

The Ferguson Forum

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NO. 14

Senators Drink or Wink at Rum, Wadsworth Charges, for Fear of Social Ostracism

Special Dispatch in the New York World

Washington, Jan. 24.—Pervid debate broke loose in the Senate over Prohibition as Senator Wadsworth of New York, in a survey of the seven years of the "disease which is undermining the Constitution" frankly accused Senators of winking at wholesale law violations at social gatherings, because afraid of social ostracism or at heart disbelieving in the law.

"What Senator of the United States, what official of the Government, legislative, executive or judicial, has given evidence against his neighbor in cases of liquor violation?" the New York Senator flung at his colleagues after asserting that the average man takes for granted the law violations that surround him.

"When I use the term 'average man' I include men in public life. Yes, I include members of the United States Senate. Recall, if you please, some of you, the social gatherings you have attended. You all know as well as I do that dozens of us have encountered evidence clear and incontrovertible of the violation of this law. And yet we do not hear of a single Senator turning over his information to the enforcing authorities.

"In this respect Senators and other public officials do not differ from the great mass of human beings that make up our population. This attitude toward the law pervades every stratum of society. We find it among public officials, Federal and State, executive, legislative and judicial, all down the line of officialdom.

"It prevails in the homes of millions, whether they be those of the wealthy, the moderately prosperous or the poor. If you will but tell the truth you must admit that it is the prevailing national attitude.

"Can we Americans go on this way dissembling our thoughts and trying to fool ourselves and each other? Is hypocrisy to be established as the National trait? Take my word for it, it is fast becoming so.

"Why is it that the average man will not tell on his friend or neighbor? There may be two reasons for his refusal: first, he may not be convinced down deep in his conscience that his friend is contributing to the violation of this law, has done something actually wicked and deserving of exposure and punishment.

"Therefore, he refrains from turning in his evidence. Or, again, he may fear that if he tells on his friend, and it is found out that he has done so, half the doors in the community will be slammed in his face thereafter. Fearing social ostracism, he holds his tongue."

Nobody controverted the charge of hypocrisy. Senator Willis, ardent Anti-Saloon League champion, tilted with Senator Edge over the merits of referendums, but admitted he would vote against any proposal to let the American people vote on the Eighteenth Amendment.

And Senator Hefflin shouted that he had told a Baltimore audience that "you could put all these wet Senators in one yellow taxi and they nearly tore the house down."

"Let me say," interjected Senator Bruce, steering back to the hypocrisy issue, "that all the Senators I have seen decline a drink since I have been in Washington could be put in less space than the cubic contents of a teaspoon."

Mr. Bruce conceded that Senators Willis, Sheppard, author of the dry amendment, and Jones, were sincere. Mr. Sheppard rushed to the fore with the statement that "the overwhelming majority of the Senators on the dry side are dry in practice as well as in theory," and Mr. Willis echoed, in like tone, "I quite agree," while smiles spread over the faces of most Senators and gallery watchers.

Senator Wadsworth began his speech by emphasis on the bill of rights now scrapped by Volsteadism. He said, and pictured the \$20,000,000 spent a year in the attempt to enforce the law, the poisoning of industrial alcohol, "search and seizure" methods employed against the traveling public, corrupting of the Coast Guard and Customs Services, repeated reorganizations of the whole enforcement machine, the "alarming" overturn among employees and swamping of the courts with dry law cases.

He scored the treaties whereby in return for extended jurisdiction out to sea the Government promises not to prosecute foreigners who bring in liquor sealed up on their ships, though the Supreme Court has held this a direct violation of law. After referring to the "desperate measures," such as the "so-called padlock, which comes perilously close to confiscating the property of the innocent," he continued:

"Law abiding travelers have been held up on our highways and their effects seized and searched without rhyme or reason. Pistols in the hands of stupid or reckless Government agents have done their deadly work, a member of the United States Senate being one of their victims.

"In an effort to prevent the use of industrial alcohol for beverage pur-

poses the Government has treated that product with poisonous chemicals with the result, now well known, that scores of people have died. Government agents themselves have engaged in systematic violations of the law, spreading corruption all about them as they seek to entrap others. The employment of 'agents provocateurs,' long denounced and detested in certain countries of the Old World, is now common in America.

"Not satisfied with the measures employed by the Government and by the States—some of the States have enacted laws of extraordinary severity—great public conventions, held under the auspices of organizations devoted to the cause of Prohibition, have passed resolutions demanding that the regular army be called out to compel obedience of the law at the point of the bayonet, and that the bluejackets of the navy, with battleships, cruisers and destroyers, be enlisted in the effort. And to cap the climax, the leading Prohibitionist of the State of New York called upon the Pope at Rome to lend the weight of his influence in support of the law.

"An intelligent observer witnessing such a spectacle might well venture the observation that there must be something wrong with a law which gives rise to such conditions, shot through as they are with hypocrisy, corruption, violence and death.

"Employing all the forces of the Government, we are endeavoring to prevent any one of the 120,000,000 people under our flag getting a drink, and we are met with the persistent effort of millions of those people doing their best to get one. We cannot deny that this is the case, nor do we contribute to the solution of the problem by indulging in wholesale denunciation of the millions who are resisting the mandate. It is perfectly apparent that they pay no attention whatsoever to denunciation. We may regret such a state of affairs, but we might as well acknowledge its existence. It is here facing us, and I submit in all seriousness that it cannot be endured unless, indeed, we are content to witness an ever progressive disintegration of the Constitution itself."

"I submit, in all earnestness, that I am telling the truth as to the attitude of the average man, including in that category a large number of public officials. Search your hearts. The country might endure this state of affairs if its effect were felt only among those of middle age and more advanced years. But what will become of this country if the youth of today is to be brought up and trained for the performance of the obligations which must come to its in an atmosphere permeated with hypocrisy of this sort? What sort of a country will this be? What sort of a government will it have? What will be its ideals? What will be the popular conception of civic obligation, respect for law, regard for the Constitution, when those who shall govern twenty or thirty years from now shall be those who have spent their formative years in such an atmosphere."

Senator Edge likewise declared the dry law futile and a corrupting influence, but when he advocated his plan for a national referendum the dry champions seized upon it as tantamount to "evolution" and according to Mr. Willis, only a "straw vote" at best.

O'Rourke Quits Job as State Secretary Penitentiary Board

Austin, Texas, Feb. 2.—Frank O'Rourke of Houston Thursday resigned as secretary of the Board of Prison Commissioners, effective Feb. 1. His letter to the board at Huntsville said:

"In accordance with my conversation with the Hon. Dan Moody some time ago, I wish to reiterate to your honorable board my resignation as secretary of the Board of Prison Commissioners, effective Feb. 1, 1927.

"I take this opportunity to express my personal thanks to each member of the board and to Miss Mattie Anders for the uniform courtesy shown me during the last two years."

