bank and is vice-president of the institution. The Waggoner National was formed from a private banking company. This was the first banking firm to emerge following the failures of the 90's. From 1891 to 1895 this country went through a series of crop failures and all the banks went broke. "It was a terrible thing in those days," Mr. Anderson said, "but if the same thing were to happen today it would be still worse for there were not many people out in this country."

In discussing the organization of the bank Mr. Anderson reached in his desk and pulled out the first dividend check issued by the bank in 1900. It was for $50 and carried in red ink on it, "Dividend Check No. 1."

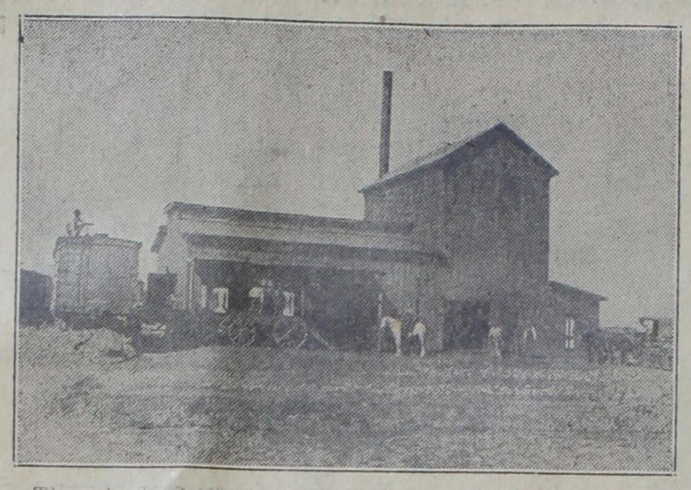
In discussing those days Mr. Anderson said he had known people to spend several days cutting wood and then haul it to town and sell or trade it for a sack of flour. Also loads of bones were collected on the prairies and brought in and sold to get something to eat.

One of the most interesting events in Mr. Anderson's business life in the city was his purchase of the Vernon Street Railway's assets at a receiver's sale. The sale was being held and he happened to walk in. The judge who had charge of the sale said he was offering the assets of the road to the highest bidder. Mr. Anderson said he said he would give $350 for everything. The judge said he could not take that but would take $450. Mr. Anderson said he bid $450. "After it was knocked down to me I did not know what I was going to do for $450 was a lot of money in those days." He started down the street to his place of business and was still studying about his deal. As he passed the building now occupied by C. W. Oliver, George Dilley was standing in the door and said, "W. O., what's on your mind?" Mr. Anderson told him he had just bought the street car system and did not know what to do with it. Mr. Dilley asked what he would take for the rails and quick as a flash he came back $700. Mr Dilley told him he would take them and have his crew take them up. Mr. Anderson said he felt better for he already had a neat profit made. During the summer he took his men and had all the ties taken up and cut into wood and this brought him $300 more. He traded one of the cars to Dan Coffee for fifty bushels of corn and sold the other for a shoe repair shop.

Mr. Anderson not only assisted in building the business part of Vernon but has taken an active part in the civic and government life of the city. He served as alderman for four years, and he, together with J. H. Pendleton, L. J. Massie, B. J. Parker and Bismark Houssels gave the city a firm financial standing The records at the city hall show that when this council went in the funds in the city treasury were all broke and the script was selling at 25 cents on the dollar and when they went out of office four years later there was money in all the funds and the city's business was on a good basis. Then he served for several years on the school board and took a very active interest in this work.

During the past few years the writer has talked to many old timers about the early days and more than one has stated that W. O. Anderson has helped many a man over the rough places who could not have made it otherwise. Besides enjoying the material things of life perhaps no man in the city is wealthier in the friendship born through years of mutual helping in the days when a friend was a real friend.

VERNON'S FIRST SUCCESSFUL ICE PLANT



The plant of W. O. Anderson built in 1900. Many old timers will recall driving by and getting a drink on their way home when they lived north of the river. Mr. Anderson is seen in the picture on his gray horse.

D. L. Green has been out on his farm for the past week. Mr. Green has 1500 acres of wheat which he is compelled to graze on account of it being sown early.—Vernon Hornet of 1903.

Mrs. S. Sewell is visiting relatives in Gonzales.—Vernon Hornet of 1903.

J. E. LUTZ AND CHIEF KOMO HAVE PICTURE TAKEN IN 1886



The above photo was taken in 1886 when Chief Komo of the Comanches and his tribe were in Vernon shopping. J. E. Lutz had visited Komo in the Indian Territory and on this trip the chief insisted on having their picture taken. Mr. Lutz said:

"The Comanche and Kiowa Indians made Vernon their trading point. The government paid them their quarterly allotments each year and at such times the Indians came to Vernon with their money and spent it before they would return to the reservation.

"In the spring of 1886 Komo came to Vernon to trade, there being about 400 Comanches in the crowd. At this time Komo, whom I visited on the reservation in the Territory and slept in his teepee at various times, wanted a picture taken of us. We had Barney Barnes, who was the first photographer in Vernon, to make the picture."

Mr. Lutz said that when the Indians came to Vernon they would pitch camp all over the country between where the Kell Mill now is and the business section of town.

The Indians bought everything in sight from oil paintings to baby carriages. The merchants sold them anything they wanted for they knew somebody would get the money and they could use it as well as anybody.

Mr. and Mrs. John P. King were in town the past week getting ready to be Santa Claus and make their bright faced children happy. Mr. King is one of Wilbarger county's most successful farmers, having a beautiful place of several sections, with a large comfortable dwelling and a pretty lawn and shade trees. He has recently bought a nice block of land in Vernon and will soon erect a handsome dwelling and move to town.—Vernon Hornet of 1903.



IN AND OUT OF VERNON

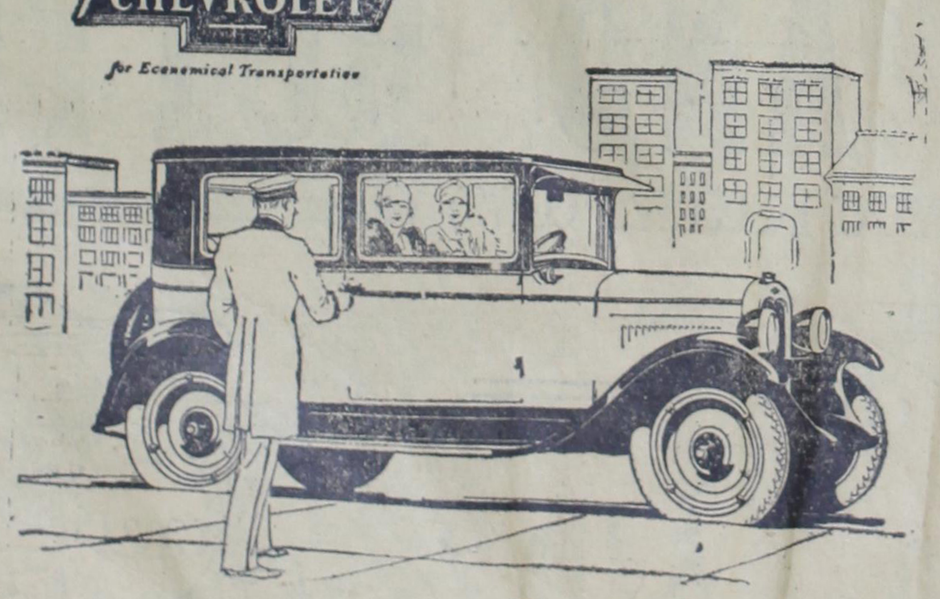
IN ITS EARLY DAYS

The WAGON, the BUGGY, And SADDDLE HORSE WERE the PIONEERS MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION in THE EARLY DAYS OF WILBARGER COUNTY

To-Day It's A Chevrolet

CHEVROLET

for Economical Transportation



Because it carries the lowest prices ever placed on a truly fine Automobile. The Chevrolet has brought into existence an entirely new conception of "Qaulity at Low Cost."

1602 to 1612 Wilbarger

LADD MOTOR CO.

Storage, Gas, Oils, and Accessories

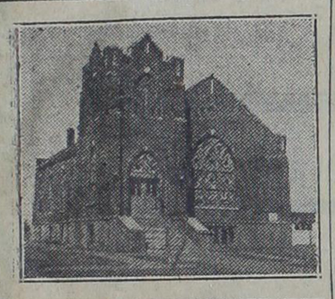
LUTHERAN CHURCH ORGANIZED IN 1912 7 CHARTER MEMBERS



REV. J. A. BIRNBAUM

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran church of Vernon was organized on April 5, 1912. There were seven charter members: Ernest Lowke, Andrew Lowke, August Teinert, Henry Graf, Robert Graf, Henry Hildebrandt and Carl Hildebrandt.

The first pastor serving the congregation was Rev. John Holtzen then resident pastor of Zion's Con-



gregation located thirteen miles southwest of Vernon. From 1912 to 1916 theological students did supply work. They were L. F. Dippold, 1912, now pastor at New Wells, Mo., Ludw. Karcher, 1914, now pastor at Abilene; John Brandt, 1915, now pastor at Ellendale, N. Dak.

The first resident pastor was called in 1916. Rev. J. A. Birnbaum, candidate for the ministry, who had been graduated from a Lutheran Seminary at Springfield, Ill., accepted the call as first resident pastor of the Vernon congregation. The pastor and his wife are both native born Texans. Rev. Birnbaum received his first ministerial training in 1909 at the Norwegian Lutheran College at Clifton, Texas. He entered the Lutheran Seminary at Springfield in 1910 and was graduated in 1916.

The church has had a good growth under the leadership of Rev. Birnbaum. In 1916 the congregation of sixty souls was worshipping in a small frame building on Yamparika street. Today the congregation owns a handsome new church on Wilbarger street erected in 1924. The present membership is 200.

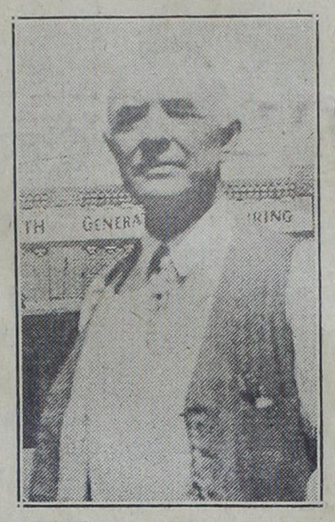
The congregation is well organized in every branch of church work: Sunday school, young people's society, ladies' aid, Bible class, choir, etc. Last but not least, since its beginning the congregation has maintained a Christian day school which is being taught by the pastor and his wife. For the future, however, the pastor will be relieved of the work and a second force has been called and secured to take care of the school. This year twenty-eight pupils have been enrolled and seven grades taught. The first hour each morning is devoted to the study of religion and the remainder of the day is devoted to the study of those branches which are taught in the state schools.

McHUGH CAME HERE IN 1882 TO SPEND TWO WEEKS ON VISIT

E. L. McHugh, county auditor, came to Vernon on July 7, 1882, to spend two weeks visiting. He met up with the Campbell family from Vernon at a Fourth of July celebration in Henrietta and told his family he was going home with them and spend two weeks. When asked how he would get back he told them there would be some cow outfits he could ride with.

Judge McHugh said as soon as he hit Vernon he was offered a job on a ranch and took it. They told him to wait a few minutes and his horse would be ready. At that time Mr. McHugh was a thirteen year old boy. They brought a horse out on the square and just as he was getting ready to get on Bill Drury came up and asked what they were going to do. When told the boy was going to work for them and they had his horse ready Mr. Drury said he would try the mount out. Judge McHugh said he never saw such pitching in his life.

Mr. McHugh was born in Fannin county and moved to Montague when a lad. He spent about ten years



E. L. McHUGH

and around that county. His mother died when he was young and he made his home with his married sisters.

His early life was quite interesting. Before coming here he and his brother made a corn crop for a man near Burkburnett. After he got to this county and left his ranch job he farmed for awhile. He attended a private school here in 1884 and 1885. When the public school was started he went to that one year.

In 1898 Judge McHugh was running the Vernon Abstract company. A. M. Hiatt bought in and later J. E. Lutz and they handled a general business of real estate, insurance and abstracts. He and Mr. Hiatt sold out to Mr. Lutz in 1902.

Mr. McHugh was working for C T. Herring in the lumber business in 1904. He said he told Mr. Herring one day he would have to have more money or quit. Mr. Herring told him to work on until he could get someone to take his place. He quit on Saturday night. Monday morning he woke up and started studying about what he was going to do. The thought came to him to run for county treasurer. After breakfast he went to town and announced to his friends that he was a candidate for treasurer and was elected to the office but did not run for the second term.

In 1923 Judge McHugh resigned as county judge to accept a place as auditor of the county. He has held that position the past four years.

In discussing the old days in the county Judge McHugh said he sometimes smiled when he heard people talking so much about the Pease river bridge being out. Back in the days before the railroad he said when the river was up several cowboys would ride down and tie their ropes to the stage and to the horns of their saddles and away they would go, passengers, baggage and mail across the river.

He said the first time he ever rode on a train was shortly after it reached Harrold. He decided to go back to his home in Montague to see how they were getting along. He went to Harrold and spent the night. Next morning he caught the eight o'clock train south and he said he had to ask someone how to get in the coach.

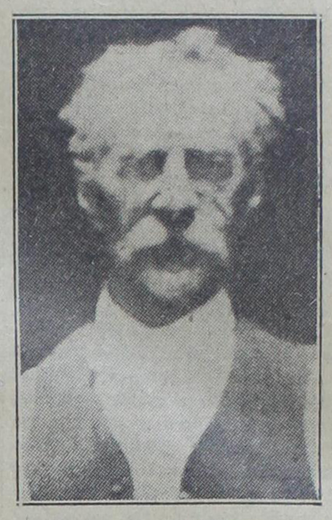
KESTER STARTED IN GROCERY BUSINESS IN VERNON IN 1886

M. H. Kester came to Vernon in August, 1886, and his first venture in business in Vernon was a grocery store. He was born in Indiana and moved to Navarro county, Texas, in 1882. From there they moved to this county.

Mr. Kester said their first store was a small wooden building on the north side of the square. They lived upstairs over the store. They moved from there to the east side of the square and conducted the business in a rock building. A fire destroyed the store.

He went to the farm and farmed for a year and a half and moved back to town and worked for Sebastian and Givens and later for Holt & Boger. After the firm of Holt & Boger went out of business Mr. Kester went into the contracting business with the late S. C. Westbrook He followed this work for several years.

Mr. Kester and his brother, L. E. Kester, bought out the Pendleton



M. H. KESTER

paint and paper store and moved the business to Pease street. They were in business on that street until 1920 when a fire started from some gasoline and burned out that row of business houses. They went back into business on Main street and have been located there for the past seven years.

In discussing the grocery business in the earl ydays Mr. Kester said things were very cheap compared to modern prices. He said they had bought eggs from the farmers and carried them to the dump ground to get rid of them as there was no market.

The Indians were very close buyers, according to Mr. Kester and required considerable attention when they entered the store. He said an Indian and several squaws entered and started buying. Perhaps it would be sugar and they would buy 25c worth. Mr. Kester said he always put less than the required amount in so that he could pour in more. If the clerk waiting on them happened to get a little over 25c worth the Indians would not stand for it being taken out. Maybe before they got through the Indian family would buy three or four packages of sugar, some flour, meal, etc. After getting through the squaws would put everything in a blanket on the floor and one would gather up the corners and the others help her lift it to her back to carry. They would be camped down by the railroad and the squaw would carry this load and the man would ride a horse along side of her.

TAX ASSESSOR CAME FROM RUNNELS CO.



R. R. BROOKS.

R. R. Brooks, county tax assessor, came to Wilbarger county from Runnels county. He nettled out in the Farmers Valley country where he farmed for many years. In 1824 he was elected to office and was re-elected in 1926 without opposition.

RATHER PERSONAL.

Dad—I'll not have this. You must come home earlier. Why, what on earth would a college educated girl be doing out thin late in a car?

Co-ed—Now, daddy, don't get nasty.

THEY'RE LIKE THAT.

Sorority—Billy proposed to me last night. I wonder if he loves me? He's only known me a few days.

Fraternity—In that event, he probably still does.

OUR BEAUTY PARADE.

She was only a laundryman's daughter, but she certainly was a washout!

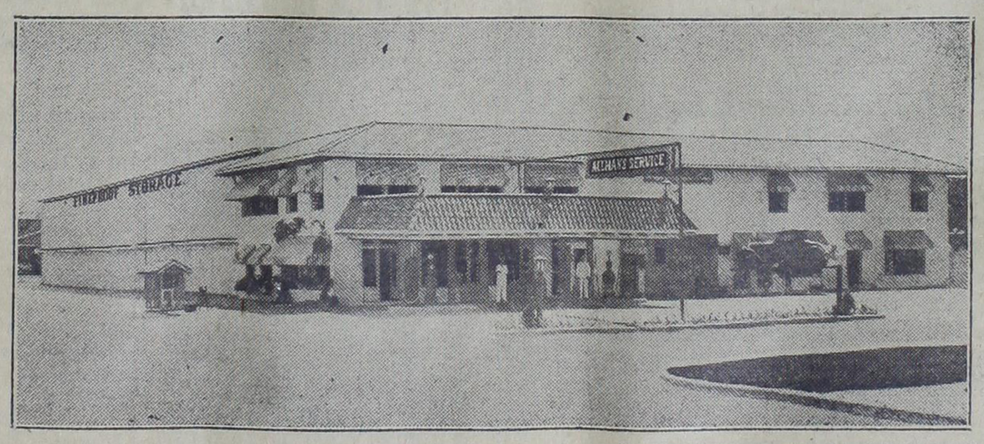
The 1927 WAGON YARD

MORE'S WATER WHITE

and

64 Kinds of

OILS and GREASES



WE WASH, GREASE and POLISH CARS

TIRES, TUBES and ACCESSORIES

ALLMAN'S SERVICE

(OPPOSITE WILBARGER HOTEL)

CAPACITY 250 CARS

INDIVIDUAL STORAGE AND ITS FIRE-PROOF

WE STORE ANYTHING

SUMMEROUR CAME TO WILBARGER IN 1885 FROM OLD GEORGIA



J. D. SUMMEROUR.

J. D. (Jeff) Summerour, wheat farmer, cotton breeder, wit, philosopher and water hauler, came to Wilbarger county in August, 1885, and settled near Oklaunion. There is nothing unusual about the subject of this sketch further than he has rendered a good, long service in the county and was one of the pioneer wheat farmers and water haulers of that early period, both of these pursuits he followed for more than twenty-five years and says that aside from the rise in value of his land there was little profit in the other two pursuits.

He has always been an advocate of good roads—especially if they were laid out to suit him—and explains that there were no legally laid out roads in the county in those early days. But there was some road money from taxes that found its way into the treasury and that the few settlers would gather in the several districts, derignate a road which usually led to a water hole; sign each other's vouchers, and get out the money.

Mr. Summerour, unlike many "old timers," does not refer to the pioneer period of the county as "the good old days" for the hardships and privations were many. He believes, however, certain traits were on a broader basis than now, for it was considered a disgrace to steal anything less than a cow, and that sixteen hours for a days' work was legal tender for $1.25 in threshing time.

When asked of the various churches and different denominations represented here in 1885, he said, "I don't believe they were all represented here then but they soon came, and all were fundamentalists and many of their members were so positive that they represented the only true form of worship they thought even the Lord would look at it in a like manner if he only knew the facts as they did."

Mr. Summerour said the reason he did not come to Vernon when he first landed in Wilbarger county was because the railroad ended at Harrold and they were told it was going from Harrold into Greer county and miss Vernon so he did not want to be too far from railroad facilities. However, he said Vernon decided they had to have the telegraph line anyway so they made up the money and got the road. Mr. Summerour said he assisted in loading the first load of lumber out of Harrold to go to Quanah. He said he recalled the teamster saying he did not know where the town was to be but he would hunt around out there on the prairie until he located it and dump his load and get paid off.

The water hauling of those days might interest most people now days. Water was scarce and it was hauled for several miles and carefully handled. He said the people could gauge exactly how much water a cow or horse needed for the day. Mr. Summerour stated it was a common occurence for two men to meet and ask about the water situation. One would ask how far he had to haul water and perhaps he would say three miles. The other would then come back, "Why don't you dig a well." The stock reply was, "It's as far to water down as it is to haul it."

In recent years Mr. Summerour has devoted most of his time to breeding a cotton seed adapted to the western farms in the state. His Western Wonder cotton seed are known all over the state.

Along with his work he has found time to do a great deal of civic work. He has been a worker in the Chamber of Commerce and during the last road bond campaign was one of the main backers of the proposition. He has been a member of the Methodist church for many years and takes a leading part in the church work. It is told on Mr. Summerour that some years back the Methodist church had a new preacher sent here after the annual conference meeting and the church did not have a well at the parsonage. One Sunday after services the minister accosted Brother Summerour and asked him if he would dig a well for him. Jeff told the preacher he would be glad to do the work and it was a long time before the pastor discovered he had mistaken one of the pillars in the church for a prominent well digger of Vernon.

JOE HINES RAISED FIRST BALE COTTON NORTH PEASE RIVER

Joe Hines is credited with having raised the first bale of cotton in Wilbarger county north of Pease river. He lived on the farm now known as the Stephens section. Mr. Hines moved to the county from Ellis county in the fall of 1888. He had hi fruit jars packed in cotton seed and they were scattered about the yard. They came up and made a good stalk and boll.

Next spring he had some Five Lock Storm Proof seed sent out from his old home and planted an acre. From this he picked about 1,80 pounds of seed cotton. There was no gin closer than Henrietta so Mr. Hines shipped his cotton there to have it ginned.

WILBARGER COUNTY VALUATIONS PLACED AT $70,000 IN 1882

The valuations of Wilbarger county were placed at $70,000 in 1882, according to the old records. From that time on the valuations have been steadily increasing. During the early days the reports were as follows:

1882	$ 70,000
1883	97,805
1884	274,483
1885	1,250,956
1886	1,805,528
1887	2,306,042
1888	2,329,783
1889	3,230,276
1890	4,000,000

Today the valuations in the county run around $25,000,000.

PIONEERS
of Wilbarger County

SINCE it was you who first endured what in reality were hardships in this western country. . . . .

—For your perseverance and persistency in helping to make Vernon and Wilbarger County what it is today— . . . . .

We Dedicate This Space To You!

C. D. Shamburger Lbr. Co. Inc.



G. CHAS. KNAUF,
Chiropractor
Vernon, Texas

A COMPARISON

Discoveries, inventions, and developments have changed the mode of living and doing things in many ways. The majority of the people are living and operating in keeping with the times. Still there are some few that will adhere to the old way. This is not only true in one, but in many walks of life.

Think what it would mean to you as an individual, if you were denied the use of— your automobile, telephone, electric appliances, natural gas, water in the home, a telegraph service, good roads, ice, and many of the modern conveniences that you are now enjoying. (The few who are living a life of twenty or twenty-five years ago, at this present time, may be content to llive it in that way because they haven't learned the more modern and convenient way), but should you all of a sudden be denied these privileges you would consider it utterly impossible to get along without them. Why? Because you have learned what an asset such is to real comfortable and enjoyable living.

Since the discovery of Chiropractic by D. D. Palmer in 1895, and the development of it by his son, B. J. Palmer, D.C., Ph.C., and others, it is no longer necessary to suffer indefinitely with diseases commonly known as lumbago, sciatica, and other spinal conditions, when Chiropractic adjustments are available. It is truly said that your spine is the index to your health. And every sufferer with a spinal condition is not living to the fullest extent.

In the pioneer days of Wilbarger county those who had the misfortune of suffering with what is commonly known as lumbago, sciatica, or a crick or wrench, along the course of the spine most of th m had to suffer until nature took its course. Because at that time there was no specific method of relieving it. Many an individual has had to suffer excruciating pains for a period of from one to ten days or longer, depending upon how soon intellectual adaptation took place. But since the advent of Chiropractic relief is often obtained in a very short time, because the cause of the condition was removed.

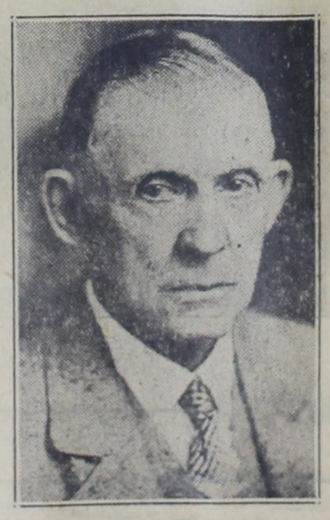
"WISDOM is an accumulation of knowledge.

THE WISE add to their fund of knowledge by investigation.

CHIROPRACTIC should be thoroughly investigated by those who are sick, or by those whose dear ones are suffering from disease. IT WILL PAY YOU to investigate a science which is based upon logical principles."

Therefore if you are not familiar with Chiropractic, avail yourself of the opportunity of investigating further into the efficacy of that science.

F. H. WRIGHT ONE OF PIONEER BUILDERS FARGO COMMUNITY



F. H. WRIGHT.

The subject of this sketch, F. H. Wright is not only an early day settler of Wilbarger county, but one of the pioneer citizens of Texas. Born at Bloomington, Ill., he came to Texas with his father and settled at Plano, Collin county in 1876.

For several years young Wright was a druggist in Collin county. On February 15, 1882 he was married to Miss Jennie Smith, daughter of the late Peter Smith who was not only an early day settler of Dallas county, but later moved to Wilbarger county and settled in this country as far back as 1889. Mr. Smith will be remembered by a number of people living in this county now as having bought and settled down on 1,350 acres of land six miles north of Vernon. That homestead is still referred to as the "old Peter Smith place."

Mr. Wright and his wife moved up to this country with the Smith family in 1889 and rented 320 acres adjoining the Smith farm.

Mr. Wright in speaking of conditions in Wilbarger county in 1889, and what his earthly belongings consisted of then, said that when he landed here he had $55 in money, a wagon and team, a walking plow and one double shovel plow. He gave $35 to get possession of the land he had rented and went to work. His newly acquired farm he said, was improved with a dugout and had 35 acres broke out. His first year's work in the county was grubbing up mesquite grubs and putting more land in cultivation. However, his first year here he raised a five acre oat crop which was threshed by the late W. H. Evans, who threshed over the country with a horse power outfit. Most of this oat crop Mr. Wright says he sold to Oklahoma citizens at 75c per bushel. He rented this place for twelve years and then bought the farm and made it his home until he sold out and moved to Vernon seven years ago.

In speaking about his life on the farm Mr. Wright said that he never raised cotton, but gave his attention to the raising of grain and feed, and young mules. Raised his own meat and lard and always had some to spare during his thirty years on the farm. When he moved to the Fargo neighborhood the only farms around him were the Johnson and Gilbert farms on the south, the W. H. Beavers, Leak, Chowning and McGill farms on the east, Stafford and Parks farms north and the Judge Hare place west. The Fargo school house then was called the Richland school house and carried that name until the Fargo postoffice was established with James Stafford as th first postmaster. All religious denominations worshipped at the Richland school house during the early days, Mr. Wright said. And in speaking about the progress of that neighborhood he called attention to the fact that the Methodist denomination, the Baptist congregation and members of the Church of Christ all had nice buildings in which to worship now.

J. B. Smith, who was also a citizen of the Fargo neighborhood in its early period taught the school in the community for ten or twelve years, Mr. Wright tells us.

"From a moral and financial standpoint the Fargo community has always a reputation for being on a sound basis," is the way Mr. Wright expresses it. But he thinks it could hardly be otherwise with such men as W. H. Beavers, C. S. Smith, Uncle Jimmy Stafford, J. W. Coffee and Uncle Dick Richardson being ground floor builders in its early days.

As a climax to this interview, Mr. Wright said, "Just say that I have always voted the Democrat ticket, voted for good schools and still think that old Wilbarger county is entitled to the best of everything."

SAYS HE HAS WALKED 24,640 MILES ON WILBARGER STREET

T. P. Lisman, Jr., eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. T. P. Lisman of Vernon, who are numbered among the first settlers of this county, by a mathematical rule recently sat down and figured out that he was entitled to the cake if there is one to be awarded to the person that has walked more miles up and down one street over a period of 35 years.

Tom, Jr., lives approximately one-half mile from the public square and he figures that not counting the different trips that he had made to the business section of the city since he was old enough to leave the family yard, but figuring only two trips a day, that he had walked 24,640 miles on Wilbarger street.

"And I am still walking on this same street at different times along now," Tom said, "but when I think back of the days before the automobile, when such good men as T. J. Youngblood and old Daddy Gilbert would relieve me with a buggy ride on this street, since they have passed out I cannot help but realize I am too getting along in years."

MAKING PROGRESS.

"If you don't behave yourself I'll refuse to marry you!"

"Is that a promise?"

THE VERNON TIMES, OLD SETTLERS EDITION, JUNE 30, 1927.

9

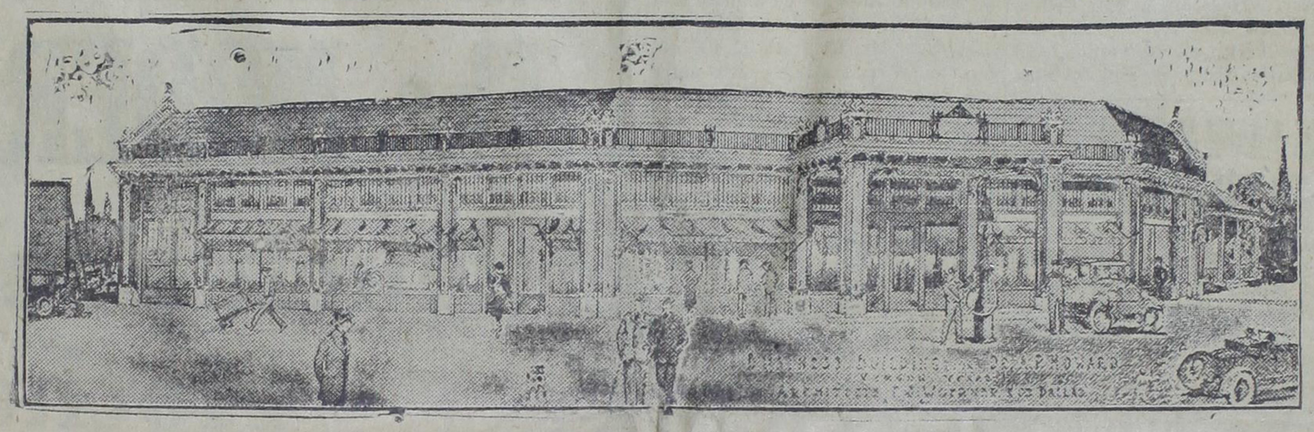
When the Early Settlers thought of Transportation they thought of the Covered Wagon and Saddle Horse. . . . When people now days think of traveling they think of

HUDSON - ESSEX

THE WORLD'S GREATEST BUILDERS OF SIXES

As the buggy replaced the wagon for comfort in the early days—the HUDSON and the ESSEX today surpasses all cars for ease of driving and comfort in riding. . . . . .

OUR NEW HOME ON CORNER OF WILBARGER AND BOWIE STREETS NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION.



In planning the new home for HUDSON-ESSEX, every effort is being made to care for the service and convenience of present and future HUDSON-ESSEX owners. A modern sales and service building, second to none. The expansion is being carried forward in every department of our big building. Modern, new machinery, special tools and equipment will be installed. No detail is being overlooked. The pride you will have had in the past in the ownership of one of these fine cars will now be even more complete than ever before.

Super-Six Performance

HUDSON MOTOR CAR CO. DETROIT MICH. U.S.A.

ESSEX MOTORS DETROIT USA

THE RAPIER FLASH OF ITS GETAWAY.

Until you ride in the HUDSON SUPER-SIX there is a motoring thrill you can never know.

Here is brilliancy of performance that gives new luster and meaning to the word.

It is the master car at every issue. And in every performance asked of a motor it possesses ability beyond anything heretofore known.

In all the years your HUDSON serves, you will hardly require it's full capacity. You can scarcely encounter a situation to tax it's limit of power.

This performance mastery gives innumerable advantages. For instance, you travel faster within the speed limits. That is because you are away quicker; you pick up faster; you level hills with ease. You have smoothness that makes the long journey comfortable and free of fatigue.

And these qualities have won HUDSON the greatest reception, sales, and public acknowledgment in it's history.

RIDING IS LIKE FLYING.

You never can forget this thrilling difference from all other transportation! Smooth indifference to road conditions. . . Silky smoothness in all performance. . . . . Riding in the ESSEX SUPER-SIX is actually like flying.

The dramatic appeal of a single ride is the basis of the greatest sales in our history.

This amazing Super-Six performance and quality is economical to buy and own. It is the outstanding triumph of engineering—for long wear, accessibility and lowest operation and maintenance costs.

And in making long tours or using your ESSEX all day in city traffic, you will find the greater economy of physical freshness that comes from easy driving, riding, steering and control, and it's freedom from vibration at all speeds.

Vernon Hudson-Essex Co. INC.

GULF AGENT CAME TO COUNTY IN 1886



JOHN W. COFFEE.

John W. Coffee came to Wilbarger county from Illinois, near St. Louis, and settled north of the river in the Doans country. He bought and sold a number of farms through that part of the country and finally traded for a house in Vernon and moved his family here.

He arrived ahead of the railroad and had to unload his household goods at Harrold and haul them overland to Doans. After farming and raising cattle he came to Vernon about eighteen years ago and for the past nine years has been agent for the Gulf Refining company in the county.

Mr. Coffee said they used to have lots of fun in Vernon and around in his part of the country. He told a very amusing incident of when he traded W. O. Anderson out of a street car. Mr. Coffee brought a load of shelled corn to town and drove up to Mr. Anderson's place to see what he could get for it. He saw a bright shining street car standing near by and asked what he was going to do with the thing. Mr. Anderson told him he did not know and asked Mr. Coffee what he would give him for it and not back out. They finally traded by Mr. Coffee swapping him the load of corn.

He had four mules to the wagon so he and the man with him hitched the mules to the street car and fastened the wagon on behind and started for Doans. Mr. Coffee said Mr. Anderson told him he would never get it across the river. Mr. Coffee said he rode in the street car and drove and the other man rode in the wagon behind and put the brakes on when the car got to rolling too fast. If the mules were not going to suit him Mr. Coffee would ring the bell and this would scare the team and they would make good time.

He said they got it home and he turned the car over to his children for a play house.

In discussing the old days Mr. Coffee said one of the funniest things he ever saw was a bunch of Indians with parasols. There was a big bunch camped in Vernon and the day they started for home one Indian happened to buy a parasol. Within an hour every umbrella in the town had been sold. The visitors broke camp and started for home. When the Indians would get on their horses with the parasols raised they would go to pitching and bawling. He said it beat any show he had ever seen.

A characteristic of the old days was honesty. Mr. Coffee said you could leave a wagon loaded with groceries on the road and it would not be bothered. He said one time he started home and broke the tongue out of his wagon. He had a bunch of groceries. He tied a wagon sheet over the wagon, pulled the harness off his mules and put it on the wagon and rode in home. He returned several days later and nothing had been bothered. Today he said if a man did that he might not have his wagon left when he got back.

Mr. and Mrs. Coffee have five children, all of whom live here but one daughter. They are R. H. Coffee, R. I. Coffee, Mrs. Texas Kuhn and Mrs. Joe Petty, all of Vernon, and Mrs. Charles Petty of Tipton, Okla.

KING FAMILY CAME TO WILBARGER 1889

The King family moved to Wilbarger county from Benton county, Tennessee, in 1889 and settled at Oklaunion. Hugh King, who is county commissioner from that precinct, stated that his family started in raising wheat in that part of the county and at times had in several thousand acres.

While Harrold was the leading town in the late 80's Mr. King said



HUGH KING.

when they arrived in the county Harrold was being moved on to Vernon and Oklaunion was a good sized town. Oklaunion was the wheat center of Wilbarger from 1890 to 1892. Thousands of bushels were hauled in there to be shipped.

When the dry years of the 90's came on Mr. King said hundreds of people moved out and about the only ones who stayed were his family, the Ike Smiths, D. L. Green, Staleys and Summerours and a few others.

In discussing those days Mr. King said people now days could not realize what people went through with "We use to get up way before day and worked until way in the night. We were so tired out on Sunday that about all we cared about doing was sleeping." Mr. King said he did not care to go to another new country and grow up with it. There were no telephones and no roads and neighbors were scattered.

Mr. King's mother, Mrs. Monroe King, lives at Oklaunion. There are nine children of the family and they are J. Mont King of Vernon, Dr. J. C. King of Harrold, E. S. King of Vernon, Mrs. Emma Ralston of Boyce City, Okla.; Mrs. Mary Boyd of Okla- Dr. T. A. King, Hugh King, Roy King, and Ulys King of Sudan.

Since 1885-

THE DENVER ROAD

Has been steadily developing BETTER SERVICE to "keep step" with the growth and developments of Wilbarger County and the Panhandle!

"The quick direct Route to Colorado or the Gulf"

The PIONEER WAY



WASH DAY—

And mother usually was the wash woman. Hundreds of them bent their backs over the wash tub every week to take care of the family wash.

AND THEN ON IRONING DAY—

Mother or sister was forced to pick up the old hand iron to smooth out the family wash.



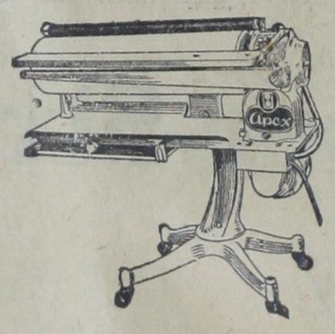


Every day, too, they went over the floors of the house with the old hand broom with no protection from the dust that accumulated.

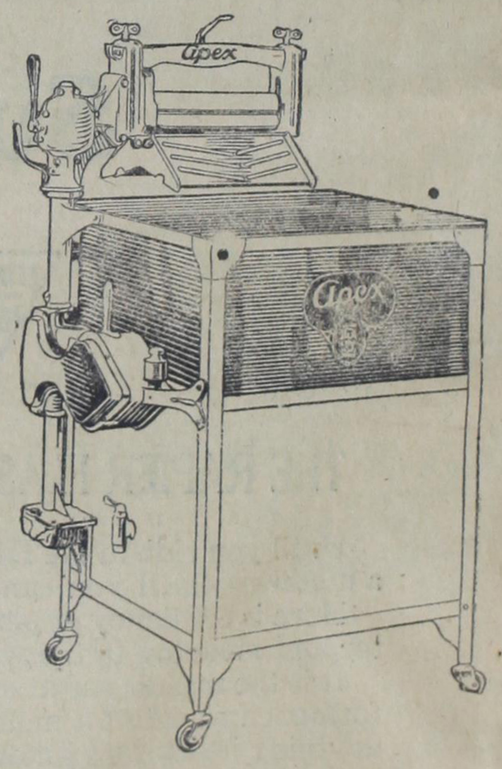
The MODERN WAY

Much Easier on Mother

She Touches the Button and ELECTRICITY Does the Work.



Apex Ironer.



Apex Washer.



Apex Suction Cleaner.

All Appliances Demonstrated in Your Home Without Obligations to Buy.

WEST TEXAS ELECTRIC CO.

PHONE 810

ALDERMAN CAME TO COUNTY IN APRIL '89 FROM N. CAROLINA



W. C. ALDERMAN.

W. C. Alderman came to Wilbarger county on April 10, 1889, from North Carolina. He settled on a farm south of Beaver creek where he lived for many years before moving to town.

Mr. Alderman was elected county commissioner from that part of the county and served for four years. When asked about the roads he said there was only one road down in that part of the county and only two in his precinct. He got the enormous salary of $80 a year for his services. Mr. Alderman said some of the other commissioners got a little more as they had more roads and put in more time looking after them.

He was treasurer of Wilbarger county for six years. During his stay in that office the state department often complimented him on his books. He kept everything right up to the minute. During his years as county treasurer he saw many changes in the county. When he first went in there was not so very much issuing of checks by the treasurer but before he left the office it had gotten to where checks were being issued by the hundreds every week, especially after the work of paving and grading the roads all over the county started.

For the past few years Mr. Alderman has been deputy tax assessor under R. R. Brooks.

ANEY ATE RABBIT TO SAVE EXPENSES WHILE AT COURT

A. J. Haney, who moved from Wise county to Wilbarger in 1885, settled about twenty miles southwest of town and started in farming. In discussing the early days he said he could be classed as one of the pioneers who killed the rattle snakes, coyotes and helped develop the country.

In the early days the qualified jurors in the county were so few that the court would dismiss them before serving the legal number of days to disqualify a juror as they could use them again. Mr. Haney said when he had to serve as a juror he brought his bedding along and a piece of barbed wire and staked his team out in the sand hills and went to court. In the afternoon when court adjourned he would come back to camp and watch for a rabbit to go in a dog hole so he could have meat for supper. The pay was $2 a day in script and script was worth 40c. The cheapest hotel was $1 a day so Mr. Haney said he got by pretty good.

As Jeff Summerour claims to be one of the pioneer water haulers Mr. Haney claims to be one of the pioneer wood haulers. He said he had brought many a load of stove wood to Vernon and sold it. Lots of times he would not find a customer so he would go round to the Vernon Guard office and Mr. Edgell would tell him to dump it offff and the publisher would later sell it for him.

Another interesting incident told by Mr. Haney was when the cowboys tried to stampede some cattle over him and another man. Mr. Haney said he was scared. They both escaped unhurt but very mad. He stated that if he had had a gun he believed he would have shot the men on the spot. The cattlemen did not feel any too friendly towards the settlers who were fencing and farming the range.

Mr. Haney said the first year he was here his taxes were $3.50 and today he says if the commissioners court keeps raising the valuations it will take everything the land produces to pay the taxes.

JUDGE COLE CAME TO FOARD COUNTY WHILE HARDEMAN

Judge Robert Cole came to the West in 1885 and settled four miles east of Thalia in what was then Hardeman county. The town of Margaret was the county site. In 1891 the county of Foard was organized out of Hardeman, Cottle and Knox counties. In 1892 he was elected county judge and moved to the town of Crowell. Crowell was a small village, having been started two years before by one small store.

Judge Cole moved to Vernon in 1922 and in March, 1925, was appointed district judge to succeed J. V. Leak, who resigned. He was elected to the office again last year. During his forty-two years in this section Judge Cole has practiced law in all of the courts in adjoining counties and is well known over West Texas as a jurist.

GREEVER FAMILY ARRIVED HERE IN SPRING OF 1884



MRS. W. W. GREEVER.

Mrs. W. W. Greever, wife of the late W. W. Greever, arrived in Vernon in the spring of 1884 from Grayson county. She came from Johnson county, Tennessee, in 1882 to Van Alstyne. Mrs. Greever has been one of the old time residents who has seen Vernon developed from a small village to its present size.

Mrs. Greever recalls with much interest the big celebration held here on the 10th anniversary of Vernon. Her son, B. B. Greever, now living in Wichita Falls, was awarded the prize for being the best looking baby in Wilbarger county.

Her husband, who died a few years back, was one of the leading contractors of Vernon in the early days and built a number of brick buildings that are still standing in Vernon. Among them are the Herring National Bank building, Pictorium theatre, Bailey hotel, the Famous building, W. T. Dickey building, T. J. Youngblood building, Evans building, Hahn building and Ladd's garage.

Mrs. Greever now lives on Mesquite street where she keeps house. She has reared a large family of children and enjoys their visits to her home. The children are H. K. Greever, Vernon; C. B. Greever, Frederick; Mrs. E. F. Piper, Vernon; Mrs. W. T. Clay and B. B. Greever, Wichita Falls, and V. M. Greever, Fort Worth.

JAMES STAFFORD A PIONEER CITIZEN OF EARLY DAYS

When people living in this county now, especially those who have been living here for several years, think of the Fargo community, they naturally think of James Stafford and his family, because they have been identified with that section of Wilbarger county since December, 1883.

James Stafford was born in West Virginia. He came to Texas in November, 1877, locating in Grayson county. After moving to this country Mr. Stafford bought land in his community, established a home and kept pace with his neighbors in improving a thinly settled section to one that is now made up of comfortable homes.

His wife, the late Mrs. Kate Stafford, died at their home in the Fargo neighborhood something near a year ago.

When the Fargo post office was established Mr. Stafford was made postmaster and had charge of the mail matter there for several years.

The children of the Stafford family are Frank Stafford, Shamrock; George, Dickens City; Oscar, of New Mexico, and Theodore, the youngest boy at Fargo. The girls of the family are Mrs. Sallie Harrington, Spur; Mrs. Annie Hood, Vernon; Mrs. Jennie Coffee, Fargo, and Mrs. Essie Edwards, Shamrock.

In this connection it might be said of Mr. Stafford that despite the fact that he is getting along in years, he holds his age remarkably for a man of his age. More than that, he is still a neighbor to his neighbors.

SULLIVAN CAME TO VERNON FROM EDDY

Charles T. Sullivan came to Wilbarger county in 1889 from Eddy, near Waco. Two years before that he had moved to Texas from Tennessee. Mr. Sullivan was associated with an exclusive book and office supply store in Vernon at one time. He said they handled a nice line of office supplies and had the agency for the Dallas Morning News and the Fort Worth Gazette. He was with W. H. Evans in the grocery business for seven years and bought the store when Mr. Evans retired from business. Mr. Sullivan and his son, Linton, ran the business until the outbreak of the war when he sold out.

Mrs. Sullivan, who before her marriage was Miss Lillie Johnston, came to Vernon in 1886. Her brother, W. E. Johnston, had one of the first hardware and implement stores in the county. In fact, one of the brick buildings on the square was built for him and the name can be seen on the front today.

Miss Cleo Bowers of Wichita Falls spent the week end in Vernon with her mother, Mrs. H. D. Hockersmith.

SNEED FAMILY ARRIVED IN 1889

Along with other early day settlers of Wilbarger county, and especially of Vernon, rightfully belongs a record of the late P. L. (Uncle Pete) Sneed, who with his wife and children settled in Vernon December 19, 1889. Mrs. Sneed with some of her children live in Vernon now. "Uncle Pete," as he was familiarly called by those who knew him well, died September 27, 1925.

The children are Mrs. W. H. Perkins, Joe Sneed, W. B. (Bill) Sneed, Bob Sneed, Mrs. T. J. Bridges of Vernon, Mrs. Howard Bridendoll, Quanah, and Mrs. F. A. Moore, wellington.

The Sneed family came to Vernon from Tarrant county and settled in the southeast part of the city. Ace Sneed, a brother of P. L., also came to this country the same time his brother and family did. He died in Vernon something over a year ago.

For a number of years in this country P. L. Sneed gave a greater portion of his time to dealing in live stock. He was an authority, so to speak, on good horses, especially those fitted for the race track.

DALLAS NEWS SENDS PICTURE FOR TIMES

The Times acknowledges with thanks the picture of the First Baptist church sent by the Dallas Morning News for the Old Settler's edition. The Dallas News is the pioneer of newspapers in Texas and today thousands of people had just as soon go without a meal as to miss reading their Dallas News. The News has justly won a reputation for giving its readers reliable state, national and international news.



D. L. Green.



J. P. King.



J. H. Pendleton.

FIRST STATE BANK

BOUND TOGETHER BY STRONG LINKS OF FRIENDSHIP

Early Citizens of Wilbarger County

THE FIRST STATE BANK

Vernon, - Texas

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

J. P. KING, President
D. L. GREEN, Vice President
J. H. PENDLETON, Vice President
W. S. LUNDY, Vice President
ARTHUR E. HARROUN, Cashier
C. V. KING, Asst. Cashier
J. B. ROSS, Asst. Cashier

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THE HERRING NATIONAL BANK

"One Of The Old Timers"

In April, 1899, the C. T. Herring Banking Company was organized as a private bank. On the 19th of October, 1903, a national charter was taken out and the Herring National Bank was created. The large number of customers who started out with us over twenty-eight years ago—who have remained loyal to us during all that time, and who are still our customers and friends—is a source of pride to us.



OFFICERS

C. T. HERRING, President
LES K. JOHNSON, Active Vice Pres.
W. D. BERRY, Vice Pres.
L. J. MASSIE, Vice Pres.
JOE C. SUMNER, Vice Pre
G. C. MORRIS, Cashier.
ROY W. ABBOTT, Asst. Ca
M. K. BERRY, Asst. Cashi
JESSIE MILNER, Asst. Ca

DIRECTORS

W. D. Berry, Chairman of Board.
C. T. Herring.
Cy Long.
J. D. Summerour.
G. C. Morris.
Les K. Johnson.
L. J. Massie.
Joe Sumner.
M. K. Berry.
R. W. Abbott.
S. E. Honaker.
E. H. Pigg.

Our New Banking Home at the Corner of Pease and Fannin Streets

We have long looked forward to giving you the kind of banking home to which we feel you, and the residents of Wilbarger County, are entitled, and we are glad to announce that it will soon be ready for occupancy.

We are proud of this new banking home; proud of the faith that made it possible; proud of the growth that made it necessary; proud of the service it will enable us to render. And we want you to share this pride, for this bank was built for you, as a token of our appreciation of

The Loyalty of our Customers and Friends, Which Made It Possible

THE HERRING NATIONAL BANK

VERNON, TEXAS

Capital, Surplus and Undivided Profits Over $290,000.00.

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THE VERNON TIMES

VOLUME XXXVIII — VERNON, WILBARGER COUNTY, TEXAS, 1927. — OLD SETTLERS' EDITION

OLD TIMER WRITES OF EARLY DAYS IN WILBARGER

MANY INTERESTING AND HISTORICAL EVENTS OF COUNTY GIVEN BY COLLINS IN ARTICLE

(By J. E. COLLINS.)

In the preparation of this article we are indebted to Mrs. A. T. Boger, C. F. Doan, E. L. Witty, E. L. McHugh, E. Hendricks and others for valuable information. We are especially indebted to D. D. McConnell who began publication of the Vernon Call in 1889, and for thirty five years gave faithful and continuous service to Vernon and Wilbarger county. His efforts brought him merited success; he has now retired from active business and is making his home in Houston, Texas. From Mr. McConnell and old files of the Call we have obtained much information.

Wilbarger county was created Feb. 1, 1858, and was named for the two Wilbarger brothers, Josiah and Mathias; they were pioneer Texans and both surveyors.

Wilbarger's list of pioneers is long and honorable, yet it brings a pang to the heart to chronicle their names, for these old timers are scattered to earth's four winds, many indeed have crossed the Great Divide. Judge J. Doan heads the list; coming to Wilbarger county in 1878 he settled at the town that bears his name. Later in the same year came C. F. Doan and family, Cal Doan, Mrs. Eva Brazil, deceased, and Mrs. R. R. Wheatley, and Mage Doan of Amarillo, son and daughters of Judge Doan.