O'Rourke will go back into the cotton business, in which he was engaged when named secretary by Gov. Miriam A. Ferguson.

"Sweet Adeline" Out of Place at Any Dry Function Solon Says

Philadelphia, Pa., Feb. 2.—Senator James A. Reed of Missouri entered a personal protest to the singing of "Sweet Adeline" at any dry dinner or function, when he addressed the Veteran Athletes Association here.

"The only way to properly render that good old song is to be leaning against a long piece of mahogany furniture, looking into a mirror, with your foot on a shiny brass rail," he said.

DOWN AT AUSTIN

There is much doin' down at the Capital City of Austin just now. The situation is going to be interesting by way of what is going to be done and what is not going to be done.

The new Moody administration is taking hold of things and is making some new appointments to office. So far Austin people are getting the most of the pie. Mrs. McCallum appointed Secretary of State is an Austin lady who has been quite prominent in political contests of the past. She was quite active for Doctor Butte two years ago and was equally as active for Governor Moody.

R. H. Baker, another Butte-Moody supporter, is an Austin millionaire, who has been appointed on the Prison Commission. Judge R. L. Batts, a wealthy Austin lawyer of Gulf Refining Company fame, has been appointed on the Board of Regents of the State University. It is said that Judge Batts is a close personal friend of Andrew Mellon, the multi-millionaire of Pennsylvania, and who is now the Republican Secretary of the Treasury in Washington.

Will Hogg, formerly of Austin but now a multi-millionaire of Houston, was also appointed on the University Board.

The appointment of R. S. Sterling on the Highway Commission is causing more discussion than any other appointment which the governor has made. Sterling is a newly rich, who was president of the Humble Oil Company, owned by the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey. My opinion is that Sterling is closer to the Standard Oil Company than any other man in Texas. They rely on him and get his advice I think every time anybody tries to raise the price of gasoline. I am sure his conception of public duty will be such that he will oppose the price of gasoline being over 25 cents a gallon. They say he has made ten million in the oil game and it is to be hoped that he will use his influence to give us poor devils some relief. The only bad thing I have heard is that he is opposed to the gasoline tax and will help the governor keep the gas tax from being put over.

The only poor man that has been appointed is Cone Johnson. He is, however, rich in political experience and he will be expected to render valuable service in building political fences for ambitious millionaires even if he don't know anything about building roads. However, I think Cone's appointment was a good one and I hope his health will permit him to give some attention to the position. Cone will take care of Cone and I do not think his poverty should be urged against him even if he has accepted a place in this millionaire administration. I am for him for Highway Commissioner.

There are many kinds of bills being offered and this legislature, though having some good safe and sane members, has the usual amount of durn rattle brained fools and cranks and crooks who have many fine-spun theories that they want to put into laws.

The oil lobby is here good and strong and mark by prediction; and that is if something is not done by the people back at home the oil companies will defeat the gasoline tax and the people who own farms and real estate will have to continue to bear the burden and taxes will again be raised to the limit.

The lobbyists for the cigarette and cigar people are also here to see that no tax is put on them.

All the state schools are represented here and they are pooling interests to get what each of them wants in the way of appropriations. The University, the A. & M. College and the West Texas Tech are asking for a combined appropriation equal to one-third of the entire cost of the state government for all other purposes, including the courts.

I again rise to a point of order and assert that there is danger of somebody going hog wild about higher education.

There is much speculation in Austin as to why Governor Colquitt was not given some important appointment. He was a pioneer in the Moody candidacy and as Governor Moody wrote him a very cordial and appreciative letter, which was given to the press, thanking Governor Colquitt in the most endearing terms for his advice and support, it has caused considerable intense comment that Governor Moody did not tender some important place to Governor Colquitt, when it is known that he was in a receptive mind and willing to render some public service.

But why theorize? Such is the fate of politics. It is nothing new. Blessed is he who expects nothing for he shall not be deceived.

I will continue to drop the boys a line or two each week. I look for things to get warmer.

JAS. E. FERGUSON.

Situation of Farmers From Viewpoint of One of Them as to "Practical Advice"

Editor Forum: On page two of the Forum January 13, 1927 we read in part as follows. "Did the farmer ever stop and think? If not he should try it once!"

"That The News has wrought wonders in its efforts on more cotton on fewer acres no one of sound mind will deny. Now if The News will advocate more corn in the crib, more hogs in the pen, better cows in the dairy, better chickens on the range, more sweet potatoes in the bank, more syrup in the barrel, more peas, more peanuts, more hay in the barn and more good advice to farmers to feed the pigs, chickens and children, more milk, butter, molasses and whatever the smokehouse affords, and not forget to mention the potato bank, the husky country boys will find after a few years of this kind of farming that the bank will be seeking their accounts instead of their going to the bank to mortgage Beck and Mandy and the cotton crop for something to live on. If you have all of the above you won't need much cotton and devilish little money. This will solve the problem."

So far so good. But please follow above advice and THINK A LITTLE DEEPER. Always, there is a reason for everything, and socially the reason we grow cotton is that we need it as one of the essentials to make us comfortable. Commercially, however, cotton is raised by the grower because he has to have money in order to live, and of course expects to be able to sell the cotton. He takes several chances, getting a stand, the dry seasons, the weevil, (I mean the bug kind) and then of course the weevil which walks on two legs, which is the greatest menace to the real producers.

The main idea here is that the farmer is forced to have money or credit usually called money. The farmer therefore must raise some crop which he can sell regularly on the market in order to get money.

Where, dear brother dirt farmer, is the logic that, when you have been told that you have produced too much cotton, thereby supposedly justifying taking it away from you for practically nothing, and at the same time thousands of families who grow cotton are clothed in cotton rags? But as consolation you are now advised to raise some other crops which, of course is worked under the same system. An example; in the summer of 1924 I drove through Weatherford, Texas, and talk about water melons; they had 'em there, the finest I ever saw and I thought they were having a melon fair, but it was just a regular day. What would you suppose those poor farmers were getting for the fine melons? Eight dollars per ton (selected, of course).

We drove on over to Dallas and bought a Weatherford melon at two cents per pound. Doubled five times in 60 miles.

I have farmed in the state of Washington and in the famous Yakima valley, where we raise a great variety of crops, including all of the varieties suggested above as being a cure-all for farm poverty. The fine red apples which you see on display are nearly all grown in this valley and right here I am going to make some statements which may prevent the publishing of this article, but if it should be published some thinking people may understand conditions better.

The people who grow those fine apples are in about the same shape that the cotton farmers are. They are told by the apple buyers that there is over production of apples; of course the usual excuse to offer a low price. And would you believe that they receive as low as 80c per box packed, and it costs \$1.00 per box to grow apples in that valley, consequently many orchards are being pulled out. The local paper usually has one page weekly devoted to foreclosures.