Bertha Doan, now Mrs. Alex Ross and a prominent newspaper woman of this city, was the first white child in the county. The old Doan adobe homestead, the oldest house in the county is still standing and is the home of C. F. Doan.

In 1879, W. B. Worsham of Henrietta established the R2 ranch in Wilbarger county, with headquarters at Big Springs, now Hillcrest Country Club, which was the gathering point for all the cowboys in this section of Texas, where they came to get news from their homes in the east. In the meantime Judge Doan and C. F. Doan had established a store, or trading post, as it was called, at Doans, near where the old trail crossed Red river, where for the next ten years several hundred thousand cattle were driven out of Texas to the northern markets. Just across the river from Doan's was the Comanche and Kiowa Indian reservation. These Indians were good customers of this store. C. F. Doan is authority for the statement that he never lost a dollar on a trail herd or on a cowboy going up the trail; he would frequently sell on credit to an outfit he had never heard of, a full wagon load of supplies, but the money without exception came back. The supplies for this store were hauled in wagons from Gainsville. The nearest postoffice was Henrietta.

In 1879, there was a mail line established between Wichita Falls and Mobeetie, Texas, via Doans. In January 1880, a mail route was established from Seymour in Baylor county to Doans, by Worsham dugout where an office had been established; this office was called Worsham with R. D. Hector as postmaster. January 4, 1880, the postoffice at Doans was opened with C. F. Doan postmaster.

After the establishment of these mail lines settlers began coming in more rapidly and October 10, 1881, Wilbarger county was organized. There was 56 eligible voters in the county. The first officers elected were: J. Doan, county judge; L. N. Perkins, clerk; Uel Musick, sheriff; F. C. Beckett, county attorney; J. R. Nye, surveyor; Alex Dawson, assessor; W. A. McKinney, treasurer; John Payne, inspector cattle and hides. Commissioners, J. J. Burdick, Precinct No. 1; Geo. Probasco, Precinct No. 2; John Miller, Precinct No. 3; T. P. Stamey, Precinct No. 4.

So far as is known, those who participated in the election were: J. Doan, C. F. Doan, Cal Doan, L. N. Perkins, Uel Musick, F. C. Beckett, J. L. Holmes, W. A. McKinney, Geo. Probasco, J. W. Drury, Jim Burdick, C. H. Scott, G. W. Darby, Joe Morris, John Chowning, P. C. Spencer, Steve Edwards, Bill West, Alex Dawson, Ben Simmons, Chas. McLean, A. T. Boger, A. J. Byars, L. J. Hensley, T. P. Stamey, John Drury, Bill Drury, R. D. Hector, J. A. Creager, J. Probasco, R. F. Jones, M. T. Hutchinson, J. W. Campbell, Dave McBride, Dr. Johnson, Jim Wilson, J. R. Sumner, Couch brothers, J. D. Burnett, Geo. Bryon, B. F. Ackley, P. L. Brown, J. T. Estes, John Miller, J. R. Nye and John Payne.

There was no advelorum tax levy made for the year 1881. The tax rolls show that all property assessed for 1882 was $70,000, and the total value of all property assessed in 1883 was $97,000 and all property in the county Jan. 1, 1884 was $247,480, and all property on Jan. 1, 1885, assessed $1,250,956. This was the year a basis was taken to build our present county court house. The assessed valuation of all property in Wilbarger county for 1926 was $24,204,588. The tax assessor's estimated value of all property for 1927 is $27,350,000.

It is not generally known that saloons were voted out of Wilbarger county as early as 1881, for they soon came back and were run for many years; but order number 14 of the Commissioners Court reads as follows:

"Ordered by the Court that an election be held in the several voting precincts at the voting place thereof in Wilbarger County, Texas, on the 20th day of Dec. 1881, to determine whether or not, the sale of intoxicating liquors and medicated bitters producing intoxication be prohibited in said Wilbarger County, Texas."

Later order number 19. was issued and reads:

"Ordered by the Court that the sale of intoxicating liquors and medicated bitters producing intoxication, be prohibited in said Wilbarger County, Texas, from and after the 1st day of January, 1882, it being found upon a count of the returns made from the several voting precincts of said Wilbarger County, to-wit: Precinct No. 1; Precinct No. 3; Precinct No. 4; of an election held on the 20th day of December, 1881 that there was a majority of seven votes cast for prohibition. Both orders signed, J. Doan, county Judge; L. N. Perkins, clerk."

A few excerpts from the records of the Commissioners Court will possibly be of interest to old timers Feb. 13, 1883, the following appears on the records:

Wilbarger County
To
C. F. Doan & Co.

1 qt. ink, by County Clerk	$1.25
1 broom to use of Court House	.40
1 oz. Indigo	.15
Cash for postage	.40
1 paper tacks	.10
1 bottle Ink	.40
1 qt. ink for Sheriff	1.25
1 bottle mucilage	.25
2 pair hand-cuffs	3.00
Aggregating	$7.20

Feb. 14, 1883.

Ordered, that Sheriff prohibit dances to be held in court house.

Again on Feb. 14, 1883.

Ordered by the Court, that J. Doan, county judge have exclusive control of the wood furnished for use of Court House and be held responsible for the same, so far as loaning or allowing same to be used, except for court purposes.

Nov. 14, 1883.

Ordered by the Court, that a contract be let to the lowest bidder to furnish 25 cords of wood for use of Court House. To be sound wood and not over six inches in diameter, to be corded up at court house; contract to be let Nov. 25, 1883. The contractor required to enter into bond with the County Judge for fulfillment of said contract, and that the Clerk advertise for bids, to be addressed to Doan, County Judge.

Again reading from the records, we find:

Aug. 15, 1882.

Ordered by the Court that sealed bids be received up to 12 o'clock the 5th day of Sept. 1882 to build a jail or calaboose, said jail or calaboose to be built 14x18 feet; of hewn cottonwood logs, 8 inches thick and well jointed together; the walls to be on a good stone foundation with face 4 inches above the ground. The wall to be 8 feet from floor to ceiling and 4 feet from ceiling to top wall. The corners of the building to be fastened together with iron rods 3-4 inch to extend from top of wall to foundation, through the corners. The floor to be of hewn cottonwood logs, 6 inches thick and overlain with native pine lumber, one inch thick. The roof shall have such pitch as the County Judge may direct. To be covered with the best white pine shingles. One window on each south and north side 6 inches wide and 3 feet long running horizontal, the windows to be grated with iron rods 3-4 inches in diameter and to be 2 inches apart to extend through top and bottom logs of windows.

There shall be a door of convenient size in gable end of building, a substantial stairway from ground to said door with banister or hand rail extending on outside of stairway.

There shall be a trap door in the center of the upper floor 24 inches by 24 wide and 2 inches thick, of native pine lumber and to be put together with wrought iron nails: one nail to the square inch and well clinched, the door shall fit closely and level with the floor and open upward, to be hung with heavy strap hings, put on with wrought nails and clinched; the door to be fastened by means of two iron bars 3-4 inch thick and 2 inches wide, to fasten at one end with staples 1-2 inch in diameter and to go through the floor and clinched on underside of floor and the other end to be made so as to go over staples and fasten at other end.

The logs that are cut into for trap door shall be supported by means of iron bars 3-4 inch thick and 2 inches wide, one underneath and one on top and securely bolted to the solid log. The bars to be 5 feet long, top bar to be put between the plank and logs.

The stairway on outside shall connect at top with a platform of 4x feet and supported by studding 8x8 inches square.

There shall be a glass window, with 4 lights 12x14 inches in gable and opposite door, and hung with hinges.

There shall be a step ladder to extend from trap door to ground floor and made so that it can be removed when not in use.

Said jail shall be completed within 60 days from the time the contract is let. The contractor to enter into bond in the sum of $1,000 with two or more good and sufficient sureties for the faithful performance of the contract, and to be approved by the County Judge. Said jail to be paid for in county bonds.

January 15, 1883.

Ordered by the Court, that the time in which County Jail was to have been completed to-wit on the 18th of January, 1883, be extended to the 25th day of January, 1883. And that the Contractor, Dave McBride, make the following changes: Instead of trap door being 2 feet square to be made 3 feet square, and the uprights supporting stairway be of pine scantling 4 inches square instead of hewn cottonwood 8 inches square.

February 12, 1883.

Ordered by the Court, that jail built by Dave McBride, be accepted, and that he be allowed the sum of $615.00 for building same, and that the clerk issue his warrant on County Treasurer for payment of the same, to be paid out of Jail fund.

Up to this time Wilbarger county was attached to Baylor county for judicial purposes, and was then included in the 34th Judicial district. Judge B. F. Williams of Graham was the first district judge, and J. F. Brim was the first district attorney. Uncle John Miller was foreman of the jury that tried the first criminal case. Judge Stine of Henrietta succeeded Judge Williams, and held the office until the legislature in 1889 created the 46th Judicial district which embraced the counties of Wilbarger, Hardeman, Childress, Donley, Hall, Armstrong, Collingsworth, Brisco, Foard and the famous Greer county now part of Oklahoma. Judge G. A. Brown was appointed judge of the new district by Governor L. S. Ross; after fourteen years of service he was succeeded by Hon. S. P. Huff.

Vernon even in an early day had a dominant religious element, and welcomed the pioneer preachers who came to win souls, and not to extend sectarian borders. For years all denominations worshipped in turn in the little frame school house. The first church the M. E. church south, was built in 1889. The first service in the church was the marriage of Miss Hattie Farrell and J. L. Swartwood. Rev. J. T. Hosmer the Methodist circuit rider, many years ago called up higher, preached the first sermon in Vernon in 1880. He was a man of tact and spirituality and his good influence cannot be computed. In 1881 he organized the first church in the county, with the following members:

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Creager, Will Creager, Alice Creager, and George Bryan. J. A. Creager was a man of wonderful faith and lived to see, and helped to build the magnificent brick church on the same ground where the little frame building once stood.

The first Sunday school in the county was organized at the Dawson Valley school house in 1882, L. E. Goldin, superintendent. Rev. Beauchamp of the Baptist faith was a zealous co-worker. They builded better than they knew as shown today by the county's handsome churches, her devout worshippers, and the talented men who have tried to lead us in the right way.

After the organization of the county in 1881, settlers began coming in rapidly. Among the first to settle in Vernon and Wilbarger county, many of them bringing their families, were: L. P. Bonner, J. T. Lahne, H. C. Justin, J. H. Pendleton, E. Lowe, Lon Byars, Dr. B. K. Wood, J. E. Lutz, John R. Wood, E. L. McHugh, Joe Schmidt, F. P. McGhee, Tom Donahoo, C. M. Byars, Bill Bean, Sid Davidson, John Davidson, J. W. Chowning H. Chowning J. A. White, L. A. Jaynes, Judge J. A. Nabers, W. C. Creager, W. T. Riddle, Dave Strain, A. C. Swinburn, T. Bunker, Kinsey brothers, Frank Richardson, Pat Paffrath, Dr. Edwards, J. T. Cameron, J. W. Hedley, A. D. Moore, J. Slagle, B. T. Ansley, Dr. W. T. Dickey, Bion Crego, Condon, A. C. Sanders, Jo[illegible] son, Paul Schaub, T. P. Lis[illegible] Utterback, R. P. Elliott, Edgell, Bob S[illegible], Dick W. Campbell Judge P. P. Holman, Mace [illegible], E. [illegible] Geo. McTaylor, Marion Rowland, [illegible] Rowland, D. R. Britt, Charlie Whee[illegible]er, Marion Millett, Dan Rogers, H. A. Bell, Jake Smith, G. W. Meyers, Pete Heffner, Geo. Colwell, Tom Jones, Will Griffin, Andy Laird, I. Davenport, W. J. Westmoreland, T. L. Stewart, Geo. Creed, J. D. Summerour, Mrs. Virgie Hewitt, J. H. Johnston, L. P. Bonner, C. C. Wells, Paul Hoffle, J. P. King, James R. Tolbert, J. P. Hamilton, J. B. Lockett, J. A. Gilliland, Charlie Lanters, T. M. Ferguson, Dr. H. H. Rhoads, J. A. Rhoads, J. T. Conn, N. M. Key, D. H. Vaughn, W. E. Gamble, Peter Crawford, J. W. Carrington, L. C. Eckle, A. Thurmond, Fred Ratliff, Charlie Hall, W. W. Greever, D. M. Ferebee, D. R. Brill and J. B. Crawford.

All of those mentioned with possibly three or four exceptions, settled in Wilbarger county before the Ft. Worth and Denver railroad reached Vernon, in 1886. This railroad was welcomed as the evangel coming of civilization and was not only given the right of way on many ranches, but also free grass for teams and accommodations for graders. J. H. Pendleton has the unique distinction of being the only individual to pay his pledge to the Fort Worth and Denver for building into Vernon.

After the advent of the railroad people came so rapidly it would be impossible to chronicle their names, but we cannot refrain from placing upon Wilbarger's honor roll a few of those pioneers who have been prominently identified with Vernon and Wilbarger county, some of them for forty years. Many of these old-timers have passed on, but the memory of them is still with us, and with few exceptions their families are living in Vernon or Wilbarger county.

S. W. Mabry, W. C. Johnson, Wm. Denny, J. N. Denny, J. R. Ross, J. H. Watts, John Hull, T. A. Holloway, W. T. Collins, J. P. Starr, E. L. Witty, T. L. Pierce, R. S. Kelly, W. H. Kelly, J. R. Renfro, D. L. Green, T. P. Lisman, C. C. Shive, P. G. Givens, P. T. Smith, F. H. Wright, S. C. Hogsett, W. W. Gilbert, G. M. Blackman, Dr. G. E.

(Continued on page 6)

FIRST SUNDAY SCHOOL ORGANIZED IN WILBARGER COUNTY



This is a picture taken in 1882 and shows the first Sunday School organized in the county. The dugout shown in the picture was also used for the first school taught in the county. This picture was taken on Paradise creek across from the present Bourland school building east of town. In this picture can be seen members of some of the pioneer families of the county. The Byars and Boger families were living here then. The little girl shown in the picture holding the fan is Mrs. Cecil Storey.

SCENE OF SCHOOL EXERCISES IN VERNON



The above picture was taken in the late 80's at the closing of the city schools of Vernon and was furnished The Times by Judge E. L. McHugh. Reading from left to right standing: J. H. Creager, Jessie Swartwood, A. Y. Creager, Ed Sevier and E. L. McHugh. Left to right on the lower row: Lizzie Ewing, Nellie Wood, Hattie Farrell, Joe Guckert, Ella Hutchinson and Victor Kinney. Judge McHugh and A. Y. Creager were ushers for the occasion as can be seen by the large flowers worn by thegentlemen.

PRESENT HEAD OF VERNON SCHOOLS



W. T. LOFLAND, Superintendent of City Schools

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WALTER LORANCE ONE OF EARLY DAY COWBOYS STILL IN WILBARGER COUNTY

Walter Lorance, better known as "Dad," has been in and out of Vernon since 1883. He moved his family to Doans in 1898 from Wichita Falls and since that time has really claimed Wilbarger county as his home.

Mr. Lorance worked with all the pioneer cattlemen of this part of the state. He stated that he was in Vernon three times at night while with herds nearby before he ever saw the town in the day light. "When we were close by we would jump on a horse and ride in and spend a few hours in town," he said. "Lots of times we would visit towns that way at night and perhaps never see them in daytime."

The Suggs outfit was the first one Mr. Lorance worked with. They had headquarters down about Henrietta. Later he joined the Waggoner outfit and for most of the time from 1888 on he was with either the Waggoner or Burnett outfits. "We would sometimes have a falling out with the wagon boss," Mr. Lorance said, "and would quit and go to some other outfit. I would work for Burnett about a year and then go back to the Waggoner camp."

Before the railroad got out in this country Mr. Lorance said he rode the Chisholm trail with cattle, making his first trip in 1881 to Kansas. The Suggs outfit drove their cattle over this trail. On one trip he said he went with the first of three herds and they met the third one in Oklahoma as they were coming back home. Some of the men with the last drove were homesick so he and another man let them go back home and they joined this bunch and returned to Kansas.

Mr. Lorance said he quit the Suggs outfit in 1888 so that he could move his family from Fort Sill to Wichita Falls and let the children go to school.

When asked about the early days in this county he said he had seen thousands of cattle on the prairie around Harrold waiting for shipment when that was the terminal of the Denver.

All the outfits to the west drove their herds to that point for shipment. Mr. Lorance said that when they rode the range down on Beaver and on through that country he had



WALTER LORANCE

seen deer, panthers and all kinds of wild game running loose. He said they never shot anything unless they needed a little fresh meat.

Mr. Lorance said there was very little cattle rustling in through this section. There was a gang in the Wichita river brakes that gave the cattlemen a little trouble in the early eighties by making off with horses.

In discussing the past Mr. Lorance said that it was hard for people now days to realize just what kind of a country this was in the pioneer days. There were few farms and everything was grazing land. Harrold was the leading city of this county and Mr. Lorance says it was a wide open town.

He knows practically every foot of land in the south part of the county and knows all the names of the various creeks and watering holes and how they got their names. Down in the Streit settlement there is a spot of land on which at one time great piles of buffalo hides were stacked to be hauled to market. Rains set in and the hides rotted before they could be moved out and for years and years Mr. Lorance said nothing would grow on this ground.

For years and years he was chief horse wrangler for the Waggoner outfit and was with the ranch most of the time since 1888 with the exception of the few years he worked with the Burrett outfit.

ROSS FAMILY CAME TO WILBARGER IN 1889 FROM GEORGIA

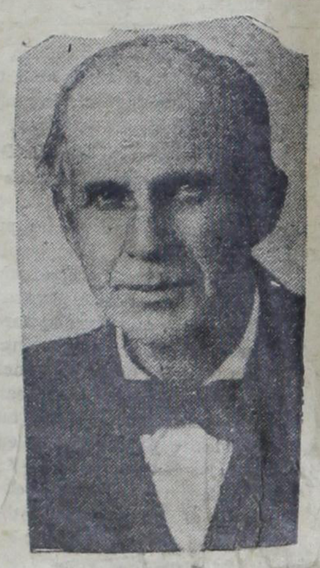
(By J. E. COLLINS)

We consider it a privilege indeed to be permitted to pay a small tribute to those pioneer citizens, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Ross whose picture appears in this issue.

Mr. and Mrs. Ross came to Vernon in 1889. After living in the city for a short time they moved to the north side of the county, where they have been prominently identified with the people of that community for nearly forty years. In 1893 the failure of two banks deprived Mr. Ross of every dollar he possessed. He didn't waste any valuable time bemoaning his loss, but went bravely to work to provide for his family. The most serious comment he was heard to make was that the banks seemed determined to place him at the head of the rabbit twisters association.

The next few years were marked by drought, sand storms, hot winds, and crop failures, but these misfortunes did not discourage these hardy pioneers, they still held an optomistic view of the future of west Texas, and especially Wilbarger county.

During these lean, dry years this good man and his wife never neglected to attend the little church,



J. R. ROSS

Making Abstracts Since 1888

We pride ourselves on the fact that for thirty-nine years we have been assisting in the development of Wilbarger County by being able to furnish complete abstracts on short notice.

We own the Files, Books and Records of Waggoner Title Company, The Wilbarger Land Title Company, combined with the Vernon Abstract Company, creating a triple check against the Records of Wilbarger County, Texas. Owners of the only copy, in existence, of the Lost Records.

In the early days this company furnished the pioneers with abstracts and today we extend congratulations to the men and women who braved the hardships of the pioneer days.

Vernon Abstract

JAS. O. ROUSE, Manager

To the early settlers of Wilbarger County:

YOU—who bought the first Hardware in this Western Country . . . .

YOU—who broke the first soil in Wilbarger County and helped to make Vernon one of the best towns in Texas . . . . . .

Our Hats Are Off to You

That You May Live to See Many More Years of Peace and Prosperity Is Our Sincere Wish.

Terhune-Orr Hardware Co.

known at the time as Doans chapel. This church was an old saloon building moved from Doans to a high point on the D. B. Rogers farm. The six-shooter holes were plugged, the house overhauled, painted and made comfortable. During all the years that it stood it was never given a denominational name, but was simply known as the church, and all denominations were welcome to use it for worship.

The Ross home was a center of social activity in the community, and they were ever ready to extend help to those more unfortunate than themselves.

Mr. Ross was one of the first to see the possibilities of west Texas as a cotton country and was one of the first farmers in the county to plant a large acreage to cotton; he having in the meantime purchased valuable farm lands in the Doans community.



MRS. J. R. ROSS

Three years ago Mr. and Mrs. Ross celebrated their golden wedding. All of their children were present on this occasion, A. S., C. P. and J. B. Ross of Vernon. H. A. Ross, Miss Maud Ross, Mrs. C. E. Sears and Mrs. Hattie Turner of Odell. None of the Ross family have ever seen fit to hunt a better country than Wilbarger.

Flattery is contemptible among honest men and women, but a deserved compliment, or passing flowers to the living is always commendable.

Bob Ross in his long and useful

CATHOLIC CHURCH BUILDING O BY THREE DENO

any one. Ably seconded by his good wife, he has performed his duty fully and completely in the exercise of all the privileges and opportunities which good citizenship means to the individual, and therefore has been a contributor in both word and conduct to all the influences and forces which have in a few short years transformed a treeless, grass covered plain into a land of prosperous and happy homes.

He is a man of wonderful faith; he believes in God; he believes in men; he believes in institutions; he believes in the virtues which men and women struggle to attain; he believes in little children whose lives will build and adorn the civilization just ahead.

Advancing age has not taken from him, nor soured his happy optomistic disposition; but in his beautiful home in Odell surrounded by his children his grand children, and his friends, he and his wife are spending their declining years in peace and happiness always looking forward for better things, not for themselves perhaps, but to those who are to come after them.

CONCERNING BESS.

There was a young flapper named
Bess,
Who looked a little different from
the rest;
Her eyes were crossed
While her teeth were false,
But she was popular for two good
reasons—I guess!

POOR PAPA.

Mamma—Johnny, I wish you would be a good little boy."

Johnny—I'll be good for a nickel.

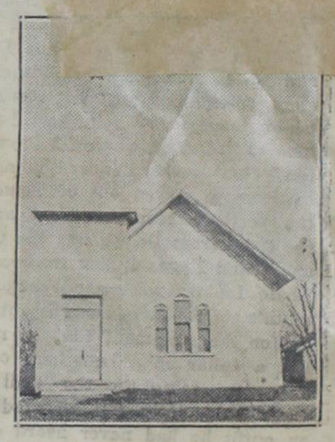
Mamma—The idea! Why can't you be like papa? Good for nothing.

FRIENDLY.

Patient—Say, doc, what's this bill for?

Doctor—Forty-two dollars—forty for twenty calls at two dollars a call and two dollars for medicine.

Patient—All right doc, here's two for the medicine. I'll pay the visits back.



The church building occupied by the Catholic church in Vernon has been owned by two other denominations since it was built back in the 80's. Rev. Van Eman, a Presbyterian minister who preached all through this county in the early days was responsible for its erection.

Rev. Eman had been holding services around in this part of Texas for a number of years and as the town of Vernon grew he planned for a permanent home. He started soliciting funds for a fine chapel and one of the largest contributors was a man named Austin, father-in-law to Rev. Eman's oldest boy. The church was named Austin Chapel in honor of this man. The minister traveled through the north and secured part of the money and the rest was made up in Vernon.

The Presbyterians used this building for a number of years and when the Central Christian church was organized they purchased the house. It was used by this church until they bought the property of the Baptists on the corner of Wilbarger and Mesquite streets.

The Catholics later purchased this structure and are today using it for their place of worship.

SMART ALEX.

"Didja hear what happened to Jim?"

"No, what happened to him?"

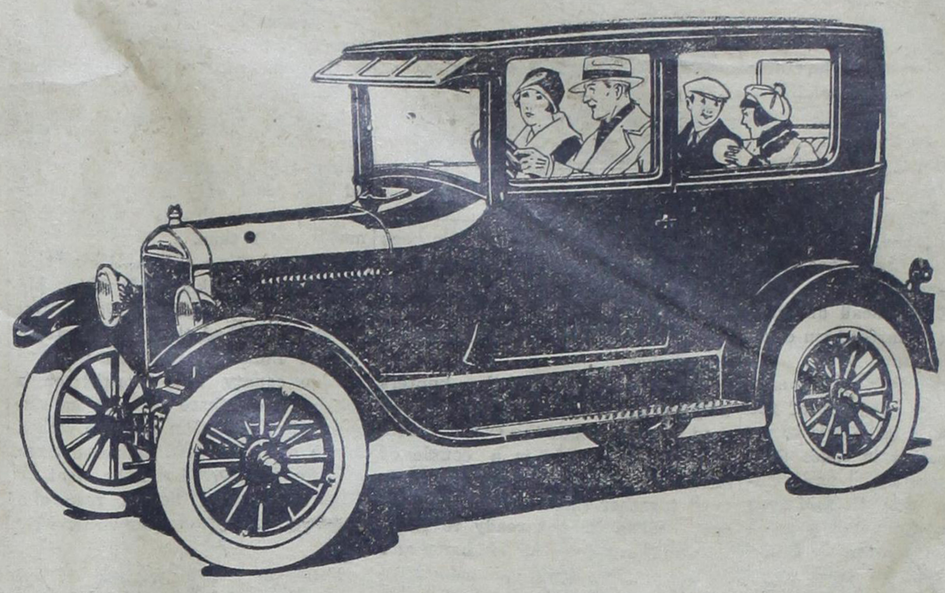
"He swallowed a dictionary, and nobody can get a word out of him!"

15



Yesterday and To-Day

Ford Cars are as common on the streets of Vernon today, as Cow Ponies were in the Early Days of Wilbarger County.



Over Fourteen Million Ford Cars Now in Use

LOWEST IN COST DEPENDABLE IN OPERATION SERVICE EVERYWHERE

Napier Bros. Motor Co

AUTHORIZED SALES AND SERVICE . . .

RNON ABSTRACT COMPANY FORMED BY JOHN J. STEPHENS DURING 1888

The Vernon Abstract company started up in 1888 under the name of J. J. Stephens Abstract Maker. After the death of Mr. Stephens the business was sold to Massie & Wrather and the name of the Vernon Abstract company given to the concern.

It was owned by several parties during the early days and at one time the firm was composed of J. E. Lutz, A. M. Hiatt and E. L. McHugh. Practically all of the early abstract companies were absorbed by this company and today their records are made up of three sets of books as they purchased the files, books and records of the Waggoner Title company and the Wilbarger Land Title company.

One of the most interesting books in the possession of this company is that of the "Lost Records" of Wilbarger county. During the early days when the formation of the town was under way title bonds were issued to purchasers of property until everything could be closed up and deeds issued. As these bonds were issued and recorded they were also recorded by the abstract company. This book was lost in the county clerk's office and has never been found. The Vernon Abstract company had a complete record of these instruments and later a suit was filed by Lutz & McHugh against R. L. More, seeking to restrain him from using these records. Judge McHugh said the case was transferred to Texarkana for trial and the court held that they were public records and could not be treated as copyrighted papers.

A few years back J. O. Rouse purchased the controlling interest in the company and has been manager since that time. The company has as complete a plant as can be found in the state and has often turned out large abstracts within a day due to the system used in making up their files.

HOT HIM, ANYHOW.

"I hear your sister married a struggling young lawyer."

"Well, he did struggle, but he didn't ...y."

EARL KILLED WHEN INDIANS ATTACKED NEAR CITY QUANAH

In 18879 Fred and Joe Estes started out from Henrietta to go to the Black Hills in a covered wagon. A man by the name of Earl wanted to go along so an agreement was made to let him in and every other day he was to work his horse to the wagon and pay some difference. On the morning of April 14, 1879, Mr. Earl's horse was off so he rode on ahead of the wagon and stopped to wait for them to catch up.

He looked back and saw a bunch of Indians around the wagon. They left the wagon in a run and started towards Mr. Earl and when he ran for his horse they started shooting. He fell and as the Estes boys saw he was killed Fred wanted to put up a fight but Joe cut one horse loose from the wagon and jumped on him and started back. He rode eight miles to the R2 ranch near Chillicothe and reported the killing. The boys on the ranch went back with the Estes boys and found Mr. Earl dead. He had been scalped and the oil from the wagon poured on his body and it set afire. The body was buried there.

In May, 1879, H. C. Justin and some others were riding through this part of the country and found where the wolves had dug the body up and scattered the bones. They gathered up all the bones they could find and buried them and covered the grave with stones.

EDUCATIONAL.

"I certainly would say that the porcupine as an animal, has a great many fine points," exclaimed Willie, the hunter.

A FASHIONABLE DISEASE.

Prof.—Ever had Psychology?

Stude—No, only scarlet fever and bronchitus.

MRS. COLLINS HAS BEEN HERE SINCE SPRING OF 1886



MRS. J. E. COLLINS

Mrs. J. E. Collins, a pioneer woman of Wilbarger county, who came to Vernon with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. Ewing, in the spring of 1886, coming from Delta county in wagons. This was before the railroad reached Vernon. With the exception of eleven months Mrs. Collins has lived in Vernon continuously since that time.

She has always been active in religious and club work, and has taken a special interest in schools and civic improvements. She was actively identified with the Home Science Club and the Federated Clubs in the purchase and improvement of beautiful Allingham Park, which was later deeded to the city to be forever used as a park.

Mrs. Collins attended the first graded school established in Vernon, and her children have all been educated in the Vernon schools. She with a party of friends met the first passenger train that came in to Vernon; there was no depot at the time and the train stopped in what was then known as Tom Jones' pasture, attached to the engine was a combination express and baggage car, and one passenger coach. She says one passenger and several crates of fresh vegetables came on this train.

There was only one brick building in Vernon then, the old jail, torn down a few years ago. Where we see paved streets and side walks now were then drifts of sand, and she and other young mothers wheeled their babies through this sand, sometimes almost to the hubs of their little carriages.

Then there were perhaps half a dozen cotton-wood trees and a few stunted mesquites growing here.

Mrs. Collins si justly proud of the fact that she has seen Vernon grow to be the beautiful little city it is.

TIMES AMONG THE OLD TIMERS HERE

The Vernon Times is among the old timers of Wilbarger county. The paper was started by D. D. McConnell in February, 1889, as The Vernon Weekly Call and continued under that name until March, 1919, when the name was changed to The Vernon Times.

Mr. McConnell was owner and publisher of the paper for thirty years and was followed by his son, A. C. McConnell. In December, 1918, it was purchased by T. L. Rouse and Charles P. Ross. Mr. Ross took over the management of the paper on January 1, 1919, and the first of February Mr. Rouse was discharged from the army and came to Vernon.

The Times Publishing company was organized and secured a charter the last part of February and the second week in March the first issue of The Vernon Times appeared.

The Times is now thirty-eight years old and is the only survivor of the early days when Vernon had five newspapers.

YEA, BO!

First Co-ed—What do you think of the idea of girls developing themselves in the higher branches?

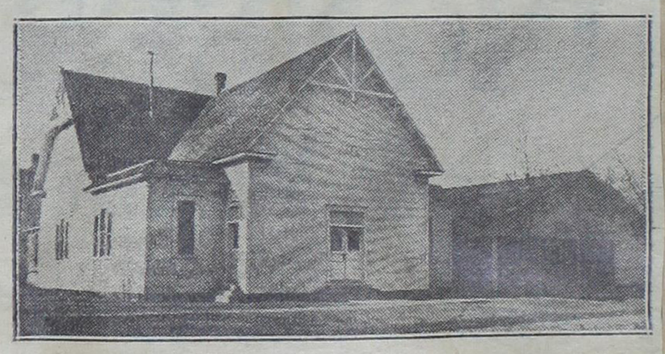
Second—Well, you gotta admit they've done a lot as far as the lower limbs are concerned."

ABSOLUTELY!

Chief—You say the tracks of the criminal were well covered?

Detective—Yes, with about six inches of snow.

CHURCH OF CHRIST ORGANIZED IN 1888; USED SCHOOL BUILDING FOR CHUR





T. M. CARNEY, Minister

The Church of Christ in Vernon was organized December 6, 1888. In the year 1889 the congregation was meeting in the public school building located about where the Junior High now stands.

In the summer or autumn of 1889 Brother Addison Clark, who at that time was president of Add-Ran College of Thorpe Springs, Texas, conducted a meeting in this school building. In the spring of 1890 he returned and conducted a second meeting in the Baptist church house where the Central Christian building now stands.

At the close of this second meeting held by Brother Clark the members who then constituted the Church of Christ here, planned to build a meeting place of their own. Among the first elders of this church w... W. A. McKinny, Bob Jones, M. ... Gilbert, S. B. Fowler and W. B. C... ruth. Among the first deacons w... Brothers Philips, John Smith an... W. Campbell.

This new country was very p... perous from '89 until '91 and ... Church of Christ membership g... to be about 200 in number.

However, after the year of '9... continued drouth came and the ... munity of Vernon was almost de... ulated and many of the mem... moved away.

Then in 1893 the question of ... strumental music in the wor... sprang up, and brought about a ... vision in our ranks.

Those who favored the use of ... strumental music bought the chu... house, but later on those who bou... the church house called in con... ence M. G. Gilbert, W. C. Johnson, P. T. Smith and others, and at this conference an agreement was reached by which we could again unite as a Church of Christ.

Brother Alsup was our first evangelist, but stayed only a short while. Following his ministry was P. T. Smith who preached for us about four years, but only one Lordsday in each month.

W. A. Bently was the first minister after the church divided and reunited, and the extent of his ministry was about four years.

Other ministers who have served this church regularly are W. P. Skaggs, Foy E. Wallace, Jr., Tom Walker, Thomas E. Milholland, Don Hockaday and T. M. Carney.

The church has now a membership of 400 or more.

CHARLIE JUSTIN HAS BEEN AROUND VERNON BEFORE TOWN WAS FOUNDED

H. C. Justin, better known as Uncle Charlie, has been around in this part of the country since the early 70's and rode over this country long before the town of Vernon was ever started. A write-up of the life of this man would rival that of the famous characters of the early days in the Southwest. For many years he has been a peace officer and for the past eight years has been constable.

Mr. Justin was born in Rock county, Wisconsin, August 30, 1855. When a boy his family moved to Missouri and when the Civil war came on they moved from place to place. He states that they lived in the states of Illinois, Kansas, and back to Missouri during those years. During his young days Mr. Justin lived in Arkansas, Kansas and the Indian Territory.

He arrived in Texas in the summer of 1871 and landed at Sherman. He worked around that place for a time and in August, 1872, got a job to help move 10,000 head of cattle and 2,600 horses from Grayson county to Montague county.

From 1872 to 1875 Mr. Justin worked all through this part of the state as a buffalo killer. This was a very good occupation in those days as the buffalo were killed and skinned and the hides sold. He said their territory extended from Beaver creek to Red river and as far west as Crowell. A buffalo outfit was made up of the killers and the skinners. Mr. Justin said once in a while they allowed a skinner to try his hand at shooting. Sometimes lobo wolves and deer were killed but most of the work was confined to the buffalo.

During the first part of his hunting years only the bulls were killed. Mr. Justin said the young bulls would drive the old ones out of the herd and that at times you would find anywhere from 30 to 100 old fellows in a bunch. When they were located the killers would set up their guns and start to work. This was an art in itself. The buffalo on the outskirt of the herd was shot first. Mr. Justin said that every time the gun cracked they would jump and look around. A day's killing would be from 30 to 40 buffalo.

After the hides were skinned off they were pegged down and dried.



H. C. JUSTIN

Mr. Justin said they made little pegs out of wood and drove down all around the edges of the hides and after the hides were cured they were stacked in ricks to await hauling to the market.

The guns used by the hunters weighed from 16 to 21 pounds and used a bullet about the size of a .45. Each hunter had him a couple of sticks about thirty inches long fastened together three inches from the end. When he got ready to shoot he would get down off his horse and sit down. Mr. Justin said sometimes the guns would get so hot they would have to stop and let them cool unless they happened to have some water with them. He said he had killed from 30 to 40 buffalo on a spot no larger than a city block. Two spots were always used as a mark. The hunter tried to hit the heart or break the buffalo's neck. The metal sights were taken off the guns and bone sights put on to avoid the glare of the sun.

Buffalo go largely by smell, according to Mr. Justin. They always grazed facing into the wind and when they smelled a man coming they started off. A buffalo stampede was a very thrilling sight, he said. A herd would start running and as they went along other herds joined in the race. A horse can keep up with a herd for a few miles but the herd will soon out wind him and leave the horse far behind. The calves fall out in a stampede but the cows always come back to them. Mr. Justin said he never heard a buffalo cow bellow. When they come back to the calves they always make a grunting sound. He stated he had seen several thousand buffalo in a stampede at one time.

Another interesting thing about the buffalo was the way he drank. Mr. Justin said they would not wade out in the water like a cow but would stand on the bank and drink and the rest wait their turn. When the animal finishes drinking he steps aside and the next one walks up. The buffalo wallow was something similar. They would wallow and get up and the next one come and lay down in the same spot. Mr. Justin said a buffalo could not turn over while wallowing on account of the hump in his back.

When the hides were dried freighters came out in oxen wagons and hauled them to markets. This method was used only a few years as horse or mule drawn wagons made much better time.

While hunting out in this section Mr. Justin and his outfit lost a big part of their hides through wet weather and had their horses stolen by the Indians. He then went to Uvalde county and worked on a ranch. From there he went out sixteen miles from San Antonio with a bunch of horses and delivered them in Frio county. Later he went to Eagle Pass and helped receive a bunch of cattle to deliver on the Frio river.

Following this he worked with an outfit that made up six herds and he helped drive them to Caldwell, Kans., to the market. In the fall of 1877 he returned to Texas and then went to Arkansas. He returned to Texas in 1878 and went to work for a Mr. Yarbrough at a place where Nacona now stands. In the fall of that year he went to Sherman and helped feed a bunch of stock through the winter. In the spring of 1879 drove a herd of cattle to the round timbers on the Brazos river and from there went to Henrietta. Here he met up with some cow men who employed him to pilot them through the west with a bunch of cattle. On his return to Henrietta he went to work for the Sanburn Bros., and helped move a big herd of cattle to Cottle county and worked with this outfit until 1882 when he came to Eagle Flat.

In 1886 Mr. Justin was elected tax assessor of Wilbarger county and held this office until 1892. In 1894 he was appointed Deputy United States Marshal and worked in Oklahoma among the Comanche, Kiowa and Caddo Indians. He returned to Vernon in 1898 and worked for the city nine years.

ROOSEVELT'S VISIT TO VERNON WAS BIG DAY IN HISTORY OF WILBARGER





Theodore Roosevelt

When President Theodore Roosevelt visited Vernon in 1902 on his way to Oklahoma for a hunt everyone turned out for miles around and the President spoke from the cotton platform down at the Frisco. Thousands flocked into town just to catch a glimpse of the president of the United States.

A number of local people have been asked about that day and they all agree that it was a high spot in the history of the county. It was before the day of the automobile and everyone who lived in town walked and the rest either came in wagon or buggy or on horse back.

The picture displayed here was taken by D. P. Sink, veteran photographer of Vernon and shows a characteristic pose of President Roosevelt.

The day was hot but that did not keep the people away. The President made a short talk and W. N. Stokes, local attorney, who was a young man about that time, said he tried to take his speech down in shorthand but was so excited over it being the president that he did not do a very good job.

Judge R. W. Hall was selected to make the speech of welcome. One of the statements credited to the Judge in his introduction was that although he was a Democrat this was the greatest president he had ever seen. He explained, to the listeners that this was the first one he had had the privilege of seeing so he did not loose his standing with the Democrats for the statement.

Another statement Judge Hall made was, "I have never been able to see why the Almighty placed the measly coyote in this country until now. It was to bring the president of the United States into the land of the ball faced cattle and ball headed babies."

After the speech making here the President's party proceeded over into Oklahoma where he was a guest of some parties on a big hunt. This was in the days before the Territory was opened to settlement.

E. L. Witty said that he remembered how there were two special trains that day, one running just ahead of the president's special. He said he guessed that was for protection.

HEAVE HO!

"Look, Daddy, I pulled this weed right up all by myself."

"By jove, you're strong!"

"Yes, aren't I, Daddy? The whole world had hold of the other end!"

YOU TELL ONE.

People we're sorry for: The man who agreed to let his wife tidy up his "den."

PICTURE GOES THROUGH MANY INCIDENTS IN EARLY DAYS OF COUNTY

In this section appears a picture of the dugout in which the first school in Wilbarger county was taught and also the first Sunday school organized in the county. The picture was furnished to the Times by Mrs. A. T. Boger.

Besides the historic value of the picture it has quite a history behind it. The picture was given to the late A. T. Boger by a friend as it was the only picture he had of his mother. He prized it very highly.

Back in the years when they had the Spring Palace at Fort Worth an exhibit was prepared for this show and sent to that city to show off Wilbarger county. Mr. Boger had charge of getting up the exhibit from the county and put this picture in it. A friend of his in Fort Worth was looking over the display and Mr. Boger told him how he valued the picture. A few nights later a fire broke out in the building where the exhibits were and this friend of Mr. Boger's learned where it was, so he rushed down and went in the building and got the picture out.

THE OFFICIAL COUNT.

Part of a report handed in to the Watchmaicalit Weekly: "A lively debate was held on the subject of fools. There were eighty present at the gathering.

THAT'S FAIR ENOUGH.

Visitor—What is that historic-looking dwelling?

Native of Trenton—That's the house at which Washington would have stopped at if he had come down this street.

FATHER! FATHER!

She—I showed father the verses you sent me. He was pleased with them.

He—Indeed. What did he say?

She—He said he was delighted to find that I wasn't going to marry a poet.

STEADFAST BOY.

"I'll never ask another woman to marry me as long as I live!"

"Refused again?"

"No, accepted."

PIONEER-SETTLERS of Wilbarger County



The Largest and Most Complete Hardware Store IN NORTHWEST TEXAS

THE NORTH TEXAS HARDWARE CO.

Wishes for you many more years of Health, Happiness, Peace and Prosperity in this county

NORTH TEXAS HARDWARE CO.

17

AN'S

R VALUES"

RANCE SALE

BARGAINS

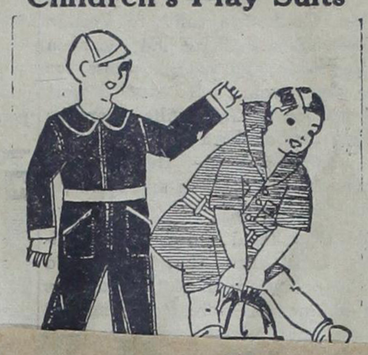
Y 1, PROMPTLY AT 9 O'CLOCK

OF THE CENTURY!

Opportunity!

ed "BUSINESS PREDICAMENT." The led up to this great sale have been such long story

Children's Play Suits



Ladies' Dresses

Ladies' fine tailored House Dresses, up to the minute styles.

$1.69

Silk Crepes and Washable Foulards.

$3.88

Ladies' House Dresses.

Georgette Dresses



nce Sale

9c yd.

VALUES TO $2.95

40 inch Peter Pan Voile.

39c

Feather Ticking

8-oz. Feather Ticking.

24c

Bed Spreads

80x90 Tropic Crinckle Bed Spreads.

98c

24c

28 inch Khaki Cloth; extra good quality. **19c**

Misses' All Silk Sox



regular 98c value. **49c**

Fancy Toweling

16 inch fancy Toweling. **10c**

Turkish Towels

Extra large size Turkish Towels. **39c**

Turkish Towels, 18x34. **10c**

Children's Dresses

Made of fast color prints, broadcloth and gingham. **88c**

Bleached Sheeting

9-4 Brown and Bleached Sheeting.

25c

Ladies' Silk Hose, regular $1.49 value. **89c**

Ladies' Chiffon Silk Hose. **69c**

Ladies' Fibre Silk Hose. **25c**

Ladies' Novelty Slippers



Ladies' Novelty Slippers, values to $6.85.

$2.95

Ladies' Novelty Slippers, values to $4.85.

$1.95

ALL MISSES' AND CHILDREN'S SLIPPERS GREATLY REDUCED.

Pillow Cases

40x36 Pillow Cases. **15c**



Values to $19.85. **$8.88**

Rayon Silk Bloomers

Teds and Slips. **69c**

Ladies' Princess Slips

Ladies' Princess Slips, made of fine muslin; white, pink and blue. **39c**



Keep You Away

BARGAIN SUCCESS! The most remarkknown to the Vernon buying public. Bear of people will come to buy in this sale, so INGS be snapped up before you get your

he big yellow signs be your guide and VERYBODY

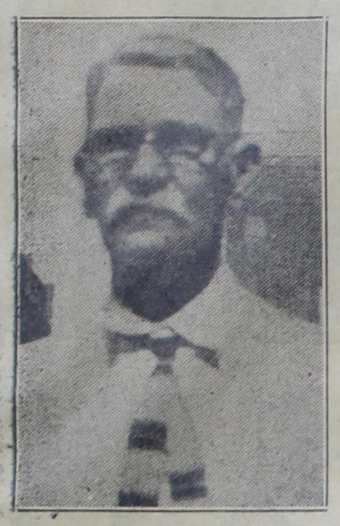
MAN'S

for Values"

TEXAS

VERNON, TEXA

GOT SO POOR HE COULDN'T LEAVE, SAYS KINCHELOE



J. H. KINCHELOE.

J. H. Kincheloe, prominent farmer of the southwest part of the county, says he came to Wilbarger county in 1889 with his wife, five children, two little teams and $250 in cash. He settled on the ridge between Beaver and Coffee creeks and when the dry years came on he got so poor he could not leave the country. He came from Hamilton county.

Mr. Kincheloe said he sowed his first wheat in Wilbarger county in the sod in November after arriving here. He said at first he had a number of neighbors down in that country but when the crop failures came on they all moved off. "I would have moved too," Mr. Kincheloe stated, "but I owed so much I had to stay for they wouldn't let me go." But like the fairy book things got better. After staying with his place for several years crops were good and after hard work Mr. Kincheloe had a fine place. In 1900 he moved from the ridge and bought the place where he is located today. His farm in the Pease river valley is one of the best in Wilbarger county and every year he makes a crop if anyone does.

In addition to his holdings of land Mr. Kincheloe has a number of nice brick buildings in Vernon.

SEWELLS ARRIVED IN VERNON IN 1890

S. Sewell and his family came to Vernon in 1890 from Lavaca county. Soon after arriving in the city Mr. Sewell started up a grain and fuel business which he ran continuously until 1925. Mr. Sewell died a few months after the business was sold.

Mr. Sewell's sons, I. S. and M. R Sewell were associated with him in business at the time of the sale. Last year they opened Sewell's Corner Drug store at Main and Texas I. S. Sewell served the city as mayor for four years, from 1912 to 1916.

"HOOSIER" STATE SENT TEXAS A CITIZEN IN 1886

Coming to Texas from Indiana in 1886, J. H. Petitt of West Vernon, decided at that time to cas his lot at Dublin, Texas. But Mr. Petitt did not stay in that locality long. Perhaps even at that time that section of the Lone Star state was too thickly populated for a young man of his ambition. At any rate, the very next year Mr. Petitt by himself, with his wagon and team headed west and drew his team to a stop in Wilbarger county.

Settling in this county Mr. Petitt made his location north of Pease river in the Doans community. And no doubt today he considers settling in that neighborhood a fortunate step; because not a great while after he was married to Miss Bettie Hamilton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Hamilton.

Mr. and Mrs. Petitt continued to make their home in the Doans neighborhood until 1896 when they sold their farm and other earthly belongings and moved to Van Buren, Ark. Their stay in Arkansas was just four years and in 1900 were back in Wilbarger county located on land they bought west of Vernon. Their home is there today and a portion of that land that is being settled with new homes is recognized as the Petitt addition to West Vernon.

Mr. Petitt has always been what might be termed in the true sense of the word a "diversified farmer." He keeps himself well posted on market conditions, and while today he gives most of his attention to the raising of cotton he at one time was recognized as one of the county's largest cantaloupe shippers. At present Mr. Petitt serves the town of West Vernon as one of its city commissioners.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Petitt are Guy Petitt and Mrs. George S. Hardin; both are married and reside in Vernon.

LEAK FAMILY WERE EARLY SETTLERS NORTH OF RIVER

W. Leak brought his family from Johnson county in 1888 and settled on some land north of Pease river. Mr. Leak built a house on the farm that stood until a few weeks ago when it was destroyed by the little cyclone that swept across the north part of the county. Mr. Leak died a number of years ago and his wife and two sons, Jim and Sam Leak, are residents of Vernon now. Three other children live in various parts of the state.

Jim Leak says in common with all the old settlers they had their trials and tribulations in those days. He said he can remember the great number of antelopes that used to roam over that part of the country and give them lots of trouble getting in the fields.

MACK COMMUNITY SETTLED EARLY

The Mack community boasts of having many of the first settlers of Wilbarger county make their start there. A list of these people who will be recalled by an old timers is S. H. Wilkinson, Elmer Schaub, A. P. and C. C. Hawley, Rev. W. W. Oller, Wm. M. Reed, N. P. Reed, W. C. Alderman, Mrs. R. L. Harrell, D. M. and Phil Ferebee and J. B. Hawley. A number of these people still live there while others have moved to Vernon.

CRUTCHFIELD HAS BEEN IN BUSINESS HERE MANY YEARS



WM. CRUTCHFIELD.

Wm. Crutchfield came to Vernon in 1889 from Bonham and has been in the grain and hide business for over thirty years. He started west and stopped at Gainesville where he worked for a short time and then came on to Vernon. He was with a firm selling groceries and handling grain, hides, etc.

Mr. Crutchfield said the wool business was so heavy that he disposed of the grocery end of the business and confined his work to buying and selling wool, wheat and hides. He shipped thousands of pounds of wool from this country when sheep were common. When cotton was grown Mr. Crutchfield bought that for awhile but his main line for over thirty years has been grain and hides.

The first poultry business in the county was started by Mr. Crutchfield. He said he started buying turkeys, chickens and eggs back in the early days and shipped turkeys out in barrels.

During his long residence in this city Mr. Crutchfield has been an active worker in the First Methodist church. He has always taken a very active part in the church and civic life of Vernon.

T. M. HANEY'S CITIZENSHIP DATES BACK TO 1885



MR. AND MRS. T. M. HANEY.

Coming to this country from Parker county in 1885, T. M. Haney bought land and settled down in the southwestern part of Wilbarger county. Like many of the other early day farmers, Mr. Haney went through the "ups and downs," so to speak, but is now a retired farmer living comfortably at Thalia.

Mr. Haney has always taken an active interest in the farmer's business. His activity in that respect led up to his being made one of the directors of the Farm Bureau, an association of farmers. He is also president of a Farmers Co-operative Gin association.

Mr. and Mrs. Haney are the parents of eight children.