Spuds, grapes, sweet potatoes, pears, cherries, pickles, eggplant, alfalfa, asparagus, wheat, oats, hogs, cattle, poultry, hops and many other varieties of crops, including a fine crop of innocent babies, are raised each year, and still the farmers are told in the press and even in their farm journals that the system is the best on earth and if the farmer is not doing well that it is his own fault and advise him to grow more crops and better crops. And still right at the same time we are told by the very same press that we have an over production and in order to force the price up we will have to curtail production a while.

It surely is plain to understand that when the speculators buy up the cotton crop and store it that they own it for a purpose and of course that purpose is to make some easy money. Consequently as long as they hold it in storage it is just the same as if it was not in existence so if they are financially strong enough to hold it until the manufacturing interests need cotton badly then of course they can demand a high price. That is surely not a new scheme.

Careful and conservative estimates place the amount paid annually by a family of five in the form of rent, interest and profit at \$800.

When we honestly and squarely face these facts we begin to understand why life for the great majority is a bitter struggle for a mere existence.

The United States census of 1910 shows that about 53 per cent of the wealth produced by the American working men and women is taken away from them in rent, interest and profits, and it is taken away from them by about 15 per cent of the population.

This means that the wages received by the workers will buy only 47 per cent of what they produce and since the 15 per cent of property owners can not consume, (no matter how extravagantly they live) the 53 per cent that they get, what they hoard away is what the press calls OVERPRODUCTION.

Think of it! OVERPRODUCTION in a country where babies starve, women walk the streets to prolong a miserable existence and homeless men by the hundreds of thousands are in search of work.

Question. If one man has a right to take part of what another man produces, what part has he a right to take and who has a right to the rest? We cannot make a heavy structure stand on a poor foundation.

M. B. JENSON,

Moran, Texas.

PHYSICIAN IS SLAIN BY HIS FRIEND OF LONG STANDING

Henderson, Tex., Jan. 31.—Dr. Hubert Galloway of Laneville, in the southern part of this county, was shot and killed Monday morning and Morgan Compton, a prominent farmer, surrendered to Henderson officers shortly before noon.

Both men were wealthy and were friends of long standing.

Special Election Called.

Austin, Tex., Jan. 27.—Governor Dan Moody Thursday issued a proclamation calling a special election for Feb. 14 to select the successor of Representative Norman G. Kittrell, who died Sunday in his Houston home.

Petty Thief Gets Beehive.

San Antonio, Tex., Jan. 27.—A petty thief was "stung" here this morning when he made away with a beehive which stood in the rear of a residence. There were no bees in the hive.

Marrying Justice Who Has Record of 1,400 Weddings Drops Out of Cupid's Game

Rockdale, Texas, Feb. 2.—Texas "Marrying Justice" has retired.

On January 1, Judge Ed Gunn relinquished the office which, in his tenure of fourteen consecutive years, he made famous inside and outside the borders of Texas, because in connection with it, he was married more than 1,400 couples, a number made unique by the sparsely settled territory from which they came. And of that number only 50 sought the divorce courts later, he says.

For fourteen years, men and women of all ages and varying nationalities came to his dingy little office here, seeking advice, the same thing—marital happiness. They came, often for distances of many miles and at all hours of the day and night, because fame had said his marriages were always happy ones, and had cast over his office the glamour of tradition.

Runaway boys and girls with but a dollar or so in their pockets but a world of love in their hearts, and driving, perhaps, a horse hitched to an old-fashioned buggy; aged persons, 70 years or more, seeking companionship for their declining days; dark-skinned Spanish beauties and their escorts; they came to the judge's office to have the "marrying justice" join their hands.

How the judge's eyes dance as he tells of the gay, happy marriages which he consummated, of the runaway couple from Cameron, whom he helped to escape and to square up things with the girl's parents; of the tiny Mexican bride, with her gluing and clothes purchased by the bridegroom (a national custom), who could not be given to her husband following an elaborate church ceremony one night because her father wanted Judge Gunn to finish the job at one o'clock in the morning; of the girls who married young men in the war days of 1918 and bade them goodbye at his office door with a choke in their throats and a sob in their hearts.

And how his eyes gleam when he declared that young people of today are taking marriage too lightly, and seek amusement and pleasure outside of the home rather than inside it. The attitude toward marriage exhibited by young people, largely since the advent of the automobile and what he declares are its attendant evils, has made it easy for him to lay down his staff of office, he says.

"Let me tell you a story," he said. "Of a young man who drove here one time and asked me to run out a few miles with him into the country to perform a wedding ceremony. When we arrived at the little house in the San Gabriel river bottom, this young man drew me aside at the gate to whisper in my ear that he had a girl who was sick in there, Judge."

Dr. Wilhite, Pasteur Institute Chief, Dies of Pneumonia Attack

Austin, Texas, Feb. 2.—Dr. J. T. Wilhite, director of the State Pasteur Institute, died here January 27, of pneumonia. He had been in the hospital only a few days, having worked with his numerous patients at the institute while suffering from a cold and fever.

Dr. Wilhite had served in his present position for more than twenty years. He was the only director the institute ever had and his work attracted attention all over the country. His record showed the treatment of approximately 12,000 patients in prevention against hydrophobia and he lost only about sixteen.

When the institute was created by act of the Legislature it was made an adjunct of the State hospital here and Dr. Wilhite, who was an assistant physician on the hospital staff, was assigned to the new work. He pioneered in this section of the United States in making serum to save human beings from the attacks of rabies after being bitten by mad dogs or other rabid animals. He was a recognized authority in the work. During his long service he not only treated human beings but examined thousands of heads of animals that were killed or died after having bitten persons. These examinations were made to determine whether they were infected with hydrophobia and the persons bitten required to take the Pasteur treatment. Even among the sixteen patients lost, some were in a desperate condition when taken to the institute or had violated hygienic rules while under treatment.

Dr. Wilhite was 49 years old, a native of Travis County, born near the hamlet of Creedmoor. He graduated from the University of Texas Medical School and pursued his studies in medicine beyond that. He never married and lived at the Pasteur Institute where he could minister to patients day and night.

In making his serum, Dr. Wilhite used rabbits. Two or more rabbits were inoculated daily with hydrophobia, depending on the demand, and they would die of hydrophobia on the exact day of expectancy. The fluid from their spinal columns was used in making the serum. It was given in graduated strength, lasting twenty-one days. A mistake in giving the serum meant for the last days of the treatment during the earlier days would have killed the patient. No accidents occurred at the institute during its long and extensive service. Patients were taken there from many Southwestern States and even Mexico for treatment under Dr. Wilhite.

Notwithstanding his long and successful service to the State in the cause of humanity, his salary had never been raised beyond \$3,000 a year. He received many offers to commercialize his services but he preferred to remain and continue his research work in the interest of humanity, even though he remained a poor man.

with typhoid, and the doctor says she can't live. Today was to have been our wedding day, and neither of us want to put it off."

"So I married them, with the girl propped up on a pillow, and the boy with his arm about her, and I was glad that I was a justice and could do it."

And then the judge tells another story of a boy and girl who had been driving around town all afternoon, they told him, and finally called him to marry them.

"I had to tell the young man to cut off his automobile engine and to throw down a lighted cigarette before I could go ahead with the ceremony. The girl chewed gum during the service."

The natural result of this attitude toward marriage is an increase in divorces, says Judge Gunn, and most of the fifty divorces from his 1,400 marriages came in the later days of his administration.

But the half of it hasn't been told. Women, says Judge Gunn, are at the root of most of the divorce problems, and he is prepared to back his opinion up with instances gleaned from contact with 2,800 men and women. Once upon a time, says he, a woman sought him out for advice, her troubles perhaps dealt with drunkenness or abuse on the part of her husband. One trait of all women, he says, is to pour their troubles into the ears of some sympathetic listener, even to the justice or the peace. As a father confessor and advisor of domestic differences, he could once talk things over with the man, and persuade the girl to take him back again. Now, however, the trouble more often lies with the woman.

"Most young men of today when they marry are ready to settle down, and to make a home, women, on the other hand, seem to be marrying to have a good time," he said. "When a wife finds that having a good time requires more money than her young husband, usually just starting in business, can give her, trouble and divorce ensue. The desire of women for good times, fine clothes, expensive automobiles and vacation trips, and the like, is wrecking their husbands."

"If their husbands can not give them the things they want, they seek it elsewhere, from other men; or they get a divorce in order that they may enter business and get things for themselves or try out another husband."

The remedy for the divorce situation, believes Judge Gunn, is a return to the "days when girls were reared in homes instead of in automobiles and picture shows," and a law requiring the publication in newspapers, or the posting in public places, of notices of intent to marry at least thirty days before the wedding.

Names of Buyers of Prescription Booze Must Go On Records

Austin, Texas, Feb. 2.—Senator Charles R. Floyd of Paris said Monday he is preparing a bill which he will offer this week to restrict the sale of medical whiskey and also requiring the names of all persons receiving whiskey prescriptions to be filed with the county clerk.

Each drug store would be limited, under the bill, to twenty-five gallons of whiskey a year. Floyd said, and the druggist would be compelled to certify the names of persons using the prescriptions to the county clerk.

A similar bill in the Thirty-ninth legislature provided for the publication of the names of all persons receiving whiskey prescriptions, but Floyd said that provision would be eliminated in his measure.

Floyd is making an investigation to determine whether or not he will insert a clause in the bill limiting the number of whiskey prescriptions that can be written by a doctor.

Senator Lloyd Price of Texarkana was one of the authors of the bill in the Thirty-ninth legislature. He said that his whole purpose was to limit the price to be charged for whiskey by drug stores, and that no attempt should be made to restrict the amount of whiskey sold on prescription, any more than the sale of quinine or other medicine should be restricted. He said it was an outrage that bona fide sick persons were forced to pay \$6.50 a pint for whiskey when prescribed by a doctor. He wanted the price materially reduced and then a maximum fixed by law.

Texas Income Taxes Show Increase Over Payments for 1925

Washington, Feb. 2.—Income tax collections for the calendar year 1926 for Texas amounted to \$41,217,709.80, compared with \$32,982,591.19 in 1925. Figures announced by the bureau of internal revenue Tuesday showed that of the 1926 collections \$28,293,907.37 was from corporations and \$12,923,802.43 from individuals.

Of the 1925 collections \$18,703,452.73 was from corporations and \$13,279,138.88 was from individuals.

Milking Machines Increase.

The growing importance of mechanical milking in the production of market milk is indicated by an increase in the number of milking machines used, manufactured, as reported by the Bureau of the Census, from a total of 8,570 in 1922 to 14,954 in 1925. That well-informed, careful dairymen who use milking machines can produce clean milk with a low bacterial count is demonstrated by the production of certified milk machines used in the United States Department of Agriculture. Where the machines are cleaned and sterilized with sufficient frequency and thoroughness the milk will be as clean and as free from bacteria as that milked by hand.

Hubby Resigns Post as Head of State's Fish and Game Dept.

Austin, Texas, Feb. 2.—Stating that he had completed the time he agreed to serve when he accepted the position of Fish, Game and Oyster Commissioner, and expressing a desire to remain more with his home and family, Turner E. Hubby announced his resignation from that post effective February 1. Official notice of his action had been in the hands of Gov. Moody for a week, Hubby said, but he had withheld its official announcement on request of the Governor, who had been considering the matter of his successor.

Hubby's statement to Gov. Moody was as follows: "Positions I have held for the last twenty-five years have required my being away from home almost constantly. The desire to spend more time with my family caused me to resign from the company I had represented twenty-three years during that time. When I accepted the appointment as Game and Fish Commissioner it was with the understanding I would serve for one term only. This arrangement I announced at the Isaac Walton meeting at Brady in June of that year, and also at the convention of the Fish Dealers' Association at San Antonio in August of the same year. While I was not officially in charge of the office until April 1, my duties really began with the convening of the Thirty-Ninth Legislature. Considerable time was spent in Austin, and I visited practically every section of the State in the interests of the department between that time and the date on which I took the oath of office."

"Having performed two full years' service and realizing the importance of having the new Commissioner take up the duties during the present session of the legislature, and pledging my unqualified support, as I have ever seen ready to render during the last thirty-five years, I hereby tender my resignation, effective Feb. 1, which will give me time to appear before the legislative committees in connection with pending bills. My successor will be welcomed at the time prior to the date and we shall extend the fullest measure of cooperation in familiarizing him with the duties of the office."

"In conformity with the law, I hand you herewith my report covering the operation of the department for the five months' period I have served of the present fiscal year. I have never seen ready to render during the last thirty-five years, I hereby tender my resignation, effective Feb. 1, which will give me time to appear before the legislative committees in connection with pending bills. My successor will be welcomed at the time prior to the date and we shall extend the fullest measure of cooperation in familiarizing him with the duties of the office."

Ten aspirants for the position are said to be under consideration by the Governor, among whom are W. W. Floyd of Decatur, Commissioner under Gov. Neff. Others said to be in line for the position are W. W. Woods of San Antonio, L. C. West, San Antonio, W. C. McGintie, Dallas, Will Tucker, Longview; Collins of Crockett, Marshall of Dallas, Andrews of Fort Worth and Henderson of Wichita Falls.

One of the outstanding achievements of Commissioner Hubby's term of office has been the establishment of a recognized game preserve system, fifty-two of these areas having been set aside for the protection and preservation of wild game in Texas in the last two years.

Besides the game preserves that have been established, three large fish hatcheries have been put in operation through Hubby's efforts, and two more are ready to be built.