PRINCE FAMILY CAME TO COUNTY IN 1890

The J. E. Prince family moved to Wilbarger county from Waxahachie in 1890. In 1888 Mr. Prince had purchased what is known as their old home place just west of town and some land in Foard county. The family lived in the house in West Vernon. Mr. Prince died a few years back and Mrs. Prince now lives on Lamar street.

After living in Vernon for several years the family moved to a farm near Harrold. In addition to farming Mr. Prince was elected justice of the peace and served in that office for a number of years. Later they moved to Oklahoma and then moved back to Vernon.

MRS. JOHNNY MILLER CAME TO COUNTY IN EARLY EIGHTIES

Along with other early day citizens of this county, a record of whom is being printed in this edition, rightfully belongs a mention of Mrs. Samantha Miller, wife of the late "Uncle Johnny" Miller, who died at his home in the Fargo neighborhood a few years ago.

Mr. Miller was a Pennsylvanian by birth and his wife was a West Virginian. He came to this county ahead of his wife and located in what is now the Fargo neighborhood in the winter of 1880-81. Mrs. Miller followed her husband a short while afterwards and is today making her home with her son, John Miller, where they first settled.

Other children of the Miller family are Mrs. Mary McCully, Oceola, Penn.; Mrs. Juanita McGhee, Vernon; Mrs. Cora Kirkpatrick, Amarillo; Mrs. Lulie Hood, Claude; Mrs. Birdie Wilson, Jacksonville, Fla., and Mrs. Nellie Sloan, Amarillo.

RICHIES CAME HERE FROM KAUFMAN CO.

The Richie family came to Wilbarger county from Kaufman county in 1891. The late C. A. Richie moved out here and stopped at Harrold where he lived for many years and where his family was reared. Mr. Richie served as district clerk of the before the election for a sixth term. county for ten years and died just His daughter, Mrs. J. A. Walker, was appointed to succeed him and has been re-elected twice since.

JOE SCHMIDT ONCE REFUSED SHERIFF BOARD IN HOTEL

Joe Schmidt, pioneer hotel owner of Vernon, has the distinction of being one of the few hotel men in Texas who refused a sheriff board. Back in 1884 or 1885 Mr. Schmidt said Wilbarger county had a sheriff who would occasionally take a few drinks an dthen ride up and down the street shooting his pistol to create excitement.

The editor of one of the papers gave the sheriff a good write-up about the way he was doing. The pen pusher boarded with Mr. Schmidt and when the sheriff came around and wanted to board there he was refused. Mr. Schmidt said he did not want any trouble in his hotel and he did not care to take a man's money when he knew he was there to create friction.

Mrs. T. L. Rouse left Tuesday for Memphis where she will visit her parents.

THIS SPACE IS
Dedicated
TO
THE FIRST SETTLERS
OF WILBARGER COUNTY
By G. B. NEWTON
Dealer in
Gas, Oil, Tires and Accessories
NEWTON'S SERVICE STATION
Odell, Texas

DEDICATED
TO THE
Pioneer Settlers
of Wilbarger County
BY
GRAY-HENDRIX CO.
INCORPORATED
DODGE BROTHERS
MOTOR VEHICLES
GRAHAM BROTHERS TRUCKS
VERNON, TEXAS
WE ARE THEIR FRIENDS
JOE B. HENDRIX
K. C. GRAY

Your Grocer
for 39 YEARS
Our First Store Was Opened in Vernon in 1888 by L. J. Massie
TODAY 18 STORES IN TEXAS AND OKLAHOMA
NOW OUR THREE "M" SYSTEM STORES
Enable Vernonites and People of the County to Buy for Cash at the Lowest Possible Prices
Massie-Vernon Gro. Co.
Massie-Coffee Gro. Co.
Massie-Sullivan Gro. Co.

The Times costs $1.00 a year in Wilbarger County, and it is worth it, too.

THE VERNON TIMES

A newspaper read by hundreds in every nook and corner of Vernon's trade territory.

VOLUME XXXVIII | VERNON, WILBARGER COUNTY, TEXAS, JUNE 30, 1927 | NUMBER 17

ODELL WILL HAVE FOURTH PROGRAM AND BIG DINNER

Members of the Odell Chamber of Commerce are making big preparations to celebrate July 4th at Odell with a free barbecue and rodeo.

Circulars are out announcing cash prizes to be awarded to the winners in foot races, fat man's race, bottle races, etc. A big rodeo is staged for the day with prizes going to the winners in broncho busting, wild cow roping, cow pony races, wild cow milking and other features of a first class rodeo. In the morning at 11 a. m. Hon. Guinn Williams, Congressman from this district is dated to speak. In the afternoon a ball game between Hess, Okla., and Odell will be played off.

The celebration will be held at Thompson Park in the city, and the rodeo features at the ball park.

WILBARGER COUNTY DELEGATION VISITS IRRIGATION VALLEY

A group of Wilbarger county men went to Iowa Park yesterday where they met a delegation from Electra, Burkburnett and Wichita Falls and made a tour of the Wichita irrigation valley. At the noon hour they returned to Iowa Park where they were served with lunch. In the afternoon the completed the tour.

Plans are being worked on to build a dam on Pease river and irrigate parts of Foard, Hardeman, Wilbarger and Wichita counties and the object of the trip was to let the men from Vernon, Electra and Burkburnett see first hand what could be done with irrigation.

The Vernon delgation were very favorably impressed with the system and report a royal entertainment throughout th day.

W. A. ISH CAME TO VERNON FROM WACO

W. A. Ish, veteran peace officer of the county, came here in the late 80's from Waco. For most of his time in Wilbarger he has been a peace officer of some kind. He served under Johnny Williams as deputy sheriff in the days when it took men of iron nerve to do the work. He was also deputy under Jim Key when he was sheriff and upon the resignation of Mr. Key was appointed sheriff and was then elected to office.

During the early days he was active in the work of the Odd Fellows lodge and for several years he and two or three others paid enough dues to keep the charter in Vernon. He has been honored a number of times by the odge.

Mr. Ish was deputy game warden until the first of the year when he resigned. He has been looking after the game preserve in the county since that time for the Waggoner estate. He is a great sportsman and likes to hunt and fish. Mr. Ish is rated as one of the best shots in Wilbarger county and perhaps in the Southwest.

Mr. and Mrs. Ish live at their old home place on Texas street.

EXTRA COPIES OF TIMES AVAILABLE

...tra copies of this issue of The ... are available at the office. ...o the expense of getting out ...ld Settlers edition the copies ... sold at 10 cents each.

... J. E. Hamilton and her grand ...er, Mrs. Ruth Shearer of Odell ...is week for Mineral Wells f...r ...efit of Mrs. Hamilton's hea...h.

... R. J. Roberts of Crowell vis... ...s. J. L. Showers this week. ... Keener Hudson of Mirando

...to Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Bour...land yesterday, a girl.

The Advertisers.

This issue of The Times was made possible through the hearty co-operation of the business firms of Wilbarger county in taking advertising space. Practically all of the ads carry out the spirit of the issue—to the Old Settlers. Each advertisement was carefully studied out by the merchants and business men and are interesting reading within themselves. Read them over and patronize these stores. These advertisers appreciate the hardships and sacrifices of the early settlers in making for us the wonderful county in which we have to live today.

Vernon and Wilbarger county has as fine a bunch of merchants as can be found in Texas and they give you first class dependable merchandise that they can back up. They live here and spend their money at home.

PATRONIZE YOUR HOME MERCHANTS—KEEP WILBARGER COUNTY MONEY IN WILBARGER COUNTY.

HALE HOUSE HAS SMALL FIRE SAT.

The J. T. Hale home in the south part of town was damaged last Saturday evening when a gas stove vent set fire to the roof. The vent had been run into the ceiling and it got so hot the shingles caught. The fire was extinguished before much loss was sustained.

John Huntley answered the alarm with the chemical truck and used 70 galons of chemical in combating the blaze.

J. A. PUCKETT AAND WIFE CAME IN 1891

Coming to this county in 1891 from Travis county, J. A. Puckett with his wife and one daughter at that time, located six miles west of Vernon in what is commonly known now as the Kincheloe neighborhood. The first fifteen years of Mr. Puckett's life in this country was spent on the farm, moving to Vernon in 1905 to enter the wagon yard, coal and feed business.

Mr. Puckett has served Vernon as one of its aldermen, being one among the last to retire before Vernon took on a commission form of government. During his tenure of office in the capacity of an alderman, he was one of the main instigators for the paving of Main street. He has also served the city as a member of the school board.

Children living of Mr. and Mrs. Puckett are Guy, Chauncey, Mrs. Jack Gross and Mrs. Douglas Edwards.

Since Mr. Puckett was born and reared in Travis county, in that section of Texas where numbers of historical events recorded in Texas history took place, he recalls having heard as a boy a peculiar circumstance that took place in his community regarding a Mr. Wilbarger for whom this county was named. On Walnut creek about five miles from where Mr. Puckett was raised, Wilbarger and two other men were attacked one time by Indians. Wilbarger's partners were killed and he was left for dead after being scalped by the Red men. The peculiarity of this incident lies in the fact, that people in the community were warned, directed and went to the aid of Wilbarger the very same night these men were attacked by listening to the dream of an old lady in the neighborhood.

A similar story of this tragedy appeared in the Sunday's section of the Dallas Morning News about two weeks ago.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Petitt and Miss Lena Tolbert returned this week from a visit with Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Hamilton at Lubbock.

Mrs. Carr Hudgens and little daughter, Patsy, are visiting her father, Dr. E. F. Lyon.

Emory Rhoads has gone to Las Vegas on business.

STORES WILL NOT BE ASKED TO SHUT UP FOR JULY 4TH

The board of directors of the Chamber of Commerce decided at a recent meeting not to ask the business men to close on July 4th, due to the fact that they had been asked so much lately. The board voted to leave it to each store. A number are planning to be closed that day. All the banks will not open Monday and those who have business places to run should see about their change on Saturday.

There will be Fourth celebrations at Crowell, Odell, Lake Pauline and other nearby towns and those who do not spend the Fourth in Vernon will either attend some of these programs or go to the lake fishing.

TO LET CONTRACT FOR GRANDSTAND NEXT SATURDAY

C. S. McColloch, chairman of the park board, stated this morning that the board would award a contract for the erection of a grandstand in the city park on the east edge of town next Saturday. Bids have been called for and these are to be opened at that time.

The grading of the park has been about completed and as soon as the entrances are bridged and the streets completed everything will be ready for its use by the public. The main part of the park has been fenced in with an ornamental fence and has a very neat appearance.

PAVING HAS STARTED ON OKLAUNION ROAD

After a delay of several days actual paving on the Oklaunion to Harrold road has started. J. P. Foty, who has the contract started to work Monday morning and the paving will be pushed as rapidly as possible.

Traffic to Wichita Falls is going out of Oklaunion north by way of Elliott.

BOY DRAWS FINE AND WORK ON ROAD

A young man by the name of Carl Young is alleged to have stolen some trousers from the Haberdashery last Saturday morning and Judge J. V. Townsend gave him a $50 fine and 60 days on the county road. Aubrey Foster, one of the owners of the store, saw the boy going out the door and ran him down. He was caught near the Bailey hotel and turned over to the officers.

MRS. PARKER CAME TO VERNON IN 1888

Mrs. B. J. Parker came to Vernon from Fort Worth in 1888 with her father, R. S. Kelly. She was married to Mr. Parker in 1894. Mr. Parker came to the county in 1889 and was in the grocery business with Gill & Colbert. Mr. Gill sold out of the business and Mr. Colbert died a few years after the partnership was formed. Mr. Parker was on the school board for a long term of years and a few years back one of the ward schools was named Parker school in his honor. He died a number of years ago and the business was carried on under the firm name of Parker-Smith. Mr. Smith sold out to Adam Donges and this firm conducted the business for several years before the firm sold out.

Mrs. Parker has six children, Mrs. Dee Norwood, Joe Parker, Mrs. C. M. Carroway, Joe Parker, all of Vernon, Mrs. J. T. Miller of Amarillo and Miss Mozelle and Kelly Parker of Vernon.

Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Cameron of Cleburne were in Vernon Tuesday night on their way to Claude. They visited in the J. E. Collins home.

CHARTER GRANTED NORTH VERNON OIL COMPANY THIS WEEK

A charter was granted to North Vernon Oil company, a corporation, by the Secretary of State, according to information received by Leon H Brown. A telegram from Austin advised that the charter was approved the day the application was received, it was stated. Filing fees and franchise taxes were immediately forwarded and a telegram this morning advised Mr. Brown that the charter was filed June 27. This was as expected by officials of the new company, who previously had stated they expected the charter to be granted without any delay, because of the good showing they were able to make in the application.

North Vernon Oil company plans to continue drilling in the near future north of Pease river bridge, where they have a well already drilled to about 400 feet, according to R. V. Parr, one of the organizers, A permit to sell stock will be applied for at once. Company officials expressed the belief that only a small part of the $50,000 stock would have to be sold, since the company already owns the drilling tools, derrick and rig and 1001 acres of leases, and practically every dollar would go to "making hole." No salary will be paid any officer or director, they said, until oil or gas is discovered.

The company is capitalized at $50,000. The incorporators are R. V. Parr, T. W. Walker, A. P. Howard. S. J. Lynch and Leon H. Brown.

HOUSE IS ROBBED AND OWNER TAKES SHOT AT BURGLAR

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Homer Smith was robbed Tuesday afternoon and some clothing taken from the house. That night he heard someone meddling round the house and got up to investigate. He saw a man hid behind a tree so Mr. Smith opened fire with a revolver. As the man fled he stumbled and Mr. Smith believed he shot him.

Officers investigated the robbery but have been unable to get any clew.

Collins Has Been Great Aid Getting Out This Edition

J. E. Collins, who came to Wilbarger county in 1892 from Acworth, Ga., has been of great assistance to The Times in getting out this Old Settlers edition. A number of the articles have been written by Mr. Collins and the accuracy and manner in which he handles them would class him as a newspaper writer. He would not have his picture taken so the readers could see what he looked like.

Coming here in the early days Mr. Collins has a wide acquaintance and a happy faculty of remembering many of the interesting bits of history of the beginning of Wilbarger county. In addition to his news stories a number of his best stories have been published.

He was in business with C. T. Smith for a number of years. Later he was connected with the firm of Swartwood & Company. After selling out his interest in that concern he was with Perkins-Timberlake company until after the first of this year.

Dr. and Mrs. E. F. Lyon and daughters, Misses Ruth and Helen, returned last week from a visit at San Angelo.

W. H. Huggins is reported to be improving at Rochester, Minn., under the treatment of th Mayo Bros. He went there for treatment on his arm.

To Our Readers.

After several months work The Times presents to its readers an Old Settlers edition. The task of collecting the pictures and information has been a pleasant one and if the readers get as much enjoyment out of reading of the days that are past as the publishers did in getting it we will be well repaid.

At the start several notices were run in The Times asking for pictures and short histories of the early settlers and within a few weeks they began to arrive. Since then each week more would come in and the paper was printed as fast as the stories could be written, the cuts made from the pictures and the advertisements put up.

An effort was made to have each family represented who came under the classification of Old Settlers—those who arrived before 1890. Some have failed to send in their history and it has been impossible for the publishers to locate all who should have been represented. The last few days pictures were sent in but it was too late to send them to the engraver and get them back in time for this week's paper. A number promised to mail or bring their picture but forgot it until the last minute.

To those who have been overlooked the publishers can only say that it was not intentional and hope that no ill feeling will exist as we have done everything in our power to get everyone notified.

A number of people sent in pictures of old scenes and The Times would have been glad to have printed them had it not been for the large number of individuals that we were able to secure. We endeavored to get as many people as possible and for this reason side-tracked many interesting pictures. We extend our thanks to those who sent them.

MASONS HAVE BEEN GIVEN BUILDING BY THE CONTRACTOR

The officers of the Vernon Lodge No. 655, A. F. & A. M., have accepted the new Masonic Temple from O. A. Swinburn, who had the contract to erect the structure. Monday the building committee went over the building with the contractor and the architect, Guy A. Carlander, and with the exception of a few changes was up to the specifications of the architect.

Napier Bros. Motor company will use the ground floor of the building. At a later date the Masons will have a formal opening of the building and invite the public to visit them and go through the house.

LADDS HERE FROM TARRANT COUNTY

Mrs. J. W. Ladd came to Wilbarger county with her husband in 1891 from Tarrant county. C. M. Ladd said his father looked over the country and decided he wanted some good tight land instead of sand so he paid $7 an acre for a farm seven miles south of town when he could have bought good land along the Pease river for much less. Mr. Ladd said after several years of buying seed and feed from the fellows on the sand they sold out and moved over on the river. His mother now lives at the family home on Wilbarger street.

Mrs. Ladd has eleven children and they all live in the county. They are Mrs. W. S. Bourland, Mrs. V. A. McGinnis, C. M. Ladd, Walter Ladd, Mrs. W. S. Lundy, Ed Ladd, Mrs. Mack Byars, Mrs. Rufe Byars, John Ladd, Mrs. Roy Thompson and Mrs. Ruth Simmons.

Mrs. J. D. Lehma nand son are visiting in the E. L. Vaughn home this week.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Besselman this week a girl.

CHAUTAUQUA WILL OPEN TOMORROW AT 2:45 WITH PROGRAM

The biggest and best Chautauqua program ever presented on the Redpath-Horner circuit begins in Vernon Friday afternoon, July 1, at 3 o'clock and lasts throughout Thursday, with the exception of Sunday.

The male quartet which appears on the program Friday both in the afternoon and evening, is composed of very splendid talent and excellent entertainers. Their Scotch costumes and Scotch-Irish songs, mingled with constant action and comedy is decidedly a success.

Mr. Charles M. Plattenburg, humorist and lecturer is an unsurpassed contribution to any community in which he speaks.

The Patsy comedy comes Saturday evening and is presented by a New York cast, fully capable of presenting this delightful play on Broadway as it is now produced.

The Business Women's Club is assisting the local committeemen in the successful sale of season tickets.

Much interest and enthusiasm is being shown on the part of everyone interested and a record breaking sale is the forecast this year.

Miss Lois Phelps of Kansas City, has been in Vernon this week giving her assistance to the local committees in forming the final plans for the Chautauqua.

Mr. J. W. Tubb will be the superintendent this year, and comes as one of the most successful supervisors on the circuit. His assistants this year are two very fine young men, Mr. N. G. Linnerson and Mr. R. Grantham.

Miss Ruth Carney has been secured to conduct the children's play hour on the junior high school lawn each morning, and she will also be the cashier for the week of Chautauqua.

Don't fail to see the "Firefly," next Thursday evening. It is reported to be the cleverest, best produced musical comedy on the American platform today. Laura Townsley McCoy as leading artist, has been the assisting prima donna for Madame Schumann-Heink during the past season and next fall Miss McCoy will be presented to the Metropolitan stage.

MRS. J. T. WILLIAMS CAME TO CITY IN '89

Mrs. J. T. Williams came to Vernon in 1889 with her parents from Lamar county. In 1890 she was married to Mr. Williams. In talking of the early days in the county she said in those days the houses were not so thick in Vernon and it seemed a long ways to town from where they lived near the present city pump station.

She said her husband was appointed city marshal upon the death of John Hammonds and held that office for four years. He was also deputy sheriff under J. T. Conn. The first time he made the race for sheriff he was defeated. Later he was elected and re-elected for five terms. Mrs. Williams said her husband did not announce but his friends over the county worked and elected him again and several terms following that. When the office of sheriff and tax collector was divided Mr. Williams served as tax collector.

Mrs. Williams said in the early days sand storms gave the wives of Vernon lots of trouble. She said many times a sand storm would come up during the night and next morning they would have to shovel the dirt out and sweep before they could fix breakfast.

She has three daughters, Mrs Clois Green of Wichita Falls, and Mrs. John Storey and Mrs. Keith Berry, and a step-daughter, Mrs. Paul Goetze, all of Vernon.

Little Miss Flora Katherine Westmoreland, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Horace Westmoreland of Amarillo, is visiting her grandmother, Mrs. J. E. Collins.

Mrs. S. B. Henderson and family have gone to New Mexico for a vacation trip.

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STEVE CASTLEBURY HIT VERNON IN 1888



STEVE CASTLEBURY.

Stephen A. Castlebury tells some teresting events which occurred uring the first three hours after his rrival and which he hasn't forgot- n during the thirty-nine years he s lived in Vernon.

Steve arrived in Vernon on the W. and D. train on his eighteenth rthday, March 3, 1888. They had passenger depot here at that time d the train stopped where the old ight house now stands. On that ot and where Mr. Backus' marble rd is located was Vernon's first raveyard." He says, "There used be some very noted characters in rnon," Mr. Castlebury told The nes representative.

"Three of these that I mention re Will West, Dave McBride and man Capps. The citizens of Ver- had purchased the site of the sent East View cemetery from ve McBride who then owned that tion of land. They also had made ontract with these men to move 'graveyard' to East View.

The train arrived in Vernon five utes after 4 o'clock in the after- n. I had a little suit case and t $15 or $20 worth of clothes des what I had on, and $6.50 in cy. It was cloudy that day and igh wind was blowing from the southwest. When I alighted from the train and came around the corner of the freight depot right where Mr. Backus' house and marble yard now stands I saw these men I've mentioned with two little old ponies hitched to a wagon without any end-gates in bottom of it with three boxes dug up out of the ground and loaded into the wagon. One was pushed in tha wagon and stuck out the front end until it nearly touched the horses; the other one was pushed in the back end and stuck out about four feet out of the back end of the wagon. The third was set up crossways on top of the wagon.

"Most all the passengers got off the train and walked up to town and carried their luggage. As we came by Mr. Capps who was about seventy-five years old, got up on top of the coffin that was crossways of the wagon with a quart of white mule whiskey in his hand and waved it at us and said, 'Boys, here goes for East View cemetery.' These three bodies were taken out and interred in East View cemetery about five-thirty that afternoon. I doubt very seriously if there is any other person in Vernon who remembers the exact date the first body was buried in East View—now it is a city of the dead.

"I came on up to town. I think there were about twenty-six saloons and gambling houses in Vernon then, about every other door was a place of this kind. That afternoon there were about one hundred fifty drunk cowboys in Vernon; they were having a real good time the way it looked to me.

"J. H. Pendleton and T. M. Fergeson were running a drug store on the corner where the Famous store is now located. When I got to town I went in there and made my first acquaintance in Vernon with T. M. Fergeson and bought a cigar from him. He was very friendly and kind to me and I got permission from him to leave my grip in there until I could get out and find just where I was; as a result of that kindness I have traded with Fergeson Drug store ever since. While in the drug store I heard some loud and boisterous shooting taking place next door and in the street, and walking out on the little plank sidewalk laid in front of the drug store saw a dray loaded with men with a big span of black mules hitched to it, coming down the street in a long sweeping trot, the driver yelling, 'Come on boys, let's go to the races.' He yelled at me and I jumped on the float. I came near getting run over three or four times by the cowboys before I got on. They thronged the streets then like the automobiles do now.

"We went south to what is now Wilbarger street and turned west and headed for the race track which was situated where the old fair grounds recently stood. Quite a large number of people were there. They started the horses at the west end of the track and ran east back towards Vernon.

"While there a man whom I later learned was John Davidson, and who was drunk and waving a $10 bill and crying 'Two to one on the stocking legged horse.' Seeing the maneuvers of the stocking legged horse, I was sure the other one would beat him and stood halting between the two impulses, as the $6.50 in my pocket was every dime I had in the world, but I took it and won. I have never bet on another horse race to this day. The stake holder I afterwards learned was E. A. Paffrath, at that time Indian interpreter for Wood & Company. When I later learned with whom I had been gambling my hair almost raised my hat off my head. I found out later on the man who drove the float out there was our old friend, W. H. Evans. While he has stepped out and gone I believe he was as good a citizen as Vernon ever had.

"Quite another event happened in Vernon this same afternoon. Our good friend Mr. Buddy Hall, who has been our city secretary many years was born that day! I hope he won't feel hard at me for revealing his age!

"These events occurring during my first three hours in Vernon thirty-nine years ago I still remember as if they happened yesterday.

"I lived out south of Vernon on Beaver creek with my sister for three or four years. I grubbed out mesquite grubs and farmed, hauled buffalo hides, played the fiddle for cowboy dances and did anything that was honorable to make a living. The fact of the business, times and conditions got to where some of our best citizens had to take the hides off a few polecats to keep the meal bins from getting entirely empty.

"Just to illustrate the difference between now and then, if you were to walk up to a man now and say, 'Well, I made a drag last night,' he would think you had robbed a bank or store, or something; you say that to one of these old timers and he will know what you mean. We used to kill three or four jackrabbits or take a quarter of beef and get on a horse, tie it to the end of a rope, drag it two or three miles through mesquite and brakes on Beaver creek, then take small sticks the size of a lead pencil and sharpen each end of them; then a bucket that would hol dthree or four gallons of bites of fresh beef cut up and poisoned with strychnine. We would take this bait and these little sticks and follow up this trail; about every three or four hundred yards We would stick one end of a sharp stick in the bait and the other in the ground. Sometimes we would follow this for three or four miles.

"Next morning we could follow it up and get 75 or more polecats or other 'wild varmints'—that is what we called making a drag. The idea in using these sticks was to deceive these wild animals as they would not eat meat that had been touched by human hands."

Mr. Castlebury was first constable of Precinct No. 7, Wilbarger county, on Beaver creek. He qualified and went to work in the sheriff's office when eighteen years old under G. T. Conn. Was constable of Precinct No. 1 several years, worked in the sheriff's office under D. P. Henry who succeeded Conn. Also was deputy sheriff under J. T. Williams during his entire term of office, which was about twenty years. Owned and run a cow ranch five miles west of Vernon until 1913. After leaving the sheriff's office he has been farmer and ranchman.

He was vice president and director of South Vernon Oil company when it drilled in discovery well of South Vernon oil field, forerunner of extensive oil development in Wilbarger county. He is now a member of the city commission.

Mr. and Mrs. Castlebury have two daughters, Mrs. Leon H. Brown of Vernon, Mrs. Vergil E. Tims of Wichita Falls, and one son, Stephen Arthur, Jr., of Vernon.

Greetings From The FAMOUS

To The Pioneer Citizens of Wilbarger County

YOU HAVE BEEN GOOD TO US, THEREFORE

WE DEDICATE THIS SPACE TO YOU

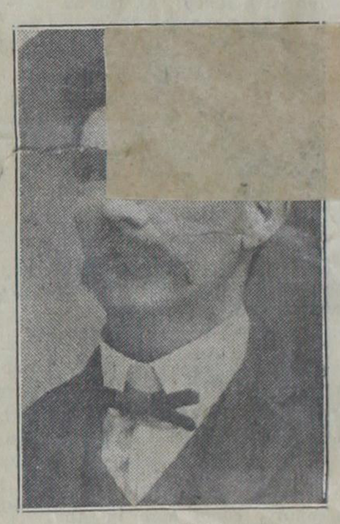
THE FAMOUS

—WITH— 5-10-25c BASEMENT STORE

Vernon, Texas

MORE FOR LESS

RICHARDSON CAME TO COUNTY IN 1886



R. B. (Uncle Dick) Richardson came to Wilbarger county from Johnson county in November, 1886. He settled in the Fargo country and has lived there continuously since. He was born in Boone county, Ark., and came to Texas in 1875.

During his residence in that section he has been an active church worker and a hard worker for every movement for the betterment of the community.

NAYLOR STAYED IN FACE HARD YEARS

Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Naylor are among the old timers who came to Wilbarger in 1888 and stuck through the hard years of the 90's. He came to Texas from Kentucky in 1875 and settled in Dallas county where he lived before moving here. In 1880 he was married to Miss Nettie O'Rea of Hill county.

He bought a section of land in the northwest part of the county where he lived until six years ago when he moved to Vernon. Mr. Naylor engaged in farming and stock raising until cotton was introduced and then he took up raising that. His faith in the country has been justified and he now owns one of the best farms to be found anywhere. In discussing Wilbarger county Mr. Naylor said he had traveled over many states and seen lots of country but he had never found one that equalled Wilbarger, everything taken into consideration.

In addition to his valuable holdings in this county Mr. Naylor owns the Naylor hotel in San Angelo. It is a 125 room hotel and on the ground floor has six store buildings, a garage 43x65 for the use of the guests in storing their cars and a theatre with a seating capacity of 1,000.

Mr. Naylor and his good wife are well known to all the old timers and have had a large part in the development of the country.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Butler, June 28, a girl.

FAINS CAME HERE FROM CLEBURNE

Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Fain moved to Wilbarger county in 1887 from Cleburne and settled on a tract of land east of Odell. Mr. Fain farmed for a number of years and during his later life was deputy tax assessor. He died in 1907. Mrs. Fain has continued to make her home in Vernon since her husband's death.

Mrs. Fain has six children, Mrs. N. H. Lassiter of Quanah, Mrs. W. C. Paulk of Hedley, Joel A. Fain of Childress and Mrs. J. W. Brock, Jr., Quade Fain and Mrs. Mattilene Hancock of Vernon.

CHURCH OF CHRIST.

Deaf Smith and Marshall streets. Sunday, July 3, 1927: Bible study 9:45 a. m. Preaching at 11 a. m. and 8 p. m. by T. M. Carney. Morning theme, "Things Which Shall Transpire in Latter Days." Evening, "Christ the Good Shepherd." Young people's meeting at 7 p. m. Midweek service Wednesday 8 p. m. You are invited to attend all our services. T. M. Carney, minister.

Rev. and Mrs. J. A. Birnbaum left this week for a visit with friends and relatives in Central and South Texas. While away Rev. Birnbaum will attend the Lutheran convention at Thorndale.

Early Day Settlers OF WILBARGER COUNTY

WE DEDICATE

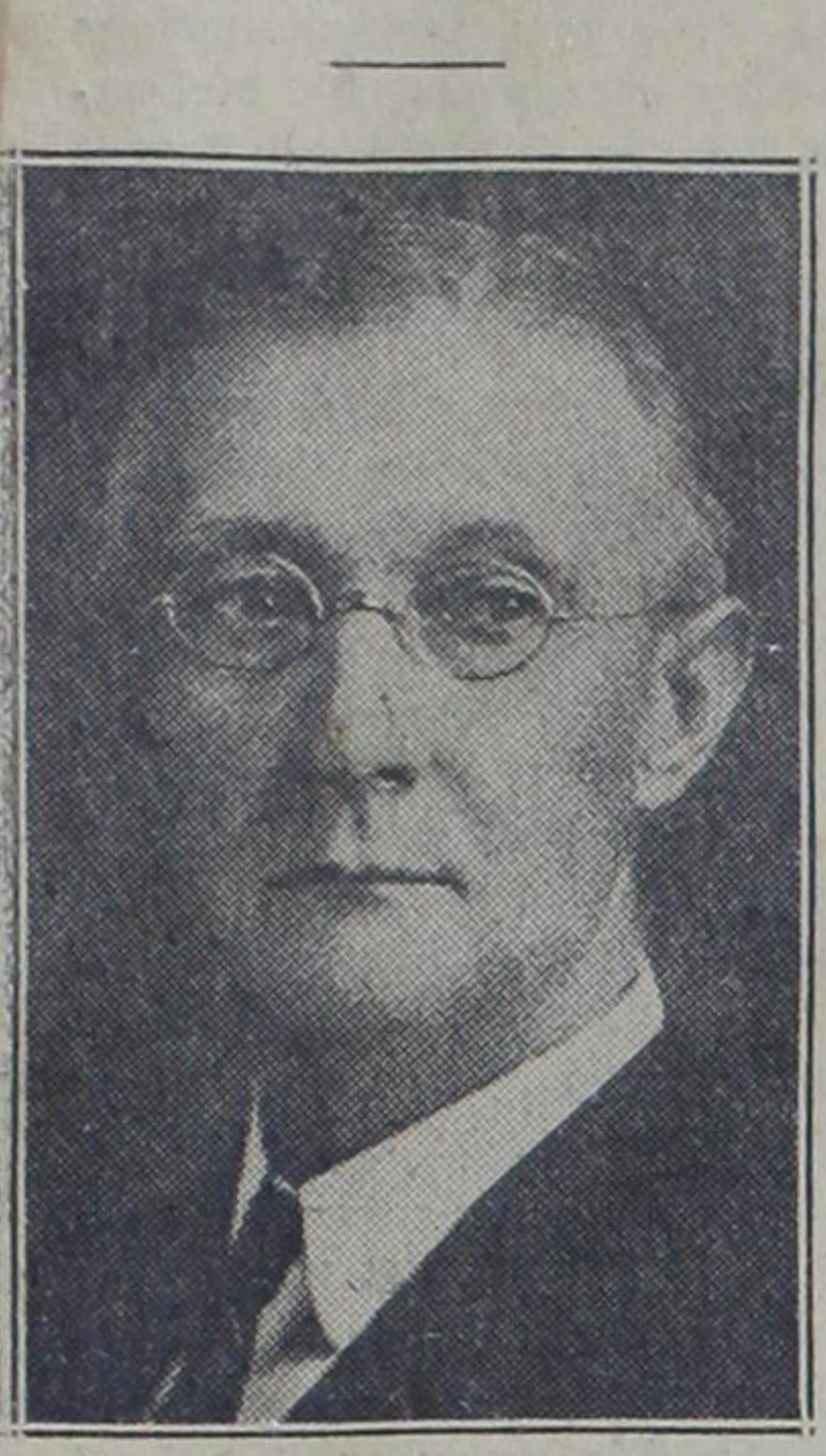
This Space

TO YOU

THE TOGGERY

"VERNON'S BEST LADIES' STORE"

ENDLETON CAME TO VERNON FROM VAN ALSTYNE 1884



J. H. PENDLETON

J. H. Pendleton came to Vernon from Van Alstyne in October, 1884, and started to work in the A. J. Shean dry goods establishment of this city. He was born in Bedford county, Virginia, near the city of Roanoke and came to Texas in 1881.

Mr. Pendleton and Dr. H. H. Rhoads bought out the W. T. Dickey & Company drug store a few years after he came here and T. M. Fergeson later bought out Dr. Rhoads' interest in the drug business. In 1896 or 1897 Mr. Fergeson and Mr. Pendleton dissolved partnership and Mr. Pendleton continued the business until 1919 when he sold out to J. J. McGaughy, George S. Hardin and Robert O. Brown. At the time he sold out he had two drug store, one where the Vernon drug store is today and another store down on Mair where the Lloyd grocery is now located.

Mr. Pendleton was alderman under the administration of Mayor J. A. Lucky and was a member of the City Commission under Mayor Harry Mason. He has taken an active part in the civic and church affairs of the city and has been a director of the Chamber of Commerce for a number of years. Mr. Pendleton is a stockholder in both the Farmers State and First State banks and is vice president of the First State Bank.

In talking of the old days in Vernon Mr. Pendleton said that for many years he was the oldest active business man in Wilbarger, Hardeman and Foard counties. He filed on a section of land in Hardeman county and went to Margaret to file. At that time there were no houses in the part of Hardeman county where Quanah is located.

In fact Mr. Pendleton said when he first came to Vernon there were practically no houses on the stage line between Wichita Falls and Vernon except the midway station of the stage line located on a little creek between Electra and Harrold where the horses were changed.

Mr. Pendleton said he had never seen very many cattle at one time and after coming to Vernon the river got up once to where the herds could not cross and they were all over the prairie. He said he went up on top of the newly finished court house and looked out over the sea of cattle. Mr. Pendleton said if he had not seen them he would never have believed there were that many cattle in the state.

The freight wagons of the days before the railroad were an interesting sight, Mr. Pendleton stated. He said they generally had a wagon and trailer and behind that a light trailer carrying their bedding and chuck for the trip. On the trip west they carried feed, groceries and other supplies and on the return trip the wagons were loaded with buffalo bones. Mr. Pendleton said he talked with one of the leading freighters of that time and he said lots of times he would meet a wagon that he would have given $50 not to have met because the roads would be muddy or they would be in ruts so deep that they had to spend a great deal of time digging down the ruts to where they could pull out.

Mr. Pendleton tells a characteristic story of the early days in the West when a Mr. Morrison was shot here. He was working in a livery stable located where Perkins-Timberlake stands today. Some men rode up at night and asked if they could leave their horses. Mr. Morrison told them yes and got his lantern to show them in. As he stepped to the door he was shot down. Mr. Pendleton, Dr. W. T. Dickey and two other men went over to see what the trouble was. They found the dead man and the others gone. Mr. Pendleton said the only thing they could find to carry the body on was a stable door. The four men started up the street with the dead man on the door to the home of a Mr. Byars who owned the stable. When they arrived and knocked, the lady of the house asked who it was and Mr. Pendleton told her and told about the killing. He said he heard Mr. Byars tell his wife to open the door and when the door opened Mr. Byars was standing across the room with a Winchester covering the door. Mr. Pendleton said he almost dropped his corner of the door when he saw the gun.

Since he retired from the drug business in 1919 Mr. Pendleton has devoted his time to looking after his business and rent property in the city.

Mr. Pendleton has three children: E. L. Pendleton of Fort Worth, Dr. Winston Pendleton of Kingfisher, Okla., and Miss Anna Jo Pendleton, who has been attending the University of Iowa this year.

WESTERN HOSPITALITY

By J. E. COLLINS.

Honest John Stephens for a number of years represented in Congress, what at the time was known as the "Jumbo District of Texas," a vast section of country mostly owned or controlled by large cattle interests. He performed his duty fully and completely in the exercise of all the privileges and opportunities which good citizenship meant to the individual American and therefore, was contributor in both word and conduct to all the influences and forces which have builded and maintained true American institutions and ideals. And Texas and this nation is poorer because he is gone.

Mr. Stephens was a typical western man, both in manner and dress, and was as much at home behind a chuck wagon, with a tin plate and a cup of black coffee as any cowboy on the plains. He loved a good story and always had some new ones to tell on his annual visit to his district. One of his favorite stories which he often told, is as follows:

A young man stalked with stately stride into the office of a small hotel in a remote part of the Blue Ridge mountains. Behind him came a valet carrying bags and a gun-case, and at the door were two prosperous looking trunks. In an arm chair behind the hotel counter sat an old man placidly chewing tobacco and reading the "Weekly Paper."

"Ah-h-h-hm," the young man began, "Is this Mr. Samuel B. Crownover, proprietor of this hotel?"

"Ya-as," replied the old man, glancing up over his paper.

"I am Mr. James Percy Hummingford of New York," said the visitor, impressively. "My friend, Mr. Vandergold, told me you would take excellent care of me here."

"Ya-as," replied Samuel, still buried in his paper.

"I am Mr. James Percy Hummingford of New York," the visitor repeated, "My friend Mr. Vandergold, told me you would take excellent care of me here."

"Ya-a-as," said Samuel, still chewing and reading his paper.

"I am Mr. James Percy Hummingford of New York," the young man reiterated, with the air of one who tells great news, also with rising indignation, "My friend Mr. Vandergold, told me you would take excellent care of me—show me every attention."

"Wa-al!" exclaimed Samuel B. Crownover, throwing down the paper and revealing his few yellow teeth in a mocking grin, "Wa-al, what do ye want me to do, young feller—kiss ye?"

THE OLD WAY

OF SELLING GROCERIES

The early day settlers of this country traveled miles upon miles over unkept roads to load their wagons with flour, meat, coffee and other necessities for the home.

The Modern Way

Now they hop in a car and glide over a paved road to a Sole Owner Store. Here they know they will not only find a full and complete line of staple groceries—but, the privilege too of selecting the... Choicest FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES FOR THEIR NEXT MEAL.

CLARENCE SAUNDERS
SOLE OWNER OF MY NAME

THE VERNON DRUG STORE

OLDEST DRUG STORE

IN WILBARGER COUNTY

Established by W. T. Dickey, 1882.

Bought by J. H. Pendleton and T. H. Jones in 1884.

T. H. Jones' interest sold to Dr. H. H. Rhoads in 1886.

Dr. H. H. Rhoads' interest sold to T. M. Fergeson and style of firm was Pendleton & Fergeson until 1897

1897 Pendleton and Fergeson dissolved partnership and style of firm then became J. H. Pendleton & Son.

JUNE 1919, BOUGHT BY J. J. McGAUGHY, GEO. S. HARDIN AND R. O. BROWN. Then assumed the name of THE VERNON DRUG STORE.

PURE DRUGS AND
COURTEOUS SERVICE
ARE THE
FOUNDATION STONES

Upon Which it Was Built and Still Stands Here to Serve You

THE VERNON DRUG STORE

"The Rexall Store"

Shoot The Works

Mother—Did you give your penny to the Sunday School collection, Joohnny?

Johnny—No, Motoher, I lost it.

"What, lost another one? That makes three Sundays on which you have lost your pennies."

"Yes, Mother, but that darned kid's luck can't last forever."

Gee Gosh Yes

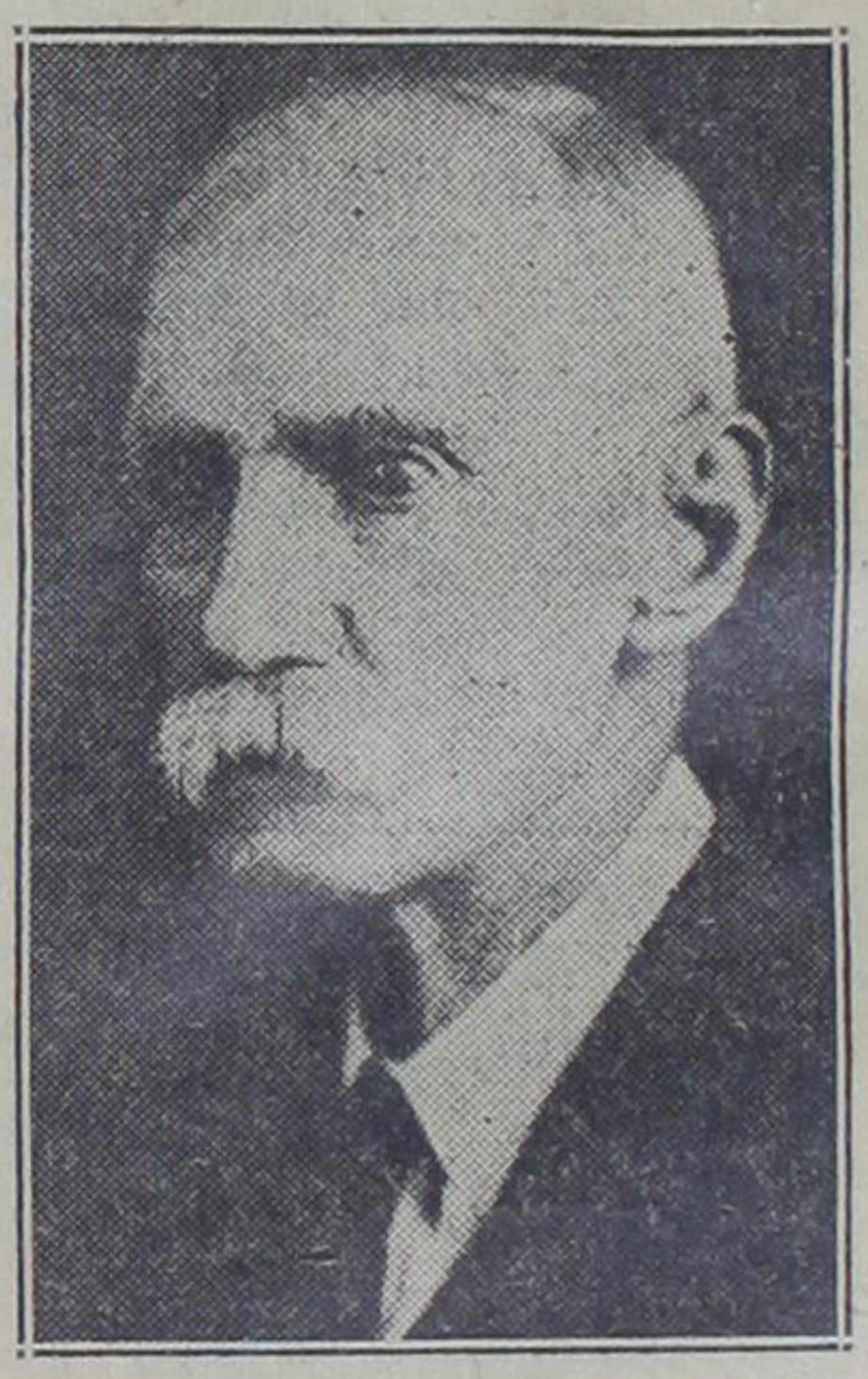
"What is that noise?"

"It's an owl."

"Yes, I know, but who the deuce is 'owling."

...the remains of poor

DR. RHOADS CAME TO VERNON IN 1885 FROM DENTON CO.



DR. H. H. RHOADS

Dr. and Mrs. H. H. Rhoads came to Vernon from Aubrey, Denton county, in December, 1885. He was born in Macon county, Tennessee, and was graduated from the medical department of Vanderbilt University in 1877 and from the University of Nashville in 1880. After finishing his school work he came to Denton county and "hung out his shingle."

His brother, Jim Rhoads, had already moved to Vernon and Dr. Rhoads came to the new country. He said his territory extended over all of Greer county in Oklahoma to the Wichita river on the south and from Electra as far west as Childress. When asked how he traveled Dr. Rhoads stated that he rode horse back part of the time but most of his traveling was done in a buggy. He said he had two ponies that could be driven hard all day and not get tired. He said he had treated cases in Oklahoma and when he went to make a call he left early in the morning and would get back to Vernon before dark. Dr. Rhoads always used a horse and buggy and until a few years back his horse and buggy was ...miliar sight on the streets of ...on.

... Rhoads said the pay in those days was good. It was not always money but he always got something. Wood, cows, guns, plows and wagons were sometimes the stock in trade but he always took whatever the man wanted to use for money. He said that when he first started out practicing medicine he made it a rule to have the party pay him something even if it was practically useless as it always made a friend and left the man satisfied. He told of his early work in Denton county. He said he had a partner and in the fall of the year his partner would get a wagon and pair of scales and go into the cotton fields and the men who owed them would give him cotton enough to settle the bill. After it was all gathered in the doctors would have it ginned and sell it. Dr. Rhoads said by keeping this practice up he had never lost very many accounts.

The doctor said wild game was plentiful in this country in the early days. On his drives across the country he would see all kinds of animals. Calls were made by horseback instead of phone in the early days When anyone would get sick Dr. Rhoads said some of the family would get on a horse and ride into town after him. The doctors all carried saddle bags with an emergency supply of drugs in them and if it was way off in the country he would leave enough medicine for them until they could get to town. Dr. Rhoads said he kept his saddle bags in his office for many years after he quit riding horses and making calls in buggies.

Dr. Rhoads has been county health officer for forty years with the exception of one or two terms. He said at one time the late Dr. J. E. Dodson was health officer and another term Dr. H. R. White filled the office.

When the Farmers State Bank was organized Dr. Rhoads was elected president of the institution and he has held that continuously. In addition to his interest in the bank he has considerable farming interests in the county.

He has three children: Emory Rhoads, Mrs. R. H. Nichols and Miss Irma, all of Vernon.

'Well,' said the Judge, 'are you guilty or not guilty?'

'Your honor,' replied the prisoner, 'when I came here I certainly did not think I'd be expected to do your job.'

The Day of

the Dugout

IN WILBARGER COUNTY

IS GONE

but

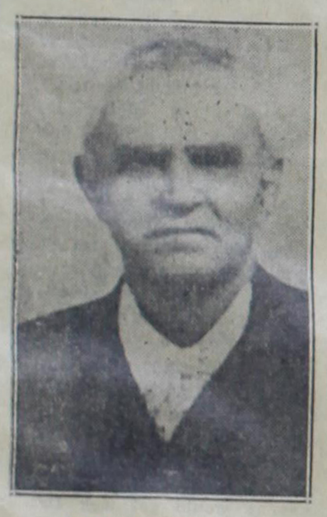
.... the demand for GOOD HOMES made up of GOOD LUMBER increases year after year. We are glad we are here to serve you with the best of everything in Lumber and Building material.

Sumner-Colley

LUMBER COMPANY

PHONE 647

McCONNELL STARTED PUBLISHING PAPER IN VERNON IN 1889



D. D. McCONNELL.

D. D. McConnell was born December 25, 1851, in Cherokee county, Georgia. He came to the frontier of Texas in 1867 when Weatherford and Fort Richardson, now Jacksboro, were the frontier towns of northwest Texas.

In the early days he helped Hige Nail to drive the first herd of cattle to the northern markets. They went out through North Texas, crossing Red river at Preston Bend and crossing the Arkansas river at Fort Gibson, Indian Territory. The town of Denison had not been founded at that time.

In April, 1886, he moved to Vernon and in November of that year was elected justice of the peace. He held this office for two years. The first issue of the Vernon Weekly Call came off the press in February, 1889. Mr. McConnell published this paper continuously for thirty years.

Mr. McConnell states that the first plant was a very primitive affair. The paper was assisted by friends who desired to see both sides of public questions discussed. In the first political campaign for the election of a mayor the Call supported J. R. Tolbert and teh Vernon Guard backed J. R. Ralston. Mr. Tolbert was elected mayor.

He states that the first city ordnances were published in the Call and then cut out and pasted in the ordinance book of the city.

His home is at 2004 Eagle street This house has perhaps the oldest shingle roof in Vernon as it was put on in 1882. The shingles were out of dimension cypress and today still turn water.

His old friend Hige Nail drove the first herd of cattle up the Dodge City Trail, crossing Red river at Doans store and then on into the Indian country.

Mr. McConnell says that when he first came to Texas no white man dared venture into the West as far as Eagle Flat, now the town of Vernon.

MRS. BECKET CAME TO CITY IN 1880



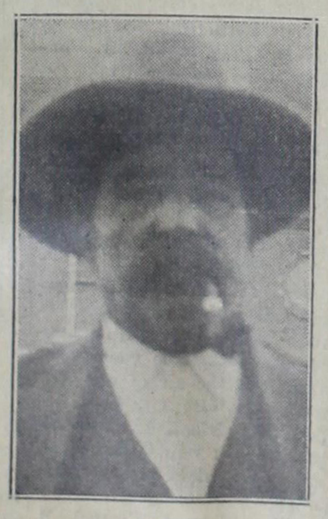
MRS. MARY A. BECKETT.

Mrs. Mary A. Beckett came to Vernon from Henrietta in 1880 as the bride of F. C. Beckett. Mr. Beckett helped to organize Wilbarger county and was elected first county attorney, and during the remainder of his life was prominently identified with the legal profession in Vernon. Mr. Beckett hauled the lumber from Gainesville to build their first home which was located on the lots where H. K. Greever now lives.

During the many years Mrs. Beckett lived in Vernon she was an active church and Sunday school worker, being a charter member of the First Presbyterian church organized in Vernon.

Since the death of Mr. Beckett several years ago she has been making her home near Independence, Mo., but keeps in touch with her old home and friends.