Shortly before resigning, Hubby made several recommendations for changes in the game laws, among which were some to reduce the deer season to fifteen days, to have alternate open and closed seasons on black-tailed deer and prairie chickens, and asking for a uniform bag limit of fifteen a day and sixty a week on ducks, quails, doves and snipe.

W. C. Martin Is Found Dead in Hotel Room From Bullet Wound

(From Dallas News, Jan. 28, 1927) William Clifton Martin, a Texas oil "Texas factory" man, years old, was found dead at 3 o'clock Thursday afternoon in his room at the Adolphus hotel. Death was caused by a bullet wound in the head. A pistol was found near by. He had been dead about two hours when the body was found.

Justice E. John Baldwin, in a verdict rendered following a coroner's inquest, said death was due to gunshot wound self-inflicted.

Mr. Martin had been in ill health for two years. He suffered a severe injury to his spine about two years ago when he slipped and fell on ice-covered steps at Texas Park.

Mr. Martin had been a resident of Dallas for twelve years. He resided at the Oriental hotel until it was torn down to make way for the Baker hotel and had resided at the Adolphus hotel since. He came to Dallas from Temple, where he had lived for a number of years and where he was builder and owner of the Martin hotel.

Mr. Martin was born in Tuskegee, Ala., Sept. 2, 1865. He came to Texas as a youth. He was married to Miss Florence George in 1899 at Granbury and a short time later moved to Temple, where they made their home until their removal to Dallas.

He was a member of the Methodist church and of the Dallas Country club. Mr. Martin with his wife was the owner of a widely known community farm in Harrison county, near Darco, under which is a rich vein of lignite, now being mined.

Mr. Martin is survived by his wife, one brother, Henry Martin of Roma, Ala., and one sister, Mrs. J. A. Gibb, of Waco.

RATION FOR PATTERING STEER.

Three and one-half pounds of cottonseed meal is usually considered the maximum quantity to give a fattening steer in his daily ration. In some sections of the Cotton Belt there are records of feeding 3 to 10 pounds to mature cattle for a period of from 3 to 5 months. No serious results were reported. But 3½ pounds a day is about correct. At present prices, it might not be a bad idea to lay in all the cottonseed meal you'll need for some time.

Count Ludwig Salm and Millicent Likely to Be Reunited Soon

New York, Jan. 31.—Count Ludwig Salm and his wife, the former Millicent Rogers, soon will be reunited, says the New York Daily News today. The re-union will have the blessing of H. H. Rogers, Standard Oil millionaire, and Mrs. Rogers.

Count Salm and his attorney, Herman B. Goodstein, the News says, sailed Saturday for Paris where they will meet the countess. Duchess Crocy, aunt of the count and close friend of the countess, will be mediator, the News says.

Reports of the reconciliation have been confirmed by Baron Alfred J. Von Hertenau, boyhood friend and confidant of Count Salm, the News states.

Peter, infant son of the couple, will be sent to Europe to his parents by Mr. Rogers within the next two months. When the reunion is complete, says the News, the family will return to reside in America. Mr. Rogers and the count have entered into a legal agreement in settlement of the case. Among the conditions of the case are that the parties shall talk to newspapers, that Mr. and Mrs. Rogers will not interfere in the domestic life of the count and his wife, that the count shall become an American citizen, and that he shall prove that he is financially independent.

A separation suit brought by the count was continued in court here several weeks ago.

Countess Salm and her mother are now in Europe.

Judge Orders Arrest of Persons Entering His Courtroom Armed

Corpus Christi, Tex., Jan. 31.—A jury to hear the peonage and conspiracy cases in federal court here will be selected tomorrow morning from among 75 veniremen. Preliminary examination of the panel was conducted today.

At the opening of court, Judge Hutchison lectured the packed courtroom on carrying guns, declaring that he would not permit the federal court to be made "into an arsenal." He said he had given instructions to the United States marshal to jail any gun toters for contempt of court.

Many of the veniremen had been examined when court adjourned for the day, among them being many farmers. The judge asked them whether their occupation as farmers would prejudice them in favor of the farmers who are charged with forcing involuntary servitude against a number of Mexicans.

The defendants are: C. S. Stockwell, J. H. Chadwick, Raymond Teller, Frank Brandt, Floyd Dodd, R. F. Reisdorph, John Swanner, William Hargrave, and L. K. Stockwell. An indictment against H. N. Stockwell was dismissed by request of the state.

Official Record of Marine Mascot Now Entered Upon Books

Washington, Jan. 31.—With an entry showing that he died in line of duty Jan. 11, and was buried at Quantico, Va., with appropriate ceremonies, the official record of Sergeant Major Jiggs, U. S. Marine Corps, has been closed. (Jiggs was a big bulldog, the faithful attendant of his marine masters).

His record discloses that he applied for enlistment at the Marine Barracks, Quantico, Jan. 14, 1922, and accepted the same day as a "private in the United States Marine Corps, for the term of life, unless sooner discharged by proper authority."

In the formal application, his name appears as King, Bulwark, alias "Jiggs." It averred that he was "of good habits and character," was "by present occupation a mascot," and agreed "to accept from the United States such bounty, pay, rations and clothing as are or may be established by law."

The application was witnessed by Captain William T. Clement, post adjutant, and signed with paw prints in lieu of finger prints. It was sworn to before Smedley D. Butler, Brigadier General, Commanding General at the station, who also was named as the relative or friend "to be notified in case of emergency."

The "personal description" certified to by G. H. White, examining surgeon, credited him with being "free from all bodily defects and mental infirmities," and having "Dk. brown eyes, white hair, pink complexion, height 18 inches, weight 125 pounds, mean circumference 38 inches, no visible black or dark spots and bowed legs."

Private Jiggs quickly rose to the rank of sergeant major, but the duties of a mascot became especially arduous during the Christmas holidays, and, although the candles and extra bits of this and that he was called upon to consume were promptly and cheerfully disposed of, they proved too much for him.

Man Aiding Buddie in World War Now Is Given a Reward

San Antonio, Tex., Jan. 31.—George Dickson of Dallas, cast his bread upon the troubled waters of the Dardanelles more than a decade ago. Today he is reaping what he sowed. Dickson and Alex B. Ferguson, Tampico, Mex., oil man, were together under the British flag during the storming of the Straits of the Hellespont. Ferguson was seriously wounded and Dickson was able to help him to a hospital. Years passed without a meeting. Recently Dickson developed pulmonary tuberculosis.

Ferguson heard of his friend's illness, came to see him here. Today Dickson was on his way to New Mexico with \$1,500 provided by Ferguson.

Fifth of Oil Marketed in United States Is Used as Fuel by Nation's Railways

Washington, Feb. 2.—Railroad fuel purchases account for approximately one-fifth of the total fuel oil marketed annually in the United States, the Department of Commerce announced in making public a survey just completed by the Bureau of Mines.