KREBS CAME HERE FROM SWITZERLAND



CHRIST KREBS.

Christ Krebs came to Wilbarger county in 1883 from Switzerland and took up some school land about twelve miles from Vernon in the Pease river valley. Mr. Krebs said the first English he learned was not parlor English and he had to learn all over again.

He farmed for many years and for the past few years has been making his home in the west part of town.

In discussing the early days of Wilbarger county he said he made a big crop in 1891 but the next year did not do very much. "Times were sure enough hard then," he said.

He said the lawyers did a land office business going around over the country taking up the mortgaged property.

"This is a grave question," said the widow as they decided where to bury the body of her deceased husband.

MR. AND MRS. AYERS MOVED TO HARDEMAN COUNTY---SETTLED NEAR COUNTY LINE



MR. AND MRS. J. G. AYERS.

Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Ayers moved to Hardeman county in the spring of 1883 and settled on his farm in the northeast part of that county They have made their home at that place for the past forty-four years. Today Mr. Ayers owns some of the best lands in Wilbarger county.

The Ayers have been closely identified with the development of the north side of the county. The first school taught north of Pease river was in the Ayers dugout. Miss Gabbie Betts was the teacher. She taught the Ayers children and some of the others around in that part of the county.

A very historic tree once stood near the Ayers home and was known to all the old settlers. It was a very large tree and was used as the first meeting house. In recent years the tree died due to so many people camping under it and building large fires. Mr. Ayers said that he took his team and went down on the river and drug out some trees that had floated down in high water and from these they made seats for their open air place of worship. A Methodist minister by the name of C. T. Neese held the first services under this tree.

Mr. Ayers said they had all gathered for the meeting that Sunday morning and pretty soon Capt. McDonald and a bunch of Texas Rangers rode up. They were trailing some outlaws and had heard they were in that part of the country. The men rode up and Capt. McDonald wanted to know what was taking place around there. Mr. Ayers told him they were fixing to have church and asked if they would not join them. The Captain threw his bridle reins down on the ground, got him a song book and led the singing. Mr. Ayers said Mr. McDonald was a good singer add seemed to enjoy the services very much. Years later the two men met again and Mr. Ayers asked him if he remembered the time he went to church under the tree near Jackson Springs in Wilbarger county and Mr. McDonald told him he would never forget that.

Mr. Ayers had been a strong supporter of good schools and has assisted the Wilbarger schools a number of times by buying the bonds when there was no good market for them.

He was a boy seventeen years old when the Civil war closed. He was held in the reserve and just before the war ended was called out and stayed in camp a short time and was sent back home to make a crop as the army officials felt that food and supplies were very important at that time.

IF WE HAD SOME HAM.

Country School Teacher (on a country school teacher's salary)—If each child will bring an egg to school tomorrow I will show you how Columbus made one stand on end. And if you cannot get an egg, why just bring a piece of ham!"

IT'S A FISH.

Guest (to hostess)—My dear, where did your wonderful string of pearls come from? You don't mind my asking, do you?

Hostess—Certainly not, they came from oysters.

THE ONE EXCEPTION.

"But, surely," Jones urged, "seeing is believing."

"Not necessarily," replied Johnson "For instance, I see you every day."

Different Conditions and Climes.

Wife—Here's a story of a man in Arabia who sold his wife for a horse. You wouldn't sell me for a horse, would you, darling?

Hubby—Of course not, dear! But I'd have to have anyone tempt me with a really good car.

NO SNITCHER.

"You didn't tell me this watch wouldn't go when I bought it."

"Well, the manufacturer didn't say anything about it, so I thought it was a secret."

AWAY BACK



BEFORE THE 80's in THIS COUNTRY

The Red Man may have been contented with his wigwam, but....

—Today—

The White Man is satisfied with nothing less than a modern home made up of

GOOD LUMBER

WE SELL A-1 BUILDING MATERIAL

BENNETT LUMBER CO.

PHONE 500

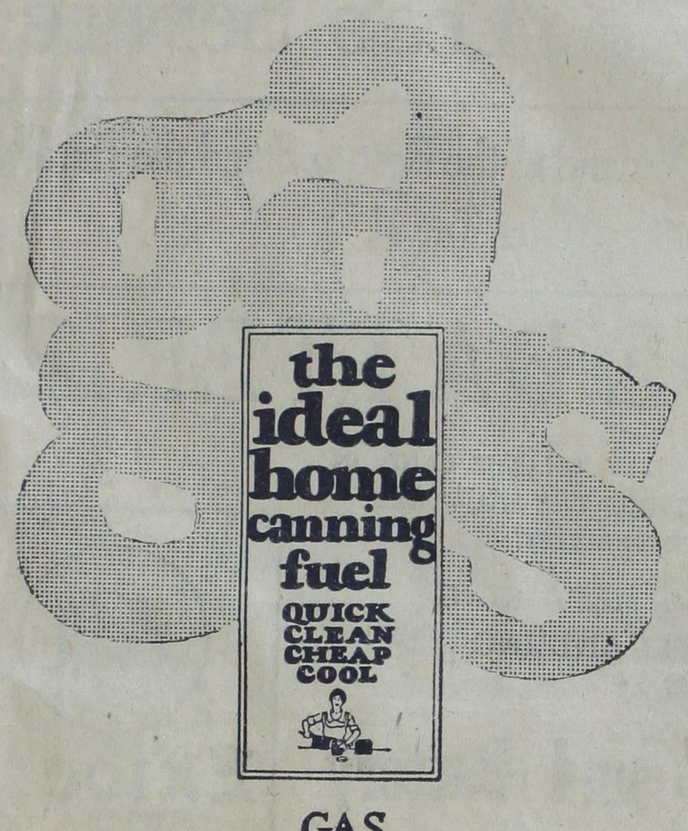
SCOTTS CAME HERE FROM MISSOURI IN '85

The Scott family came to Wilbarger county from Missouri in 1885, according to J. Y. Scott. His mother, Mrs. Betty Scott, lives in Vernon today. The family stayed at Harrold when they first arrived until they could have a house erected on a farm they had bought between Harrold and Oklaunion. When it was completed they moved out there.

Mr. Scott said he came to Vernon and went to work as deputy sheriff under his uncle, J. T. Conn. He had many experiences while at that work. He has been following the carpenter's trade since 1902.

He told an interesting incident about his work as a deputy in those days. He went out to arrest two men charged with cattle stealing. He met one and stopped him. As he was reading the warrant to him the man wheeled his horse and started down the road. Mr. Scott gave chase and shot twice. The man stopped and came back and told him he was just having a little fun out of him. They went to a little store nearby and Mr. Scott filled his pistol as he only had one cartridge left. He was back that afternoon and a friend asked him if he knew how near he came to getting killed that morning. He said he did not. The store keeper said the boys' father was in a wagon just ahead and when he heard the shooting he jumped out and had his gun leveled on him when a visitor from Fort Worth happened along and covered the father with his gun and kept him from shooting.

Mrs. Scott has two daughters besides her son. They are Mrs. John Reese and Mrs. Susie Scott Coleman.



Lone Star ★ Gas Company

★ The Lone Star Gas Company is a producer, purchaser, pipe line transporter and wholesaler of natural gas. It bridges the gap between the gas fields and your local gas company's lines and thus serves you by backing up the service of your local company.

Wilbarger County

PIONEERS

It is a Pleasure to us this week to Dedicate our Advertising Space

TO YOU!

RUSSELL'S DEPARTMENT STORE

TOWNSEND STARTED OUT AS DRY GOODS CLERK IN VERNON



J. V. TOWNSEND.

County Judge J. V. Townsend came to Vernon in the fall of 1891 from Tyler and started to work for the firm of Johnson, Cook & Murray. Later he worked for C. T. Smith.

Judge Townsend said that competition was very keen in those days for business and the stores opened at 5 o'clock in the morning. People came from as far off as Mangum to do their trading and as soon as the stores were swept out the clerks would grab a hand full of circulars and go down to the wagon yard and hand them out.

It was the custom in those days to camp at the wagon yard at night and most of the visitors from a distance would reach town after dark. Others would do their trading at night and leave their purchases at the store until morning.

Mr. Townsend said in the fall of the year the families bought their winter supplies at one time. Lots of times a wagon would come in with two bales of cotton on it and a man, wife and children. The clerks from McKibbin's, C. T. Smith's and the Red Store would run out and lift a child down and carry it to their store in hopes the parents would come there first and if they did the store generally got to sell them a pretty good size bill.

Judge Townsend was postmaster of Vernon during the Wilson administration and is now serving his second term as county judge.

BOB CASTLEBURY CAME TO VERNON IN DECEMBER 1887



R. L. CASTLEBURY.

R. L. Castlebury came to Vernon in December, 1887, from Lamar county. Soon after his arrival here he went to work for the Laurellis Cattle company and stayed with them until the end of 1888, working on the range through the Canadian country and Indian territory. In 1889 he went to work for Dr. Edwards in the drug store. The next year he went to work for Sheriff J. T. Conn and for eight years was deputy sheriff or some kind of officer.

On November 29, 1891, he was married to Miss Belle Hatchett. Her father, Shem E. Hatchett, moved his family to Vernon in 1889.

Mr. Castlebury told of a killing in 1890. A man named J. T. Morris, a Mr. Moss and a third man were working in the White brick yard here, having arrived in Vernon from Fannin county. They decided to go on West and when they reached Greer county Morris killed the other two men and took the wagon. Someone found one of the bodies and reported it to the Rangers at Quanah. They found the other dead man and started hunting for Morris. Mr. Castlebury and another deputy located him in a wagon yard near the railroad and placed him under arrest. He asked them to let him get a drink from the well and they did but watched him closely. They saw him drop something. The man was carried to the court house and the officers went back and found Moss' watch in the well. The man was tried and sentenced to be hung. He was chained at Quanah for safe keeping but escaped. Two boys out hunting located him down in the Pease river brakes and brought him back and collected the $300 reward. He was sent to Fort Worth for safe keeping and within two weeks escaped. Mr. Castlebury said a few years later he got trace of the man in California but he was never recaptured.



MRS. R. L. CASTLEBURY.

He told another interesting story of the death of City Marshal Hammonds. One night he came to the court house and roused Sheriff Conn and Mr. Castlebury who slept on the second floor of the building. Mr. Hammonds said he wanted them to go and help him make an arrest. They told him they would dress and meet him below. Mr. Castlebury said they heard a crash and when they got down stairs Mr. Hammonds had fallen over the banisters and was dead below.

Mr. Castlebury has retired from active business in the last few years and looks after his farms. He has land and cattle and some of the Humble producers in the South Vernon field are located on his land.

Mr. and Mrs. Castlebury have five children. They are Mrs. Albert Walker, Mrs. Claude Hardison, Misses Robbie and Ellen, and one son, Brown.

INTERESTING HUNT FOR FIRST CHILD BORN IN WILBARGER

Trying to determine the first child born in Wilbarger county has been a very interesting work. From the best information obtainable Mrs. Dee Lewis was the first girl born in the county. Mrs. Lewis was born in February, 1882. John Miller of the Fargo country was born in July, 1882. Whether or not there were any children born in the county during 1881 has not been learned.

Mrs. W. B. Howell, Mrs. Albert Jones and Mrs. Horace Anderson were Wichita Falls visitors this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Newth of Prescott, Ark., visited in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Newth Sunday.

Miss Emma Pearl Shivers is visiting in Dallas.

Miss Mamie Ward has returned to her home at Memphis.

Miss Ladelle Bowers underwent a tonsil operation this week.

Mrs. J. G. Robertson is visiting in Wichita Falls this week.

Shave Quickly

with a super-keen blade. A dull blade means a slow shave. Learn what stropping does. Buy a Valet AutoStrop Razor. It gives a comfort, speedy shave every time. $1 up to $25.

Valet Auto-Strop Razor

—Sharpens Itself

FOOT TROUBLES RELI



Fallen arches, pains in tired burning feet, bunions, corns and callouses.

NOTICE—Hot weather is here. DON'T let your feet suffer.

—SEE—

C. L. TAYLOR

Foot Expert

at McKibbin's Shoe Store

Phone 134 Vernon, Texas

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH HAS GOOD PLANT ON WILBARGER STREET



The Christian Church or Church of Christ was organized in December, 1888. The division came about by difference of opinion as to instrumental music in worship and other matters of church polity, which finally eventuated into the two separate bodies we now have, Central Christian Church on the corner of Wilbarger and Mesquite streets and the Church of Christ.

Bro. Addison Clark, who was president of Add-Ran College, then located at Thorpe Springs, and the foundation of Texas Christian University at Fort Worth, held a meeting in Vernon in the summer of 1889 and a second meeting in the spring of 1890. The first was held the the school building where the junior high school is and the second meeting in the old Baptist church where the Central Christian church now stands. As a result of these meetings the members decided, which they finally did, those who opposed instrumental music in the worship and those not may not at all times manifest the most tolerable spirit towards each it said to the credit of the Central Christian Church and Church of Christ, they made a little better out at dividing and unite back and forth than many other communities, and so far as we now know there are no old sores and animoseties as is sometimes the the case.

Those who did not oppose instrumental music in worship, and who formed the necleus of what is now Central Christian Church purchased the old Baptist Church and worshipped in it for about six years.



REV. J. M. PERRY

The present new building was dedicated May 25th, 1913, by Dr. I. N. McCash. The building, equipment and grounds are approximately worth from $40,000 to $50,000.

The membership is now around 300.

Those who served as ministers are Clarence Chambers, E. S. Bledsoe, J. B. Faulkner, S. H. Holmes, L. H. Humphries, Ben M. Edwards, C. B. Stubbs, W. E. Bradbury, Gus Ramage, L. P. Kopp and J. M. Perry the present minister. During the past two years of Rev. Perry's work in Vernon there have been 116 additions, and the church is united, prosperous, happy and growing normally and steadily.

Among the present officers of the church are C. D. Greene, J. H. Pendleton and J. C. Smith, trustees; J C. Smith, chairman of the official board; Harry Mason, church clerk; and J. H. Pendleton, treasurer. Among the deacons and elders are included the representative men of the church and the city of Vernon.

—Contributed.

FIRST STATE BANK ORGANIZED IN 1911

The First Guaranty State Bank was organized in 1911 out of the Waggoner Banking company. Among the original stockholders in the bank were W. T. Waggoner, R. L. More, D. L. Green, J. H. Pendleton, J. P. King, J. H. Kincheloe, E. P. Hicks, T. L. Pierce, L. D. Terrell, Minor Havis, W. S. Lundy, Miss Minnie and Carl King, Mrs. Horace Pitts, Mrs. J. T. Cabe and A. C. Boger.

The first officers were W. T. Waggoner, president; J. P. King, vice-president; E. P. Hicks, cashier; Clois Greene, assistant cashier; and Dick Morrow, bookkeeper.

A few years back the name of the bank was changed from the First Guaranty State Bank to the First State Bank. The present officers of the bank are J. P. King, president; J. H. Pendleton, D. L. Greene and W. S. Lundy, vice presidents; Arthur E. Harroun, cashier, and C. M. King and J. B. Ross, assistant cashiers.

DALMASSO HAS BEEN IN VERNON SINCE '90

C. H. Dalmasso came to Vernon on February 9, 1890, and started in business in a small building near the Denver tracks on Main street. After sixteen years he moved to the location of the Lisenbee store today and Mr. Dalmasso said the owner tried to sell him that lot and building for $500. His next business location was where the White Rose cafe is and then later he bought the building occupied by Pierce Bros., next to the White Rose. He was in the grocery business there for a number of years. He retired from business several years ago.

Mr. Dalmasso said he and his wife celebrated their thirty-sixth wedding anniversary on Tuesday of this week. They have five children, William of Thurber, Fred of Vernon, Joe of California, Frank of Tiffen and Miss Lena Dalmasso, who lives with her parents at their home on Texas street.



THE EARLY SETTLERS thought
ber Tired Buggies were easy riding
today they have found greater sati
tion in—

INDIA TIRE

The India-Wise car owner gets more miles and more pleasure out of his tires.

Lee's Service

The Pioneers Demanded the Best to Stand the Hardships of Travel.

EXIDE BATTERIES

ARE DEMANDED TODAY ON THE LAND, IN THE AIR AND UNDER THE SEA—THEY STAND THE TEST.

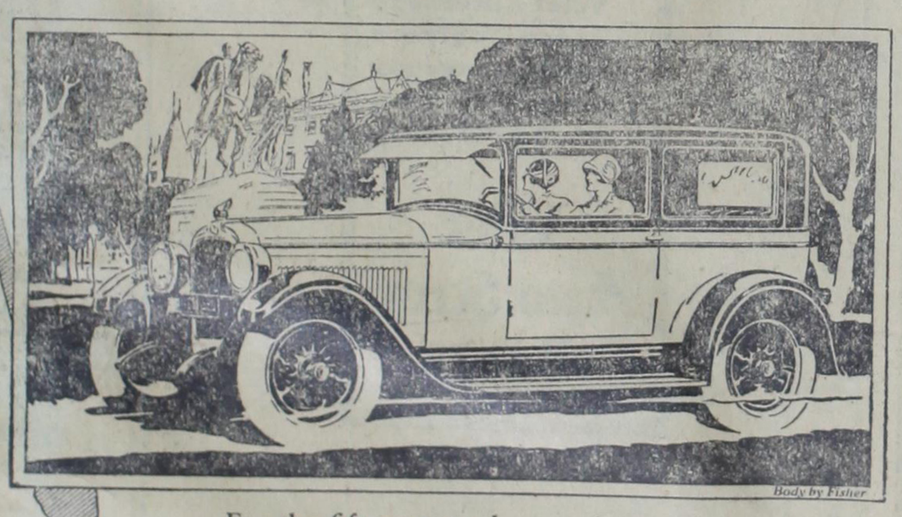
BATTERY REPAIRING and VULCANIZING AT

Auto Tire and Battery Company

LEE PROBST, Owner

Exide BATTERIES

Even Greater Value Because of Lower Prices



NEW LOW PRICES

$775

SEDAN

Coupe $775
Sport Roadster (4-pass.) 775
Sport Cabriolet (4-pass.) 835
Landau Sedan 895
De Luxe Landau Sedan 975
Delivery Chassis ... 585
De Luxe Screen Delivery 760
De Luxe Panel Delivery 770

All prices at factory

Oakland Six, companion car, supplied in six body types by Fisher. Delivered prices include minimum handling charges. Easy to pay on the liberal General Motors Time Payment Plan.

For the fifteen months following its introduction, the Pontiac Six was acclaimed everywhere as a value never before known in the field of low-priced sixes.

Then recently came the New and Finer Pontiac Six at sharply reduced prices. And over night, almost, Pontiac Six sales swept to new and sensational figures. For here was even greater value because of greater quality at lower prices!

If you have not seen the New and Finer Pontiac Six—if you have not acquainted yourself with its new qualities of luxury and distinction—

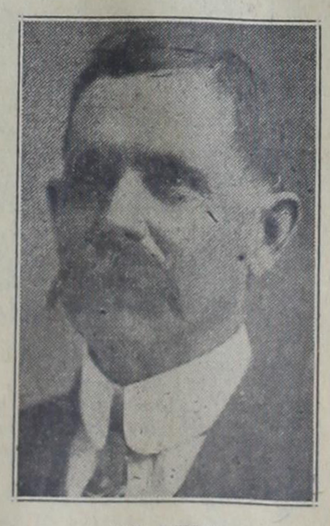
—come in and learn how, for as little as $775, you can now obtain a six-cylinder Sedan whose beauty, performance and reliability are responsible for the greatest success ever enjoyed by a car of its type.

King-Baldridge Motor Co.

Distributors of
OAKLAND AND PONTIAC AUTOMOBILES

The New and Finer
PONTIAC SIX

KINGS CAME HERE FROM CLAY COUNTY



J. P. KING.

Mr. and Mrs. J. P. King came to Wilbarger county in 1882 from Clay county and settled in the east part of the county. In 1884 they moved to Red Bluff north of Pease river and stayed there until 1888 when Mr. King bought his first piece of land where his present farm is today. He now owns four sections of fine farming land along the south side of Pease river.

When Mr. King first arrived in the county he started in the sheep business. He continued in this line until 1888 when he disposed of his flock. At one time he had 4,000 head on his place. He said the clipping would usually run about 10 pounds to the sheep and brought a pretty good price. At one time he shipped two car loads of wool to Philadelphia.

After he started farming he raised the usual crops in this country. Mr. King said he did his trading at Wichita Falls and Henrietta for a number of years when he first came here. He would go down in a wagon and buy enough groceries to last two or three months and feed for his stock. He left the farm in 1903 and moved to Vernon.

He was interested in a number of the banks in the early days. He was with the Waggoner Banking company and when it was turned into the First Guaranty State Bank was a director and vice president. For a number of years he has been president of the institution.

In addition to his own work Mr. King served as sheep inspector from 1886 to 1888. Was county commissioner from 1888 to 1892 and city commissioner from 1916 to 1920. He was a member of the school board of Vernon from 1922 to 1926 and was president of the board for two years. He said during his days on the farm he served as school trustee for years.

Mr. and Mrs. King have five children, Earl, Carl and Ralph King and Mrs. Horace Pitts and Miss Minnie King.

REACHES LONDON.

Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Rouse received a cablegram yesterday afternoon from London, England, from their son, Harlow. It read, "Birthday greetings seeing the world and happy healthy with party now marvelous trip."

LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY
IRRIGATED LANDS

Will Pay Dividends Now and in Old Age;
A Home, Wonderful Climate, When You Retire;
A Life-Long Investment for Your Children.

A 10-acre bearing Grapefruit and Orange orchard near Mission or McAllen will provide an annual income estimated from $4,000 to $7,500, often as high as $15,000. A few BARGAIN TRACTS AT REASONABLE PRICES. EASY TERMS. Land privately shown. I am not connected with any land company.

Can Save You Enough Money to Plant Orange and Grapefruit Orchard on Every Acre.

LEON H. BROWN

Room 4, over William's Department Store
Phone 547 Vernon, Texas

FIRST OIL WELL IN COUNTY IN 1908

The first oil well in Wilbarger county and the first one in north Texas was brought in during November, 1908, according to R. L. More, manager of the W. T. Waggoner estate. It was the Texas Company's No. 1 Waggoner. A short time after this the Texas Company brought in the No. 1 Stringer in Wichita county. The development of the field was gradual and there was no boom.

The next field in the county was when the Sigler No. 1 Waggoner came in during the early part of 1920. The town went wild and wells were drilled everywhere around but no more wells brought in.

The South Vernon Oil company opened the next field in 1923 when they brought in their No. 1 Stephens. This well was a small producer and Miss Thelma Wells drilled an offset and brought in the first real producer in the field. As soon as this came in the South Vernon well was deepened and made a big producer. The field then spread for several miles.

Roderick Stewart started the Rock Crossing field. He put down a well but died before it struck the sand. He had great faith in the area and staked everything he had on the hole.

Wilbarger county today has a daily production of around 12,000 barrels.

...THODIST CHURCH ORGANIZED IN COUNTY FIRST SUNDAY IN MAY, 1881



The first Methodist church in Wilbarger county was organized the first Sunday in May, 1881, at the home of Jas. A. Creager, by Rev. J. T. Hosmer. Rev. Peter W. Gravit, presiding elder, was coming up to be prseent at the organization but did not arrive until Sunday afternoon on account of the high water in Beaver creek.

The charter members were Jas. A. Creager, Mrs. Jas. A. Creager, Wm. W. Creager, Gib Bryan (now pastor at Winters, and P. S. Hagy.

A building was put up for the first church in Vernon. In 1892 the congregation had grown until a larger house was needed so it was remodeled and enlarged at a cost of $6,500. The church continued to grow and in 1910 the present building was put up.

Rev. C. A. Bickley has been pastor of the church for the past two and one-half years. During his pastorate there have been 550 additions to the church and the departmental work in the organization has spread out and today they have a full church life with the Sunday school, ladies work and the young people's work.

A few years back a pipe organ was installed and the inside of the church remodeled and today they have one of the largest auditoriums in the city.

NAPIERS CAME HERE FROM WACO IN 1889

J. S. Napier and family moved to Vernon from Waco in 1889. Mr. Napier was representative of the H. & T. C. Railway in selling the land of the company in this and adjoining counties. Myatt Napier said that when his parents moved here Vernon was on a boom and they could not rent a house so they had rooms up over where Starr's Meat market is today. His father also made that his office.

He said that the sight seeing conveyance in those days for the prospective land buyers was a spring wagon with three seats on it. Hundreds of people were flocking in and everything was on a boom. The price of land ranged from $2.50 an acre to $7.50 for the best. Mr. Napier said his father had taken in as much as $50,000 in a day as part payments on the land.

His father bought a hundred acres of land at Condon Springs on top of the hill and 60 acres on the hillside and planned to make his home there. Mr. Napier said he would not price the land to himself and when the officials of the company saw it they charged him $15 an acre for it. The first year it was planted in wheat and made 35 bushels to the acre. The next year J. J. Stephens, brother of Sam Stephens, was looking at the land and wanted to buy it. Mr. Napier said his father was offered a $100 an acre for it and refused the money. He said he guessed that was the highest price offered for land around Vernon in those days. A few years later when the hard years came on the elder Mr. Napier sold it for about what it cost him.

The Napier Bros. Motor company was formed from the Shive business. F. H. Shive came to Vernon about 1890 to take over a business concern and later formed a hardware and implement business of his own that continued until 1918 when he quit business and the Napiers took the Ford agency.

Myatt, Joe and Sam Napier live in Vernon, their sister, Mrs. T. H. Shive, lives in California, and there are three more brothers, Walter of Dallas, Ernest of Mississippi and Coke of California.

Miss Flora Catherine Westmoreland of Amarillo is visiting her grandmother, Mrs. J. E. Collins.



REV. C. A. BICKLEY

PIPERS ARRIVED IN COUNTY DURING 1886

Mrs. M. A. Piper of Harrold and her family arrived in the county in 1886 from Denton county. The family stayed in Harrold a while before moving to the farm near that city. E. F. Piper says that when they came to Harrold it was a thriving city. His father died a number of years ago and since his death his mother has been making her home with her son near Harrold.

E. F. Piper has been in the grocery business in Vernon for a long time. He was with the firm of Massie, Shive & Piper and following the dissolution of the firm formed a partnership with R. D. Shive in the grocery business.

L. E. Piper was with one of the Chillicothe banks for several years and came to Vernon as cashier of the Waggoner National Bank. He resigned his position and went to California where he was connected with a bank for some time and returned to Vernon as active vice president of the Waggoner bank.

N. M. Piper has been farming near Harrold on the old home place for many years.

In addition to the three children in this county Mrs. Piper has a son, W. R. Piper who lives in Dallas and a daughter, Mrs. Gertrude Winfrey at Rawls.

NABERS FAMILY AMONG PIONEERS

Mrs. J. A. Nabers and her husband, the late Judge Nabers, are among the pioneer settlers of the county. Mrs. Nabers came to Vernon with her father, James Bradford, from Tennessee. She was married to Judge Nabers in 1889.

In talking of the old days Mrs. Nabers said that her husband held office in the county for forty years with the exception of one year. He was county surveyor for a long time, county judge 12 years and district judge ten years.

One interesting happening was recalled by Mrs. Nabers and that was the destruction of the Pease river bridge by a cyclone. Judge Nabers had taken out $20,000 cyclone insurance on the structure and this amount was paid the county within three days after the storm. She said it was the first time in Texas that a bridge had been insured. When the people went to complimenting Judge Nabers on his foresight she said he told them it was not him but Old Mac to thank. He said he just took the insurance to keep McColloch from worrying him to death.

Judge Nabers surveyed most of Wilbarger county and also Hardeman county when it was organized. Mrs. Nabers said that her husband learned surveying by himself. He got a book on the subject and studied it and then went to work.

Mrs. Nabers has a brother and sister living in Vernon. They are Mrs. W. H. Hancock and Will Bradford. She has four children, County Engineer John Nabers, Misses May Belle and Ida Nabers and Robert Nabers.

HAWKINS WAS WITH DENVER IN 1892



L. G. Hawkins came to Vernon in March, 1892, as cashier of the Fort Worth & Denver. That fall he was appointed agent and remained here until 1897 when he was transferred to Bowie. Mr. Hawkins returned to Vernon in 1900 to become cashier of the Waggoner National Bank. He was later vice-president and upon the death of Robert Houssels was made president.

Mr. Hawkins has been actively identified with the Masonic lodge of Vernon during all these years. He has been in all the offices and is past Grand Commander of the Knights Templar of Texas.

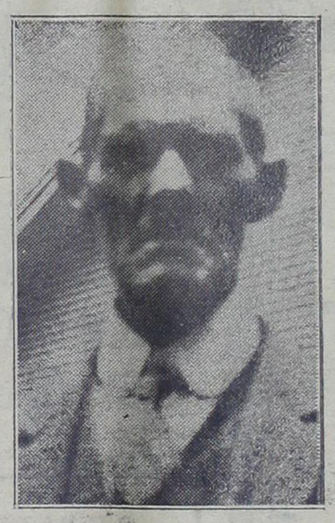
Mrs. Hawkins came to Vernon with her father, Robert Houssels, in 1891.

Mr. Hawkins was also an athletic fan in the early days and was manager of the local baseball team. He said he had such men as Beef Gilbert, Joe Massie, his brother, Ed Lutz and many others who composed a team that went years without a defeat.

Mr. Hawkins said when they wanted to go somewhere to a game he would call the dispatcher and they would send out a special train at a dollar a throw round trip and the dispatcher would always say stop by for him as he wanted to go along.

Mr. Hawkins has been a great worker in the development of Vernon and has served a number of years on the school board.

LON EAKLE CAME TO VERNON IN 1884



L. C. EAKLE.

Lon Eakle arrived in Vernon in 1884 from Grayson county. He says that there are very few men in Vernon today who came here ahead of him.

During his first year here he spent the winter on a ranch looking after a bunch of saddle horses. He spent his spare time hunting and trapping. Wild game of all kinds roamed around. He said he would put out poison and a few days later go around and skin the animals that died.

He served as city secretary of Vernon for six and a half years. During the last few years he has been buying cotton.

Mr. Eakle said in the early days he worked at a little of everything. One year he followed a thresher as cook. He said the other members of the crew would be laid off when it rained so he signed up as cook and worked steady.

Lon said he could give some very interesting history of the pioneer days in Wilbarger county but most people would not believe it unless they had lived back in the days when everyone was scrambling to make a living. He said he had seen men who would cut a load of wood and haul it to town and sell it for $1.50 a load to buy a sack of flour and a little piece of meat. Lots of times he said they would have a few polecat hides and these would bring about 25c apiece.

Mr. and Mrs. Eakle have eight children. They are Mrs. Gaines Tanner of Dallas, Mrs. Belle Cole, Miss Pearl Eakle, Mrs. Hazel Brown, and Miss Dorothea and Helen Eakle and Jack and L. C. Eakle, Jr.

FARRELLS ARRIVED IN VERNON IN 1887

C. J. Farrell came to Vernon in April, 1887, with his father. His mother came later and his brother, H. B. Farrell, came at that time.

Mr. Farrell has been postmaster in Vernon for twenty-one and a half years. He served the first time for sixteen and a half years and has been in the office five years the last time.

In talking about the Vernon office Mr. Farrell said when he first went in as postmaster he was allowed one clerk and the department allowance for pay for the clerk was $16.33 a month. The present post office force is composed of twenty people and on July 1 the local office will go to a first class rating.

Herbert Farrell has been in the wholesale oil business for a number of years. For several years he was with the State Banking department as bank examiner.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Albert Schoppa, Tuesday, a girl.

GROCERIES

You have got to have them in order to live. We want to sell them to you. Phone us your order.

WE DELIVER

McCelvey-Birdsong

PHONES 90 AND 94

FOR A GOOD DIAMOND OR WATCH

Be Sure and See

J. D. STILL

"STILL FIXED IT AND IT'S STILL FIXED"

1724 FANNIN STREET

SEWELL'S CORNER DRUG STORE

"Your Purchase FREE if we fail to thank you"

MA...

HELL...

Co... lau... suit.



EMPIRE LAUNDRY AND CLEANERS

"We Guarantee Satisfaction"

1226 Main St.—Vernon

$300 CASH

First Prize $100.00 Cash

2nd Prize.....$50.00 Cash

5 Prizes $10 each Cash — 20 Prizes $5 each Cash

700 handsome, costly aluminum ware prizes

TO ANY WOMAN WHO COOKS

Ruth Taft, Woman's Adviser for The J. R. Watkins Co. wants good, home-prepared and tested WATERLESS COOKER RECIPES for her Waterless Cooking guide book. She wants your help and offers the... prizes so all women will be interested...



FOR DETAILS OF ...TEST AND COOKER OFFER, WRITE ... ONE, AT ONCE —

W. I. GREENE

Box 244 Phone 407

VERNON, TEXAS

...of Wilbarger County from an Old Timer. This plant through its predecessor, Sewell Grain and Fuel Company, has served the people of Wilbarger County for the past 37 years.

Vernon Grain & Fuel Co.

GRAIN, FUEL AND COAL

LISMAN CAME HERE IN 1887 FROM WACO



T. P. LISMAN.

T. P. Lisman came to Wilbarger county from Waco in 1887. He came out here to close out some business for a bankrupt banking concern. He liked the country so well that he bought some land and when the wheat crop failed lost his place like most of the others did in that day.

Mr. Lisman has been in the real estate and loan business for over thirty years. He also has the distinction of serving on the school board of Vernon for twenty-one years.

In his many years of residence in the city Mr. Lisman has taken a great deal of interest in his church and its work. He is of a very jovial disposition and his office is the gathering place of many of the old timers to talk over the days that are gone.

Mr. and Mrs. Lisman have three sons, T. P. Lisman, Jr., and Bert Lisman of Vernon and Edwin Lisman of Dallas.

HOGSETT CAME HERE FROM WEST VIRGINIA

S. C. Hogsett came to Vernon with ... in March, 1889, from ... Va. He said ... and then ... the Wag... Bank for over twen... ...ars and is today cashier ...at institution.

...rs. Hogsett came to Vernon ...m West Point, Ga., in 1892.

Mr. Hogsett was a member of the Turner Rifles, Company K, 6th Regiment, Texas National Guard, serving as second lieutenant of the company. He said he is the only man in Vernon today who was a member of the organization. They went to Austin to the annual encampment and took third place in the competitive drill against fifty companies.

Mr. Hogsett tells many interesting events of the early days. He said that so far as he could recall there was not a single business in Vernon today that was running when he first came here.

MANY PIONEERS HAVE PASSED AWAY BUT ARE REMEMBERED

No Old Settlers edition would be complete without mention of the men who have gone on. In trying to compile a list of the men who were once prominent in the affairs of the county a number were consulted and below follows a partial list:

T. J. Youngblood, T. H. Shive, Judge G. A. Brown, Robert Housels, J. A. Creager, S. P. Huff, J. B. Lockett, R. D. Rector, P. M. Morris, A. M. Hiatt, Taylor M. Holt, A. T. Boger, W. H. Evans, R. S. Kelly, B. J. Parker, J. R. Renfro, Dr. J. E. Dodson, Sr., R. F. Jones, John H. Stephens, Dr. George E. Blackman, Frank Gelhausen, the Denny brothers, J. E. Doran, J. A. Lucky, S. T. Reeder, C. A. Richie, J. E. Prince, J. T. Williams, W. B. Townsend, J. A. Nabers, J. P. Hamilton, J. B. Watts, S. Sewell, Ike Smith, Ed Wiltse, M. G. Gilbert, E. T. Murchison, W. C. Johnson, Tom H. Jones, J. R. Plummer, J. S. Napier, Pete L. Speed, Shem E. Hatchett, C. C. Shive, F. C. Beckett, Fred Ratliff, John Miller, T. M. Kell, T. J. Lockett, T. A. Scurlock, H. A. Bell, A. J. Byars and W. A. McKinney and P. L. Hart.

SHIVE FAMILY CAME TO VERNON IN 1890

R. D. Shive came to Vernon in 1890 from Oxford, Miss., with his father, C. C. Shive. He was a boy at the time and attended the schools in Vernon. After he finished school he worked for the express company for a while and then started clerking in a grocery store. Later he and E. F. Piper formed a partnership with L. J. Massie. This firm was in business for a number of years and after selling out to Mr. Massie the firm of Shive & Piper was started.

Mr. Shive has a brother, L. D. Shive, of Mineral Wells, and a sister, Mrs. G. W. Utterback of California.

BOURLAND HAS BEEN ACTIVE IN PROGRESS OF WILBARGER CO.



A. M. BOURLAND.

Andy Bourland says he is not an old timer in the county as he has been here only twenty-seven years. He and his wife moved to Wilbarger from Tarrant county and settled on a farm east of town and lived in the house on Byars hill just beyond his present home.

Mr. Bourland said, "When I came to Wilbarger county they were boasting of a population of 3,000 for Vernon. They told me what a great cotton country this was and that they ... expecting to raise 3,000 bales ...r." He leased a place and started to work. Today Mr. Bourland has some of the best farming lands to be found in the county.

He has the distinction of being the only man living outside of the city to have served as president of the Vernon Chamber of Commerce. He is now one of the vice Presidents of the West Texas Chamber of Commerce. In addition to his duties in connection with his farming he has served the county six and a half years as county commissioner. Mr. Bourland has been an active worker for good roads and when he retired from office his precinct had some fine roads. He is vice president of the Farmers State Bank.

VETERANS TO MEET

The regular monthly meeting of the Confederate Veterans will be held next Saturday afternoon in the Commissioners Court room. All members of the camp are requested to attend.

HIATTS CAME TO COUNTY IN 1889

The late A. M. Hiatt came to Wilbarger county from Waxahachie in 1889. For many years he was in the real estate, insurance and abstract business with Ed McHugh and Ed Lutz. He also served the city as secretary for a number of years. Mrs. Hiatt came to Vernon in 1892. Mr. Hiatt died a few years back.

During the last few years of his life he devoted most of his time to looking after his farms and was a familiar character on the streets. He made his headquarters at the Wilbarger County Abstract company's office where the old timers often congregated and discussed the early days in Wilbarger county.

WEATHERALL CAME TO VERNON IN 1890

J. T. Weatherall moved to Vernon in 1890 from Mississippi and says that his old home there and Vernon are the only two places he ever lived. Upon arriving in the county Mr. Weatherall moved to his farm near town where he lived for several years. He next lived in the western part of the city and a few years back built a nice brick home on Wilbarger street.

Mr. Weatherall says he has been a farmer all his life and has been successful along that line since coming here . For a number of years he grew vegetables with great success.

GIVENS FAMILY WAS AMONG OLD TIMERS

The P. G. Givens family was among the old timers of the county. Mr. Givens came here in 1891 and was in the grocery business with Mr. Sebastin. Of the nine children in the family two are still living in Vernon. They are Mrs. R. D. Shive and Mrs. I. S. Sewell. The other children are Mrs. W. M. Huff, Mrs. W. E. Peckham, Mrs. J. H. Covington, Mrs. J. H. Cannon, Jas. K. Givens and Chas. Givens, all of California, and John W. Givens of Oregon.

WAGGONER RANCH STARTS IN 1897

The real beginning of the Waggoner Ranch in Wilbarger county was in 1897. The Waggoners had big holdings down around Decatur and Henrietta and with the settling up of the country they moved on to the west to get more room. Big blocks of land were bought in this county and in addition a million acres was used in the Indian Territory for grazing. In 1900 Waggoner had to get out of Oklahoma as the grazing of cattle was stopped and he had to get more land for his cattle. R. L. More, manager of the Waggoner Estate, said they started buying up all the land possible in 1900. Today the Waggoners have over 200,000 acres in this county and the entire acreage in this and adjoining counties is over 500,000 acres.

Mr. More said that around 1900 they were shipping 40,000 steers to the market a year out of Oklahoma. They would start bringing in two herds a week in the spring and keep it up unitl fall. The herd would have from 1,000 to 1,500 each.

The Waggoner ranch has many fine cattle on it today and in the county on the east side Mr. Waggoner has a large refinery and a casing head gas plant.

Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Showres and Miss Dorothy Exline of Dallas arrived this week for a visit in the J. L. Showers home.

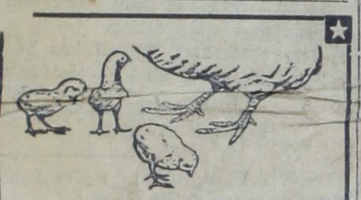
Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Shamburger and Miss Dorothy Sanford of Winona are visiting Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Hampton.

City is visiting her father, Sid Vaughn and sisters, Mrs. John D. Huntley and Miss Ileene Vaughn.

Miss Lucile Bushong of Kentucky is visiting her uncle. L. C. Eakle.

E. M. LEUTWYLER
JEWELER AND OPTOMETRIST
Also a comp...
Corner of W...

PIC... TORIUM



We Guarantee This Stops
WHITE DIARRHEA

Women in our community will be delighted to hear this. For now their chicks can all survive the deadly period of bowel trouble. Half a century of practical experience with poultry remedies made it possible. For Pratts White Diarrhea Tablets now guarantee life to chicks. Just put in the drinking water from the first drink. We guarantee them or your money returned.

Pratts White Diarrhea Tablets

To Our Customers: *We stand behind Pratts White Diarrhea Tablets unconditionally. We guarantee that they prevent this disease or your money is returned.*

Sold and Guaranteed by
VERNON GRAIN AND FUEL COMPANY

To the Ol...

"PRICE LEV...

VERNON DEPA...
Wishes to Congratulate th...
Their Great Task o...

Specials f...

BIG RAG RUGS
79c
Worth $1.50 each

BIG TAB... DRES...
1.8...

MEN'S WORK SHOES
1.49
All sizes

WORK...
4...
All sizes

Values to $10.00

"PRICES TALK" LEVINE'S

1506 MAIN STREET — TRADE HERE AND SAVE MONEY

Genuine BAYER ASPIRIN

SAY "BAYER ASPIRIN" and INSIST!

Unless you see the "Bayer Cross" on tablets you are not getting the genuine Bayer Aspirin proved safe by millions and prescribed by physicians 24 years for



Colds — Headache
Pain — Neuralgia
Toothache — Lumbago
Neuritis — Rheumatism

Accept only "Bayer" package which contains proven directions. Handy "Bayer" boxes of 12 tablets—Also bottles of 24 and 100—Druggists. Aspirin is the trade mark of Bayer Manufacture of Monoaceticacidester of Salicylicacid

...apped ...ol to Philadel... greetings seeing the world and happy healthy with party now marvelous trip."

...dole.

Wilbarger county today has a daily production of around 13,000 barrels.

27

BYARS FAMILY CAME TO COUNTY IN 1879

Lon Byars came to Wilbarger county with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Byars in 1879 from Montague county. They settled on Pease river on what is now the J. P. King farm. Later his father bought a farm over on the highway near the present Byars farm.

Mr. Byars said he freighted for eight years and during part of that time drove one of his father's twelve oxen teams. They had two of these teams and did lots of freighting. Later they used horses. In those early days Mr. Byars said Henrietta was their post office and Gainesville their trading point.

In 1880 Mr. Byars said he helped Darby build a dugout where the Candyland is now and set out the cottonwood tree that once stood on the square. They went to Cambridge, near where Henrietta is today, and bought a supply of cowboy merchandise. Mr. Byars said his father hauled the lumber to Vernon for C. M. Byars to build his store and also the material for the Roy Morrison saloon.

Mr. Byars said he helped haul the logs from the Indian Territory to build the first jail in Vernon.

In those early days he said game was very plentiful and in the first few years in this country saw lots of bears over in the Territory. He said when they needed meat it only took a few minutes to go out and shoot a turkey.

Mr. Byars said he had seen herds of cattle come through Vernon like trains. The herds would run from 1,000 to 2,500 head and would stretch out over a trail for half a mile wide and a mile long. He said the drivers would keep the herds a certain distance apart and they had understandings about how they would go to the watering places along the trail.

Mr. Byars moved to Vernon several years ago and devotes his time now to looking after his farming interests. He is at present City Commissioner and takes a great deal of interest in the affairs of the town.

We Are Your Friends

PIONEER CITIZENS OF WILBARGER COUNTY

DON'T FORGET US

When You are Hungry and Want a Good Meal

THE FAITH CAFE

"As Good as the Name"

JUDGE BERRY CAME TO VERNON FROM MISSISSIPPI IN 1891



W. D. BERRY.

Judge W. D. Berry was born and reared in Rankin county, Mississippi, He was graduated from the State University in 1887 and was superintendent of the schools of Koscuisko from 1887 to 1891. He took lectures in law at the University of Virginia in the summer of 1891 under Dr. John B. Minor and was admitted to the bar in that state in September. He came to Vernon and in the spring of 1892 was admitted to the bar when district court met.

Judge Berry was elected city attorney in 1894 and before his term expired was appointed county attorney by the Commissioners Court to fill a vacancy and in 1896 was elected county attorney again. While prosecuting attorney Judge Berry was thrown with Johnny Williams a great deal and in talking of those days said that Mr. Williams was one of the best sheriffs in the Southwest and did not know what the word fear meant.

During the years of his practice in Vernon he has been connected with many of the famous criminal and civil cases of the day. Judge Berry said he had seen a number of cases tried in Vernon where Rangers stood guard and people were searched for weapons before they entered the court room.

Judge Berry said in the early days it was told that some one slammed a door hard in one of the local hotels and it sounded like a pistol shot. When one guest got up nerve enough to look out in the hall six shooters were sticking out every door ready for business.

He is a past Master of the Blue Lodge and a past Eminent Commander of the Vernon Commandery. Judge Berry was one of the organizers of the Herring National Bank and has been on its official board and the bank's attorney since its organization. He was a promoter of Hillcrest Country Club and has served as president and actively interested in the organization from its beginning and regards it as a big asset to the city.

Judge Berry is the senior member of the firm of Berry, Stokes, Warlick & Gossett. Both Mr. Stokes and Mr. Warlick have lived in Vernon for many years and are well known over the county. Mr. Gossett has just recently moved to Vernon.

HOLLOWAY'S OWNED LAND TOWN OF ODELL IS BUILT ON

Living at Odell today at one of the nicest and most improved homes in that little city is Mrs. T. H. Holloway, whose citizenship in this county dates back to 1888.

Mrs. Holloway, with her husband the late T. H. Holloway, came to Wilbarger county from Limestone county and bought the land on which a greater portion of the town of Odell is now built.

Wanders creek, which stream derives its name from the fact that it has a wandering course, from where it heads to where it empties in Red river, crosses a greater part of the Holloway estate. Mrs. Holloway, with her children that are living today, no doubt can recall many an early day fish fry that took place in their pasture on the banks of this creek.

Children of Mrs. Holloway that are living today are Mrs. P. L. Hart, Mrs. C. D. Shelton, Mrs. A. C. Flowers and H. M. Holloway all of Odell, and Mrs. Jim Leak, Vernon.

HERRING NATIONAL BANK FORMED 1903

The Herring National Bank was organized in 1903 from the C. T. Herring Banking company. The banking company had a capital stock of $25,000. Among the original owners and officials of the Herring National were J. D. Hagler, W. C. Johnson, P. M. Morris, J. C. Sumner, J. C. Haney, C. W. Weekley, W. D. Berry and C. T. Herring.

Upon the nationalizing of the bank the capital stock was raised to $75,000. The bank was located in a building where the Pictorium is now. Later they moved into the present quarters on Main and Pease. The capital and surplus today is $250,000.

The bank will move into its new five story home next month. The Herring National company was formed last year to erect a five story office and bank building at the corner of Fannin and Pease streets. The work of completing the building is being rushed to completion.

The officers today are C. T. Herring, president; Les K. Johnson, active vice-president; W. D. Berry, L. J. Massie and Joe C. Sumner, vice-presidents; G. C. Morris, cashier; Roy W. Abbott, M. K. Berry and Miss Jessie Milner, assistant cashiers. The directors are W. D. Berry, chairman of the board, Mr. Herring, Cy Long, J. D. Summerour, G. C. Morris, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Massie, Mr. Sumner, M. K. Berry, Mr. Abbott, S. E. Honaker and E. H. Pigg.

PICNIC ON JULY 4TH AT CONDON SPRINGS

July 4th will be celebrated at Condon Springs with an all day picnic, according to James Condon, who the past week has been making arrangements for the celebration. The Declaration of Independence will be read. The grounds are being decorated with flags and National and dance music will be furnished by the Panhandle Entertainers at the new pavilion on the grounds.

THE VERNON TIMES

Published Every Thursday by
THE TIMES PUBLISHING COMPANY

T. L. ROUSE, Business Manager.
CHAS. P. ROSS, Advertising Manager.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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One Year	$1.00	One Year	$1.50
Six Months	50c	Six Months	75c

Entered as second class matter at the post office at Vernon, Texas, under Act of Congress, March 3, 1879.

CEMETERY ASSOCIATION TO MEET

Members of the East View Cemetery Association are requested to meet at the Library building on the afternoon of July 5 at 5 o'clock.

Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Stone and children of New Orleans visited in the E. L. McHugh home last week.

Miss Irma Gelhausen went to New Mexico for a visit last week.



AT YOUR SERVICE SINCE

1893

DEPENDABLE MERCHANDISE . . .

. . . . TRUTHFULLY ADVERTISED

H. F. McKIBBIN

"Home of Good Shoes"

ASSOCIATED STORES

PERKINS-TIMBERLAKE COMPANY
UNINCORPORATED

Established at Vernon in

1905

22 Years of Selling

GOOD DEPENDABLE MERCHANDISE

DEDICATED

TO THE

Pioneer Settlers

OF WILBARGER COUNTY

By

KRAMER
Art Studio
AND GIFT SHOP



L. P. Kramer.

VERNON'S OLDEST STUDIO AND GIFT SHOP

FORMER RANCHER LACKS FAITH IN USE OF PRAYER

ROLAND COBB CAME TO HARROLD IN 1890 FROM FANNIN CO.



ROLAND COBB.

Roland Cobb came to the West in 1890 from Fannin county and settled at Harrold and for the past thirty-seven years has made his home there. Mr. Cobb has helped in a large way with the development of the east part of Wilbarger county and served four years as county commissioner before retiring. He made the race again and has been elected three terms since and on January 1, 1929 will have served ten years as commissioner.

Due to Mr. Cobb's untiring efforts his district has as good a system of roads as can be found in the state. Most of the main highway is paved and the balance is to be paved this summer. His district has a gravel road running from Harrold to the north and he is now working on a project that will give his precinct a graveled road from Elliott west to the line of that district and another east from the present graveled road to the Wichita county line.

He has spent a great deal of time in building his roads and today has concrete culverts on most of them and a road bed that stands the rains When his program is finished he will have a system of roads that any commissioner in the state would be proud of.

WM. REED FIRST IN COUNTY IN 1884



WM. M. REED.