During 1925, purchases totaling 70,636,559 barrels were made by the 147 Class I, II and III railroads included in the bureau's survey. Of the total purchased, 69,641,119 barrels were consumed and 1,175,440 added to the quantity in storage. Railroad stocks of fuel oil at the end of the year amounted to 13,001,647 barrels, as compared with 11,826,207 barrels at the beginning of the year. Of the total consumed, 59,627,639 barrels were burned as locomotive fuel and 9,833,480 barrels were consumed in shops, power plants, ferry boats and other non-locomotive uses.

Although each of the 147 railroads used fuel oil to some degree in their operations, its use in large quantities was limited to a few. B. B. Swanson, economic analyst, who conducted the survey for the Bureau of Mines, said. Ninety-seven railroads purchased less than 50,000 barrels each during the year; seven railroads purchased 50,000 and 100,000; 15 railroads between 100,000 and 500,000; 19 railroads between 500,000 and 2,000,000; 6 railroads between 2,000,000 and 5,000,000, and two railroads purchased more than 5,000,000 barrels each. The two largest purchasers were the Southern Pacific Company and the Atchafalaya, Topeka & Santa Fe Railway company which, with their subsidiary lines, purchased approximately one-half of the total.

The use of oil as a locomotive fuel is concentrated mainly in two regions, the South Central States and California; railroads operating in these two regions having purchased 53,631,082 barrels, or 83 per cent of the 1925 total. Other centers of consumption are Oregon and Washington, supplied largely from California; the area surrounding the Wyoming oil fields, and the South Atlantic, where one railroad operates on imported fuel oil. Oil is used as the principal locomotive fuel in both freight and passenger service, in California, Texas, Arkansas and Louisiana, while in Kansas, Oklahoma and Missouri it is used mainly in passenger service. In the North Central States and on the Atlantic Coast, with the exception of the one oil-burning railroad, the oil burned is used in power plants, shops, ferry boats, firing-up of coal-burning locomotives and the operation of oil-electric switching locomotives.

As a result of increased efficiency in oil-burning methods, the Pacific lines of Southern Pacific company reported a saving of 254,735 barrels during 1925, a saving which was slightly smaller than that reported for 1924. The combined saving of these two Pacific Coast lines, 631,963 barrels, in the burning of locomotive

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Tomato Acreage in Valley Is Doubled For the New Year

San Antonio, Texas, Feb. 2.—Potato and tomato growers in the lower Rio Grande valley will double their acreage during 1927, according to a survey made by the truck crop situation in that section by Charles Sperle, specialist with the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, made public Saturday by the Market News Bureau in San Antonio.

Sperle, who returned from the valley last week, said the 1927 potato plantings would be 95 per cent complete by Feb. 1, with a total acreage of more than 14,000 as against 6,300 acres in 1926.

The tomato acreage this season will be increased to more than 6,000 as compared with 3,000 acres in 1926. Seeding has been practically completed, Sperle said.

Favorable growing conditions for these products will cause a top-heavy market, according to a general survey and forecast of 1927 crops published Friday by the department of agriculture, which indicated that an increase in acreage would bring about a corresponding depression in prices.

The bean acreage in the lower Rio Grande valley this season will remain at practically the same figure as in 1926, Sperle said. This is due largely to a scarcity of seed. Planting started January 15 and will continue for the next month. The bean acreage in 1926 was 4,200.

Continued favorable growing conditions which have existed throughout January, will cut the cabbage production, Sperle said. The yield has been averaging three and a half tons per acre, with the heads running from small to medium, he reported. The Robstown-Corpus Christi area, which represents about half of the cabbage acreage, is in need of rain now, he said.

THE CORN BORER'S ORIGIN.

Although the European corn borer at present is not found in those regions of the United States where the grain sorghums, such as kaffir, milo maize and fetoria are grown to any extent, it has been shown experimentally that it will attack these grains. Broom corn, which is a sorghum, is known to be the plant in which, without much doubt, the pest came to America.

Back To The Soil.

Where manure is used as fertilizer, cows on home-grown feeds, under proper management, will return to the soil about 80 per cent of the fertility taken from the land in growing their feed.

fuel oil burned by Class I railroad locomotives during 1925 as compared with 1924, and demonstrates that the decrease in quantity consumed was, to some extent, due to the increase of efficiency in its use. The efficiency with which oil is used as a locomotive fuel has been increasing steadily.

This increasing efficiency has been accomplished through the co-operation of employees in fuel conservation; the application of modern devices, such as feed-water heaters and superchargers, to older power; purchase of new and heavier power, equipped with the latest devices; more complete loading of cars, and improvements in the roadway. Fuel conservation bureaus have been established by several railroads and careful attention is given to locomotive, shop and power plant consumption. Increasing efficiency in the burning of oil in stationary power plants and shops is comparable with that obtained in locomotives.

The comparison of the quality of oil burned with the total fuel consumed by locomotives would indicate that the maximum point in oil burning in relation to other fuels was reached in 1924, with a slight decrease in 1925. Mr. Swanson points out. Preliminary estimates based upon monthly reports indicate that the proportion for 1926 will be 10.5 per cent. There is at present no uniform national tendency either towards the conversion of coal-burning locomotives to oil-burning or the reverse, as the conditions of use vary with the relative costs of oil and coal in the particular region. One railroad operating in the Rocky Mountain region has reported that it is converting a number of coal-burning locomotives to oil, while two railroads in the Middle West are converting oil-burning locomotives back to coal. One large railroad operating to the Atlantic Coast had adopted oil for shop and other non-locomotive uses in replacement of anthracite coal, creating a demand for approximately 750,000 barrels annually.

The recent introduction of oil-electric locomotives is a development which is of importance in considering future railroad fuel consumption. This locomotive is a self-contained power unit in which a Diesel-type oil driven engine operates a generator which furnishes power to railway motors which are geared direct to the driving axles. After four months' service in switching service in New York, the first locomotive of this type was placed in service by the New York Central Railroad on June 9, 1924, being used in switching freight cars in New York City. At present, 10 60-ton and three 100-ton locomotives of this type are in use, 11 of which are in switching service in New York, Philadelphia, Chicago and St. Paul. One in Utah copper mining operations, and one by a California lumber company. Of the 13 locomotives in use, 10 were placed in operation during 1926.

This study on railroad fuel oil consumption is the first of a series of studies relating to the consumption of fuel oil in the United States, being conducted by the Bureau of Mines in co-operation with the American Petroleum Institute.

Baptist Pastor Out of Pulpit for His Part in Wild Party

San Francisco, Feb. 2.—Rev. Robert S. Miller, recently relieved as pastor of the Hoover Street Baptist church of Los Angeles, after the trustees had charged him with participation in a drunken party, and who escaped with a suspended sentence after his arrest in Pleasanton on a charge of disturbing the peace, landed in jail. His wife, Mrs. Bernice Miller, swore out a warrant for his arrest here on a charge of drunkenness.