Wm. M. Reed came to Wilbarger county for the first time in 1884 and then moved his family here in 1887 from Cooke iounty and settled in what is known as the Mack community. Mr. Reed said he was a nestor and cowman and made a fairly good success out of his business. "Every time I got a bunch of steers I sold them and put the money in land. Some of the land cost $1 an acre and some went as high as $3.

Mr. Reed said in 1886 he drove a bunch of steers to Vernon and sold them to Tom Jones. They had not been given any water so he drove them up to a water trough on the square and pumped water. One old steer got stage frightened and started out across the square. Mr. Reed said if he had not headed him off he guessed he would have gone right through the front of a store.

Mr. and Mrs. Reed have four chil-

Marlow, Okla.—Frank Millawee, 73 years old, lacks faith in the efficacy of prayer, Millawee, now living in Marlow, lived around Vernon, Texas, when there was almost no civilization between Fort Worth, Texas and Dodge City, Kansas. It was while the general subject of prayer was under discussion here recently that the former cattleman ventured to express his opinion.

In his young days Millawee had been around what is now known as Vernon, Texas, but then known as Doan's Store, on the Texas side of the line below the confluence of the Red river and the North Fork of Red river, which later played such a prominent part of the litigation over what is now known as "Old Greer county," Oklahoma.

"Abe Mulkey, the famous evangelist, on the lookout for more souls to save invaded the cattle country," said Millawee, "and undertook to act ac sky pilot to the cattlemen and the Lord knows some of them needed prayers. Doan's store, being on the Texas side of Red river, where liquor might be legally sold, became a gathering place for cowboys, cattlemen and rustlers. Mulkey invaded the cattle country and prayed so effectively that many cattle rustlers who came under his spell, made restitution of stolen cattle or the money equivalent. But when Mulkey left the community, his spell was broken and many of the rustlers began to steal the cattle back."

Revolver shooting became a passion in the Doan store country, and more cartridges were shipped to that point at that time than to any other point in the world, according to Millawee.

Years later when the pastors had invaded the country word went forth that the Doan store district had become poverty stricken because of drouths, said Millawee. "A cartridge manufacturing company, recalling the patronage received in other days, shipped a car load of seed oats to Doan store to be distributed among the impoverished inhabitants. The arms company meant well, but did not understand the changed conditions. The nestors, who had come into the country and cattle business, had never bought a cartridge. They were the ones, however, who got the seed oats, the former cattlemen who still lingered around the trading point being left out in the distribution."

Millawee was with the Bax-X outfit when it crossed Red river and invaded the Oklahoma Indian country, the Bax-X being the first cattle company to graze herds north of Red river. During the gathering of evidence to be used in the suit between Texas and Oklahoma over the boundary line involving "Old Greer county," Millawee was consulted by Texas officials. "I, like other cattlemen had always regarded Prairie Dog Village river, the Indian name for what is now known as the main stream of Red river, as being the principal channel, notwithstanding the fact that North Fork often contained water when the wider channel was apparently dry," said Millawee. Millawee gives a graphic description of the long trains of covered wagons entering the cattle country, the wagons containing land hungry farmers and their families.

"When they came into the country they tried to raise wheat, and after a year or two moved out in other long trains," said Millawee. "Others came periodically and some tried cotton, and found the staple could be grown. It was the cotton grower and his hoe that put me and other cattlemen off the free ranges."

Millawee, while a cattleman, made several trips up the trail to Dodge City, crossing "No Man's Land" in what is now Beaver county, Okla.

"Apparently every trail that enters Oklahoma from Texas has been called the Chisholm Trail," said Millawee. If Chisholm had ridden a race horse and spent his life racing up and down all the trails over which he is said to have driven cattle, he wouldn't be through yet," said Millawee, with a twinkle in his eye.

Millawee lives in a cottage surrounded by a small tract of land on which he raises vegetables. "It isn't like it used to be when we were high and mighty in the saddle and could claim and use the land as far as we could see."

John Crawford was injured this week while at work on a rig in the Rock Crossing field. A pipe struck him on the knee.

and

t

Hattie Stineman of Elliott.

NOTICE—SHERIFF'S SALE.

The State of Texas, County of Wilbarger:

By virtue of an Order of Sale issued out of the Honorable District Court of Wilbarger County, on the 25th day of April, A. D. 1927, by the Clerk thereof, in the case of L. P. Bonner versus E. Barnes, No. 4126, and to me, as Sheriff, directed and delivered, I will proceed to sell for cash, within the hours prescribed by law for Sheriff's sales, on the first Tuesday in July, A. D. 1927, it being the 5th day of said month, before the Court House door of said Wilbarger County, in the town of Vernon, Texas, the following described property. to-wit:

All of the West one-fourth of Lots No. 5 and 6 in Block No. 55 of the Robinson's Addition to the town of Vernon, Texas, levied on as the property of E. Barnes, to satisfy a judgment amounting to $352.50 in favor of L. P. Bonner and costs of suit.

Given under my hand this 21st day of June, A. D. 1927.

W FRANK EDMONSON, Sheriff.
23-2t Wilbarger Co. Texas.

"JULIA" AN EARLY DAY POST OFFICE, SAYS MRS. SIMTH



MRS. J. B. SMITH.

When but a child eight years old, Mrs. J. B. Smith of Vernon, who before her marriage was Miss Etta Campbell, readily recalls moving with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Campbell from Virginia, her birthplace, to Tarrant county. After about two years residence in that county, Mrs. Smith said her parents moved to Wilbarger county and located north of Pease river in the section now commonly known as the forks of Pease and Red river.

At the location of the Campbell family in this county, Vernon was not known and a postoffice was established in their community and named "Julia." Mrs. Campbell was made postmistress. The mail to this early day postoffice came from Henrietta and was carried on to Mobeetie. Very few people in this country today recalls this postoffice and it was of short duration.

Both parents of Mrs. Smith are dead, but she is survived by two sisters, who will be remembered by numbers of people of the early days. The sisters are Mrs. Virgie Waggoner of Oklahoma City, and Mrs. Jewett Jones in California.

Mrs. Smith was married to her husband in 1891. Their children living are Homer Smith and Mrs. J. H. Perry both of Vernon.

MRS. TOM JONES MOVED TO VERNON IN FALL OF 1884

Mrs. Tom Jones came to Wilbarger county with her husband in the fall of 1884 from Collin county. They had moved out to Texas from Tennessee. For a number of years Mr. Jones was in business in Vernon and after quitting business here went to Oklahoma and engaged in cattle raising. Mrs. Jones said the cattle rustlers and Indians stole lots of his herd over there. He died in 1908.

Mrs. Jones states that the early days in Vernon were sometimes strenuous and wild ones. She said that at one time there was quite a stir in Vernon over the activities of the Vigilance Committee. A number of the most prominent citizens were placed under arrest and the sheriff was among them. Her husband was appointed as acting sheriff until the trial. Mrs. Jones said that she worried a great deal during those days as she never knew when Mr. Jones left the house at night but what they would bring him back dead.

Mrs. Jones has three daughters, Mrs. Margaret Souders of Montana, Mrs. Edna Newlon of Idaho and Mrs.

CITATION BY PUBLICATION.

The State of Texas.

To the Sheriff or any Constable of Wilbarger County, greeting:

You are here commanded, that by making publication of this Citation in some newspaper published in the County of Wilbarger for four consecutive weeks previous to the return day hereof (same being 42 days after date of issuance hereof), the first publication thereof to appear within 13 days from the date of issuance hereof, you summon C. H. McClendon and wife, Allice McClendon, Margret McClendon, Charles H. McClendon, Jr., and all unknown heirs of C. H. McClendon, whose residence is unknown, to be and appear before the District Court of Tarrant County, Texas, 96th Judicial District, at the Court House in the city of Fort Worth, on the Monday next following the expiration of forty-two (42) days from date of the issuance of this citation, said Monday being the 25th day of July, A. D. 1927, and then and there to answer, at or before ten o'clock a. m. the original petition of Federal Life Insurance Company, a corporation as plaintiff, filed in said Court, on the 8th day of June, A. D. 1927, against C. H. McClendon, and wife, Allice McClendon, Margret McClendon, Charles H. McClendon, Jr., and E. T. Scruggs and all unknown heirs of C. H. McClendon, as defendants, said suit being numbered 76373, the nature of which demand is as follows, to-wit:

Plaintiff alleges C. H. McClendon and wife, Allice McClendon on the 1st day of March, 1921, executed their joint promissory note, and bond, in the principal sum of $1,500.00, payable to Reynolds Mortgage Company, due March 1, 1931, (1931), with 8 per cent interest, said interest payable annually together with 10 per cent additional for collection, and that the payment of said note and bond is secured by a lien on the following described property, to-wit: Being all that certain tract or parcel of land lying and being situated in Wilbarger County, Texas, being all of the S. W. 1-4 of Sec. 57, Block No. 15, patented to the H. & T. C R. R. Co. June 5th, 1889 by patent No. 256, Vol. 110, Abst. No. 465 Cert. 26-1600, containing 160 acres of land.

Plaintiff further alleges that it is now the legal owner and holder of said note and bond. And alleging further that the other defendants herein are claiming some sort or right, title or interest in and to said premises but that said right, title or interest, if any there be, is inferior to that of plaintiff's.

Wherefore, plaintiff prays that upon a hearing hereof it have judgment for its debt, interest and attorney's fees and for costs of suit and that it have a foreclosure of its lien on the property herein described as against all defendants herein.

Herein fail not, but on the return day hereinabove named, have you then and there before said Court this Writ, with your return thereon, showing how you have executed the same.

Witness, R. E. Neely, Clerk of the District Court of Tarrant County.

Given under my hand and seal of said Court in Fort Worth, this 9th day of June, A. D. 1927.

(Seal) R. E. NEELY,
Clerk District Court,
Tarrant County, Texas
17-4t By W. H. Gibbs, Deputy.

PROBATE NOTICE.

The State of Texas.

To the Sheriff or any Constable of Wilbarger County, greeting:

You are hereby commanded to cause to be published once each week for a period of ten days before the return day hereof, in a newspaper of general circulation, which has been continuously and regularly published for a period of not less than one year in said Wilbarger County a copy of the following notice:

THE STATE OF TEXAS.

To all persons interested in the welfare of the estate of O. B. Robinson, deceased, S. W. Bailey was by the County Court of Wilbarger County, Texas, on the 11th day of June. A. D. 1927, duly appointed Temporary Administrator of the estate of said decedent, which appointment will be made permanent should the court be of the opinion that a permanent administrator is necessary, unless the same shall be successfully contested at the next term of said court, commencing on the first Monday in July, A. D. 1927, the same being the 4th day of July, A. D. 1927, at the Court House thereof, in Vernon, Texas, at which time all persons interested in the welfare of the estate of said decedent may appear and contest such appointment if they so desire.

Herein fail not, but have you before said court on the said first day of the next term thereof, this Writ with your return thereon, showing how you have executed the same.

Given under my hand and the seal of said court, at office in Vernon, Texas, this the 18th day of June, A. D. 1927.

(Seal) J. W. BROCK, Jr., Clerk
County Court, Wilbarger Co. Texas.
16-2t By Alice Gibson, Deputy.

Sam Shipp of Shreveport came in this week for a visit with his brother, Grady Shipp.

Mrs. O. A. McCaleb underwent an operation in Dallas this week. She is recovering nicely.

James McCamey and M. B. Fowler of Rising Star were Vernon visitors this week.

S. R. Crim was in Wichita Falls this week at the bedside of sick relatives.

CITATION BY PUBLICATION.

The State of Texas:

To the Sheriff of any Constable of Wilbarger County, greeting:

You are hereby commanded, that you summon by making publication of this Citation in some newspaper published in the County of Wilbarger, if there be a newspaper published therein, but if not, then in a newspaper published in the nearest County to said Wilbarger County for four consecutive weeks previous to the return day hereof, R. E. Foreman, whose residence is unknown, to be and appear before the Honorable District Court at the next regular term thereof, to be holden in the County of Wilbarger at the Court House thereof, in Vernon, Texas n the 15th day of August, 1927, then and there to answer a Petition filed in said Court, on the 25th day March, A. D. 1927. in a suit numbered on the Docket of said Court No. 4381, wherein Georgie Foreman is plaintiff and R. E. Foreman is defendant. The nature of the plaintiff's demand being as foll wit: Plaintiff says that d has been guilty of excesse treatment and outrages towa tiff of such a nature as to their further living together band and wife insupportable, and plaintiff prays the court that the bonds of matrimony now existing between plaintiff and defendant be dissolved and that she be granted a divorce from defendant.

Herein fail not and have you before said Court on the said first day of the next term thereof, this writ, with your endorsement thereon showing how you have executed the same.

Given under my hand and seal of said Court, at office in Vernon, Texas, this the 25th day of March, A. D. 1927

(Seal) MRS. J. A. WALKER,
Clerk District Court,
9-4t Wilbarger County, Texas.

Mrs. J. W. Hodges is visiting in Dallas.

Ep M. HANEY

Second Floor Dixon Bldg.

Phone 224

WILBARGER COUNTY

PIONEER

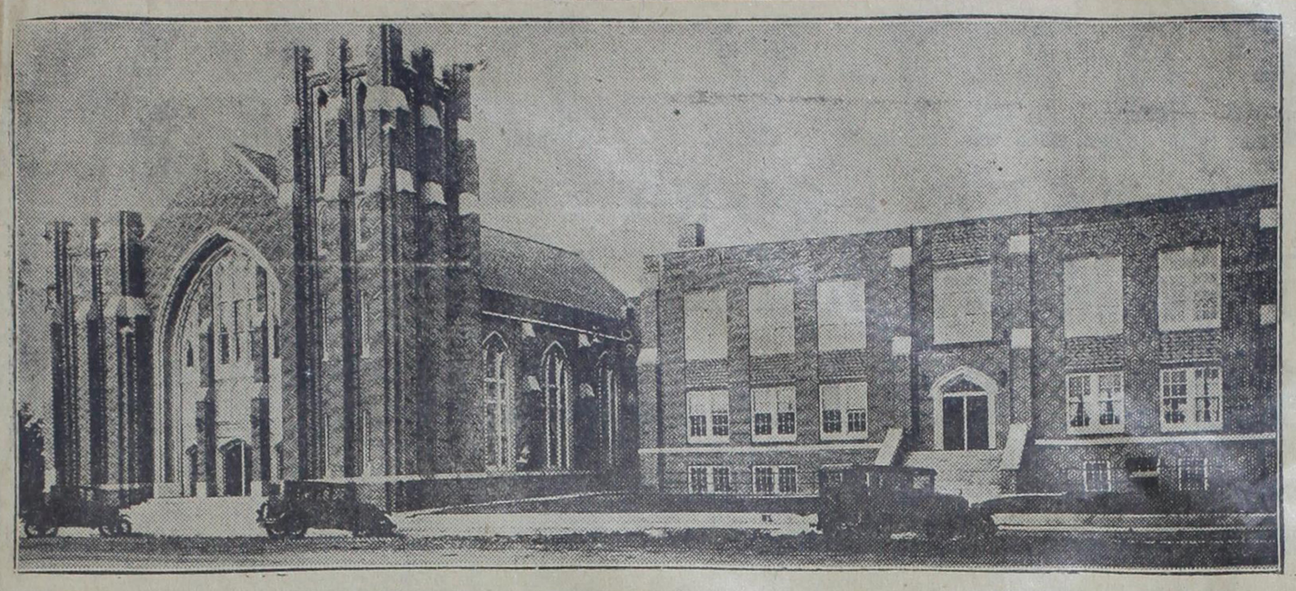
We are not an old firm in Ve
but our friendship for you is
as sincere as though we we

HERE TO SERVI
: - YOU - :
With a Full and Complete Li
Dry Goods, Clothing, Shoes,

Stone, Blake & Bail
CHAIN STORES
(C. E. Stone Co. Operated)

29

"Best Church Plant in Texas for Size of City," Is Vernon Claim



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH ORGANIZED IN 1884 BY MISSIONARY REV. CASON

The First Baptist church of Vernon was organized by Rev. J. H. Cason on July 17, 1886. There were less than twelve charter members. Of this number Mrs. A. T. Boger, Mrs. Ella Jones and E. Lowe are still living in Vernon.

Before the organization of the church Rev. Cason and Rev. L. J. Crutcher came here at various times and preached at homes or anywhere they could get a place for services. Both of these gentlemen were missionaries of the state mission board. The court house was used by the congregation as a house of worship until the school building was erected. The court house in those days was located in a frame building where the Farmers State Bank building is today and the first school house in which they met was on the junior high school site.

In 1889 the church had grown to such an extent that they decided to erect a building. A church was built on the site where the Central Christian parsonage stands today. The building was remodeled and enlarged and served the congregation until 1906 when it was sold to the congregation of the Central Christian church.

During the year 1889 J. A. Gilliland organized a Sunday school and this was said to be the first denominational Sunday school in the city.

Following the sale of the property on Cumberland street to the Christian church the Baptists started to building a building on Main and Paradise. When completed this building cost $14,000 and was rated as one of the best buildings in west Texas. This church served the people until last year when work was started on the present building which was completed in April. The new church cost around $150,000.

The Baptist church started with a membership of less than a dozen people and today has 1,125 members. The Sunday school attendance runs from 500 to 700 each Sunday. W. N. Stokes is superintendent of the Sunday school.

The list of pastors of the church since it was organized follows:

S. A. Beauchamp, Bennett Hatcher, John Holland, F. S. Payne, R. F. Stokes, J. M. P. Morrow, A. J. Tant, H. F. Buckner, J. B. Riddle, Holmes Nichols, D. B. Clapp, B. W. Owens, W. T. Rouse, L. J. Mims and E. F. Lyon.

The new church building is largely the result of two years of work on the part of the present pastor, Dr. E. F. Lyon. He came to Vernon from San Angelo where he had been pastor for fourteen years. He started to work to secure a new church shortly after he arrived here. Work was actually started the early part of 1926. Under the leadership of Dr. Lyon the congregation of the church and friends of the denomination raised approximately $100,000 in cash last year.

LUTZ RECALLS MANY INTERESTING EVENTS ABOUT EARLY DAYS

(Continued froom page 3)

beeves as they had to go through the Indian Territory.

Wore a Plug Hat.

When I first came to Vernon the first thing I found out was that I would enjoy better health if I attended to my own business and not see too much, which is just the reverse of what they do in this day and time. I came into Vernon on the stage wearing a fifty dollar suit of clothing and a half plug hat. The next morning "dyqed" out in all my finery I proceeded to take in the town, which was against all rules of frontier towns. A young lady at the hotel asked me if I was going out on the street with htat hat on, and I told her I was. She proceeded to enlighten me on the etiquet of frontier towns, which was "Thou shalt not wear any hard boiled hats in this town." She told me the cowboys would not let me wear it but would shoot it off my head and then proceed to shoot it full of holes. Being wise for my tender years I immediately laid this hat to one side and went across to Kinsey brothers store and purchased a regulation cowboy hat which entitled me to all the privileges of the town.

Vernon's First Orchestra.

I did not gamble and drink in those days, neither did I condemn those who did, which developed another bump of genuis on my noodle and placed me A-1 with the boys. I got so familiar with the cowboys that I went with them to their dances, playing the fiddle for them, sometimes taking two days to make the trip. The first orchestra of Vernon was born in 1885 and was composed of Mr. Carsey, Ewing, Lutz and a Mexican called Mando, who played the harp. This Mexican afterwards froze to death in a blizzard in the Panhandle. I was so identified with the cowboys orchestra that the boys would take my part. I will relate a little incident to show what they would do for me. One night I was in a saloon where the White Rose Cafe is now, and was watching a Mexican monte game when seven outlaws and train robbers entered the saloon and ranged along the bar. The leader, a man over six feet tall, commanded the attention of the fifty men at that time gambling in the saloon, banged his fist down on the bar and asked everyone in the house to come up and take a drink with him. Everyone but myself went up to the bar. When he saw me standing off by myself he asked what was the matter. I told him I did not drink. He came through the crowd pulling his six shooter at the same time, stating that I was going to drink with him. A cowboy by the name of John Davidson came out between me and this outlaw with his forty-five in his hand and told him that I was his friend and if I did not want to drink that I would not have to. Davidson was a two gun man and one of the best shots in this locality and this outlaw knew it, so he did not argue the matter and let Davidson and me have our way.

Houston Kills Jennings.

Temple Houston, the youngest son of Sam Houston, lived at Mobeetie at this time and was a state senator. I went up and down the stage route with him many times and we became close friends. He called me his prohibition friend. He was a rough diamond and one of the best orators of his time. After the railroads came into the Panhandle he moved to Woodward, Okla., where he practiced law. While living there the Jennings boys, who were also lawyers, had a difficulty with Houston and began shooting at him. He drew his gun and shot both Ed Jennings and his brother. He killed Ed but the other brother recovered. Al Jennings, who afterwards became an outlaw, was at home in Woodward at the time of the killing. He swore he would kill Houston but they never came together as Houston would not hunt trouble, neither would he run from it. He was one of the bravest men I ever met.

The first jail of Vernon was built of cotton wood logs, and was located a little northwest of the present court house. The first prisoner was L. N. Perkins and he was placed in the log jail. One of his friends gave him an axe and he cut out in 15 minutes and was back with the boys. The Commissioners then purchased a few kegs of large spikes and drove these logs full of spikes. The next prisoners were sure enough bad men and they proceeded to build a fire against the bottom log and burned a hole in the jail large enough for them to get out, when they bid the town of Vernon and its law abiding citizens a fond adieu. Vernon, in its early days, was a quiet, peaceful town until some one rubbed the fur the wrong way when it could produce more shooting to the square inch than any town in Texas. I have helped to dig many a grave for the unfortunate killed the night before, down where the Frisco depot is today.

OLD TIMER IN SECTION



GUINN WILLIAMS

Guinn Williams of Decatur says he was not able to live in Wilbarger county but that he was an old timer in this section of Texas. He has lived at Decatur for the past fifty years. Mr. Williams was state senator from his district for many years and for the last five years has represented this district in Congress.



FORWARD

WAS

The Word

of The Early Day Settlers

LIKEWISE, "FORWARD"

Has Been The Word of The

Coca Cola Bottling & Ice Co.

ESTABLISHED 1915

...e horse delivery wagon look-
...fter our customers at the be-
...ing.

Using the Language of the Post-Toastie King

"There's a Reason"

TODAY—8 motor trucks are kept constantly in use to satisfy the demand for our products.

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Phone 245 — EUNICE WILSON, Prop. — 1430 Main

IN THE EARLY DAYS

OF WILBARGER COUNTY

People Carried Their Money In Their Pockets

SINCE 1899 THIS BANK

Has furnished the people of Wilbarger County with a safe place to keep their money and valuable papers.

We extend congratulations to the Old Settlers and are happy to know that this bank had no small part in the development of Vernon and Wilbarger County from a small village and thinly settled country to a modern city and the leading farming county in the state.

Security is essential in this day and age. When you bank with us you have safeguards for your savings by men who know from experience how to meet every situation.



An inside view of our first banking house.

OFFICERS:

L. G. HAWKINS, President.
L. E. PIPER, Vice Pres.
W. O. ANDERSON, Vice Pres.
LON BYARS, Vice Pres.
S. C. HOGSETT, Cashier.
H. G. COLLEY, Asst. Vice Pres.
E. NORWOOD, Asst. Cashier.
D. B. MAY, Asst. Cashier.
W. H. HUGGINS, Asst. Cashier.

The Waggoner National Bank

OLDEST BANK IN WILBARGER COUNTY

Mrs. Ella Jones Was Second Woman To Arrive In Vernon

AGLE FLAT WAS WILD PLACE WHEN YOUNG BRIDE ARRIVED IN 1880

he sun was a burning ball of on the western horizon one Sun- afternoon in September, 1880, n a covered wagon came to a in front of the R. F. Jones store agle Flat and a young lady, who w days previous had been Miss Ella Creager of Grayson county but now Mrs. R. F. Jones, stepped out and looked over her future home. And today talking of that eventful day Mrs. Jones says it looked to her like the prairie was afire as the sun slowly disappeared.

For forty seven years she has made her home in this city and from the small three house village she has witnessed Vernon grow to its present size.

When Mrs. Jones arrived in Vernon, then called Eagle Flat, there were three buildings. The store owned by her husband and located where the Famous is today, a cafe run by the Rupperts about where the court house now stands and another small building occupied by four men about middle way of the west side of the square. Mrs. Ruppert and Mrs. Jones were the only ladies here.

"We thought we had a big town when C. M. Byars arrived three weeks later," Mrs. Jones stated, "and brought his wife which gave us three women in town." She said the Byars camped back of Mr. Jones' store and Mr. Byars went back to Gainesville to bring some lumber out to build a house.

The old batchelors living nearby were a Mr. Barby, T. Windsor Robinson, J. A. Nabers and Mrs. Jones said the best she could recall the fourth one was Uel Musick. Mr. Jones came out here in 1879 and settled. He took up a section of land running from Pease river south and later gave a half section of this land for the town of Vernon.

Mrs. Jones first home in Vernon was in the back end of the store Later they moved a little log house back of the store to use for a kitchen. One interesting incident about the kitchen was told by Mrs. Jones. She



MRS. ELLA JONES.

said they never thought of closing the doors and windows for lots of times when she would return from a visit with some of the neighbors she would find a quarter of a beef or a turkey on the kitchen table. One morning she went out to cook breakfast and just as she reached the door two big wolves came dashing out of the kitchen and nearly frightened her to death.

Mr. Jones had a store in which he kept groceries and a few clothing, such as the cowboys needed. Mrs. Jones said she would never forget how she felt when she walked in the little store the afternoon she arrived in Vernon. The Ruppert Cafe was out on the square and later Darby, Robinson and his friends put in a small stock of groceries.

Mrs. Jones said Mrs. Ruppert had a baby about five months old and one afternoon she was over visiting with her when two cowboys rode into the cafe and ordered supper. One of the men pulled his six shooter out and leveled it on the baby, who was sleeping. Mrs. Jones said the mother was scared to death and so was she. Mrs Jones knew the man and told him to put his pistol up as it might go off and kill the baby. The man replied that not a hair on its head would be harmed. She argued with him and finally got the cowboys to ride out and she took the baby over to their store and kept it until Mrs. Ruppert got the supper cooked.

Another event Mrs. Jones remembers very vividly was when the store was shot up by a bunch of drunk cowboys off the range. Some freighters came through with whiskey and gave the boys several drinks. They got pretty well organized and started shooting up the town. Mr. Jones came out and tried to get them stoped and told them his wife was in the house. As was the usual reply the cowboys told him not a hair on her head would be harmed. Mrs. Jones said she could hear them talking and the second shot came through the store about two feet over her head She ran to the back room that served as a bed room and sat on the bed. She said she never felt so tall in her life. Finally Mr. Jones told them if they shot again it would not be good for them. They shot and he ran in the store to get his gun. Mrs. Jones said her husband had bought some shelled corn and as they did not have anywhere to put it they had piled it in the corner of the bed room. She heard him coming and knew he had to come in there to get his gun. When Mr. Jones rushed in she locked the door and threw the key in the corn Mrs. Jones said he got awfully mad but she told him he was alone and if he went out there he might get killed and so he had to stay in and after a few minutes the men rode off. The Rupperts and Byars came over and asked if they had been hurt Mrs. Jones told them no but Mr. Jones was still mad. She said it was late in the afternoon before they found the key and could get out of the room.

Made Six Trips in Wagon.

Mrs. Jones said she made six trips back to Grayson county visiting in a wagon. Two trips were interesting. On one trip they had to stay in Wichita Falls, then a small village, two days waiting for the Wichita river to go down so they could cross. On another trip Mr. Jones got sick and she had to drive. She got lost and finally had to camp way in the night. She said next morning Mr. Jones was better and showed her the road to get out. While camping on the Wichita Mrs. Jones said she never heard as many wolves in her life. She said she was afraid to move and almost held her hand over her baby's mouth to keep it from crying.

On another trip they reached a creek coming back and it was up They camped and the other bank had several wagons. One of the women across the creek had a baby with the croup and no medicine. She yelled across to Mrs. Jones and wanted to know if she had any medicine. Mrs. Jones said she always carried a little box of medicine so told her yes. The woman wanted her to bring it over. There was a foot log over the creek and the stage had come up so the stage driver rigged up a rope across the creek and helped Mrs. Jones across and Mr. Jones brought her baby over. Late that afternoon the creek went down enough for the wagons to cross.

Mr. Jones built a house on Pease street in 1883. Mrs. Jones went back to Grayson county on a visit while it was being erected. When it was finished they did not have anywhere for a school so Mr. Jones let them use the house until she returned. Mrs. Jones said there were big spots on the floor where the school children dropped ink bottles. She moved into the house in 1883 and has lived there since that time. Mrs. Jones said it was the only house in that part of town and it looked like it was two miles from there to town.

Indians Very Curious.

Mrs. Jones said the Indians use to camp on the ground just west of her home when they came to Vernon and as high as fifty tepees were pitched there at one time. They were very curious and investigated everything. She said at night they would come over and look in the windows. Anything left loose around the yard would be carried off by them. She said one time Mr. Jones had a bunch of bois d'arc posts stacked in the yard. He was gone and the Indians kept coming over and wanting some of the posts. She made out like she did not know what they wanted. When Mr. Jones came in that night she told him about it so he called them over and gave the braves some post. The Indians went back and before long had some very beautiful bows and arrows cut out of them.

First Train Came in.

When the first train arrived in Vernon in 1886 it was a great day in Vernon. Everyone turned out and went to the depot. Mrs. Jones said there were lots of Indians in town and when the train stopped they took charge. She said they climbed on top of the coaches, under the train and all over the engine to see how the iron horse was made. They were so thick the officers had to be called to get them away so the train could be moved.

Mail Came by Doans.

Mrs. Jones said the first mail service in Vernon was via Doans. The stage line went by the Doans store and the mail was brought from there to Worsham Springs where Mr. Rector handled the mail. Worsham Springs is the Condon Springs of today.

Shooting Common.

Shooting around Vernon was not uncommon in the early days. Mrs. Jones said a man lived where Dr. Hix's home is today and one morning he was found shot to death along on Wilbarger about where Mrs. Johnnie Williams lives. Three men were shot out on a ranch and brought in to Vernon in a wagon. Mrs. Jones said it was pouring down rain and she was standing in the store door as the wagon came down the street with the three bodies in it, a wagon sheet over them and the horses in a fast trot.

Vernon's first cemetery was down about where the Frisco depot is today and was later moved to East View.

Sand Storms of Today Mild.

"When I hear women today talking about sand storms I think they should have lived in Vernon during the early days when we had sure enough sand storms. There were not many houses and the sand would have small pebbles in it and they would hurt when they hit you. Mrs. Jones said she had seen the sand so thick you could not see across the street. One time a team ran away during a sand storm and came down the street. She said she could hear the wagon but never did see it.

Another thing that gave the women of the early days lots of trouble was the cattle. Mrs. Jones said they could hear the cattle bawling before they got to town and every woman ran and put down her windows and shut the doors. They not only stirred up lots of dirt but brought with them big flies. She said the only screens they had were made of mesquite netting tacked on the windows. She said when the cattle reached Vernon and smelled the water in the river they would sometimes stampede and go in every direction.

Great Church Woman.

Mrs. Jones has always been a great church worker. She has a list of the pastors of the Baptist church from its start. Before the church was organized missionaries came here once a month and preached. Mrs. Jones said one of the greatest moments in her life wsa when the new Baptist church building was completed and opened for services. In discussing the pioneers of a country the men always get most of the praise but in this article The Times has tried to pay tribute to the woman who has lived in Vernon the longest and has seen the town grow from its three small buildings to a modern city.

NO BATH HOUSE.

"Have some whiskey?"

"No, thanks, I never touch anything but water."

"Well, I'm not asking you to wash your hands in it."

SHORT TERM COURSE.

First Looy D.D.—College only costs me three hundred dollars this year.

Second L. Dot Dope—How come?

First L. L.D.—Well, you see, I was fired out after the first week!

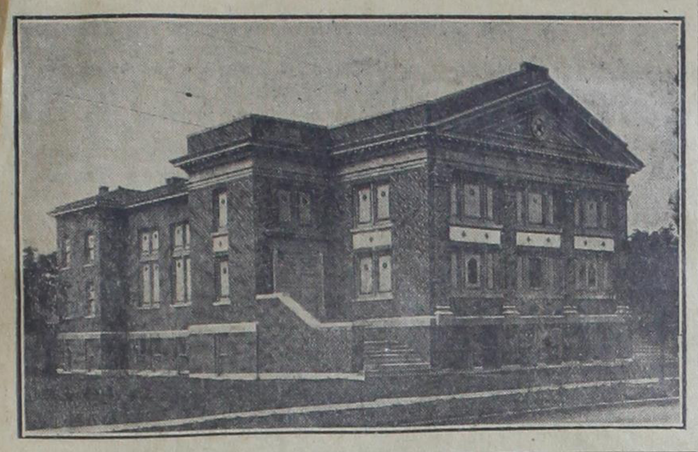
HE IS IT.

Freddie the Frosh gave his fraternity pin to that young Davis kid who lived out on Kay street. One day last week when he called on her a new maid opened the door.

"Miss Frances is engaged, sir," said the maid.

"I know it," replied Freddie, "I'm what she's engaged to."

BYTERIAN CHURCHES ORGANIZED IN 1888 AND 1890 IN CITY OF VERNON

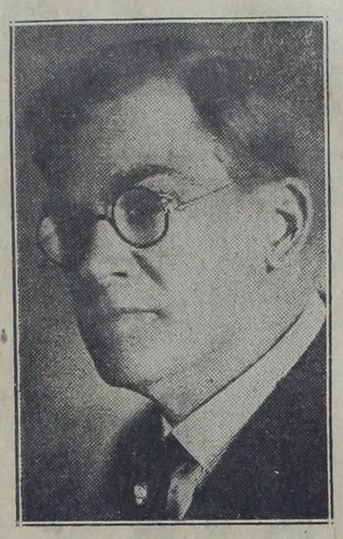


In the early days there were two Presbyterian churches in Vernon. They later consolidated and both branches worshipped in the building erected on Wilbarger street.

The Cumberland Presbyterian church was organized on December 9, 1888, by Rev. W. D. Weir with twenty-nine charter members. In 1892 the congregation started a building on Wilbarger street and when the dry years hit work stopped The walls had been erected and they stood through several years. In May 1899, the building was completed and the dedication service was preached by Rev. Charles Manton of Paris. Rev. R. E. Chandler was pastor of the church at the time.

The Main Street Presbyterian church was organized on March 12, 1890 by Rev. W. N. Dickey of Dallas with thirty-four charter members. Rev. J. R. Jacobs served as first pastor of the church and on his resignation in 1896 Rev. J. Smith was called and stayed until 1898.

Dr. E. L. Moore came to Vernon pastor of the church in 1921 from Piney Grove. Under his leadership congregation put up a beautiful church building on the site of old one. The new house includes the modern conveniences to be found in a church. It has been a community center since its erection. The basement has been equipped with gymnasium apparatus and class rooms used during the winter months



DR. E. L. MOORE.

under a competent instructor. The Boy Scouts also use the basement of the church for their meeting place.

In addition to his duties as pastor of the church Dr. Moore has been chairman of the Wilbarger County Welfare Association and has done a great work for the town and county along this line.

WILLIAMS FAMILY ARRIVED IN 1891

S. H. Williams and his family came into Vernon in 1891, according to Blair A. Williams. They rode up from the depot in the little street car and Mr. Williams said he had never seen a sand storm since like the one that was blowing that afternoon.

The Williams moved out on a farm and for several years were in the cattle business. After carrying on this business for seven years Mr. Williams traded his cattle for a business in Chillicothe and since that time has been in business in that city. Blair Williams and the late O. A. Brunson, moved to Vernon and started the firm of Brunson & Williams.

YOUNG TENNESSIAN LANDS HERE IN 1889

On October 11, 1889, W. F. McKee when but a very young man arrived in Wilbarger county from Lebanon, Tenn. In speaking of his early arrival here Mr. McKee said that Vernon had been his home since that time.

After locating in this country Mr. McKee said that he went to work at the flour mill in Vernon and was one of its employes for seven years. He has put in several years of his life in this country farming, now owning one of the best farms in the Lockett community.

As well known to numbers whom have been here any length of time Mr. McKee has not yet, so to speak, bound himself in the holy bonds of wedlock.

HALL FAMILY CAME TO VERNON IN '87

Mrs. C. L. Hall and her family moved to Vernon in 1887. Her husband was a saddler and harness maker and during the early days Mr. Hall made many saddles for the cowboys of this part of the state and lots of the old timers took their harness to Charley Hall to be mended He died a number of years ago.

Her son, S. H. Hall, has been city secretary of Vernon for fifteen years and knows more about the city's business than anyone in town. Mr. Hall is able to give all the figures on the valuations, taxes, etc., any time he is called upon. Mr. Hall said he came to Wilbarger county the same day that Steve Castlebury arrived. Mr. Hall was born in Vernon on March 3, 1888.

Hurry! Hurry! Hurry!

You People of

VERNON

A MAMMOTH, HOMERUN PROGRAM FOR YOU AT

Chautauqua

Redpath-Horner

JULY 1-7

THE GREATEST VALUE FOR YOUR MONEY!
YOUNG PEOPLE, WHERE CAN YOU GO FOR A GREATER OPPORTUNITY??
Comedy, Drama, Music, Opera, Inspirational and Informative Lectures
A WEEK OF EVENTS TO COMMAND YOUR ATTENTION AND ENLARGE YOUR VISION!!

"THE FIREFLY"
Tuneful, Comedy-Opera, with
LAURA TOWNSLEY McCOY

"FINE FEATHERS"
Tense Emotional Drama

"THE PATSY"
Comedy of American Home Life
By Barry Conners

"AN EVENING IN HAWAII"
Vierra's Hawaiian Singers and Players

CHESTER M. SANFORD
"You and Your Job"
Practical Address on Vocational Guidance.

A. B. MACDONALD
"Name Your Poison"
Leading Authority on Prohibition.

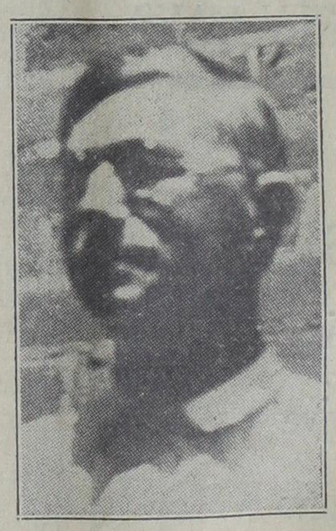
PREMIER MALE QUARTET

CHARLES H. PLATTENBURG
"A Modern Tale of Two Cities."

IRENE TIHEN
Outstanding Athlete and Health Expert.

Artists Trio, Evelyn Gaston, Joy Johanneo, and other Outstanding Players, Entertainers and Singers.
Redpath-Horner.

COMMISSIONER REYNOLDS FROM HASKELL



J. M. REYNOLDS.

J. M. Reynolds, county commissioner from the north side of the river came to Wilbarger county from Haskell county. He says originally he came from the state of Arkansas.

Mr. Reynolds farmed in the west part of the county for a number of years and in 1924 was elected county commissioner. In 1926 he was re-elected.

ROBERT BOYLE CAME TO COUNTY IN 1881

The late Robert Boyle came to Wilbarger county from San Antonio in 1881 and started a sheep ranch down on Beaver creek south of the South Vernon oil eld. He then moved his family to the county in 1889 and for a number of years they lived on the ranch.

Mr. and Mrs. Boyle and children came from the north of Ireland to the United States. Wm. Crutchfield stated a few days ago that he had bought many a pound of wool from Mr. Boyle. After moving to Vernon he was associated with the Parker-Smith Grocery store. He retired from active business several years before his death.

Mrs. Boyle and her daughter, Miss Janie, live on Texas street and her other daughter, Mrs. Eunice Wilson, lives a short ways from them.

BELL FAMILY HERE SINCE YEAR 1885

Coming to this county from Dallas county in 1885, the late H. A Bell, who died something near three years ago, settled with his family in the northern part of Wilbarger county. For years the community in which Mr. Bell resided was known as the "Bell community," for reason of the fact that his family was prominently identified with that section.

Soon after arriving in this country Mr. Bell bought three sections of land. He established a home and today his wife, Mrs. Emily F. Bell, who survives him, still resides at the old ranch place. Six of her sons that are living are all married and live at nice farm homes near their mother. They are W. F., W. A., Roy, Arthur, Lloyd and Sebie.

BEAVERS FAMILY CAME HERE IN 1888

One of the pioneer families of the north side is that of W. H. Beavers.

Mr. and Mrs. Beavers are native Texans and came from Denton to Wilbarger county in 1888, and settled on the farm where they now live. Their neighbors at this time were R. B. Richardson, A. J. Parks, John Miller, James Stafford and L. J. Hensley.

Mr. Beavers after fencing his land engaged in farming and stock raising. Wheat and oats were the principal crops. It was not thought possible at that time to grow cotton in this country, and the nearest gin was in Clay county. During the lean dry years in West Texas this family suffered all the hardships endured by the early settlers. They saw their crops year after year wither and die from drought and hot winds. In 1893 there was two banks in Vernon; both of them failed during that year. When asked whether or not he lost money through these failures Mr. Beavers smilingly shook his head and said, "No, I didn't have any to lose."

During the forty years that Bill Beavers has lived in Wilbarger county he has stood high in the estimation of the people. His word has always been as good as his bond. In good times and in bad he has been a liberal supporter of the church; has always worked in the interest of good schools, and has in every way been an active progressive citizen. At the age of sixty-seven he is still active in the management of his large farm, and looks to be a man not much past middle life.

Cotton and diversified farming has brought him merited success and he and his good wife now look back on those pioneer days, not with regret but with pleasure, because the hardships endured brought out the best there was in them and helped to make them the splendid citizens they are today.

MRS. ALLISON CAME TO VERNON IN 1889



Mrs. J. R. Allison came to Vernon from Terrell in February, 1889. Her husband, who died a few years back, was a painting contractor in the city for many years. Mrs. Allison said that like all the old timers they had their ups and downs in the early days.

Later Mr. Allison was manager of a racket store in Vernon. During the last years of his life he was again in the paint contracting business. The year before he died Mr. Allison was in bad health and confined to his home.

Mrs. Allison has three daughters, Mrs. R. R. Smith who lives in Knoxville, Tenn.; Mrs. J. E. Edwards of Georgia and Miss Merle, who lives with her mother at their home on Wilbarger street.

YOU ARE ALWAYS WELCOME AT SWASTEEKA

PIONEER CITIZENS of Wilbarger County.

A comfortable seat inside the store awaits you. . . . Pay the Swasteeka a visit and inspect Vernon's latest self - serving grocery store. . . . . .

SWASTEEKA

Making New Customers and Friends Every Day

1825 PEASE ST. IN SHOWERS BLDG.

D. L. GREENE HAS BEEN HERE SINCE '88



D. L. GREENE.

Mr. and Mrs. D. L. Greene came to Wilbarger county in 1888 and settled at Oklaunion. He had a large farm nearby and worked this until 1912 when he moved to Vernon. Like most of the wheat raisers of that day he made big crops when the seasons were right but hit it hard during the dry years. Mrs. Greene said they seldom saw him in the day time during those early days as he would leave before sun-up for the farm and would not get back until way after dark.

Mrs. Greene said they had a well but the water was no good for washing. One night she told Mr. Greene they needed some water from a tank and he said he would get it next morning. He had a hack and into this vehicle he put some barrels and buckets and saddled his horse and tied a rope to the horn of the saddle. When he started off in the dark he ran into the wood pile and when the tongue struck the horse business picked up. The horse pitched and bawled and the harder he would pitch the harder the tongue hit him. Mr. Greene said during all this time he was riding the saddle and trying to stop the horse from pitching.

After he quit farming in 1912 he gave his children part of his land and sold some. Since moving to Vernon he has been looking after his places. Mr. Greene is vice president of the First State Bank.

Mr. and Mrs. Greene's children are Mrs. W. Hale Davis and Mrs. A. M. Tacker of Vernon, Mrs. C. P. Smith of Oklahoma City, Mrs. J. S. Buchanan, Mrs. W. Hy Rogers and C. D. Greene and Mrs. A. H. Alexander of Vernon and Judge Greene of Muleshoe.

MULLERS CAME TO COUNTY IN 1891

Mrs. Betty Muller of the Hinds community came to Vernon with her husband in 1891. He had bought the farm on which Mrs. Muller lives now and while it was being improved lived on the Carson place in West Vernon. Mrs. Muller has six children, Mrs. J. A. Baird of Vernon, Claude and Clyde Muller of Hinds, W. E. Muller of Frederick, C. M. Muller of Texhoma, Okla., and H. E. Muller of Ennis.

SUMNER FAMILY ARE AMONG OLD TIMERS

The J. C. Sumner family are among the old settlers of Wilbarger county, coming here from Missouri. Mr. Sumner was one of the prominent ranchmen and land owners of the county. The family has lived in Vernon ever since arriving here. The family home is located in the west part of town and is a large three story structure with beautiful grounds.

Mr. Sumner owned considerable land in the east part of the county on which are located some of the best oil wells in the county. Mr. Sumner died a number of years ago and Mrs. Sumner and her daughters, Misses Adelle, Mary Tom and Alice, live in the family home.

Besides the three daughters above Mrs. Sumner's other children are Mrs. Johnny Wood and Mrs. Fred Hanna of Altus, and Joe and Dan Sumner of Vernon.

L. D. Terrell returned last week from a trip to Arkansas.

Miss Rosalyn Coleman of Lubbock was here last week visiting relatives.

SAMUEL FAMILY HERE IN SPRING OF 1889

The H. A. Samuel family moved to Vernon in the spring of 1889 from Dallas county. Mr. Samuel followed the carpenter's trade for several years and then started in the barber business and followed this trade for many years. During the early days Mr. Samuel played for lots of the cowboy dances over the country. He enjoys playing and when in the barber shop many of the old time fiddlers gathered in and put on impromptu programs.

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel's children are Mrs. Hugh Davis and Mrs. L. M. Brown of Electra, Mrs. J. M. Holder and Louie A. Samuel of Vernon, Mrs. Edd Gilliland of California, Mrs. B. M. Johnson of Cleburne, and Barnes, Garner and Anetta Samuel of Vernon.

MURCHISON CAME HERE FROM TERRELL

The E. T. Murchison family moved to Vernon from Terrell in 1888. Mr. Murchison was in the implement business here for a number of years and after disposing of that was in the life insurance business. Mr. Murchison died in 1908 and his son, Frank, continued the insurance business. The mother died in 1923. Frank and his sister, Miss Lillian, still live in the city.

CREAGERS ARRIVED IN COUNTY IN 1880

The late J. A. Creager and his family moved to Wilbarger county from Grayson county in the late fall of 1880 and settled on a farm west of town. After a few years they moved into Vernon where they made their home. Miss Nina Creager said that her father was postmaster of Vernon for a number of years. He was also very active in the Methodist church and the first church of that denomination in the county was organized in his home.

There are six children, Joe and Miss Nina Creager of Vernon, Mrs. W. S. Overton of near Oklaunion, Logan of Mineral Wells, Jim of Fort Worth and Mrs. F. D. Little of Electra.

MORRIS FAMILY HAS BEEN HERE SINCE '89



MRS. P. M. MORRIS.

The P. M. Morris family came to Wilbarger county in 1889 from Hawkins, Wood county, and settled at Harrold. Mr. Morris was in the lumber business in Harrold for many years and also had farms in that part of the county. Mr. Morris and his sons engaged in farming and stock raising while he was in business at Harrold and in those early days he took a leading part in the development of the county.

In 1906 Mr. and Mrs. Morris moved to Vernon. Mr. Morris died a few years back and Mrs. Morris and her son, G. C. Morris, live at the family residence on Wilbarger street.

Mrs. Morris has four sons, John B., D. E., Andrew P., and G. C. Morris. The three oldest sons have been farming and handling land since reaching manhood.

G. C. Morris went with the Herring National Bank in 1904 when just a young man. He has advanced with the growth of the bank and is today cashier of the institution.

MRS. CALLIE HILLIARD WENT THROUGH EARLY DAYS HERE

In a record of the early day settlers of this county, especially those who came here before 1890, rightfully belongs the name of Mrs. Callie Hilliard of Odell, who at the time of their location in this county was the wife of the late Jim Sanderson who died several years ago while in Canada.

Mr. Sanderson, with his wife located in the northern part of Wilbarger county near Doans. At that time just a few neighbors were around them and Mrs. Hilliard now can recall many interesting events of those early days.

Mrs. Hilliard was married to A. M. Hilliard at Odell several years ago and they live comfortably at a nice home in that city.

KINCHELOE

August Schoppa visited John Kretchman Monday evening.

Ernest Karcher made a business trip to this community Monday.

William Schur visited his daughter, Mrs. Alma Lehman Wednesday afternoon.

G. H. Lehman and son Walter, were Vernon visitors Wednesday.

Miss Mildred Weekly who has been visiting on the plains returned home last week.

Walter Lehman visited his cousin, Leonard Fiesler Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Gubbisberg were Vernon visitors Thursday.

Walter and Albert Guggisberg visited their uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. H. Lehman Thursday night.

Miss Catherine Rein of Decatur visited her sister, Mrs. Tandy Belew last week.

Willie Heinemier returned home from Austin last week. He has been attending college there.

Prof. M. F. Heinemier of Leavenworth, Kans., who taught school here four years ago, is visiting his parents, Rev. and Mrs. L. Heinemier.

Among the Vernon visitors Saturday were Misses Hulda and Clara Lehman, Eula Vaughn, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Minter, Walter Schoppa, Walter Lehman, Theodor Heinemier, John Kretchman, C. Schoppa, Carl and Robert Gaheler.

Arthur and Vernie Graf of Vernon were visitors in this community Saturday.

Miss Dora Lee Nix spent the week end with Miss Annie Lee Coston of Vernon.

Oswald Zach of Lockett visited Mr. and Mrs. Albert Schoppa Sunday.

J. D. Nix and Marion Rowan made a business trip to Clarendon Saturday.

Misses Annie Lee Coston, Oneta Craig, and Cora Mae Baughn visited Misses Hattie and Pauline Nix Sunday afternoon.

W. D. Busby of Lockett was a business visitor in this community Saturday morning.

Godfrey Guggisberg was a visitor in this community Saturday evening.

NOTICE—SHERIFF'S SALE.

The State of Texas, County of Wilbarger:

By virtue of an Order of Sale issued out of the Honorable County Court of Wilbarger County, on 21st day of June, A. D. 1927, by the Clerk thereof, in the case of the Continental Supply Company versus Ray Morrison, No. 2205, and to me as Sheriff, directed and delivered, I will proceed to sell for cash, within the hours prescribed by law for Sheriff's Sales, on the first Tuesday in July, A. D. 1927, it being the 5th day of said month, at the Star Transfer & Storage Co., 1315 Main St., in the town of Vernon, the following described property, to-wit:

Steel wire drilling line (7-8 " x 3000 ' steel wire drilling line), levied on as the property of Ray Morrison to satisfy a judgment amounting to $417.70 in favor of the Continental Supply Company, and costs of suit.

Given under my hand this 22nd day of June, A. D. 1927.

W. FRANK EDMONSON, Sheriff,
23-2t Wilbarger Co. Texas.

NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that the partnership between O. R. Wells and M. I. Wells of Vernon, Wilbarger County, Texas, under the firm name of Ve-O-La Shoppe, was dissolved on the 29th day of June, A. D. 1927. All debts due to the said partnership are to be paid and those due from the same discharged at 1716 Fannin street, in Vernon, Texas, where the business will be continued under the firm name of Ve-O-La Shop, Inc.

June 29, 1927.

O. R. WELLS,
30-2t M. I. WELLS.

Fergeson Drug Company

YOUR DRUG STORE SINCE THE EARLY DAYS

This store has served the Old Settlers in Wilbarger and adjoining counties since 1896. Today we give to the Old Timers as well as the new comers the best in QUALITY and SERVICE.

"WHEN YOU WANT DRUGS BAD, YOU WANT THEM GOOD"

FERGESON DRUG COMPANY

We Will Never Forget You

PIONEER CITIZENS

OF WILBARGER COUNTY

and

We Don't Want You to Forget Us

Brunson & Williams

"Outfitters for Men and Boys"

BE THE FIRST TO CELEBRATE THE 4TH

∴ VERNON ∴

THEATRE

MIDNIGHT MATINEE

SUNDAY NIGHT

Starting at 12:01 a. m.

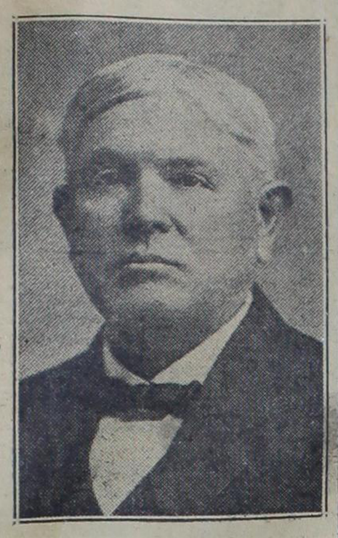
July 4th

GLORIA SWANSON

in

"THE LOVES OF SUNYA"

VETERAN DRUG MAN CAME HERE IN 1885



T. M. FERGESON.

T. M. Fergeson came to Vernon in January, 1885, from Van Alstyne He started to work for T. H. Jones at $20 a month and his board. In 1886 Mr. Fergeson bought out Dr H. H. Rhoads' interest in the Pendleton drug store and for ten years the firm of Pendleton & Fergeson was in business. He sold out in 1896 to Mr. Pendleton and started in business for himself. In 1901 Mr. Fergeson had the building erected in which the Fergeson Drug company is today. In 1918 Roy McConihe and F. M. Taylor purchased an interest in the business and they bought Mr. Fergeson out in 1921. Later Y. H. Pitts bought and interest in the store.

Mr. Fergeson is known all over this part of the state and in the early days sold drugs to practically every family for miles around. He tells many interesting stories of the pioneer days in Wilbarger county. During the past few years Mr. Fergeson has been living at his home on Wilbarger street. For several months he and his wife have been at San Antonio for his health.

Mrs. Gaines Tanner and sons of Dallas have returned home after a visit in Vernon.

WALKER FAMILY CAME TO COUNTY IN 1883

R. W. Walker is among the really old pioneers of Wilbarger county. He came here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Walker in 1883 and settled in the southeast part of the county. His mother died a few months back and his father calls Electra his home but spends most of his time visiting with his children.

As a young man growing up Mr. Walker rode the range and farmed. He was all over the south part of the county and perhaps knows it better than most of the old settlers.

In 1899 he was married to Miss Maggie Norwood. They have been living here since that time. In 1914 Mr. Walker was elected county treasurer and served four years. For the past few years he has been deputy sheriff under Frank Edmonson.

JUDGE BROWN HAS COURT ADJOURNED IN GREER COUNTY

An interesting incident of early day courts while Judge G. A. Brown occupied the district bench is recalled by many old settlers. The incident resulted in adjournment of court at Mangum, Greer county, then a part of the state of Texas, but claimed as part of the Territory of Oklahoma. Because of its doubtful status, many cattle rustlers and outlaws made Greer county their rendezvous, and there was a continual struggle for supremacy between law and order and outlawry. It was not an uncommon thing in those days for a "gang" to suddenly swoop down upon a jail or court room where their leader or a member was held or being tried and rescue him from the clutches of the law, often making it a necessary or wise precaution for the judge to have one or two pistols within reach and deputy sheriffffs stationed in the court room with Winchesters. Many famous trials were held at Mangum.

However, the incident referred to was one resulting from orderly processes of law rather than physical interference with its enforcement. The United States Supreme Court had been called upon to decide the boundary controversy, and one day while Judge Brown was holding court at Mangum, before any railroad had built nearer to Mangum than Quanah, a courier, who had hurriedly ridden on horseback from Quanah, rushed into the court room with the word from the supreme court at Washington that Greer county had been recognized as a part of the territory of Oklahoma, with the South Fork of Red river as the boundary instead of North Fork. Being a Texas judge Judge Brown immediately adjourned court for lack of jurisdiction. Later he was retained by and represented Texans who had settled in Greer county under Texas homestead laws, and won maoy rights for them before the U. S. Supreme Court at Washington.

Judge Brown was district judge and lived here for fourteen years, until 1904, and had ten counties in his district. His picture hangs in the district court room in Vernon. He brought his family here from his ranch in the Panhandle, on which ground Lelia Lake is now located. Mrs. Brown organized Vernon's first woman's club, the Yamparika Club, and her love for trees and flowers made their home one of the beauty spots of the country. The original home place was obtained by Vernon club women some time ago, and is now a city park, Allingham Park, and many of the old trees still remain. Judge Brown moved to Oklahoma to practice law at Mangum When statehood came to Oklahoma and while he was on a visit with his brothers at Winters, Texas, some friends at Mangum placed his name on the ballot as candidate for district judge. He was elected and later re-elected, holding the office from statehood in 1908 until 1915. His ability was early recognized by the state supreme court, which assigned him to try many famous cases over every part of Oklahoma. In 1914 his friends over the state pleaded with him to run for governor, but he preferred instead to reach the top of his profession in his state, and became a candidate for and was easily elected justice of the supreme court of Oklahoma, taking office in January, 1915, at Oklahoma City. He died in October, 1915, shortly after returning from the funeral of his uncle, Tom Brown, who had been chief justice of the Texas supreme court for many years and in whose office he had studied law and was a partner in his earlier days at Sherman. He lived to the age of 66, and throughout his judicial career and private life was known for his fairness, his friendliness toward all mankind, and his love of hard work. He died while at work in his office in Oklahoma City, "in harness," as would have been his wish.

Mrs. G. A. Brown is living at San Diego, Calif., with their daughter, Genevieve. A son, Floyd R. Brown, owns an electrical concern at Owensboro, Ky. His other two sons are lawyers, Peyton E. Brown of Blackwell, Okla., and Leon H. Brown of Vernon.

PIONEER SETTLERS OF WILBARGER COUNTY

ACCEPT OUR CONGRATULATIONS

BECAUSE it was you who paved the way in Vernon for us to conduct a Dry Goods Store

REMEMBER WE ARE HERE TO SERVE YOU

The ACORN STORE
ALWAYS
DEPENDABLE MERCHANDISE

Pioneer Citizens

OF WILBARGER COUNTY

Since it was you who came to this country ahead of us, and by your perseverance helped to make possible wonderful opportunities for those of us living here today

We Think There's Nothing Too Good for You!

We have been selling you high quality merchandise at reasonable prices for 15 years. . . . . STILL HERE TO SERVE YOU!

Dixon Dry Goods Co.

VERNON'S LEADING DEPARTMENT STORE

BREAST PLATE HAS INTERESTING STORY

Visitors in the district clerk's office have often stopped and examined a piece of iron that stays over in one corner. This was a breast plate worn by one of the bad men of the early days.

One cold wintery morning a man rushed over to the court house and woke up Charley Landers and R. L. Castlebury, officers who slept there and told them a woman had been killed. They jumped up and dressed and upon reaching the street were joined by Pat Henry, deputy sheriff. The two men were trailed north and the officers overtook them in the brush just this side of Pease river. They walked along never looking back until the officers were within ten feet of them and both whirled only to be looking down the barrels of guns.

Mr. Landers leaped off his horse and tackled the big man who had a Winchester and Mr. Castlebury had the other one covered and Mr. Henry was trying to keep Landers' man covered. Mr. Castlebury said his man had two six shooters in his belt so he made him throw them away and had Henry cover him and he started to Landers' aid. He kept yelling to Landers to shoot but he would not. The Winchester was finally disposed of and just as Mr. Castlebury reached him the man was trying to draw a pistol. Mr. Castlebury said he stuck his pistol against the man's temple and told him to put his hands up or he would blow his head off. The man hurriedly raised his hands.

The two men were marched back to town and placed in jail. They started to search them and found the big man had an awful hard chest. The officers pulled his shirt off and found this breast plate fastened to him. The plate was taken outside and all the officers tried their guns on it but none would penetrate the metal. A few years later Johnny Williams got a high powered gun that finally made a hole through it.

The woman was a witness against the men in Oklahoma and while severely wounded recovered from the gunshot.

DR. WHITE SETTLED NEAR CHILLICOTHE

Dr. H. R. White came to this country and settled near Chillicothe on the county line in 1885. He owns several sections of land in that part of the country. He moved to Vernon and practiced medicine for many years. He makes his home on Texas street.

MASSIE FAMILY CAME HERE FROM HOUSTON

F. L. Massie came to Vernon with his father, the late J. S. Massie, in 1891 from Houston. His father was deputy sheriff and tax collector under Johnny Williams and later was in the abstract and insurance business. He had the Herring National Bank building put up. Mr. Massie was mayor of Vernon in 1897-1898 He died at Roswell in 1925.

Frank said when they came here his father had $50,000 in cash and when the next few dry years were over he was broke like all the rest. Mr. Massie was deputy county clerk under W. B. Townsend for eleven years. From there he went with the Waggoner Bank and when the Herring National Bank was formed was with them for several years. When the Farmers State Bank was organized Mr. Massie was one of the officers and directors and today is one of the active vice-presidents.

LOWES CAME HERE FROM DENTON CO.



MR. AND MRS. E. LOWE.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Lowe and children moved to Wilbarger county from Denton county in 1882 and settled on the Spencer farm east of town. The next year he bought a place southwest of town and moved there. He lived there until three years ago when he and his wife moved to town.

Mr. Lowe said one year he planted wheat and not a grain of it ever sprouted. He had lots of trouble raising crops by trying to keep the cattle out. Mr. Lowe said he got enough money together to buy a little wire and went to Wichita Falls and purchased enough to run one wire around his field. Every day in the fall he had to ride this to keep the cattle from crawling under.

While visiting in the Lowe home last week Mr. Lowe showed the writer an old fashioned double coverlid. Lots of people now days have never seen one. It was a most beautiful piece of work and Mr. Lowe said when a small boy he remembered seeing his mother spin the yarn for this coverlid. In the corners it had woven into the design "Year 1851." The cloth is seventy-six years old and has been used on the beds in the Lowe family all that time.

Mr. and Mrs. Lowe have five living children. They are J. B. Lowe, Mrs. Ida Lockett, Mrs. K. B. Anderson, Mrs. Pearl May Hancock, and Mrs. Eunice Everett Winzel. Another son, J. H. Lowe, died.

34

BARGAINS

FORE
"FOREMOST FO
JULY CLEA

SALE STARTS FRIDAY, JULY

Bargains Galore



Men's Dress Pants
Just what you need right now.
$2.95

Men's Dress Shirts
Extra fine quality; values to $2.45.
$1.69

All Leather Oxfords



Tan and Black

BARGAIN THRILL
Grasp Your

We are in the grasp of an unexpect
circumstances and conditions that hav
that it could not be helped a
to recite concerning same. W
dise that positively must be c
PROFIT. Unavoidable con
To accomplish this Al



Men's Silk Hose
ll silk, regular 5c value. **49c**
Men's fancy fibre silk ose, regular 50c val- **39c**

Fancy patterns, white nd tan Broadcloth; izes 14 to 17. **69c**

suits.

Men's Work Pants
Hong Kong and sand colors. **$1.39**

All Leather Work Shoes



$1.69

Men's Lisle Hose
All colors; regular 25c value. **19c**
Cotton Sox. All colors. **4c**

Boys' Dress Shirts
49c

Bed Sheets
Large size Bed Sheets. **49c**

Dress Caps
Young men's Dress Caps. **89c**

Men's Dress Straw Hats



$1.49

Mid-Summer Hats
For Ladies.
All mid-summer Hats.
Special to close out. **88c**

Gingham
32 inch fast color Gingham. **14c**
Extra good quality imported regular 49 cent Gingham. **29c**
32 inch Peter Pan Ginghams. **39c**

Crepe
Plisse Crepe, plain colors and flowered designs.
14c

Silk Pongee
All silk Pongee.
49c

Printed Challies
36 inch Printed Challies.
12c

Dress Satins
Radiums
Canton Crepes
Flat Crepes
Shirtings
Brocades
Brocaded Sport Silks
Sport Satins
Printed Crepes
Printed Georgettes
Printed Tubs
Printed Pongees
Silk and Wool Novelties

Let Nothing K

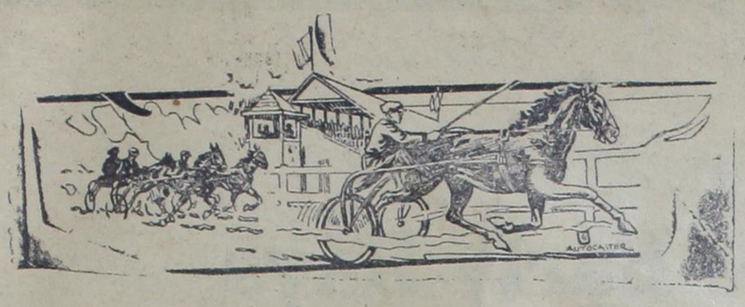
from this stupendous and spectacular
able dispensation of merchandise eve
in mind that thousands and thousands
don't let the matchless SUPER-SAV
share!

Let the name FOREMAN'S and t
TELL E

SAVE YOUR DOLLAR

VERNON, TEXAS

FORE
"Foremost
CORNER M

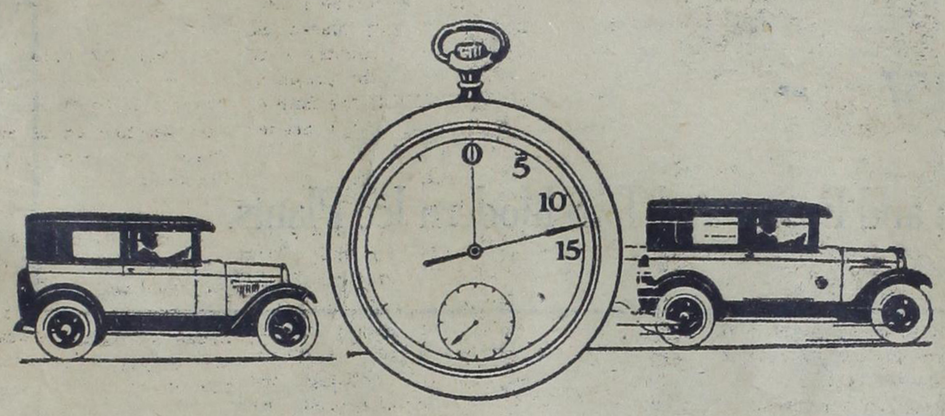


IN THE EARLY DAYS

People then Wanted a Good Horse

NOW

THEY WANT A Whippet



1. Advanced European engineering combined with new improved American performance.
2. High torque, 31 horse power motor, small bore, long stroke.
3. Over 55 miles per hour, 5 to 30 miles in 13 seconds.
4. Thirty miles on a gallon of gas.
5. Incredible mileage on tires.
6. Four wheel brakes, greater safety. First time on any light car. Can stop in 51 feet from a speed of 40 miles per hour.
7. Turns in 34 foot circle; easy to steer; easy to park.
8. Lower center of gravity; gives sense of security you have never enjoyed in any light car before. Makes other cars seem bulky and cumbersome by comparison.
9. Beautiful low European type body. Height and length in true symmetrical proportion.
10. Unique body design provides more inside space and greater comfort than ever found in any light car before.
11. Highest quality of construction throughout. Entire car is designed and built to give years and years of service.
12. This new type car marks the most important light car engineering improvement in America during the last 16 years.

Overland Motor Company

O. R. KEY, Mgr.

MANY INTERESTING AND HISTORICAL EVENTS GIVEN BY JESS COLLINS

(Continued from page 1)

Blackman, John S. Smith, Shem E. Hatchett, Dr. J. E. Dodson, Sr., M. G. Gilbert, Andy Haney, T. J. Youngblood, J. H. Petit, L. J. Massie, S. L. Mallow, Carl Zipperlie, C. T. Herring, B. J. Parker, Capt. J. S. Napier, Monroe King, W. H. Evans, William Crutchfield, John Hammond, J. W. Kerr, Dr. R. W. Hix, C. C. Wells, T. A. Scurlock, T. H. Shive, B. M. Cobb, D. R. Taylor, Glidden brothers, John W. Abbott, Mrs. L. R. Alexander, Kester brothers, John Immell, R. B. Richardson, Robert Houssells, T. M. Kell, D. A. Turner, B. Houssels, John Houssels, C. C. Hawley, W. O. Anderson, H. F. McKibbin, P. M. Morris, J. M. Batchelor, L. G. Hawkins, T. J. Lockett, W. G. McDonald, J. V. Townsend, R. Cobb, Judge S. P. Huff, Hon. John H. Stephens, W. D. Berry, J. S. Cook, J. J. Manis, Charlie Sullivan, W. B. Townsend, J. F. White, Judge R. W. Hall, Sam Williams, Joel Fain, S. W. McLarty, Harry Mason, Bob Castlebury, Steve Castlebury, S. Sewell, Geo. Anderson, C. T. Smith, Geo. M. Dilley, J. R. Rothman, Geo. Coleman, C. S. McColloch, R. H. Baskerville, J. W. Coffee, W. A. Ish, Ben Kelly, W. N. Stokes, Joe S. Massie, R. Collins, Taylor Creager, J. C. Sumner, S. A. Naylor, J. H. Kincheloe, L. E. McCurdy, C. C. Shive, Frank Stineman, E. P. Robinson, Wm. Hampton, E. T. Murchison, W. J. Pentor, W. H. Harbison and many others, their very numbers are a bar to extended enumerations.

A brief history of Wilbarger's pioneer citizens would be incomplete without special mention being made of one outstanding peace officer, who served Wilbarger county for many years as sheriff. We refer to J. T. Williams, familiarly known as Johnny, by his host of friends.

When the time came that we needed a sheriff, with a knowledge of public and financial affairs and an integrity and reputation so honorable and so completely recognized, that the highest confidence and best approval of the people of the county would at once be assured, Johnny Williams was selected for the place. He was never defeated and served the people until his failing health forced him to retire from office.

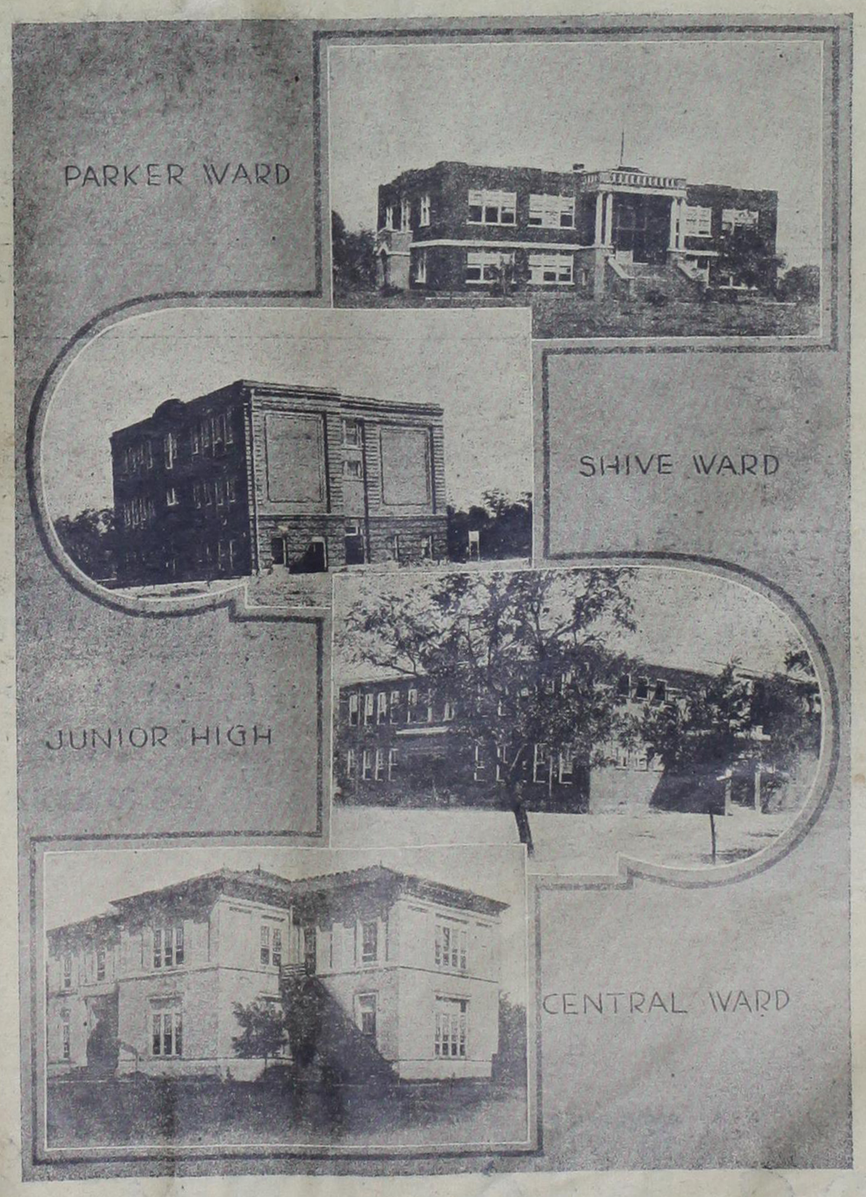
Johnny Williams had none of the bombast that too often goes with an office of this kind. He was a quiet, modest, kindly man, a deacon in the church, and looked more the reserved business or professional man, than the preconceived idea of a sheriff; yet his reputation for absolute fearlessness and always getting his man, was so well known in West Texas, that would-be law violators gave Wilbarger a wide berth. He died as he had lived with the full assurance in his heart that he had given every man a square deal.

A. T. Boger and family have had an important part in the settlement and development of Vernon and Wilbarger county. Coming to this county in 1881, they settled on their farm seven miles east of Vernon. Mrs Boger was very proud of her home, as it was a double dug out; and had a wide hall between two large rooms; as early as 1882, Mr. Boger was serving as county commissioner. A few years later during a veritable reign of terror, he was appointed sheriff. With that same indomitable courage which was characteristic of his life, he discharged the duties of this office faithfully, and the gamblers, cattle thieves and outlaws soon learned that Wilbarger county was an unhealthy place for them. Mr. Boger passed on several years ago, but Mrs. Boger, their son, A. C. Boger, and their daughter, Mrs. Cecil Storey, all live in Vernon.

A community never prospers or makes permanent advancement ahead of its educational institutions. We wish to review briefly, the schools of Vernon and Wilbarger county, showing that our schools have kept pace with our marvelous development along other lines.

The first school in Vernon was taught by L. N. Perkins in 1880, in a house just west of the public square but later moved to the little house shown above. Children of the Vernon public schools who now occupy comfortable buildings of the most modern design, can hardly realize that the first children in Vernon got their education in this little building, but this was Vernon's first school and it housed ten pupils.

Mrs. A. T. Boger taught the first public school in a dug out east of Vernon. She holds the first teachers certificate ever issued by the county. The term lasted four months at a salary of $12.50 per month. Wilbarger then had $50.00 of free school money in its treasury, this amount being refunded by Baylor county at the organization of this county. Then came Prof. Nye; after him came Judge J. R. Tolbert, now a prominent jurist of Oklahoma. Miss Hattie Farrell, now Mrs. J. L. Swartwood, and Prof. E. L. Witty.



A review of the schools of Vernon would be incomplete without special mention of E. L. Witty. A man who in an early day was so closely identified with the progress of our schools that he was for many years considered an indispensable part of the system. There was never a question in the minds of the school board as to his re-election from year to year. Interviewing a number of men and women who were directly under Prof. Witty during their high school days, each expressed the same opinion, a good man, and a great instructor. He was a Stonewall Jackson for discipline, but was the personification of fairness and kindness. There was an old saying among the boys, "You can't put anything by Witty." In his school work, his program was one planned and made by himself, which expressed in active and constructive work, his personal ideals, his individual faith, his individual conception of duty, and his individual method of handling what at times were difficult situations.

Joe Eagle who has since served several terms in Congress, from South Texas, succeeded Judge Tolbert as superintendent of schools. He was succeeded by Prof. Johnson, then came T. S. Cox and later W. T. Potter. In 1891, what is now known as the Central school building was erected. It was considered at the time large enough to accommodate all scholastics for many years to come.

In 1895 J. C. Smith was elected superintendent of Vernon schools and served until 1899. In that year he was elected superintendent of schools at Lancaster, Texas, and moved to that city. He was succeeded by E. C. Snow who served during the 1900 term. At the close of this term, Prof. Smith was persuaded to return to Vernon, was re-elected superintendent of schools and served for six years, resigning to enter business. No man who has ever served Vernon in any capacity stands higher in the estimation of the people than J. C. Smith; a devout man yet never narrow or bigoted in his views. His work as superintendent of schools gave him the rare chance and opportunity of a larger acquaintanceship and, therefore, a greater opportunity to know, to befriend, to advise, and to inspire a larger number of young men and women, and many now prominent, professional and business men and women went out from John Smith's school.

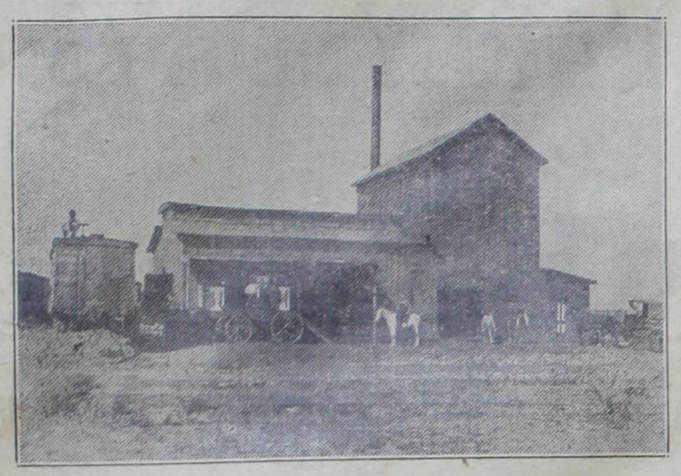
In the meantime, the schools were crowded and what is now known as the Junior High was built, then the Shive, West Vernon, Parker and last the splendid high school building which at this time is crowded to capacity.

After the resignation of J. C. Smith, B. F. Holcomb was elected superintendent of schools. He was followed by Geo. J. Mason who resigned to enter the newspaper business, and was succeeded by T. L. Vance. Later came B. F. Sick, then E. L. Dehoney who was succeeded by our present superintendent, W. T. Lofland.

We consider it a privilege to make the statement, that since the organization of Vernon's public schools they have never made greater progress than under the supervision of W. T. Lofland. While comparatively a young man, he is thoroughly equipped for his work. He is honest and conscientious in the discharge of his duties. With an enrollment of 2,338 and 58 teachers he has a man's job on his shoulders, but he is big enough for the place, and has the respect and confidence of not only the entire faculty but the student body as well. We congratulate the school board on his selection.

When Wilbarger county had a sufficient number of scholastics to entitle her to a county superintendent

(Continued on page 8)



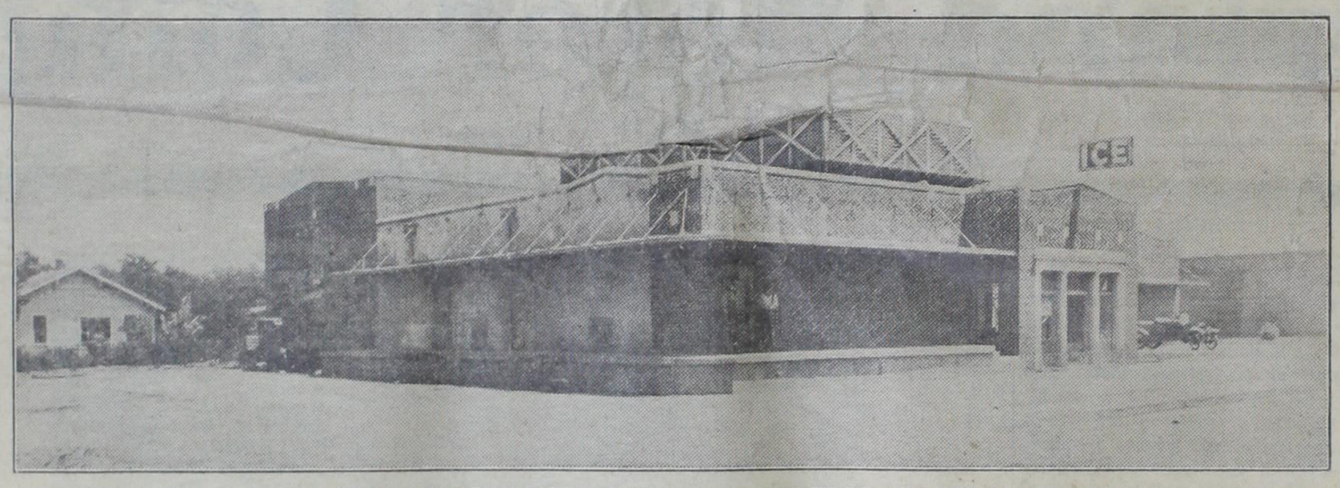
Vernon's First Successful Ice Plant, Built in 1900

In The Early Days

People in Vernon used Lamps for Illumination. Home Refrigeration was practically unknown or merely putting milk in a bucket and lowering it in the well . . .

- To-Day -

We Have a Modern Power Plant to Furnish Lights and Power and Two Modern Ice Plants.



OUR MODERN ICE PLANT ON CUMBERLAND STREET

Through the years this company has kept pace with the development of Vernon and Wilbarger County. Today we have high power lines running from our central plant to nearby towns. The smaller towns enjoy the same service that is furnished to the citizens of Vernon. We are ready to advance and help build here a real city. We are anxious to aid our community by rendering real service.

Texas Electric and Ice Co.

"COURTEOUS SERVICE"

37

A TRIP TO THE ST. LOUIS FAIR.

(Written for The Hornet by Thos. J. Youngblood).

If the Hornet will give us space for ventilation,
We will give to the public this conglomeration.
Although this will not complete their education,
It will perhaps take at least one more edition.
Nita F., Mattie R., Maudie V. and Dema Y.,
Was the party chaperoned by Emma and I.
With light hearts, fond hopes and bright anticipations,
We left home with St. Louis as our destination.

There are many things common and many that's rare,
But the later is common at the St. Louis Fair.
There are wonders galore, yet they are real and true,
As you enter the gate you are then in full view.
Behold the grandeur in architecture, sculpture and art,
Surely the Devine hand must have taken a part.
You gaze with admiration, astonishment and awe,
The most scientific critic could scarcely find flaw.

As we enter each building we become amazed,
On such magnificence and grandeur, we have ne'er gazed.
The progress of all Nations is here arrayed;
Their skill and genius is beautifully displayed.
Invention, industry and progress on every hand,
Not only America, but Germany, France and Japan,
And many other Nations are thoroughly alive;
But supremacy is ours, to keep it we must strive.

Next Belgium, India, Ceylon and the Boer War,
Then Canada, Brazil, Cuba and the Texas Star.
All the State buildings when seen are admired,
And afford you great pleasure and comfort when tired.
Take a lofty view from the famous Ferris Wheel.
And spin around the grounds on an automobile,
Or better still, a boat ride around the grand basin,
To see it all in a month you will have to hasten.

The most refulgent splendor that man hath e'er made,
Is the grand illumination around the Cascades.
Pen cannot picture this resplendent flood of light,
It's superior will be seen when there is no night.
Varigated colors both in lights and flowers,
Mighty roaring waters amid clefts and towers.
Ten thousand people of every tongue and clime;
The sweetest strains of music, oh, it's all sublime.

We saw many artificial men, beasts and fowl,
Quite life-like, yet they do not squawk, speak or growl.
Maud shunned from a big bear that was made of prunes.
Mattie met a warm friend dressed in pantaloons.
Dema saw a bubble tower made of Fairy soap.
Nita met a little Jap, we thought she would elope.
Emma saw a lovely dress that was made of glass;
A Jefferson guard saw me and said keep off the grass.

We walked until our feet was weary and sore.
We looked as we have never looked before.
Poor Maud could scarcely waddle, oh she was fagged!
Mattie had stringhalt, but her tongue still wagged.
While Emma and Nita had gone their last gait,
But Dema was ready to go early or late.
Yet it's worth what it cost, if you've money to spare,
To see the grand sights at the St. Louis Fair.

YOUNBGLOOD STORE LONGEST UNDER THE SAME MANAGEMENT



T. J. YOUNGBLOOD

The firm of T. J. Youngblood is the oldest store in Vernon under the same name and management. The founder of this concern, the late T. J. Youngblood, came to Vernon in 1888 and opened up a furniture store on the location where the business is today. The building was later rebuilt and today the store has a large display room and the second story is used for storage.

The founder of this store was identified with the development of Vernon and the county. His genial smile was known all over this section of Texas and southern Oklahoma. Hundreds of families living in the county today bought their first bill of furniture from the Youngblood store back in the early days.

Elsewhere in this issue is published a poem written by Mr. Youngblood upon his return from the World's Fair in St. Louis in 1904. He was a great writer and for years his advertisements were poems written by him telling of his goods.

The undertaking section of the furniture store was carried on for years in the same building with the other business. Several years back he formed a partnership with J. M. Underwood in the undertaking business and they erected a beautiful building for this department on Pease street.

Since the death of Mr. Youngblood in the early part of this year the store has been under the management of his son, Elzy O. Youngblood, who was associated with his father in the business for years.

JONES VAUGHN GETS HIDES DESTROYED BY INDIANS IN 1877

Now days when a person drives through this country little does he realize that a few short years back tragedy was enacted through this section. One of the many fights staged between the white men and the Indians took place near where Crowell stands today.

Jones Vaughn was one of the early pioneers who hunted through this part of Texas in 1876. He had a bunch of horses stolen from him that year west of Quanah. Vaughn and his men were hot on the trail of the Indians and when night overtook them they camped near Pease river south of Childress. Early next morning they took up the hunt and found where the Indians had spent the night at the head of a canyon. The Indians went on down the canyon and the Vaughn outfit overtook them and a fight took place. Seven dead Indians were left on the field of battle and Comanche Jack, chief of the group, swore vengeance against Mr. Vaughn.

In February, 1877, Mr. Vaughn had a great stack of buffalo hides on Good creek, fifteen miles west of where the town of Crowell is today. He left two men in charge of the camp and went out to making a "killing." After riding about four miles he looked back and saw a dense smoke in the direction of his camp. Wheeling his horse he raced back and when he arrived at the sight found his men scalped and his stack of 7,000 hides on fire. Buffalo hides would burn easily as a little fire would start the grease to coming out of them and when this once got afire it was almost impossible to put it out.

Mr. Vaughn started to Henrietta with the dead men but was forced to bury them at [illegible] the Wichita river above the mouth of Beaver creek.

In 1882 Comanche Jack and a band of two or three hundred Indians came in to Eagle Flat (now Vernon). Mr. Vaughn was told that the Indian was in town and could be found over at Doans store on the south side of the square. Mr. Vaughn walked in and said, "Jack, I understand you are going to kill me on sight," and pulled his gun as he said it. Comanche Jack got up with his hands held high and replied, "Me no say." Mr. Vaughn stood there with his gun ready to shoot. He stuck it back in his holster and a short time afterwards the two walked out of the store together.

A friend of Mr. Vaughn's asked him why he did not kill the Indian. He studied a minute and said, "I thought that if I killed him his band would perhaps massacre the town." From then on Mr. Vaughn and Jack became good friends and the white man visited him many times at his camp near Lawton.

McLARTY THOUGHT HE WAS IN COUNTY

S. W. McLarty lived in Foard county for a year and thought he was in Wilbarger, according to a statement made when asked how long he had been in the county. He moved to this country in 1881 and settled down near where Thalia is today. Mr. McLarty said he lived there for a year and thought he was in Wilbarger county until they surveyed out the corners and laid out the definite lines.

During the early days he said their main diet was dried beef and milk. "We always kept some cows and had plenty of milk," he said. "We would kill a beef and dry the meat and this would last for quite a while. I remember A. J. Haney coming down there and stopping at my house one day. He had been sick for a few days and said he had not been able to eat anything. When he finished a meal at my house I believed he had not had any food but from the way he ate that dried beef and milk he did not look like he was sick."

FAIR ENOUGH.

He—Would you like to go to that dance with a good looking man?

She—Sure; have you a friend?

STILL AT HOME IN SAME PLACE OVER PERIOD OF 36 YEARS

Another woman in Vernon today who has watched this town grow from a small village to a city of fifteen thousand inhabitants is Mrs. Virgie Hewitt. She lives at the corner of Pease and Bowie streets. She and Mrs. Ella Jones of the city, who located here away back in the 80's and still resides at the same home place, have the distinction of living at the same homes longer than any two people in Vernon.

In March, 1888, Mrs. Hewitt arrived in Vernon from Hillsboro. She soon after opened up a dress making and millinery business in a building near where the Williams Dry Goods store is located. The building at that time belonged to Tom Jones. She later moved from that location to a building near where the Liberty Cafe now stands and in company with some relatives of her's who were here at that time, they made their home in the rear end of this business building for a short period. From there Mrs. Hewitt moved to her home where she now resides, and conducted a dress making business for a number of years. Many a woman in Wilbarger county today, who when getting together their matrimonial wardrobe called on Mrs. Hewitt. After acquiring considerable property interests in the city, she retired from the dress making business several years ago. She enjoys reading and keeping herself well posted on the current events of the today. No doubt Mrs. Virgie Hewitt is one of the best known women in our county and enjoys a host of loyal friends.

PAYING FOR FUN.

An Irishman was before a judge on the charge of beating his wife.

The judge looked down at him and said: "That will cost you exactly $2.20."

"And, please, Sorr, phat is the 20 cents for?"

"Federal tax on amusements."

LITERAL LEN ASKS.

If you saw a trainload of plug tobacco go by, would you call it a chew-chew train?

J. YOUNGBLOOD
FURNITURE

-- ESTABLISHED 1888 --

DOING BUSINESS LONGER THAN ANY FIRM IN VERNON

Without Change in Name and Location

TO THE STURDY PIONEERS OF WILBARGER COUNTY

YOU——Who Have Braved the Hardships of This Western Country.

To You——Who have helped to make Vernon and Wilbarger County what it it today.

TO YOU——

WE EXTEND OUR HEARTEST GREETINGS

T. J. YOUNGBLOOD

"Quality Furniture at Quantity Prices"

38



Has Ever Been

THE WATCHWORD

WITH THE

FARMERS STATE BANK

ORGANIZED 1910

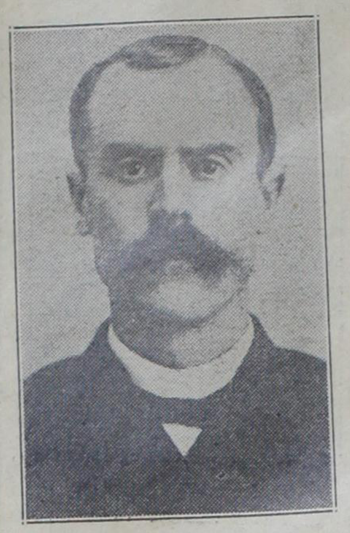
This Bank has Always STOOD FOUR-SQUARE For Every Movement That Meant Progress for Wilbarger County.

And today as its officers look back over a period of 17 years of banking service in Vernon, their only regret lies in the fact that they were not permitted to have done more for Wilbarger County whose citizenship is their friends.

FARMERS STATE BANK

H. H. RHOADS, President. R. B. GIBSON, Cashier.
A. M. BOURLAND, Vice President. R. E. MARTIN, Assistant Cashier.
F. L. MASSIE, Active Vice Pres. A. A. HINGST, Assistant Cashier.
EMORY RHOADS, Active Vice Pres.

GILLILAND CAME TO WILBARGER IN 1886 FROM COOKE COUNTY



J. A. GILLILAND

J. A. Gilliland, local dairyman, came to Wilbarger county with his father and family in 1886. They moved from a little town called Era in Cooke county and arrived in Vernon in December. Mr. Gilliland said they lived out about a mile west of town in what is now West Vernon.

In the spring of 1887 he went to work for Lockett & Rhoads and was with this firm for a number of years. Later he went into the dairy business and for many years has been in that line of business.

Mr. Gilliland has always taken an active part in the religious life of the town and county. He organized the first Baptist Sunday school in Vernon in 1889. The church had erected a small wooden building on the site now occupied by the Central Christian church. In June, 1887, he was ordained a deacon in the church by Rev. L. J. Crutcher and Rev. A. J. Harris.

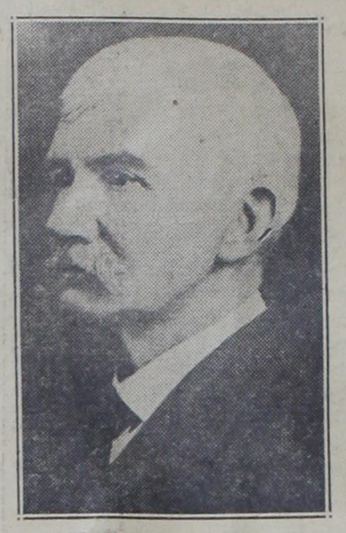
For a number of years Mr. Gilliland was moderator of the Red Fork Baptist Association composed of Wichita, Wilbarger, Hardeman, Cottle, Foard county and part of King county. After the county settled up the Wilbarger-Foard Baptist Association was formed at Oklaunion and Mr. Gilliland was moderator of that body for many years.

In recent years he had leased a large ranch west of town on which he keeps his herd of cattle and has established a milk depot in town from which all his products are delivered.

Like all the old timers Mr. Gilliland went through the long dry years in this county and today looks back over the years and smiles at the hardships they endured in making Wilbarger county what it is today.

"That's a good gag," exclaimed the robber, as he stuffed his victim's mouth.

PIONEER PHYSICIAN



DR. R. W. HIX

Dr. Hix came to Wilbarger county in the 80's on a visit and has never gotten back to his home. A writeup of him appears in another section of this issue.

MANY INTERESTING AND HISTORICAL EVENTS GIVEN BY JESS COLLINS

(Continued from page 6)

of education, E. L. Witty was selected for the place and served five years, when he was succeeded by L. A. Hollar, who was succeeded by J. N. Fulcher. Last year Ercell W. Brooks was elected to fill this office. While Mr. Brooks is a young man, he has by his own efforts thoroughly equipped himself for the place and we predict for him a successful administration of its affairs.

Under the leadership of these splendid men the schools outside of Vernon have made wonderful progress We have now housed in modern buildings 35 schools, with an approximate enrollment of 4,000, with 122 teachers. Added to Vernon schools it gives us in scholastics, 6,338, and 180 teachers.

We have made wonderful progress and we are justly proud of our achievements, but sometimes in the silence of the evening we long for the old time friends. The old time cowboy on his native heath was the modern incarnation of chivalry. Life in the open drove out all pettiness and nature bred strong hearts in the silences. We will remember always the men and women who bore with us the hardships inseparable from pioneer life. Our county was like a large and united family. We lived the simple life. We did not criticise nature that she had placed thorns among the roses, but we thanked her that roses were among the thorns.

Between those pioneer days and the present, there is indeed a great gulf fixed, but it is spanned by a cable of precious memories, by thoughts of clasped hands in days of sorrow, of kindly deeds in hours of care, of joys shared with responsive hearts.

We trust the future to bring greater and better things to Vernon and Wilbarger county, but the past is ours, to have and to hold.

WITTY CAME HERE 1887 AS TEACHER IN LOCAL SCHOOLS



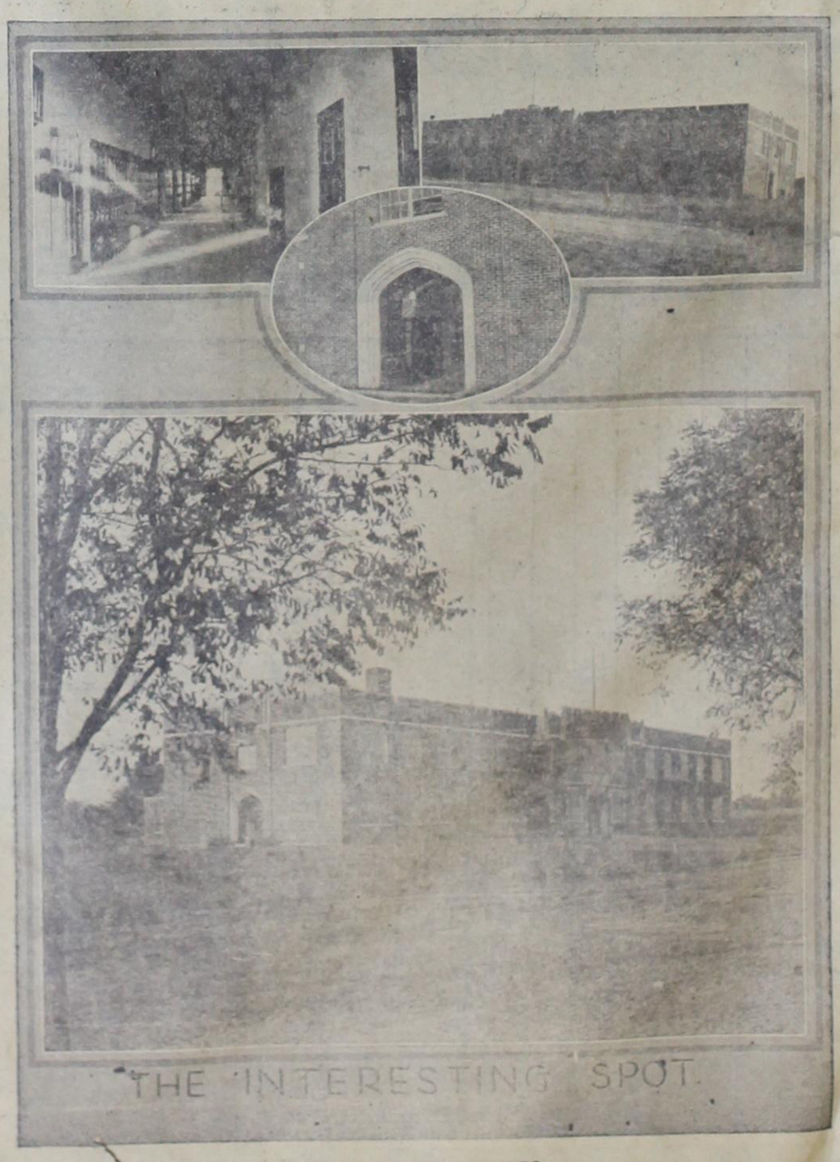
E. L. WITTY

E. L. Witty, insurance man of the city, came to Vernon in 1887 to teach school. The faculty at that time was composed of Judge Tolbert, Mrs. J. L. Swartwood, and Mr. Witty. The building was a small three room affair on the spot where the junior high school stands today. The next year Mr. Witty went elsewhere to teach but returned to Vernon in 1891 and taught the West Vernon school. It was considered out in the country in those days and the building was a small wooden affair.

He next taught in the city schools under Supt. W. T. Potter for a number of years. When the county reached the size to be entitled to a county superintendent the Commissioners' Court appointed Mr. Witty to that position and he served one year as appointee and was elected two terms. After retiring from office he went into the insurance business.

He was elected City Commissioner when the commission form was adopted in 1916 and served two terms, resigning a short time before his second term expired on account of moving from the east side of town to the west.

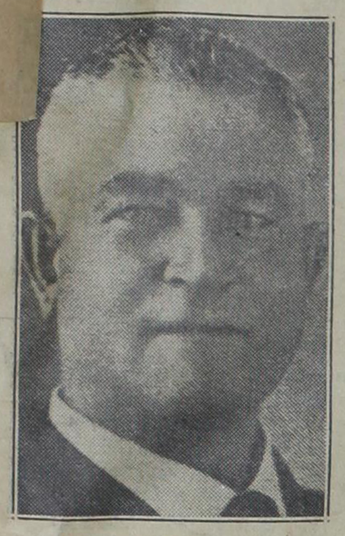
In discussing the change in Vernon from the time he first came here and today Mr. Witty said few people who had not lived here in the early days could realize what a difference there was. When he came here the town had a small three-room school building and no churches at all. Preachers for the various denominations would come in and preach and use the school building. Today Vernon has a group of excellent churches and five large school buildings.



VERNON HIGH SCHOOL

39

BERTS CAME TO VERNON SPRING '88



W. W. GILBERT.

W. W. Gilbert's family moved to Vernon in 1888 from Grayson county. Their first home in Vernon was on the site now occupied by the Standford Filling Station. Mr. Gilbert moved to the farm and lived for fourteen years. He came back to Vernon and for a time was in the grocery business with Mr. Hagler. Next he was in business under the firm name of Gilbert, Hall & Nycum. He bought out Nycum and later Mr. Hall. In 1917 he sold out to Bowden & Lane. For the past five or six years he has been with the city police force and is now chief of police.

Mr. Gilbert was somewhat of an athlete in the early days. He said he use to have lots of fun wrestling with the Indians on the square here when they would visit Vernon. He would also take on any and all comers from the visitors for a foot race around the square. During those days he was the Babe Ruth of Vernon. Mr. Gilbert said lots of times the town team would want him to play so they would send someone out to work in his place for a day.

Mr. Gilbert's father, the late M. G. Gilbert, and his horse and buggy was a familar sight on the streets of Vernon.