New Head of State Health Department Selected by Moody

Austin, Texas, Feb. 2.—Dr. J. C. Anderson, of Plainview, has been named state health officer by Gov. Dan Moody. He succeeds Dr. H. O. Sappington of Galveston, who held this office during the administration of Gov. Miriam A. Ferguson.

Dr. Anderson has been a practicing physician in Texas since 1887. Born on a farm in Bradley county, Ark., he grew to young manhood in that state, removing to Texas in 1881, and settling in Bell county. In 1885 he entered the Missouri Medical college and upon graduation he returned to Texas and engaged in the practice of his profession at Granger. In 1910 he changed his residence from Central Texas to Plainview, where he has continuously practiced medicine until called by Gov. Moody to the important post of state health officer.

At the time of his appointment Dr. Anderson was also serving as county health officer of Hale county, a position that he had held for a number of years. He has traveled extensively for the purpose of studying hospital clinics both in the United States and Europe. In 1925 he visited England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales and France, gathering information relative to the health work of these countries.

Confirmation of Dr. Anderson's appointment has already been made by the state senate, and as soon as necessary arrangements can be completed, he will come to Austin to assume active direction of the work of the state health department.

La Grange Gets Fair Circuit.

La Grange, Tex., Jan. 27.—La Grange has been chosen for the 1928 convention of the South Texas Fair Circuit. B. F. Harigel of La Grange was chosen vice president of the circuit at a meeting in New Braunfels. The Fayette county fair will be held here October 12-15.

Independent School District Law Passed on by Mr. Pollard

Austin, Texas, Feb. 2.—Answering an inquiry from Representative Woodall, chairman of the House Committee on School Districts, Attorney General Claude Pollard said that a recently adopted constitutional amendment prohibits the Legislature from passing any special or local law creating an independent school district.

Power to create school districts by a special law was taken away, the Attorney General held, as the amendment reads: "And the Legislature may also provide for the formation of school districts by general laws." The following established principles should be followed, the opinion said, in preparation of laws establishing school districts:

1. An act of the Legislature providing for the abolishing of an independent school district, which has outstanding indebtedness, must make adequate provision for the payment of such indebtedness, or the law will be invalid as impairing the obligation of contracts.

2. If an act of the Legislature provides for the combination of an existing independent school district, which has a bonded indebtedness with other territory which has no bonded indebtedness, such other territory can not be made liable for the existing indebtedness without a vote of the majority of the taxpayers of the new district created.

3. Where territory embraced within a school district having bonded or other indebtedness is detached from such district, such indebtedness and the taxes voted for the payment continue in force and constitute a lien on such territory, although it be combined with other territory to form another school district.

4. Where territory embraced within a school district on which a tax is voted is added to another district, the other district may be empowered to levy and collect the tax.

5. An act of the Legislature may provide that the title to property of a school district which becomes a part of another school district shall vest in such other district or its governing officers.

Powers of the Legislature, at present, regarding the passage of school district laws, are summed up by the Attorney General as follows:

1. The Legislature has no authority to pass a local or special law creating an independent school district.

2. The Legislature has the power to repeal any special law heretofore passed creating an independent school district, but this being a local and special law, notice of intention to introduce it should be given under the provisions of Art. 3, Sec. 57.

3. The Legislature has no power by special or local law to amend any local law heretofore passed creating an independent school district, even though notice of an intention to introduce such a special law might be given under the provisions of Art. 3, Sec. 57.

4. All general laws passed by the Legislature for the abolishment of existing independent school districts, whether created by special or general law, should provide for the payment of existing bonded or other indebtedness against such districts or parts thereof.

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ALCOHOL AND LIFE INSURANCE

More deaths from alcoholism in 1926 than in any year since 1917 were recorded among the 17,000,000 policy holders of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, says a report made public by the company. If the present trend continues, the report says, the death rate from alcoholism will be as great by 1928 as during the worst of the pre-war years.

For 1926 the company's figures showed a percentage of 3.7 per 100,000 as against 3 per 100,000 for 1925. The 1926 rate was six times as high as that of 1920, when the record low rate was established.

Remember that 1920 was the first year of the Volstead act; remember also that the taxpayers of the United States are being mulcted of \$30,000,000 yearly to enforce that act.

FINAL TOUCHES ON THE INTRACOASTAL CANAL

(From the Houston Chronicle)

The Intracoastal Canal Association of Louisiana and Texas is made up of a group of workers who seem to have a most remarkable faculty for keeping everlastingly at the job in hand, and of accomplishing things that most men would not even attempt. Its efforts are maintained without interruption in the face both of defeat and triumph.

For many years it labored without any too much encouragement from the people or congress. Now it has accomplished a major triumph in winning final recognition from the government and the voting of money for the canal all the way from New Orleans to Corpus Christi, and for a survey on to Brownsville and Harlingen.

However, the work of the association is not over, and no time out has been taken to celebrate the remarkable victory in congress. The federal government had already appropriated \$9,000,000 for the New Orleans-Galveston section of the canal (via the Plaquemine route) in the rivers and harbors act of 1925. In the new act just passed it adds \$4,600,000 for opening the Harvey route in Louisiana, via Morgan City, and \$3,000,000 for the section from Galveston Bay to Corpus Christi. In addition the project is given approval in its entirety, and if more funds should be needed there probably would be no great difficulty in obtaining them in reasonable amounts.

The rivers and harbors committee of the house was unanimously in favor of the canal appropriation both at the 1925 and the 1927 session. Officials of the Intracoastal Association, led by C. S. E. Holland, the president, and Roy Miller, the active vice president, had thoroughly "sold" congress on the importance of the project, an accomplishment which it would be hard to overestimate.

Now comes the task, however, of meeting the government's conditions. The canal association pledged that it would secure all the right-of-way free to the government and would have the assurance of certain shipping facilities for the canal by the time it is completed. The association members and officials are now hard at work meeting the conditions of the contract. A few difficulties over right-of-way remain, but great progress has been made since the signing of the appropriation bill by the president, and it is believed that suitable arrangements can be made with all property owners, especially as the people residing along the route come to realize that the canal now is really to be built, and that it will be an economic boon to their sections.

As to the promised shipping facilities, private concerns have responded in a way that has been surprising even to the officials of the canal association. It is believed now that there will be many more barge lines, docks and warehouses provided for by the time the canal is ready for operation than was promised the government.

The canal builders are not telling themselves, however, that there remains nothing yet to do. If the co-operation shown them by owners of property along the route, and the interest of the people generally should be withdrawn, then the entire project might yet fail.

But they believe that the time for the enthusiastic completion of the great task is at hand, and that soon the entire Texas gulf coast will be served by a waterway that should contribute greatly and immediately to its development and prosperity.