D. B. AND C. S. ROGERS WERE EARLY SETTLERS IN DOANS COUNTRY

Away back in the 80's when there were but a very few houses in the extreme northern part of Wilbarger county, two brothers with their wives who were sisters, came from Stevenville, in Erath county, bought land and located in that country. One of the brothers was D. B. Rogers, the other C. S. Rogers. One of them settled on school land, the other on railroad land.

Both brothers are now dead. D. B. Rogers, familiarly known in his community as "Uncle Dan," died nine years ago. His brother, C. S died at his home here in Vernon about seven years ago.

The widows of these two men are still living. One of them, Mrs. Mary Rogers, wife of D. B., still lives at their old home place. Her sister. Mrs. C. S. Rogers, lives herein Vernon.

Children living of Mrs. C. S. Rogers are Mrs. Etta Wright, Amarillo; Mrs. Ola Coleman, Vernon; Misses Callie and Allie Rogers, Vernon; Denny Rogers, Amarillo, and Cecil Rogers, Vernon.

CARL ZIPPERLE WAS IN MARKET BUSINESS

Carl Zipperle was a veteran meat market man of Vernon. He came here in 1887 from Gainesville and for many years conducted a market. In talking with him the ohter day he remarked he was in the market business until it got so dry he had to quit.

In late years Mr. Zipperle has retired from active business and spends his time looking after his farms and other interests in Vernon.

MINARIK CAME HERE IN 1888—THEN LEFT

Frank Minarik came to Vernon in 88 and after staying here until 93 left and sought a better country. Failing to find anything to compare with Wilbarger he came back in 1900 and has lived here since, dealing in cattle and hogs and running a meat market.

WILLIAM'S

Men's and boys' $1.95 value Seersucker Pants ... $1	Men's Silk Fibre Hose, 35c value; 5 pair for ... $1	Men's Silk Ties, values to 95c; while they last, 3 for ... $1
40 inch Brown Domestic or 32 inch Gingham. Williams 12 yards for ... $1	81x90 colored Bed Spreads, values to $1.95, while they last William's price ... $1	Men's Worth More Overalls, or Men's Khaki Pants; values to $1.50 ... $1
36 inch Scrim, 32 inch Madras, 32 inch Sateen, 15c value, 10 yards for ... $1	1 dozen ready made Diapers, 27x27, for ... $1	Choice of any man's Dress Shirt in stock; values to $1.75, only ... $1
32 inch Gingh... 36 inch Creto... 32 inch Curtain Nets; 25c values, 10 yards for ... $1		Suits; ... values, while they last 4 pair for ... $1
36 inch Pajama Check, 32 inch Plissea Crepe, 36 inch new Percale; 25c val., 8 yards ... $1	Big rack of Ladies' English Broadcloth House Dresses; values to $2.50 ... $1	
All Silk Pongee, all Silk Rayons; values to $1.00; William's price 2 yards for ... $1	25 doz. Ladies' all Silk Hose; values to $1.95, while they last, only pair ... $1	12 pair of Men's Dress Sox, while they last for only ... $1
32 in. Tissue Gingham, 40 in. Figured Flaxon, 50c values, 3 yards for $1	Big table Ladies' Teds, Slips, Gowns, to close out 4 for ... $1	Men's and boys' blue and gray Work Shirts, 3 for ... $1
36 in. Printed Batiste, 36 in. Printed Broadcloth, 39c values, 6 yards for $1	Big table Teds, Gowns, Slips, values to 95c, William's 2 for ... $1	10 doz. men's new Straw Hats, come get one for only ... $1
3 yards of the best 50c value 9-4 Sheeting, Williams, 3 yards ... $1	Children's Silk Sox, or Silk Rayon Bloomers, 3 pair for ... $1	4 pair ladies' 50c value Silk Fibre Hose, while they last 4 pair ... $1
Boys' Dress Shirts; 2 for ... $1	One counter of Children's Slippers, William's price ... $1	Men's 50c value Silk Sox; 3 pair for ... $1
81x90 Seamless Sheets; values to $1.50 ... $1	4 DAYS	Table of men's and boys' Caps; values to $2.00 ... $1

$1

4 DAYS

WHEN WILLIAMS SAYS DOLLAR DAY SALE — ENOUGH SAID.

Remember the Days—WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY AND SATURDAY. Williams again offers unheard of prices. COMPARE THE QUALITY ANYWHERE—Williams only sells the best quality money can buy. Remember the place—WILLIAMS—WHERE MOST PEOPLE TRADE.

PIONEER

Builders

—OF—

Wilbarger County

LIST THE BANK OF ODELL.
AS YOUR FRIEND

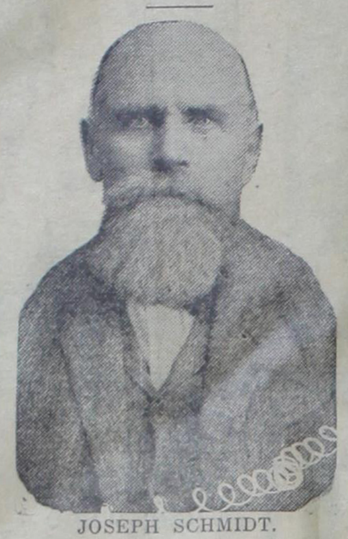
We, too, realize that it was through your untiring efforts that Wilbarger County stands out today as one of the FOREMOST Counties in Texas.

Bank of Odell

(Unincorporated)
ODELL, TEXAS
Individual Responsibility Over
$1,000,000.00

W. T. COLLINS, President.
L. G. HAWKINS, Vice Pres.
DEWEY MARSH, Cashier.
LEVI BEACH, Asst. Cashier.

JOE SCHMIDT CAME TO VERNON IN 1882



JOSEPH SCHMIDT.

(By J. E. COLLINS).

Joseph Schmidt is one of few men who came to Wilbarger county in an early day, and has made this his permanent home.

Mr. Schmidt was born in Wurtenburg, Germany, in 1845. Early in life he had a great desire to see America, and when nineteen years of age left the old home and landed in New York in 1864, with $2.50 in his pocket. This was just before the close of the Civil war, and Mr. Schmidt says he was offered more money than he thought was in the world, to enter the army as a substitute; he was offered $1.50 in gold but declined with thanks, stating that he left the old home to avoid military service, had no grievance against the South and would not agree to shoot men for a money consideration

He obtained employment in an imigrant's hotel where he worked for several months, going from there to St. Louis, and later moving to Fort Griffin, Texas, where he lived for a number of years, coming to Vernon in 1882.

Mr. Schmidt built the first hotel in Vernon, hauling the lumber from Gainesville. This was the first hotel to use China dishes, human dishes the cowboys called them, all eating places previous to this time, used tin-ware.

Mr. Schmidt for many years was active in various business enterprises. He was a stockholder in the first bank organized in Vernon; he helped to promote and build Vernon's first water works, and helped in building a street car line running from the Fort Worth and Denver depot to what is now Wilbarger street. Neither of these enterprises were profitable, and in 1893 the standpipe was torn down, the water mains dug up, the street car line was taken up, the cars sold for shoe shops and the balance of the equipment sold as junk.

Mr. Schmidt built the first ice house in Vernon, cutting the ice from a lake near town, he put up sufficient ice to furnish his hotel during the summer, and he donated ice for the first picnic held in Vernon.

Mr. Schmidt at the age of 82, has retired from active business and is living on his farm just outside the city limits. In his beautiful home, with his books, papers, and magazines he is spending his declining years in peace and happiness. He is a friend to all men, and visitors to his home are always given a truly typical western welcome. He has his own philosophy of life, his own ideas of religion.

He believes war should be outlawed among civilized people; he believes in education and a high standard of living. He sees a great future for Vernon and Wilbarger county.

JUDGE BONNER HAS SERVED CITY TWICE IN MAYOR'S OFFICE

Judge L. P. Bonner has the distinction of being the only mayor who has served Vernon on two different occasions. He was elected in 1908, 1910 and 1912 and retired. In 1916, after the adoption of the city charter, he was prevailed upon to run again and was elected and served two more years.

Judge Bonner came here in 1886 as a young attorney from Lamar county. He has been practicing law for the past forty-one years in the courts of the county.

When he went in office as mayor in 1908 Vernon's finances were in a serious condition. The Judge said he was strong for sidewalks and a water and sewer system and during his administration all three projects were started. He encouraged the building of side walks and before his six years were up had the satisfaction of seeing several miles of concrete side walks in Vernon.

He said the sanitary conditions were very bad and he started to work lining up things to put in water and sewer. Years before there had been a small water works system and this had been abandoned. The Central school building bonds had the town tied up and after getting this straightened out and new bonds issued a $40,000 bond issue was put over. This provided for $15,000 for water, $10,000 for sewer, $5,000 for a city hall and $10,000 for the junior high school building. Several miles of water mains were laid, the sewer system started and people started connecting up. Judge Bonner said at first it was a slow go but after awhile both water and sewer was put on Texas and Paradise streets and most of the extensions were made out of the earnings.

Mr. Bonner said that Vernon was one of the first towns in this part of the state to get a water and sewer system and received many compliments on the work. Amarillo was the next town in this section to follow with this work.

JOHNSON FAMILY ARRIVED IN 1892

Les K. Johnson came to Vernon with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Johnson, in 1892 from Celina, Tenn. His father engaged in farming for many years and during his declining years lived in Vernon. His father passed away in 1922. Mrs Johnson lives at the family home on Wilbarger street.

Les says when he came to Vernon he was a boy in knee breeches, and said he did not remember exactly but imagines that they were of the "Jeens" variety. "We happened to land here just before the hard times started," Mr. Johnson said, "and my dad had to do some scheming to get by. When we landed in Vernon there was a street car system, a water works plant, lots of band music and it was a live town. The next year the band quit, the street railway went broke and times were hard."

Mr. Johnson finished his schooling in 1900 and in 1902 started in with the Herring National Bank. He is today active vice-president of the institution

Mr. Johnson says that in the early days sidewalks were unknown in Vernon. The trails over town were beaten out and grassburs grew along the way in great quantities. The square was one of the best sand beds in the county. "Judge Bonner started the first movement to pave the streets," Mr. Johnson said. "When he was mayor he had brick and rock hauled and put in the streets and in a short time had a fairly good road." He said that in looking over the town and county now and comparing it with the days when he came here he said lots of improving had been done and he did not see that the people were much worse off. The development has been gradual and stable and Mr. Johnson looks for a still better town and county within the next thirty-five years.

Mr. and Mrs. George Hughes of Quanah were Vernon visitors last Sunday.

HARROLD BIG TOWN 1884 WHEN DENVER CAME TO WILBARGER

In 1884 the Fort Worth & Denver railway extended its line from Wichita Falls west to a point a few miles over in Wilbarger county and laid off the townsite of Harrold. This was to be the terminus of the road and hundreds of people flocked in to get in "on the ground floor." Within a short time it was a typical western boom town. From a point on the prairie it grew to a city of three or four thousand people.

Old timers who lived there or came through Harrold state that it was a sure enough live city. When the Denver moved on west the larger part of the town kept on moving with the road. Within a few years it dropped to 200 or 300 inhabitants.

COUNT US
Your Friends

PIONEER SETTLERS OF WILBARGER COUNTY

WE ARE HERE TO SERVE YOU WITH EVERYTHING IN BUILDING MATERIAL.

Odell Lbr. Co.

O

H. B

BOGER TWO-ROOM DUGOUT WAS MOST TALKED OF AFFAIR



MRS. A. T. BOGER.

The Boger two-room dugout east of town was one of the most talked of and looked at places in Wilbarger county in 1881 and 1882. People came for miles just to see it and its furnishings all made out of wood by Mr. Boger.

The Boger family moved from Big Sandy to Clay county in 1879 and came on to Wilbarger in the fall of 1881 and settled on their section of land out east of town now owned by hem. Lou Boger said his father and mother lived there until about 1907 when they moved to town. Mr. Boger died in 1917 and Mrs. Boger still lives at the home place on Texas street.

Lon said in 180 his father came out here and was offered an interest in the town site if he would put up a plank house. Upon his return to Clay county the elder Mr. Boger and his father went to Gainesville and got two loads of lumber and started back. They reached Clay county and Lon said his grandfather and his father put in a wheat crop. The grandfather died shortly after that so his father stayed until the next year.

Mr. Boger traded the two loads of lumber for a claim on the section of land in Wilbarger. As soon as they arrived Mr. Boger said his father went to Beaver and started cutting cotton wood logs to build a dugout. They hauled the logs and when completed had a nice two-room home. Mr. Boger said his father also built chairs, tables and other household equipment out of the logs.

Lon said they put in about thirty-five acres in corn the next spring and while his father was gone to Gainesville for some supplies the prairie dogs and ground squirrels got to eating the corn. His mother sent to town for some poison and soon got rid of them. After the corn got up the cattle and antelopes started in on it. "We were too poor to buy wire to fence," Mr. Boger said, "so I had a good dog and between us we kept the cows out but the antelopes would slip back in at night and do lots of damage." He said when his father came to this country he had a team of horses, a wife, two children, a plow and a little over $100 in cash.

The Boger family helped in a large way in the development of the school and religious life of the county. Elsewhere in this issue is a picture of the first Sunday school started in 1882

Mrs. Boger has two children, Lon Boger and Mrs. Cecil Storey, both of Vernon.

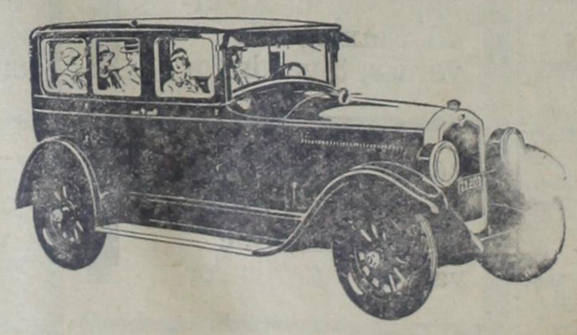
C. C. HAWLEY SAYS HAD GOOD TIME IN EARLY DAYS HERE

C. C. Hawley, who moved from Cooke county to Wilbarger in 1887, says they use to have some good times in the old days when they uset the wagons and buggies. Four or five wagon loads of families would come to town and stop at the wagon yard. They would all cook their food together and serve it picnic style. "Bill Townsend was a great hand to come down and eat with us," Mr. Hawley said.

Mr. Hawley moved out here in July and went back to Cooke county that fall and gathered his crop. He farmed and raised cattle for many years and in 1920 moved to Vernon where he has made his home for the past seven years.

344,67
Car Owne

say Buick will be THEIR next car



A general and imported survey of automobile owners recently conducted by a great organization, shows that 344,679 owners of other cars intend to change to Buick next time they buy a car.

These owners have compared their cars with Buick—in performance, in economy, in comfort, luxury and dependability. And they have decided that Buick offers greater value.

They have driven Buicks, and know the flexibility, power and efficiency of Buick's famous six-cylinder Valve-in-Head engine, which is vibrationless beyond belief at any speed.

Examine a Buick at your earliest opportunity. Find out why so many owners of other cars are changing to Buick every day.

Buick

Mullins Motor Co.

"When Better Automobiles Are Built Buick Will Build Them"

VERNON, TEXAS

CARRINGTON HAS BEEN OFFICER IN COUNTY 18 YEARS



J. W. CARRINGTON

J. W. Carrington, veteran peace officer of Vernon, has spent eighteen years of his thirty-eight years in the county as an officer. He came to Vernon in 1882. He was city marshal for two years. He served under Johnnie Williams as deputy sheriff for five years and four of that five he was jailer. When Jim Key was elected sheriff he served two years as deputy. W. A. Ish followed and Mr. Carrington was deputy and jailer under Mr. Ish for four years. He has been a deputy under Frank Edmonson for three years and waits on the court.

Perhaps no man knows more of the criminal happenings in Wilbarger county than Mr. Carrington and yet he seldom mentions any of them. He started serving as an officer in the days when horses and buggies were the chief means of travel and had many interesting experiences during the early days.

Several years ago the writer got Mr. Carrington to talking about the old days and he told of getting some bank robbers out of Oklahoma into Texas. The bank at Harrold was robbed and he and Sheriff Williams trailed them over into Oklahoma and finally captured the men on the other side of Frederick.

The people of Frederick were all crowded around the depot at train time and Al Jennings, who was practicing law in Oklahoma at that time, was also at the depot with papers to serve on Mr. Williams to keep them from taking the men back to Texas. It had been raining all night and the roads were very muddy. Before reaching Frederick Mr. Williams told Mr. Carrington to go on in and catch the train and he would take the prisoners to Davidson and put them on there as he knew Mr. Jennings was trying to keep them from coming back to Vernon.

The train pulled in and Mr. Carrington got on and so did Jennings. He wanted to know where Johnnie Williams was and Carrington told him he ought to be there pretty soon. The train went on. When they reached Davidson Mr. Williams put the prisoners in the smoker with Mr. Carrington and he caught the back end of the train. Mr. Carrington stood guard over the door of the smoker with a .45 until the train reached the middle of the river and then he told the lawyers to come on in and Mr. Williams came on through the train to the front end.

EARLY DAYS IN VERNON

By J. E. COLLINS.

In an early day in Vernon the saloon was considered as legitimate as Wood's General Store, Youngblood's Undertaking establishment, or Holman's Livery Barn.

Upstairs over most of the saloons was a gambling hall where you could play poker, pike at monte, or roll the galloping gallopers.

In the late fall and winter the cowboys would come in from the neighboring ranches to celebrate, blow their roll and have a good time.

One winter two cowboys drifted in from the R2 Ranch, and registered at the Hotel Royal. This hotel was a nine room affair with no service and without management. All rooms bathless, in fact, all modern inconveniences with rates unreasonable, but to these two cowboys it was everything the name indicted.

After cleaning up a bit, these boys —one called Gip, the other Wes— proceeded to celebrate, and for the next few days tried to drink all the red liquor in town.

One morning Wes waked up desperately sick. Gip was alarmed and sent for Dock Johnson.

Dock smelled the whiskey and knew what was wrong. He felt Wes' pulse, looked at his tongue and began to ask him questions.

"Wes, do you see any green birds with red heads?"

Wes shook his head feebly. "Do you see any pink cats or flying monkeys or snakes?"

"Hell no!" the patient mumbled "I don't see nothin'. Whatcha tryin' to do, kid me or somethin'?"

Gip was standing by the bed and heard all this. He shook his head sadly, wiped a tear from his eye and staggered down to the undertaking parlor.

"Tom," he said, "you better get ready to bury Wes Turner, the poor fellow is sinkin' fast. He's unconscious now and don't know a thing."

"Wes Turner! Sufferin' wildcats, what's happened to him?"

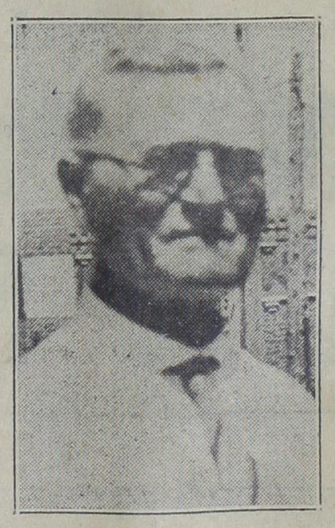
"Can't say exactly, but he's unconscious, I tell you. Don't know a durn thing. Dock Johnson asked him if he saw any green birds with red heads, or any pink cats or flyin' monkeys or snakes. He said, 'No,' and by-gum, the room was jus' full of 'em!"

McDONALD KEPT ODD FELLOWS LODGE ON MAP IN EARLY DAYS

W. G. McDonald moved to Wilbarger county from Fannin county and arrived in Harrold on November 15, 1888. He lived there until the fall of 1891 when he went to Amarillo and stayed until 1897 when he moved to Vernon.

Mr. McDonald said he went to work for T. J. Youngblood furniture store and held that position until 1902 when he went in the livery stable business. He sold out this business in 1921. During his business life in the city he had time to serve the city as alderman and was in that office for four years. In 1924 he was elected county commissioner and is serving his second term in that office.

The Odd Fellows lodge of Vernon was one of Mr. McDonald's pet hobbies and during the early days he worked hard to keep it going. When he moved to Vernon W. A. Ish, S. P. Huff and John Mabry were paying in enough dues to hold the charter. Mr. McDonald wanted the men to call a meeting and try to get the lodge going again. They told him it was no use. He kept on until



W. G. McDONALD.

they told him to call the meeting and Mr. McDonald said he had no authority. Mr. Ish wrote in to headquarters and had him appointed deputy district grand master. So Mr McDonald called a meeting and ha seven out. The next time there were ten and the meetings kept growing

The lodge was meeting in the little room on the southeast corner of the third floor of the court house. They soon outgrew the room and secured quarters in the Hahn buliding on the corner of Main and Wilbarger. Mr. McDonald said the lodge got in financial trouble because the dues were not being paid and some wanted to forfeit the charter as they could not pay the rent. He said he talked it over with his wife before going to meeting one night and she said they could use a down stairs room in their house if they could not pay the rent. So at the meeting when a motion was made to drop the charter Mr. McDonald got up and told them how he felt about the lodge and how he had worked to keep it going and that if they could not pay the rent he would furnish a room at his house. Mr. McDonald lead the way by putting up five dollars and in a few minutes enough money had been raised to pay off the debt and pay the rent for the rest of the year. From then on the lodge kept on growing.

Mr. McDonald has served as noble grand of the local lodge five times and has been deputy district grand master three times and has attended the grand lodge twice.

COLLINS FAMILY MOVED TO COUNTY FROM TARRANT CO.



W. T. COLLINS.

Coming to this country from Tarrant county in 1889, Mr. Collins with his wife and family bought land and settled north of Chillicothe in what is generally known now as the Jackson Spring community. For an early day settler Mr. Collins at once begun farming and stock raising on quite an extensive scale and kept his interest up in that work until he retired several years ago. At present he and his wife live comfortably at a nice home in Odell. At the organization of the Bank of Odell at Odell when the Orient railroad first arrived in that city, Mr. Collins was made president of the institution and has held the office since. Not only as a banker is he interested in his older days, but has always taken an active interest in the general affair of Wilbarger county. In 1898 and 1899 he served the people of the county as commissioner of Precinct 3. His service as a commissioner is often referred to now by different citizens as that of a good one.

Mr. and Mrs. Collins are the parents of four children, all who live in this county with the exception of one son who lives in Arizona. The children are J. M. Collins, A. T. Collins, Mrs. P. C. Spears, all of near Odell, and Theodore Collins of Arizona.

BIRDSONG STARTS SWASTEEKA STORE



J. A. BIRDSONG.

J. A. Birdsong has not been in Wilbarger county long enough to be termed one of the "old timers," but he has been in the state long enough to be classed as one of the old timers of Texas.

Mr. Birdsong came to Vernon from Sherman in 1910 and took charge of the Kell Mill as manager. It was during his management of affairs at the mill that the new mill plant was built, which is now recognized as one of the best of its size in this part of Texas.

Something near a year ago Mr. Birdsong resigned his position as manager of the mill. He now owns and operates a self serving grocery store called the "Swasteeka," the plan of which he was the originator.

PIONEER SETTLERS
of Wilbarger County

Dot us down in your memory as a firm which wishes for you the best of everything this life affords.

REMEMBER
WE ARE HERE TO SERVE YOU
With a Full and Complete Line of
HARDWARE
SADDLES
HARNESS, ETC.

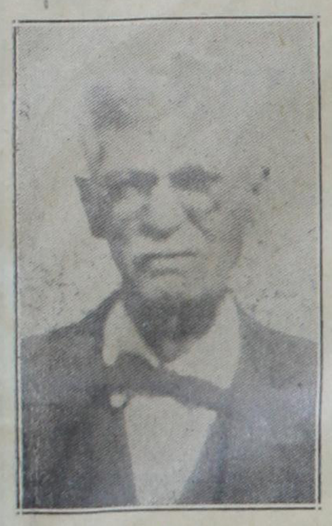
ANDERSON'S
"PERFECTION"
BREAD
IS NOT AN "OLD-TIMER" ON THE MARKET
--- BUT ---
it's Popularity in Vernon and vicinity now is mighty good assurance that it will have
A LONG LIFE

Have You Tasted Mrs. Anderson's Cakes? They Are the Talk of the Town.
BAKED FRESH EVERY DAY.

Vernon Bakery
H. H. ANDERSON, Prop.
North Main

40
42

J. A. RHOADS CAME TO COUNTY IN 1885 FROM TENNESSEE



J. A. RHOADS.

Mr and Mrs. J. A. Rhoads came to Vernon in May, 1885, from Tennessee. Mr. Rhoads said they came to Denton county and stayed a short time until he decided where he would locate in this state.

Upon arriving in Vernon he and Tom Jones formed a partnership and bought a bankrupt stock of general merchandise. The store was located where the Williams store now stands Mr. Rhoads said later they moved their business to the south side of the square in a building that once stood where the Lee Service Station is today.

He later sold his interest in this business and went into the grocery and feed business. After disposing of his interest in the store he moved to the farm where he lived for seven years. Mr. Rhoad's place was located southeast of town. Upon his return to Vernon he bought grain for a number of years. For the past few years he has been living at his home in the southeast part of town.

Mrs. Rhoads said that their daughter, Mrs. Ed Smith, was the first girl baptized into the Baptist church of Vernon. She said they attended services in the old school house that stood on the junior high school location.

Mr. Rhoads said the town had gone through some very great changes since he arrived here. There



MRS. J A. RHOADS.

was no railroad in those days and everything was brought in by wagons.

He tells a very interesting account of court in the early days. Mr. Rhoads said court would start in the morning and after running about an hour the judge would adjourn court and the jury and all the court attaches would go down the street to a saloon and take a drink. This procedure would be repeated several times during the day.

It was from Mr. Rhoads that the farming ability of Jeff Summerour was learned. Mr. Rhoad's farm adjoined a section owned by Mr. Summerour on which the latter lived. Mr. Rhoads said his neighbor had a good bird dog and a shot gun and with these two he roamed the fields day in and day out.

Mr. and Mrs. Rhoads have three children, Mrs. Ed S. Smith of Vernon, John Rhoads of Oklahoma City, and Marion Rhoads, who lives on the farm southeast of town.

He—This ring I offer you is a symbol of the love I bear for you. It has no ending.

She—And it is also a symbol of the love I bear for you. It has no beginning!

STREITS CAME TO WILBARGER COUNTY FROM SWITZERLAND



ALEX STREIT.

The Streit family came to the United States from Switzerland in 1883. They landed in New York City from the steamer "France." The father and mother and boys came to Wilbarger county and settled in the southwest part of the county.

The father and mother died a number of years ago. There were six of the brothers, three of whom are living today. Charles Streit died after leaving Wilbarger and going north. Ruolph Streit died in 1923 and Fred Streit died in March of last year.

The Streit family has been quite prominent in the development of the county. They today own some of the finest farms to be found in this part of the country. They all have nice homes and well improved places.

HELPLESS IN THE MATTER.

Officer—Hey, why don't you stop when I tell you to!

Nervous Driver—I wanted to, but I don't think this car understood you

FIRST FIND THE JOB.

"Will Marie succeed as an actress?"

"No, I don't think she has a show."

MRS. McKINNEY HAS BEEN IN COUNTY SINCE MARCH, 1879



MRS. W. A. McKINNEY.

Mrs. W. A. McKinney is another of the women of Wilbarger county who came to this county at the early beginning of the history of the country. She and her husband arrived in Wilbarger county in March, 1879, and settled on a farm south of town. Later they moved into town and lived.

Upon the organization of the county in 1881 her husband was appointed county treasurer and following that was elected five terms. Mrs. McKinney said the first time he was elected he was out of town. He had gone to Gainesville for a load of dry goods and C. F. Doan was a candidate for the office. Some of the cowboys put Mr. McKinney in the race and he was elected.

Mrs. McKinney said her husband built the first frame house in Vernon and it still stands today. The house is on the corner of Paradise and Fannin streets across from the junior high school.

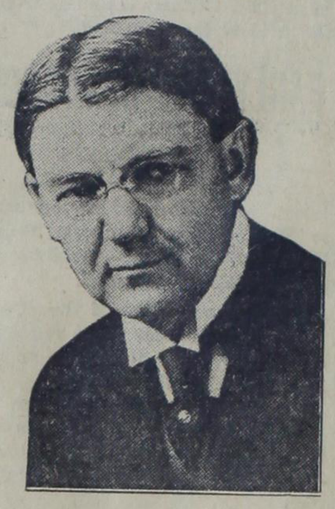
Mr. McKinney died eighteen years ago and since that time Mrs. McKinney has been making her home with her children. She had been at mangum until last September when she came to Vernon to live with her daughter, Mrs. D. Lewis.

Mrs McKinney has five children living. They are A. M. and P. M. McKinney of Oklahoma City, Mrs. Mary Thomason of Simla, Colo., Mrs. Dee Lewis of Vernon and Miss Willie McKinney of Mangum, Okla.

WILBARGER WHEAT WON FIRST DALLAS FAIR IN 1887-88

Wilbarger county was one of the leading wheat counties in the state in the 80's. Wheat raising started back in 1885 on a large scale and continued to increase until the crash of the early 90's when the farmers started to trying other crops. In 1887 and 1888 wheat from Wilbarger county took first prize at the Texas State Fair and Dallas Exposition.

BAPTIST PASTOR



DR. E. F. LYON

Pastor of the First Baptist church. He came to Vernon from San Angeloo.

Not So Good

Prisoner—I'm sorry, your honor, I took the money; but you know the more a man gets the more he wants.

Judge—Well, you're getting seven years. How much more do you want?

FARMERS STATE BANK OPENED OCTOBER 1910 IN RENFRO STORE

The Farmers State Bank of Vernon opened for business at 3 o'clock on the afternoon of October 9, 1910. It was the first bank in the state at that time that opened by telegraph. The Commissioner of Banking wired that the charter had been granted and the doors were opened.

The first banking house was a part of the Renfro Hardware company store. In 1911 the bank built its own home and moved into it.

The directors appointed to apply for the charter were J. F. White, Dr. H. H. Rhoads, W. H. Evans, J. H. Pendleton, J. E. Pearce, Fred Streit, A. J. Haney, Emory Rhoads and Frank Massie. After the charter was granted Dr. H. H. Rhoads was elected president; W. H. Evans, first vice-president; Fred Streit, second vice-president; F. L. Massie, cashier and Emory Rhoads, assistant cashier. The directors were Dr. Rhoads, W. H. Evans, J. R. Renfro, Frank Gelhausen, J. H. Pendleton, J. E. Pearce, Frank Massie and Emory Rhoads.

The bank was organized with a capital stock of $30,000. The capital today is $100,000 and the surplus fund is $50,000.

The officers today are Dr. H. H. Rhoads, president; A. M. Bourland, vice-president; F. L. Massie and Emory Rhoads, active vice presidents; R. B. Gibson, cashier; and R. E. Martin and A. A. Hingst, assistant cashiers. The directors are Dr. Rhoads, Mr. Bourland, Mr. Massie, Emory Rhoads, Mr. Gibson and W. A. Lane.

From the small beginning in 1911 the Farmers State Bank has grown to be one of the strongest state banks in this section of Texas. The deposits run from $700,000 to over a million dollars during the past few years.

HOW IT'S DONE.

He—Will you marry me?

She—No.

And, so they lived happily ever after.

Strange! Heredity gets little blame from old foolks for youth's faults.

WM. CAMERON & CO. INC.

DEALERS IN

BUILDING MATERIAL IN VERNON SINCE 1901

Quality and Service



Everything to Build Anything

For 26 years we have been selling the people of this territory their building material, and today are proud of the fact that we had an integral part in the upbuilding of Vernon and Wilbarger County.

CONGRATULATIONS to THE PIONEER CITIZENS of WILBARGER COUNTY

Wm. CAMERON & CO. Inc.

TURNER ELECTRIC CO.

OLEN TURNER, PROPRIETOR

The business known as the TURNER ELECTRIC CO., started as the Vernon Electric Company, June 1, 1919, located in the W. W. Wright Grocery store at 1812 Main Street, and occupying a space 13 feet wide and 20 feet long. At this time Mr. Turner was sole owner, starting with a stock of about $500.

On January 1, 1920, Mr. Turner sold one-half interest to W. C. Starr, the business still operating as the Vernon Electric Co. Business increased in 1920-21 until necessary to have more room. They began using a floor space of about 50x60 feet in the same building. Carrying a stock of about $2,500. Mr. Turner and Mr. Starr operated together four years to the day, Mr. Turner buying Mr. Starr out January 1, 1925. At this time his business became known as the Turner Electric Co., Mr. Turner sole owner, the stock being about $3,500.

ing two small ware houses on Fannin St. The stock on hand at present running around $20,000.

Turner Electric Co. has at the present time man-power and equipment to take care of any kind of fixture, wiring or repair job. In addition to having in stock all models of light plants and Frigidaires and equipment to care for most of any kind of commercial electrical refrigeration jobs.

In August 1925, Mr. Turner bought the Greathouse Electrical business at Quanah, operating it in connection with this place here, carrying around $5,000 stock and doing about $40,000 business this year.

The business started with Mrs. Olen Turner taking care of the store, and who is still active in the business, while Mr. Turner looked after repairs, wiring, etc.



OLEN TURNER

Olen Turner moved to Wilbarger county in 1904. He lived about five miles from Harrold until 1919, when he moved to Vernon. A short time afterwards he went to work with Uncle Chas. Dalmasso, who operated a grocery store on west side of the court house. After working for him about two years he commenced working for W. G. McDonald, who operated a livery business on the east side of the square. At that time there was only a few automobiles in Vernon; everyone not owning his own horse and buggy used a livery rig. Working for him two years, he commenced working at what, at that time was Texas Public Service company. Their office being located where the Martin-Lane Fuel company is at present. After driving an ice wagon about three months he started working as a lineman helper. At this time this was a dangerous occupation as most of the poles were old and some had to be propped before climbing them. Working here as helper and lineman two and one-half years Mr. Turner was made head electrician for this company. This position he held until he started a business of his own in January, 1919.

2 Carloads Frigidaires Sold Since March 18, 1927.



2 Carloads Frigidaires Represents Approximately a $30,000 Business.

On November 1, 1923, t
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and in 1927 at about t
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In October, 1926, mov
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The man-power has increased until at present Mr. Turner only supervises the work here and at Quanah. Having Mr. R. T. Oldham, who came with him in August, 1925, as sales manager of Delco lights and Frigidaires. Also Mr. Ottic Cloniger, who came with him in February, 1925 as Delco light and service manager. Mr. Robert Garlington in the Delco light and Frigidaire department. Mr. Pat Waggoner who is head electrician with a number of electricians and helpers. Mr. Henry Staggs, stock keeper and head of the wiring and contracting department, and Mrs. Johnnie Belle Ragland as bookkeeper, of Vernon.

Mr. A. A. Frederick, manager at Quanah, Texas, with Lowell Rushen as head electrician and Miss Eddie Mae Oliphint as bookkeeper. This comprises the personnel of the company at this time.

TURNER E TRIC CO.

All Kinds o ppliances

DELCO LIGHT :-: RE :-: PHONE 604

40
44

DOANS WERE PIONEER SETTLERS IN WILBARGER CO.

ESTABLISHED TRADING POST AT DOANS FOR INDIANS AND COWBOYS

(By J. E. COLLINS)

The pioneer of all pioneer families now living in Wilbarger county is that of C. F. Doan.

Mr. Doan is the only man living in Wilbarger who helped to organize the county and participated in the first election held, and so far as we have been able to learn, is the only man living who voted in this election.

C. F. Doan was born in Wilmington, Ohio, August 9, 1848, and was educated in the public schools of that city. When only a boy he had visions of a great empire to be builded in the West, and longed to be one of the builders. He was married October 19, 1871, to Miss Lide E. Whinery of Wilmington and settled down to a business career, but he still felt the call of the West, and in 1874



C. F. DOAN

he in company with J. Doan who was later elected the first county judge of Wilbarger county, went to Fort Sill, Okla., and spent two years trading with the Indians and buying hides and furs. These hides were freighted to Gainsville and Dennison, Texas, and shipped from these points to the Eastern markets.

C. F. Doan returned to Ohio in 1876, but Judge Doan remained in the West to prospect for a location.

To one unaccustomed to it, there is something inexpressibly lonely in the solitude of a great prairie. The loneliness of a forest seems nothing to it. There the view is shut in by trees and the imagination is left free to picture nome more level scene beyond; but to this hardy pioneer, the immense landscape, without a sign of human existence, without a fence to mar its beauty, covered in grass and flowers and abounding with wild game of all kind was to him a source of wonder, pleasure and inspiration, and after several months spent in traveling over the country, he located and established a trading post at Doans, a village that still bears his name, and is located at the crossing on Red river, on the trail made famous by Emerson Hough's "North of 36."

Judge Doan early in life lost his wife. He never married again, but the remainder of his life held in reverence the memory of the woman he loved.

In 1878 C. F. Doan came out from Ohio, arriving at Doans October 10, bringing with him his wife and baby, also Maje Doan, Mrs. R. R. Wheatley of Amarillo, and Mrs. Eva Brazie, deceased, children of Judge Doan, and Cal Doan, a brother of Judge Doan. Uncle Cal, as he was affectionately called by all who knew him, was a fine, upstanding character, a veteran of the Civil War, a typical pioneer, a familiar figure at Doan's store for nearly forty years where he was known and loved for his acts of kindness, his generosity and his happy optomistic disposition.

After the arrival of C. F. Doan a temporary house was arranged for his family, and in 1880 the adobe house was built, and is now the oldest house in the county and has been the home of C. F. Doan for forty-seven years.

Mrs. Doan left her home in Wilmington, O., where all of her life she had been accustomed to the comforts and luxuries of life, surrounded by cultured and refined people. It was no easy task to leave the old home and go into a new country where most of those she came in contact with were Indians and cowboys but with wonderful tact and judgment she made friends with everyone she met. An Indian might be a bad Indian on the range, but in her presence he was always a good Indian. A cowboy might be a 'rip roarin', hell raisin' bad hombre in town, but in her presence he was the courtly gentleman, and not one old time cowboy that ever lived in Wilbarger county but would have cheerfully laid down his life in her defense.

After the country was more thickly settled, she was noted far and wide



MRS. BERTHA A. ROSS

for her kindness, her charity and her hospitality. No one regardless of who or what they were ever left her door hungry.

Mrs. Doan passed on in 1905, but her memory is still with us; and if it be true as the good book teaches, that in the presence of humanity we will be judged, when this good woman stands before the All Righteous Judge, a great multitude will come forward, who in this world were the old, the poor, the sick, the lame and the blind, and will say with one accord, "Back in yonder's world, I was hungry, and she gave me food; I was thirsty and she gave me drink; I was naked and she clothed me; I was sick and she visited me."

Mrs. Alex Ross, formerly Miss Bertha Doan, was an infant when her parents came to Wilbarger, and she was the first white child in the county. Her first friends were cowboys and Indians, she was not afraid



MRS. C. F. DOAN and her daughter, MRS. MABEL IGOU

of these Indians, but rather on very friendly terms with them She soon learned the Comanche language, and the white papoose talking Comanche was a source of amusement to the red men.

After graduating from the Vernon high school, she spent four years at an Eastern college completing her education, after which she returned to Vernon to make this her permanent home. Mrs. Ross has been actively engaged in newspaper work for a number of years, and is at this time society editor of the Vernon Daily Record. She has contributed many articles to leading magazines and papers. Although a very busy woman, she has always found time to take an active part in civic, church and club work, and has taken an active part in all charity work in the city and county.

Mrs. C. W. Igou, formerly Miss Mabel Doan, was born in Wilbarger county. We will not give the date of her birth, for we learned many years ago that if a woman wants her age known she prefers telling it herself.

Mabel was a chip off the old block, and from early childhood was always ready for an adventure. At ten years of age she was thoroughly master of a horse, and a ride of twenty-five or thirty miles with her father after straying cattle, meant nothing in her young life.

Mrs. Igou was educated in the public schools of Vernon, and is an accomplished musician.

Several years ago she moved with her husband to Electra, Texas, where for many years Mr. Igou has been a trusted employe of the Texas Petroleum company.

Aside from her domestic duties, and the careful supervision of the education of her children, Mrs. Igou is active in social and religious work in her home town, and seldom fails to make a weekly visit to her father in the old home.

Fifty years is not a long space of time, it soon passes; but many changes are brought about in that length of time. When the Doan family came to Wilbarger, the nearest railroad was Gainsville, Texas. The nearest telegraph office at the same place. There was no such thing as a telephone. There was not a house or a mile of fence in the county. They got their mail at Henrietta Their nearest neighbor lived in what is now Wichita county, and Vernon was not even thought of.

In 1880 Judge Doan was taken ill with fever, a covered wagon was sent to Henrietta for a doctor three days later the doctor reached Doans, and finding his patient very sick he stayed with him for three weeks. Even in those days medical men had to have money, and for hin services he charged the Judge $25.00, and his transportation back to Henrietta in this same covered wagon.

Soon after their arrival in this county a strong and lasting friendship was formed between the Doan family and Quanah Parker, the powerful chief of the Comanches, and Lone Wolf, chief of the Kiowas. These Indians often visited in Doans where they were always entertained and shown every courtesy due "a heap big Injun."

Fifty years ago the tide of emigration turned westward. What has it brought to us? Men and women with brave hearts, clean minds and strong bodies, who wanted a home of their own and were willing to work for it. Folk who fought on through droughts, sand storms, grasshoppers and crop failures. Men and women who were still optomistic when buffalo bones, stove wood and pole cat hides were all they had to offer as legal tender.

And their faith has been rewarded. Words are inadequate and space too limited to describe the glories of Wilbarger. We are recognized today as one of the leading agricultural counties of the state. Our oil fields are proving a source of vast wealth. We are perfecting a great system of paved and graveled roads We have a city of 15,000 population with practically every line of business represented. We have many miles of paved streets and side walks, and known from Colorado to the Gulf as the "City Beautiful." We have in the county about thirty-five modern school buildings, for the education of our boys and girls, and above all a citizenship equal to any in the world

But in our prosperity, let us not fail to remember and honor the sturdy pioneers, who paved the way and made all these thingn possible.

THE DOAN'S DOBE HOUSE



The home of C. F. Doan as it looks today. The oldest building in Wilbarger County. Built in 1881 by the late Bennie Simmons.

GOOD EITHER WAY.

"Congratulations! I hear you are going to be married."

"Who told you that! I am not going to be married."

"Congratulations!"

OH MABEL, MABEL!

Abel—Dang it! I left my watch on the dresser upstairn. I feel too tired to run up after it.

Mabel—If you wait long enough it'll run down.

A SLEEK ONION.

Her—Have any of your family connections been traced?

Him—Yes. They traced an uncle of mine once; but he got away.

DOWN TO FACTS.

"In my business, the harder I work the lower I get," bemoaned the ditch digger.

THE OLD DOANS STORE



DOAN'S STORE IN THE EARLY DAYS
and group of typical citizens of the community.
Photo taken in 1888

The above picture of the Old Doans Store was made in 1889. It was here the trail drivers stopped for their supplies when headed for the North with their cattle. The Doans Store was the last stop on the cattle trail for laying in supplies before reaching the northern markets. It was here that the Doans carried on an extensive trade with the Indians in the early days. A bit of history is connected with the Doans Store. The building was used at one time as a saloon. In 1895 the house was moved by the citizens of the Doans community two miles west and placed on the D. B. Rogers farm and used for several years as a Methodist church. At this new location it was known as Doans Wesley Chapel. Later it was moved again still further west and placed on the H. A. Bell farm near Odell. Today it is still being used by the Methodist in that community and is known as the Pleasant Valley Chapel.

FIRST SERVICE CAR WAS RUN BY ERNEST HAMPTON IN 1909



Vernon's first service car was run by Ernest Hampton in 1909. There had been several autos in the county prior to this event but Mr. Hampton had the first auto for hire. As can be seen from the picture it was an old two cylinder Jackson.

Mr. Hampton said he had another car before this and when he would come to town and hit the sand bed in the road in the Main street block between Wilbarger and Fannin streets business would pick up. Horses would try to get away from this noisy contraption.

One day Mr. Hampton was coming down Main street and speeded up a little to make the sand bed. He struck it full speed but this was not sufficient to get across and the little engine puffed and roared and horses at the racks along the streets did their best to make their getaway. Mr. Hampton said the late C. C. Shive, who was then city marshal, came out and told him if he did not keep that thing off Main street he was going to arrest him.

Roads were nothing to brag about in those days and a trip to Wichita Falls required several hours and perhaps a little pushing on the part of the passengers to make some of the grades.

LOADED WAGONS WITH VIEW TO SANDY ROAD

Back in the days before paved streets and roads were known in this county wagons were loaded according to the heaviest load that could be pulled across the square or over the Byars hill on the road to Oklaunion. Hugh King, county commissioner, said it took a good team of horses to pull a two thousand pound load from Vernon to Oklaunion. He said he had seen the time when Vernon's public square was a good test of a team's pulling ability.

The Byars hill was the "Jonah" of the east road in those days. It was a deep sand and many teams stalled trying to make the grade. After these two roads were passed the road was fairly good.

Dedicated

To the EARLY SETTLERS of Wilbarger County

For their steadfastness and perseverance as the first citizens of this Country.

BY

First National Bank

Odell, Texas

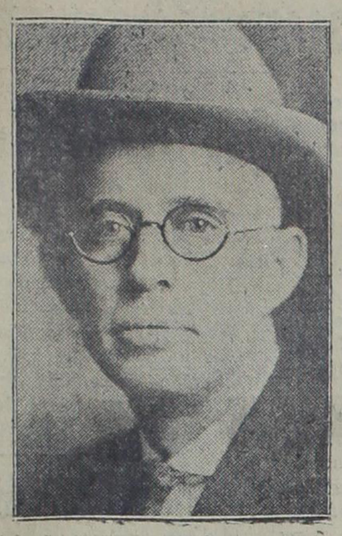
OFFICERS

J. M. WHITE, President
R. T. DOOLEY, Vice President
W. P. STARR, Cashier
H. A. ROSS, Asst. Cashier

DIRECTORS

J. M. White
R. T. Dooley
W. P. Starr
A. C. Daniel
S. B. Sutton
T. J. Watson
J. E. Johnston

45



O. B. DAWDY, SOLE OWNER
IN VERNDN 20 YEARS

FOR

1926—A Gross Business of $13,000.00

IS

WHY I APPRECIATE MY CUSTOMERS

I am more than grateful to you my friends for this.

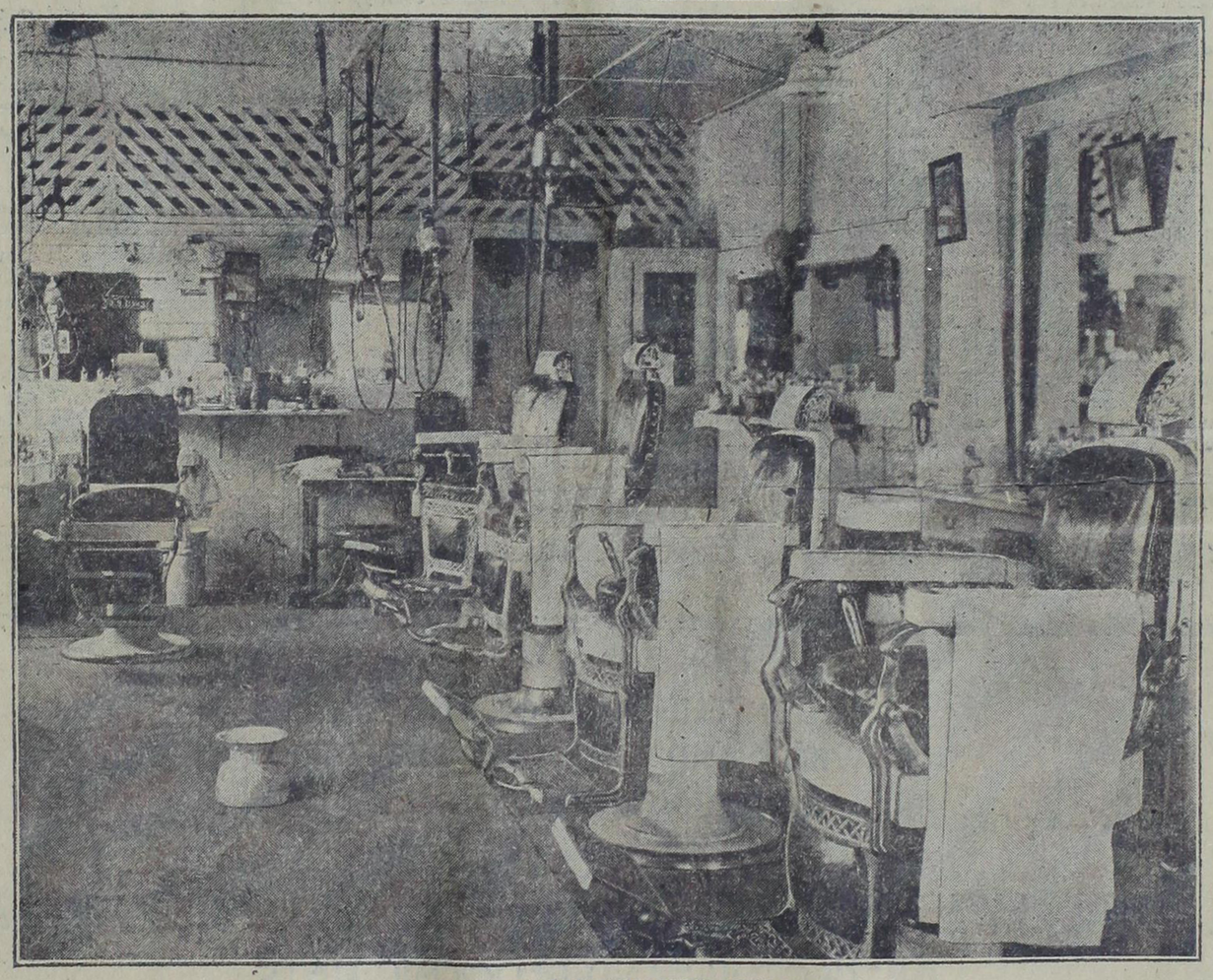
You have made it possible for me to do this.

1927, Help Me Do a $15,000.00 Business This Year

My Shop Is Your Shop

HAIR BOB
25c
HAIR BOB

SHOWER BATH
25c



HAIR CUT
25c
HAIR CUT

TUB BATH
25c

DAWDY'S BARBER SHOP
5 CHAIRS—3 BATHS

1926 - A GROSS BUSINESS OF $13,000.00 - 1926

I Paid One of Your Loal Laundries Over $500 for Laundry Work for 1926 to Give You This Clean, Sanitary Service

MY SHOP IS FOR LITTLE MEN AND WOMEN
and
THEIR FATHERS AND MOTHERS

When Better Hair Cuts and Hair Bobs are Cut Dawdy Will Cut Them.

NO WALKING DELEGATES DICTATE MY BUSINESS.

P. S.—DON'T FORGET TO BRING NED CURTIS YOUR SHOE REPAIR WORK NEXT DOOR

DR. HIX CAME TO VERNON ON LARK FORTY-ONE YEARS AGO AND NEVER FOUND OPPORTUNITY TO GO BACK

Dr. R. W. Hix came to Vernon forty-one years ago on a lark from Parker county and never found time to go back home. He and his wife drove through the country with her mother to move his father-in-law's household effects to Wilbarger county, and Dr. Hix and his wife made the trip more as a honeymoon as they had only been married two months.

In discussing his arrival in Vernon Dr. Hix said they reached Harrold on the night of June 4, 1886, in a wagon and spent the night in that thriving city. Harrold was the terminus of the Denver road and was one of the largest towns in this section. "It sure was a wild town, too," the doctor said. "I had a little Spanish pony and they liko to have run me crazy that night following me around wanting to buy it. Next day we drove in to Vernon and I have been in the county ever since."

Dr. Hix moved to Parker county from Georgia in 1885 and started practicing medicine. In April, 1886, he was married to Miss Stella Van Eman, daughter of a Presbyterian minister. Rev. George Van Eman was preaching in this county and came home to perform the ceremony. Dr. Hix said they had a big church wedding and his father-in-law returned to Wilbarger county. In June they decided to move here so he and his wife came along to see the country.

After arriving in Vernon Dr. Hix said he rode around over the country and while looking around went down on Beaver creek. The doctor said he never saw the like of quail, turkey and deer. All kinds of wild animals roamed the woods down there. Rev. Van Eman insisted that Dr. Hix just stay here so he said he told the minister he did not have anything but his pony and he had a fairly good practice started in Parker county. However, Rev. Van Eman kept on and told Dr. Hix that he would see that he did not starve if he would stay. The doctor said he liked the country as he had felt better than he had since leaving the mountains of Georgia so he found him some land down on Beaver creek and started farming and practicing medicine.

Dr. Hix and Dr. H. H. Rhoads are both old timers and physicians of this country. Dr. Hix said lots of others came in but things looked too wild and wooly for them so they went on and he and Dr. Rhoads stuck it out.

Dr. Hix says he tried to farm but did not make much at it as he spent so much of his time on calls. "I made one good crop and that was in 1891," he said. "I would have done better to have not tried to farm at all." As there were no telephones in those days calls came by horseback riders and Dr. Hix said he always rode his pony with his medicine bag slung over his saddle. "I followed the cow trails and practiced all over Wilbarger, Foard, Baylor and down to the line of Knox county. I got lots of calls to treat rattlesnake and trantula bites and luckily I never lost a case."

When asked how the pay was in those days Dr. Hix said it was better than it is today. "If a man did not have the money he gave me a cow and I brought it home and turned it on my pasture and got along fine."

He spent one month in Vernon before moving to Beaver creek and said they rented a furnished house. One day his wife decided to sun the bedding and when she took the feather bed off the mattress there was a big horse pistol and a belt of cartridges between the two. "This house was full of holes in the ceiling. They told me that a regular gambling house had been run there and that the holes were from fights that were pulled off. In the attic we found all kinds of gambling paraphernalia."

In October, 1899, Dr. Nix sold out his Beaver creek farm and moved back to town and bought where his house now stands. He said the house was remodeled and stands today just as it has for many years.

"Comparin' women to flowers is quite fitting and proper. When they fade—they dye."

J. E. LUTZ FIRST VICTIM SUNDAY REFORM WAVE EARLY DAYS IN COUNTY

J. E. Lutz was the first victim of a reform move that started in the late 80's to stop working on Sunday in Vernon. The grand jury had instructed the sheriff to arrest all violators of the law who worked on Sunday.

At that time Mr. Lutz had a contract to maintain the stages that made the run between Wichita Falls and Mobeetie. One Saturday night the stage came in from Wichita Falls with three wheels off and the Mr. Satterwhite, the road agent, had Mr. Lutz up before day Sunday morning to start him to work on the wagon. Mr. Lutz told Satterwhite that the grand jury had instructed the sheriff to arrest all who worked on Sunday and he was afraid to do it.

Mr. Satterwhite said the United States mail must not be delayed and in addition the company would be fined $250 if the mail was delayed over twelve hours. Finally the two decided to consult with D. R. Britt, county attorney. Mr. Britt looked up the law and said to go ahead as the law said the mails must go through.

So Mr. Lutz muffled his anvil and went to work and had the stage out that afternoon in time to save the $250 penalty. Then his trouble started. A number of the ladies kept after the sheriff to arrest him for working on Sunday. The sheriff "done his duty as he seen it" and arrested Mr. Lutz.

The trial was held before Squire Riddle and as Prosecutor Britt could find no similar case to use in his arguments he hunted up a murder case and used it instead. As a result Mr. Britt made out such a strong case that Mr. Lutz was convicted despite the fact that the law said that nothing must be done to stop the carrying of the mails on railway trains, stage coaches or horse back riders. The case was appealed to county court from the justice court and again a conviction. Mr. Lutz paid $65 and dropped the case.

"I never lose my temper," said Mr. Steele.

J. W. KIRK GOES THRU VERNON 1883, 16 YEAR OLD BOY

"There is certainly some difference in Vernon today and the way it looked in 1883-84," was the way J. W. Kirk of near Chillicothe, expressed



himself to a Times representative when questioned about how long he had been in this country.

Unlike the modern cowboy of today who wears the broad brim hat and parades around like "Tom Mix" of movie fame with his chaps and long shank spurs, Mr. Kirk is really and truly one of the old time cowpunchers. Even though he is now a farmer, and has long since laid down his rope and branding iron for the plow and hoe, one cowboy characteristic we noticed he still adheres to and that is wearing a handkerchief tied around his neck.

With a herd of several thousand cattle that were gathered from a ranch in Kimble county, Mr. Kirk said he passed through Vernon in 1883 when he was but 16 years of age.

The cattle were being driven through to Ogle, Nebr., and Mr. Kirk, with his boss and cow hands, were four months on the trail with their herd.

"I remember very well," he said, "there was just a hardware store in Vernon then and about all they carried in stock was guns, ammunition, saddles, ropes and blankets."

Mr. Kirk is now a man sixty years of age and resides on Chillicothe Route 1. He owns a good farm in that section of the country and has been a citizen of this section about thirty-five years.

INDIANS CAME DOWN INTO COUNTY TO HUNT DURING SEVENTIES UNDER ESCORT OF SOLDIERS FROM OKLAHOMA OUTPOSTS

Back in the Seventies when the Indians had nearly all been rounded up out of Texas and placed under government guard in the Oklahoma reservations, the government issued them permits to come down into Texas to hunt buffalo and always sent an escort of soldiers with them to see that they did not get into trouble. The soldiers had orders not to shoot unless to kill an Indian who got to giving trouble or to protect the Indians.

Uncle Charlie Justin tells one about when he thought he was in for a fight with a bunch of Indians in April, 1876. He and another man got short on meat so they rode on south from where Vernon now stands and located a buffalo cow on a hill. The spot is on what is now known as the Youngblood tract on the road to the oil field. Mr. Justin said mesquite grew all over the ground where the oil field is today and shortly after they shot the buffalo they looked up and saw a band of some fifty Indians "making medicine" in the edge of the brush about a mile away.

"We started 'making medicine' too," Mr. Justin said. "We laid out our plans for battle and decided we were located right and would use the carcass of the buffalo for breastworks. Pretty soon three men rode out from the group and started towards us. We got our guns ready and watched them. We knew that when Indians went into battle they all charged so we could not figure it out. Pretty soon we saw it was three soldiers and waited until they rode up.

"The soldiers said they had a bunch of Indians out on a hunt and they had not killed anything yet and wanted to know if they could have what was left of our kill. We told them sure. By the time we got our meat cut out they had ridden back and told the Indians to come on and the whole bunch rode up. The grass had been bad on the reservation during the winter and their horses were poor. They had to kill with spears and bows and arrows so with poor horses they had been unable to run down any buffalo. When they got through with the buffalo about all that was left was the hoofs and head."

Mr. Justin said that this group was made up of old Indian bucks and squaws and children. The government would not allow the warriors to leave on these hunting expeditions. However, he said occasionally the young bucks would slip out of the reservation and the soldiers would give chase but the Indians usually got back before the soldiers could ever get sight of them.

PUMP STATION LAND COST CITY LARGE SUM $35 YEARS AGO

The city of Vernon paid the large sum of $35 for the land on which the pump station is located, according to R. B. Sherrill, who was city secretary, back in the early part of the twentieth century.

Mr. Sherrill said that the city officials had been looking around for a good site on which to erect a pump station for their proposed water works system. Lon Eakle was a member of the commission or rather an alderman for that was before the days of the commission form of city government. Mr. Eakle discovered the tract of land out in the edge of town and after looking it up on the records found it was owned by a non-resident and also an acquaintance of his.

Before long that party came to Vernon on business and Lon asked him what he would take for the land. After figuring around awhile a price of $50 was set on the tract. Mr. Eakle said there was some back taxes against it and that he thought $50 too much but he would be willing to give him $35. The trade was made and a quit claim deed was made to Mr. Eakle who in turn deeded the property to the city.

Today this same tract is worth several thousand dollars.

IN THE DAYS OF THE
COWBOY AND THE FIRST SETTLERS
OF WILBARGER COUNTY

LITTLE OR NOTHING WAS KNOWN IN THIS COUNTRY ABOUT CLEANING AND PRESSING CLOTHES AND BLOCKING HATS.

TODAY

THEIR CLOTHES ARE CLEANED AND PRESSED, AND THEIR HATS MADE LIKE NEW

In One of the MOST MODERN

Cleaning and Pressing Establishments

IN THE SOUTHWEST

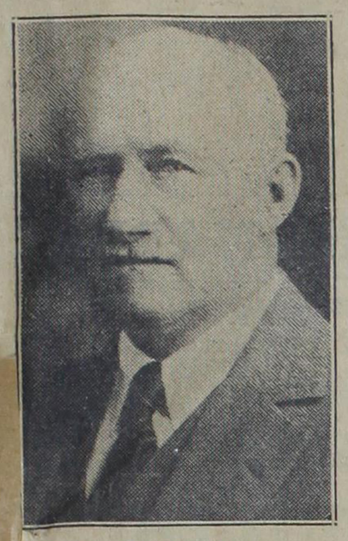
Phone 66

Model CLEANERS & DYERS INC.

Vernon, Texas

47

LUTZ RECALLS MANY INTERESTING EVENTS ABOUT EARLY DAYS



J. E. LUTZ.

As one of the early settlers I have n asked to give my experiences the frontier in Wilbarger county. ning to Texas in 1885 I went in- the land department of the Texas Pacific railroad under Abrams, the d commissioner at Dallas. Sell- land down on the Pecos and ch rivers at that time did not good to me so I came to Wich- Falls and there met George, nk and Will Knott, with whom I reared back in Ohio. They want- me to stay there with them but ld them that country did not look a farming country and that was kind of country I was looking

Coming to Vernon on the stage net another man, Tom Linkhart, o lived in Ohio just seven miles m my city, Xenia. Linkhart and W. Donahoe were running a black- th and wood working shop and ught a half interest in with them, ing them at the time that I ught this locality was the best ad seen in Texas and would be great farming country when set- d.

I was appointed assistant road nt for the stage line, Mr. Sat- white being the road agent, and r. Orr the Star route contractor om the government. This stage line also carried the United States mail from Wichita Falls to Fort Elliott and Mobeetie, a distance of 250 miles. The passengers were charged 10 cents per mile or $25 to Mobeetie. We had a branch line from Clarendon to Salt Fork, which is about seven miles east of the present city of Clarendon, to Tascosa on the Canadian river, a distance of 135 miles. It was my duty to go over this entire stage line once every three months, and it took me six weeks to make the trip, which kept me on the road six weeks and in Vernon six weeks.

Blizzard in Panhandle.

There was an old fort at Clarendon from which in the early days they fought Indians and gave shelter and protection to the early settlers. There was a very severe blizzard in the Panhandle on January 2, 1886, in which there were fifteen people frozen to death. I was on one stage from Mobeetie south and everyone froze so badly I had to drive the stage down on McClellan creek to Tom McLarren's house where we stayed until the storm blew over. Temple Houston, Judge Willis, a lawyer named Grisby, myself and several others stayed at McLarren's house that night. We lay down on the floor and we men had enough to cover every bit of floor space. When the man next to the fire place could stand the heat no longer he would change with the party at the back of the room who was freezing. The thermometer was only 20 degrees below zero.

Goes Into Implement Business.

In October, 1886, the Denver railroad came to Vernon and put the stage line out of business. I did not follow the stage line but remained in Vernon opening up an implement house selling farm machinery. I also sold land from 1885 to the present time in Vernon. With the railroad the farmers and settlers began coming in, taking up lands from the state and one and two dollars per acre, with forty years time to pay. I was appointed immigration agent for the Frisco and Fort Worth & Denver and I began bringing in settlers by car loads. Later I was appointed land agent for the Houston & Texas Central and Southern Pacific railroads, who at that time owned nearly one-half the lands in Wilbarger county. I was under C. C. Gibbs, land commissioner at San Antonio. I sold these lands to settlers and W. T. Waggoner. Waggoner later on during the dry spells in 93-94 and '95 bought more land I sold out the settlers on Beaver creek to Waggoner giving him one of the largest ranches in Texas. He owned at that time 625,000 acres.

How Railroads Got Land.

A great many have wondered how the railroads got these millions of Texas acres. In the early days of Texas, after the hard struggle to get independence, the legislature passed a law granting to any railroad sixteen sections of land for every mile of railroad it would build. The Houston and Texas Central was one of the first to take advantage of this law, building from Houston, through Dallas to Sherman. I sold these railroad lands at from two to four dollars per acre.

Old Cattle Trail.

There is one part of the early history of Vernon and Wilbarger county that has never received the credit due. That is the old cattle trail that crossed Wilbarger street between the Presbyterian church and where L. G. Hawkins lives, crossing Pease river just east of the stock pens on the Denver road, on north to Doans, crossing Red river at this point, on north by Navajoe, crossing the North Fork of Red river, the Washita and South Canadian river to Camp Supply, which was a government fort at that time, then on to Dodge City, Kans. This trail started near the Rio Grande river and was laid out and opened by the Adams brothers of San Antonio in 1876. This trail should have been called the Adams Trail, the same as the Chisholm and Goodnight Trails were named after them because they drove over these trails the first cattle herds. The Chisholm Trail crossed Red river in Cooke county at Red River Station, the Goodnight Trail went north up the Pecos river to Fort Sumner, thence northeast through the Panhandle of Texas to Dodge City. The Chisholm and Goodnight Trails have been written up by several of the present day writers of both newspapers and magazines, but the Western of Adams Trail, as I shall call it, has never been written up by any of our present day writers.

High Nail was foreman of the Adams brothers ranch in Uvalde, Frio and Duval counties and drove the first trail herd for the Adams boys, crossing near Albany, going north through Fort Griffin, Throckmorton, Seymour and to Vernon. One of our present townsmen, Charlie Justin, was working with the Adams outfit at this time and helped drive this first herd part of the way. The last drive of cattle made by the Adams boys was made in the fall of 1876, coming to Vernon, thence to near the present city of Electra and northeast of there to Adams creek where the cattle were sold and delivered. Bill and Cud Adams, who had this herd in charge, received $75,000 for the bunch and stayed there all night on Adams creek with about one hundred cowboys and they knew they had this money. This could not be done this day and time. The next day Bill Adams paid off the boys, divided up the money with his brother, Cud, and went to California. Cud went back to the Neuces river country and went into the sheep business.

Thousands of Head Go Over Trail.

There were more cattle driven over the Adams Trail than over both the Chisholm and Goodnight Trails. In 1885 alone there passed through Vernon 300,000 head of cattle, 200,000 head of sheep and 190,000 head of horses. 90,000 head of these cattle were driven by the Blocker brothers of Austin. This was the largest drive ever made over any cattle trail in any one year. None but those who have seen these immense herds with their hands and chuck wagons can realize the immensity of it. J. R and B. K. Wood ran one trail supply store where the Massie-Vernon store is now on the corner of Main and Wilbarger streets. The other was run by Charlie and Jean Kinsey at the corner of Main and Pease streets where the Williams store is located. It was nothing unusual for these two stores to sell supplies to the passing herds from ten to fifteen thousand dollars worth in one day, and this was not only done one day but for weeks at a time. B. K. Wood now lives at Oklahoma City while John Wood lives at Springfield, Mo. These vast trail herds were divided up into units of about 2,500 head with several cowboys and a chuck wagon to each herd. All day long these herds passed through Vernon on their way to the markets while some went to the cattle ranges of Montana and Wyoming. Vernon and Doans were the last places that these herds could get supplies until they reached Camp Supply about 250 miles northwest. The Indians took their toll of these herds making each herd give them from six to twelve

(Coontinued on page 7)

Oldest Paint Dealers IN VERNON

For 27 years we have been painting houses and selling the people of Wilbarger County their

Paints, Oils, Stains, Varnish, Glass, Wall Paper, Etc.

We are still here to furnish you with this same line of goods and at the same time trust that it will be our good fortune to deal with our old settler friends many more years to come.

Kester Art Company

A GREATER TELEPHONE SYSTEM FOR TEXAS

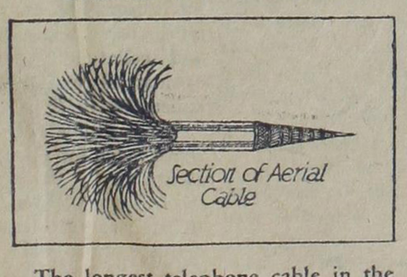
Texas Telephone News

A Journal of Telephone Information Published by the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company

Vol. II — No. 1

$12,491,000 DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FOR 1927

LONGEST TELEPHONE CABLE IN WORLD



The longest telephone cable in the world, from St. Louis to New York, was opened for service on December 15.

The cable is 1206 miles in length, and contains 500 wires, forming 250 complete telephone circuits. As many telephone conversations can be carried on through the cable as are usually held over ten open wire pole lines. While these conversations are taking place, more than 500 telegraph messages can be sent through the cable simultaneously.

This cable provides dependable storm-proof service from St. Louis to the Atlantic Coast. It will be extended from St. Louis to connect other large centers in the south and west as the volume of long distance calls justifies its construction.

The Bell System uses about 30,000 tons of paper a year in the manufacture of telephone directories.

Expenditure to Provide for Buildings, Equipment and Repairs

According to present estimates, $12,491,000 will be spent by the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company in Texas during 1927.

Over one-fourth of this sum, or approximately $3,710,000 will be expended for aerial construction which includes poles, wire, and cables. An additional amount of $1,049,000 is provided for underground conduit and cable.

By the end of the year 181,800 miles of wire will have been added to the Southwestern System in Texas enough to go around the State along the border line 52 times. The greater portion of this wire will be in overhead and underground cables.

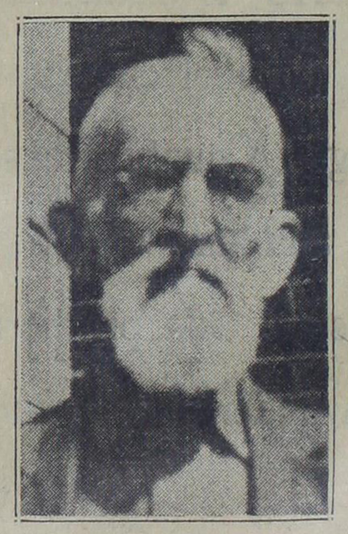
24,000 NEW TELEPHONES

It is estimated that 24,000 new telephones will be connected to the Bell System within the State during 1927. To insure adequate telephone service for the increasing demand, $7,732,000 will be spent for land, buildings, and central office equipment. At the close of 1927, it is expected that there will be more than 389,200 Bell System Telephones in the State.

There are more than 300,000 employees in the Bell System, more than half of whom own or are buying A. T. & T. stock.

REDUCED LONG DISTANCE RATES START AT 7 P. M.

HARBISON CAME TO WILBARGER 1888 WITH HERD SHEEP



W. H. HARBISON.

W. H. Harbison came to Wilbarger county in the fall of 1888 and went over on Salt creek north of Pease river and started a sheep ranch. He had been living in Grayson county and in 1887 came out here for a visit and liked the country so well he moved out the next year to make his home.

Mr. Harbison said the story the cattle men told about cattle not grazing on land on which sheep were kept was a myth. He said he had seen herds of cattle come over the river and graze all around his sheep. He stated that the main objection to sheep was that they ate the grass too close to suit the cow man. There were a number of herds of sheep in the county in those days, he said.

When asked about the coyotes he said they sometimes got into the herd and killed a sheep. Mr. Harbison said as long as a herder was around the coyotes stayed back in the me quite but as soon as he left he wou make a dash into the herd and kill one or two. He said he once had a boy herding his sheep and the youngster strayed off a little ways and after awhile he saw some coyotes amor the sheep. The boy rode to the house and said he wanted a gun to kill some coyotes. Mr. Harbison said he jumped on a horse and rode as fast as he could and before he could cover the mile between the house and the sheep the coyotes had killed one of his herd.

Mr. Harbison was a member of the Confederate army and has taken an active part in the affairs of the local camp of Confederate veterans. He always attends the reunions and is quite active despite his years.

He has been making his home in Vernon for a number of years and now resides in northeast Vernon.

D. LEWIS CAME HERE IN 1889 FROM DALLAS



D. LEWIS.

D. Lewis, member of the city police force, came to Vernon in 1889 with his parents. He was a boy about thirteen years of age at the time.

After reaching manhood he farmed for a number of years and moved to Vernon about fifteen years ago to send his children to school. For the past five years he has been a member of the city police force.

Although just a young man in his teens Mr. Lewis remembers well the early days in Wilbarger county the early 90's when Wilbarger county was on a big boom and then the long dry years and things went to wall and nothing much was done around here for several years.

FIRST TINNER IN VERNON HAS BEEN HERE 42 YEARS



J. L. (CULLY) SWARTWOOD.

Landing in Texas from Tennessee during those days when the best man was the first man to draw his gun from his hip pocket, J. L. (Cully) Swartwood relates many interesting incidents that have taken place in his life since 1875, that being the year that he landed in Marshall, Texas. He was the only support of his widowed mother adn three sisters and for several years he took care of them by working at the tinner's trade at Marshall. "From time to time," Mr. Swartwood said, 'I would have a hunch that there was something better for me somewhere else in Texas, in the way of wages than I could find in Marshall and finally one day I give up my job." He left Marshall with the intention of going to Houston, but a railroad conductor on the Fort Worth & Denver who was an acquaintance of his, persuaded him to come to Wichita Falls, which was the terminus of the Denver at that time.

Wichita Falls at that time, Mr Swartwood said, was just a tented city, made up of saloons and rooming houses and a "tough place it was," was the way he expressed it to the writer. He went to work at the tinner's trade at Wichita Falls and later bought out his boss' interest and moved the business to Harrold following up the Denever road as it came westward. While at Wichita Falls he said he gained the distinction of having made the first galvanized tub ever seen. He made his first one, he said, to accommodate rarel man who were having trouble with their wooden tubs falling to pieces during dry weather.

From Harrold Mr. Swartwood came on to Vernon in 1885. On the 20th of May, 1927, he saw his forty-second birthday in Vernon. He was the first tinner in Vernon and there are three brick buildings in Vernon today, which are two of the Evans buildings and a Renfro building that still show his work. In connection with his tinners business here Mr. Swartwood added a line of hardware and was successful in building up one of the largest stores of its kind in this western country. Four years ago the business was sold to the North Texas Hardware company.

In December, 1889, Mr. Swartwood was married to Miss Hattie Farrell. Their wedding is recognized as the first one that took place in the Methodist church in Vernon. To Mr. and Mrs. Swartwood three children were born. The children being Bailey, Clint and Miss Esther. The two latter are living in Vernon and the oldest child, Bailey, died here two years ago.

Along with his wife and the members of his family Mr. Swartwood is a faithful member of the Methodist church. He is a Rotarian and takes an active interest in things pertaining to the welfare of Vernon. One peculiar characteristic of Mr. Swartwood is the fact that he is never seen wearing a hat. The only reason he gives for discarding this part of man's wearing apparel is that when he did wear a hat he could never find it when he wanted it.

For several years in Vernon when the young people were making up a party for a fishing trip or a week's outing on some creek in Oklahoma or elsewhere, Mr. and Mrs. Swartwood were always included in the crowd as chaperones.

Clerk—Your name?

Gob—C. Faring Mann.

Clerk—I asked your name, not your occupation!

FOARD COUNTY MAN WELL KNOWN AMONG EARLY SETTLERS

Along with other old settlers of this country who settled in this section of Texas, when coyotes and cotton tail rabbits were plentiful, is John W. Klepper of Foard county. Mr. Klepper came to this country from Plano, Collin county in 1885 and settled near Crowell. At that time the Fort Worth & Denver railroad had reached Harrold and Mr. Klepper did all his trading at Harrold. After the Denver road built into Vernon he began trading here and is well known among a number of the first settlers.

Mr. Klepper is now retired from active labor and lives comfortably at Crowell. He is the father of four children, one of his sons, T. B. Klepper, being one of the editors of the Foard County News, published at Crowell.

Mr. Klepper tells a very interesting story of freighting from Harrold to his home during the early days. It was in the winter and the weather was extremely cold. He started back and after getting several miles from Harrold his wagon wheel broke down. He sent it back by a friend who came along and next day got it back. He left and when within a few miles of home his wagon broke down again. This time he was delayed several days. During all this time he had his bedding along and slept on the wagon while he waited for the repair work to be done.

QUANAH PARKER WAS INTERESTING MAN

Quanah Parker, chief of the Comanches, was a very interesting character in the early days and was a regular visitor in Vernon during the 80's. Many of the old timers were warm friends of the Indian. Many interesting events were told in connection with him.

He adopted the white man's ways to a large extent and built a nice home in Oklahoma on the reservation. It is said of him that after finishing his home his old friends, Tom Waggoner, Burk Burnett and other prominent cattlemen wanted to make him a nice present of something to go in his home. They asked him what he had rather have. Quanah studied a few minutes and said: "A desk. When white man comes in me blow smoke in his face and say, 'Me heap busy'."

Another one told on him happened during President Roosevelt's visit to Oklahoma on a hunt. He visited Quanah Parker's home and in the course of the conversation the Indian chief told the president he had adopted the white man's ways and even adopted his religion. Mr. Roosevelt told Quanah there was one thing he ought to do if he had adopted the white man's religion and that was to live with one wife instead of four. The president told him he should select one and live with her but provide for the other three. Quanah came back quick as a flash and said he would do it if the president would select the one for him to live with and then go tell the other three. The narrator of the story said he imagined Quanah continued to live with his four wives.

INTERESTING IF TRUE.

Girls' jewelry weighs more than their clothes, says an investigator

THIS is dedicated to the Pioneer citizens of Wilbarger County whose sacrifice and hard work have made possible our prosperity and wonderful opportunities.

MARTIN-LANE CO.

Phone 60

THE

DUNLOP

TIRE

THE OLDEST TIRE ON THE MARKET

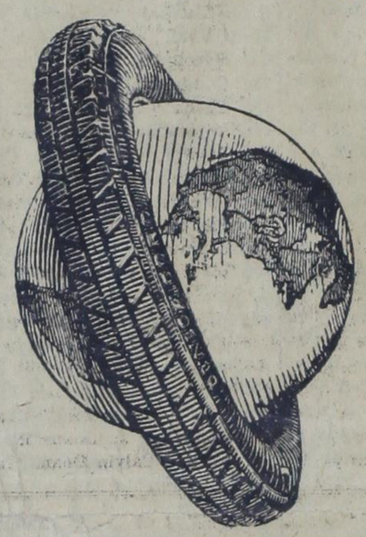
John Boyd Dunlop created the first Pneumatic Tire at Belfast, Ireland, in 1888.

All Others Are Imitations

E. B. Germain, president of the Dunlop Tire and Rubber Company, makes this personal pledge:

"The policy of this company is to build each Dunlop Tire as carefully as if Dunlop had to stand or fall on the record of that single tire."

—And therefore, is it any wonder that EVERY 2¼ SECONDS SOMEONE BUYS A DUNLOP TIRE



SOLD IN VERNON BY

Teel--Neal Tire Co.

PHONE 1062

Corner Main and Marshall

WAGGONER NATIONAL BANK ESTABLISHED IN 1899 BY CITIZENS

The Waggoner National Bank was established in June, 1899, after taking over and enlarging the capital stock of the Merchants and Cattlemen's Bank. The original capital stock was $50,000.

Vernon's banking institutions went through some very hard times during the 90's following the boom days when everything went down following wheat crop failures. In 1892 the private banking concern of A. C. Neal was established. In 1895 R. C. Neal succeeded his father in the bank and continued two years until the organization of the Merchants and Cattlemen's Bank. R. C. Neal was president and J. A. Henry was cashier.

When the Waggoner National Bank was organized directors were: J. S. Wood, R. C. Neal, W. O. Anderson, J. A. Henry, W. T. Waggoner and Robert Houssels. The officers were R. C. Neal, president; W. T. Waggoner, vice president; J. A. Henry, cashier, and J. S. Wood, assistant cashier. Of this number Mr. Anderson and Mr. Waggoner are the only two who are still living.

Mr. Waggoner disposed of his interest in the bank a few years later. Robert Houssels was president of the bank for many years until his death a few years ago. Mr. Anderson is still with the bank and is vice president today.

In a write-up of the bank in November, 1899, the Vernon Guard stated: "The bank is located in its own building, a commanding two-story structure, on Main street, and the interior is handsomely equipped in metropolitan style, the furniture being substantial as well as elegant. At the rear is the counting room, inside a spacious fire-proof vault is the massive steel safe, fitted with time lock, burglar proof treasure chest, where repose the funds of the institution. As far as ingenuity and mechanism counts, the bank's cash and collateral is fully protected against all possible fatalities of burglarism or fire."

The officials of the Waggoner National Bank today are L. G. Hawkins, president; L. E. Piper, vice president; W. O. Anderson, vice president; Lon Byars, vice president; S. C. Hogsett, cashier; H. O. Colley, assistant vice president; Earle Norwood, assistant cashier, D. B. May, assistant cashier, and W. H. Huggins, assistant cashier. The directors are L. G. Hawkins, L. E. Piper, W. O. Anderson, Lon Byars, J. A. Dixon, J. V. Townsend and S. C. Hogsett.

SCHOOL FACULTY OF 1903-1904



The above picture of the Vernon school faculty of 1903-04 was furnished The Times by R. B. Sherrill. The top row left to right: Miss Carrie Currin, Miss Sallie Gilliland (now Mrs. C. M. Blair), Miss Ewing, Miss Haughton of Quanah, Miss Maude McKibbin (now Mrs. Stewart), and Miss Gussie Rooney. Bottom row left to right: Miss Susie Scott, Prof. Kooken, Miss Grace Hannon (now Mrs. Eugene Keltz), J. C. Smith and R. B. Sherrill.

THE BOY WAS RIGHT.

"Last winter at college the temperature on three successive nights

"That's nothing," snorted Freddie dropped to zero."

"What's nothing," indignantly asked Sam the Senior.

"Zero," remarked Freddie snapily as he bolted the door.

DUMB DAN HISSELF.

Professor (speaking on phone)—"You say that Billy Smith has a bad cold and will not be able to attend school today. Who is this speaking?"

Voice (hoarsely)—"My father, sir."

1927 MOTHER GOOSE.

Old Mother Hubbard
Went to the cupboard
But the revenue agent
Was there.

Renfro Hardware Company

The Oldest Hardware Store in Wilbarger County

SUPPLYING THE PEOPLE OF WILBARGER COUNTY AND SURROUNDING TERRITORY

with

HARDWARE

SINCE 1892

Renfro Hardware Company was founded by the late J. R. Renfro in 1892. Since that date this store has been continuously supplying the people of Wilbarger County, its adjacent territory and parts of Oklahoma with everything they needed in Hardware.

Renfro Hardware Company

PHONE 34 "WE HAVE IT" WILBARGER ST.

HARDWARE COMPANY STARTED 35 YEARS AGO BY LATE J. R. RENFRO

The Renfro Hardware company was established in 1892 by the late J. R. Renfro and until the time of his death in 1921 went under the firm name of J. R. Renfro. Upon his death his estate changed the name to Renfro Hardware company.

Mr. Renfro was engaged in the contracting and building business for the first seven years he was in Vernon and in 1892 he established hardware business handling hardware and implements. A little later he added furniture to his stock and with this combined business furnished all this section of the country and southern Oklahoma. The furniture business was sold to W. C. Hawkins twenty-three years ago and the store later dropped the implement business. Upon the death of Mr. Renfro his son-in-law, A. F. Winston, assumed management of the business.

"For thirty-five years the Renfro store has furnished people of Wilbarger county with hardware," Mr. Winston stated. "During the past few years we have added about three times the amount of stock that the store usually handled. We added a harness department and wall paper and paint. Our volume of business had increased accordingly. Last year we added to our present building and now practically occupy three stories counting our large warehouse on the top floor of our building. We have endeavored to maintain the same high standards of business inaugurated by Mr. Renfro during his lifetime. He was known for his square dealing and honest policy."



A. F. WINSTON

Mr. Winston stated that Mr. Renfro was a great good road advocate and was largely instrumental in getting the highway running east from Vernon designated straight through as it is today instead of being put along the railroad or on the south road as it was called. The road was finished and opened to the public a short time before his death and about the last drive he took before being confined to his bed was out the paved highway.

'EAR' TO BARBER LE BOSS DRANK

Wi[illegible]on, local barber, learn[illegible] th[illegible] trdær peculiar circum[illegible]tance[illegible] bckie 90's. Vernon at hat time bl of one tonsorial stablishmen the proprietor had failing fo r. Many a young han sufferedies while waiting o get slicke o call on his best irl.

J. A. Gill was courting in hose days aped off from work ne afternoohave his whiskers emoved so Hd be ready to fill is date that. He got in the hair and arber alternately thered his nd sipped from a int bottle o shelf. By the me he got ide of Mr. Gilli- nd's face the liquor gave t so he exdmself to step out d tell a mething he had rgotten.

He was ba few minutes and ade a few asses at his neck d rushed carry another mes- ge. Mr. G sat in the chair d waited we lather dried on s face. Mston was then a ung man odd jobs around e barbe itching to learn e trade lliland called him d told b got see when the rber w ack. When Willis turned him that the bar- r was l foundered on the "bar." N outdone Mr. Gilli- land told grab a razor and get busy.

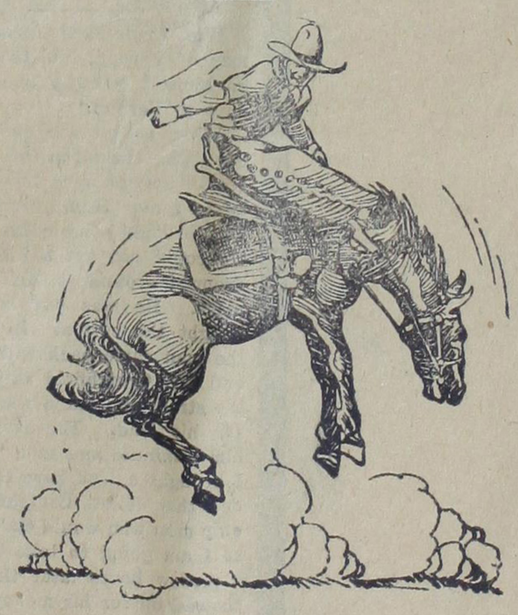
Mr. H spent some time sharpenin razor before start- ing in. illiland says Willis chewed h and cut all kinds of acroba e trying to shave him and naged to get most of the w ff in time for him to fill his

THER WILL BE.

He pa car in the darkest part of t As her arm stole around h she asked, "Do you love me r?"

"Yes, rt, but you never are."

PITCHING HORSES FURNISHED FREE AMUSEMENT IN EARLY DAYS HERE



Now days people travel hundreds of miles to see a rodeo where the main attraction is riding bucking horses. In the early days of Vernon many a thriller was pulled on the streets with no thought of furnishing amusement for the crowd.

Cowboys would come into town and spend a few days and leave their ponies at the wagon yard. After resting a few days the horses thought it was their duty to do a little pitching when the rider mounted them and many old timers state that some good exhibitions of riding have been put on in this city.

Another variation to the usual custom was to have a bunch come in off the range after spending several months away from town and ride right into the saloons and order drinks. One old timer, who is now dead, related to the writer several years ago about a number of such instances when he was running a saloon here. He said they would come in and that if any damage was done they always settled up for it before leaving.

MANY PEOPLE HERE NOW IN INSTITUTE FEBRUARY 4, 1898

In a copy of the Vernon Globe of February 4, 1898, published by J. P. Orr, now of Altus, appeared a write up of the teachers institute in session in Vernon that week.

The list of teachers in attendance at the institute follows: Misses Nina Davis, Eula Davis, Alice Hoffman, Lillian Scurlock, Lizzie Freeman, Elsie Wright, Kate Forry, Rosa Lee Cole, Gabie E. Betts, Susie Scott, Lillian Newton, Lucile Duckworth, Ellie Creager, Virgie Campbell, Lula Harris, Belle Hull, Bertie Ross, Willie Black, V. A. Riddle, Dille Collins, and Pearl Roach, Mrs. M. D. Glenn, R. S. Crawford, S. W. Russell, W. H. Grimm, S. L. Page, A. A. Rogers, E. L. Witty, F. M. Dorsey, W. E. Muller, W. E. O'Neal, R. B. Sherill, W. H. Snow, D. D. McCroskey, L. K. Donahoo, J. B. Smith, J. C. Smith, W. O. Scott, H. D. Ferrell, R. P. Burgess, S. H. Kelley and L. A. Clark.

PLEASE DON'T SHOOT!

"The only way to make a pair of pants last," shouted the tailor, "is to make the coat and vest first."

ORIGINAL CHISHOLM TRAIL WENT FROM COOKE COUNTY NORTH INTO KANSAS; VERNON ROUTE KNOWN AS WESTERN TRAIL

The original Chisholm Trail ran north from Cooke county to Caldwell, Kans., according to H. C. Justin who roamed the prairies here in 1876. The trail through Vernon north in the old days was called the Chisholm Trail but it was first known as the Western Trail.

John Chisholm had a herd of cattle in Cooke county and drove them straight north into Oklahoma to Caldwell, the terminus of the railroad.

Mr. Justin says that the Western Trail through Vernon was laid out by the Adams outfit of Uvalde county in 1876. According to the claims in those days the Adams ranch was in bad financial straits and decided to drive some cattle to Dodge City, Kans. Fourteen droves were started and the lead herd was 3,600 fine steers. Mr. Justin said the man in charge of that herd said they expected the officers to attach the cattle before they got very far but they made the trip through without being molested.

The Adams outfit laid out the trail and pioneered the way through to Dodge City. A few herds were driven over the trail in 1877 and in 1888 the trail was a continual stream of cattle.

The old Chisholm Trail was settled up so fast that cattlemen started shifting their herds around through Vernon as farmers started fencing in Oklahoma and made it almost impossible to get through that way and later the Western Trail was known as the Chisholm Trail.

FAMOUS CORNER WAS FIGHTING GROUNDS DURING EARLY DAYS

The corner of the square where the Famous store is today was once the favorite fighting grounds of Vernon in the early days when things were wide open and the town boasted of a number of saloons. Dr. H. W. Hix, who was called upon to give first aid to mayn of the participants of the fights, recently told of some of the big fights staged in that neighborhood.

Most of the younger generation think that the pistol was the favorite weapon back in those days but Dr. Hix is of the opinion that the knife was the favorite weapon as it was much surer.

"I recall one particularly nasty fight," Dr. Hix said. "A big bully who had been following a fellow around all day and both had been drinking. Finally the smaller man said he was not going to take any more and when he did the bully uncorked one and floored him. The little fellow came up fighting and with his knife in his hand. The first slash ripped open his jaw, knocked out several teeth and severed an artery in the man's jaw. Before long the little man had pretty well carved the bully up. I recalled that Dr. H H. Rhoads and the late Dr. J. E. Dodson happened to be around close and were called and saved the man from bleeding to death." Dr. Hix said the winner of the fight was placed in jail and as he was from a wealthy family he notified his relatives who telegraphed to turn him loose and they would put up any amount in cash to $40.000.

MUST HAVE STYLE.

Friend of Father—Why don't you join the navy?

Ye Modern Shiek—Not f'r me. The trousers are too tight around the ankle.

YEARS AND THEIR TOLL.

He—Marie must think quite a bit of her chin.

She—How come?

He—Well, she's growing another one.

ON HIS TERMS.

Client—I want a good detective and I'm willing to pay a pretty penny.

Chief—Try Scotland Yard. They are great scent performers.

McCONNELL HELPED DRIVE FIRST HERD NORTH TO MARKET

D. D. McConnell, for many years ditor of the Vernon Weekly Call, nd now living in Houston writes he following article for the Old Set-lers' edition of The Times:

"In the early spring of 1867 I as-isted Hige Nail in gathering up a rove of cattle on Waxahachie creek n Ellis county and about the first ay of May, 1867, we crossed the rinity river below Dallas. We went n north and crossed Red river at reston Bend and the Arkansas river t Fort Gibson. This was the first erd of cattle driven to the northern arkets after the Civil war from orth Texas.

Jacksboro and Weatherford were en the frontier towns of northwest exas. About ten years later Hige ail drove the first herd of cattle the Kansas markets up the Dodge ity trail, crossing Red river at the oans store in Wilbarger county, in- then the wild Indian country. any thousands of cattle were driv- up this trail via Seymour and Ver- on until the building of the Fort orth & Denver City railroad in 87.

"Hige Nail was the pioneer cattle ail driver from northwest Texas to e northern markets and if now liv- g would be about 84 years old. e was well liked by all the cow- ys."

RAND MASONIC BALL HELD IN NEW BUILDING

One of the leading social events 1887 was a grand Masonic ball ven in the Strain & Dickey build- g on Monday evening, April 4th, Vernon, Texas The arrangement mmittee was composed of J. L. wartwood, James Merrick, H. L. lwards and M. H. Kester. The in- tation committee was T. H. Jones, W. Caldwell and E. Easton. The ception committee was D. A. Tur- r and lady, J. A. Creager and dy, G. W. Caldwell and lady, and J. Hensley and lady. The floor anagers were W. T. Dickey, J. L. wartwood and J. T. Conn.

ACTIVE W. C. T. U., RELIGIOUS WORKER IN COUNTY SINCE 1892

Coming to this county from Mt. Ayr, Ind., in 1892 with her three children and her husband, the late J. H. Watts, Mrs. Watts settled with her family on ranch land that her husband had bought that is located twenty miles north of Vernon. That location was her home until she moved to Vernon in 1900.



MRS. RENA WATTS

Mrs Watts, who became a member of the Methodist church at the age of 16 years, has always been recognizd in this wsetern country as a very active worker in religious and temperance work. While living at her ranch home, she was instrumental in the organization of the first Methodist church; the first Methodist Sunday school and first Epworth League in that neighborhood. And, after coming to Vernon she assisted in the organization of the Women's Temperance Union here. She was made president of the union at that time and has served as an officer in that capacity ever since. She is also president of the district W. C. T. U., which takes in this congressional district and is vice president of the state organization of the union.

In speaking of the local W. C. T. U. work and its organization, Mrs. Watts said when she became president of the union there were eleven saloons here. She spoke about how different the sentiment is now against the liquor question and that of the time when the W. C. T. U. was organized in Vernon. So many men in business here during those days she said were afraid to commit themselves on the prohibition question for fear it would hurt their business.

Mrs. Watts, with her son, Captain Clyde Watts, now enjoys the comforts of a nice home on Paradise street. She has numerous friends in this western country who hold her in the very highest esteem as a good christian woman

NO SIDEWALKS IN CITY WHEN LOCAL BARBER ARRIVED

Along with those who have been in Vernon for a considerable length of time and who have watched Vernon pass out of the small town stage into the city class, might be mentioned O. B. Dawdy. Mr. Dawdy came to this country twenty years ago from Dallas county and in commenting on his long time residence in Vernon said: "There wasn't a side walk in Vernon when I first came here." Today sidewalks in Vernon is measured by the miles.

After coming to Vernon for twelve or fourteen years Mr. Dawdy's "good humored" face was a familiar sight at the delivery window at the post office. He served in the capacity of clerk for Uncle Sam until he resigned to go into the real estate and oil business. During the oil boom days of Vernon in 1920 Mr. Dowdy was the medium through which many a big oil deal was made.

Today Mr. Dawdy owns and operates a five chair barber shop on Cumberland street. He informs us that the gross receipts from his shop in 1926 was $13,000. And, in the year of 1925 his receipts was $15,000. He is a firm believer in the use of printers' ink in advertising a business. As evidence of this fact we refer you to a page advertisement for his shop carried in this issue.

Speaking of old settlers in Texas, Mr. Dawdy said that his father was one among the first settlers in Dallas county. He came to that country in 1884 and laid out the first road running east and west across Dallas county.



In Pioneer Days Mother did the Washing

BUT TO-DAY IT'S

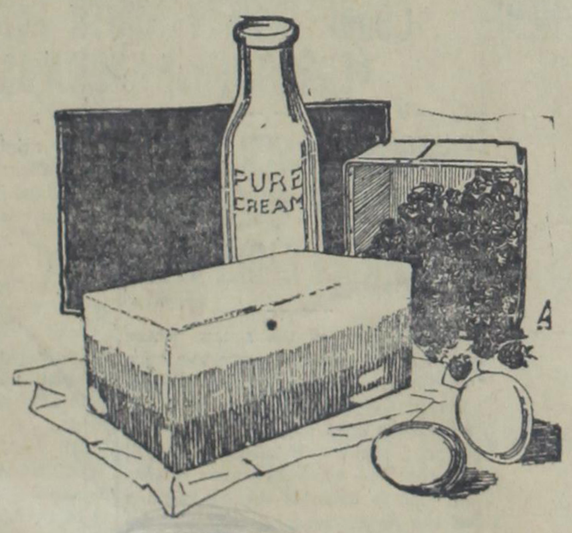
Miss Vernon Steam Laundry

"SERVICE THAT PLEASES"

Phone 69

1829 Cumberland





DISCRIMINATING PEOPLE

ASK FOR

PAYNE'S

ICE CREAM

MADE IN VERNON

CRUTCHFIELD KEPT RAISING OWN PRICE

Wm. Crutchfield, veteran business man of Vernon, told two good jokes on himself recently about the early days in Vernon.

When cotton was grown in small quantities around in this country and cotton buyers were few and far between a man from over in the southwest brought some cotton to Vernon. He could not get a bid and finally dropped around to Mr. Crutchfield's place. He was out but his clerk bought the cotton. In a few days the man came back with some more and Mr. Crutchfield stopped him on the street and asked what he wanted for his load. The man looked at him a minute and said, "Yo go to—. I brought a load here the other day and that fellow Crutchfield was the only man who would make me a price so I am going to take this to him."

A few hours later the gentleman showed up for his money and nearly dropped dead when he saw Mr. Crutchfield sitting at the desk.

Another one he told on himself about cotton was in 1892. A man from Knox county brought some cotton here to sell and asked Mr. Crutchfield what he would pay. He was told 5 cents was about the best prce hie could give. A little later the man came back and asked if he could beat 5.15. Mr. Crutchfield raised it to 5.20. Half an hour later the man came back and wanted to know if he could beat 5.20 and Mr. Crutchfield raised it to 5.30. After another half hour the man was back and wanted to know if he could beat 5.40. Mr. Crutchfield studied awhile and said he would give him 5.50.

The man told him he had bought the cotton. Mr. Crutchfield then asked him who had been bdiding on the cotton. "Nobody," was the reply. "I just asked you if you could beat those prices and you did." The man laughed and said you don't have to buy it unless you want to. However, Mr. Crutchfield said he stayed with his price and bought the load and shipped it to Moody and sold it for a nice little profit.

Cerise, How Could You

HERE SINCE 1886.

Yes, Mrs. Eva Hamilton of Odell, can truly be numbered one among the first settlers of Wilbarger county. Coming to this country from Grayson county with her husband, the late J. P. Hamilton in 1886, she has made Wilbarger county her home since the above date.



MRS. EVA HAMILTON.

Mrs. Hamilton, with her husband and family which consisted of twelve children, bought land and settled in the northern part of this county in what is generally known now as the Sherwood community. A ranch house was built on their holdings. Cattle was bought and turned loose. And now, Mrs. Hamilton can truthfully tell us that over a period of 41 years she has seen that section of Wilbarger county gradually change from a cow man's country to a neighborhood dotted with small farm homes.

Two of her children, who are Irvin of Hereford, Texas, and Claude, who still resides at the home place, were both born at the old Hamilton ranch house. The other children living are T. A., L. G., Mrs. J. H. Petitt, Mrs. J. B. Ross, all of this county; Robert of Wichita Falls; Cleve of Plainview; J. E., of Lubbock; Mrs. J. J. Irons of Lebanon, O.; Mrs. J. E. Johnson of California.

Despite the fact that Mrs. Hamilton has seen and gone through what the old settlers now term the "wild and wooly days" in this country, she is still a very active woman for that has traveled as extinsive she has during her lifetime. has visited numbers of the princip cities in the United States and never fails to attend the Confederate Veteran's Reunion to which her husband was always so loyal.

OPERA HALL SCENE OF SOCIAL EVENTS

Vernon opera hal was the scene of man ygay social nts in 1886 Two invitations to d balls have been turned in to s Times, sent out in those days. he

One was for a gr d ball on Monday evening, October 18, 1886. The arrangement committee was J. R. Wood and C. Wheeler. The invitation committee was W. T. Dickey, J. R. Wood and C. W. Hotchkiss The floor managers were W. G. Griffin, Tom Shoemate, Sam Platt and Park Gray.

Another was sent out by the V. G. P. Club for a grand ball on Tuesday evening, May 18, 1886. For this event the arrangement committee was T. J. Scott, G. T. Douglas, W. G. Griffin and B. Wilson Edgell. The invitation committee was G. T. Douglas and C. R. Wheeler. The reception committee was B. K. Wood and lady, Paul Hoefle and lady, and B. A. Creager and lady. The floor managers were Lieut. Wm. Scott, M. S. Moffett, G. T. Douglas, C. R. Wheeler, W. T. Dickey and W. G. Griffin.

FRANK FOWLER WAS FIRST MAN TRIED IN COURT OF CITY

Frank Fowler, conductor on the Frisco, was the first man to be given a trial by a jury in the city courts of Vernon, according to the city docket book. Mr. Fowler was arrested on a charge of affray and decided to fight his case. A jury was selected and a young attorney in the city at that time offered his services to defend him to get the honor of being the first attorney to try a case in the court. Mr. Fowler was found