OPPOSED TO CONVENTION SYSTEM

The Fayette County Record is outspoken in its opposition to the proposal embraced in a measure before the present session of the Texas legislature to have candidates for the United States senate, for governor and for other major state offices in Texas nominated by a convention. The Record is of the opinion that such a system will further entrench the opponents of free government and further remove the people from influential participation in the affairs of the government.

Here is the comment of the Record upon the recently introduced proposition to change the primary election laws of the state:

"According to reports from Austin, Governor Dan Moody told the committee on elections that he favors the bill partly restoring the old convention system. The bill provides for a state-wide convention to be held on the second Tuesday in July, which would select candidates for all state offices by a three-fourth vote of the convention. Where no candidate receives three-fourths of the votes, two candidates for such office would be named by a majority vote. The people then would be permitted to choose between the two hand-picked politicians who have stood the test of the special interests that controlled and will control every convention that ever attempts to nominate candidates on either the democratic or republican ticket, for state offices.

"The proposed system of nominations for state officials and U. S. Senators is as devoid of democracy as hell is of religion, and its object seems to be two-fold: First, to place the big boys safely in control of the machinery and prevent any but those who bear the O. K. of big business from running for office, and second, to prevent James E. Ferguson from running for United States senator in 1928.

"The action of Governor Moody, however, is no surprise to the believers in a people's government, for it has been pretty well known throughout the recent campaign that Mr. Moody was backed by the oil interests and other big crowd, including the Ku Klux Klan. The appointment of R. S. Sterling, a large oil operator, and publisher of the Houston Post-Dispatch, a pro Ku Klux paper and a reputed multimillionaire, on the highway commission seems to justify the claim that the 'big boys' would control the governor."

Texas is keeping to the fore in industry and development.

Fort Worth again is afflicted with the presence of a disturber who boasts that he is not through making trouble.

Notwithstanding the Texas senate, except one democratic member, "took the pledge," talk about prescription whiskey is becoming more persistent in Austin.

With amplifiers or loud speakers installed in the house of representatives at Austin there may be a chance of some pious member being shocked by a too vociferous expression of some other members personal feelings after a prolonged "committee session."

A HUMAN INTEREST STORY

(From the Waco Times-Herald)

And this our life, exempt from public haunt,
Finds tongues in trees, books in the running brooks,
Sermons in stones, and good in everything.

—As You Like It.

When you, reader, have perused a story, real or fictional, that touches your heart, what do you do about it?

And you are saying, "Well, I went with it to some of my friends and got laughed at for my pains."

But if you, reader, happen to be one of those so fortunate as to have had your attention called to an article in the February number of the American Magazine, you will feel obliged all your life to that prince of good fellows, George Dutton.

And it's a moving story—not fictional, but real—a real human interest story that if you, reader, can resist, then you are on your way to the presidency of the Hardboiled Club, Inc.

The Good Samaritan of Wall Street is Edgar S. Baruc, member of Solvin and Company, New York bankers. He was born in New York, but his father was a citizen of South Carolina, who had gone security for a friend and died a pauper. We are told that it was Edgar Baruc's experience while struggling to help his mother make a home and a living for her children that gave him an intense sympathy for people who find life hard sledding.

Some seven years ago this man Baruc entered into a compact with a man who had more than once been sent up for robbery, and what do you, reader, suppose it was?

Their business was the putting of jailbirds back into circulation as good citizens, and in the seven years since he started, Baruc has put more than six hundred and fifty "down-and-outers" on their feet. Baruc's partner died a year ago, but Baruc carries on.

Did Baruc choose his partner for this line of business? No; the partner chose Baruc, whose reputation had gone before, and never once did Baruc's partner play him false. Baruc thus relates how the man introduced himself:

"I'm a jailbird," he told me, the first thing off the reel. "Fifty years old and just finished my sixth term in the pen. I'll say I'm slow! It took me mighty near a lifetime to figure out that the straight folks are smarter than the crooks."

"What most fellows that go wrong can't see is that the sweat from hard work comes a sight easier than the sweat from fear. Even if you get away with it for a long time, you're always dodging around, with that sick, uneasy feeling in the pit of your stomach. And, sooner or later, of course the bulls get you—they're bound to, because they got all the odds, including right, on their side."

"I was a good burglar," he added, with a touch of pride.

"Nobody can say that Dick W—— didn't do a neat job. But I've spent a third of my life on the inside looking out. I ain't never had time to get married, and right now I'd swap all the thrills I ever got out of blowing up all the safes I ever touched off, for one day of owning a bought-on-time bungalow with a little back yard big enough to hold me, and a woman, and a child in the cool o' the evening—a woman and a child that trusted me and was glad to see me come home at night."

"Well, I'm through now; but it's too late for some things."

"They tell me you're the friend of bums," he went on quickly. "I ain't rustling no help for myself, but I would sort of like to throw a rope to some of the other boys—in particular, the ones that are coming out after their first term. Many of the first-termers have learned their lesson. They want to go straight, but they don't know how. They think the whole world is down on 'em, and they're afraid to hold up their heads for fear somebody will recognize 'em and yell 'Jailbird!' A man with a record for serving time has it tough landing a job. I guess that's right, but—well, it's hard, too."

"Now, here's my proposition: I aim to spend the rest of my life helping fellows who've been in, to get a fresh start. I could go to a church and sign up, but I don't know church folks and church ways. I need a business partner. Will you go in with me?"

And so the banker and the burglar entered into this strange partnership, and many of their experiences are related in this magazine article—experiences that you, reader, might go over with profit. Let's let Baruc talk some more:

"There's a special sort of thrill in saving a boy from prison and the consequent contact with hardened criminals."

"But, right here, I want to make it clear that I have absolutely no sympathy with the professional criminal; that is, the man who deliberately sets out to match his wits against those of his honest fellows. The only way to discourage organized crime is to give it the full penalty of the law. One of the big troubles with America today is that we are too lax in enforcing our laws. My point is that, after a man has paid for slipping, he ought to be given a chance to go straight."

Baruc then tells of how a boy who had come to New York to have a good time was arrested, and how Dick, Baruc's partner, came to his rescue, and thus Baruc continues:

"The next morning, Dick brought the boy over for a talk with me. He broke down and sobbed in my office. Among other things, he said that he didn't see how a fellow could get into so much trouble when all he wanted was to have a little fun. He said that he couldn't stand at home any longer; that his mother treated him like a child, and that he never saw his father except at meal time."

"I put up a bond of five hundred dollars for the reappearance of the boy when called for, bought him a ticket home, and gave him a letter to deliver to his father. I put him on his word of honor to try it at home for a month longer."

"A few days later, I got a letter from his father. He was president of the biggest bank in his town and director in half a dozen important community enterprises. His letter was one of the most pathetic things I have ever read. It was in part:

"I have devoted my life to amassing money for my son. I am respected for my sagacity. I know every trick of the money-making game and every business man in my county. But I don't know my own boy. I don't think I have really talked to him five minutes in five years. I am not sure that I have really looked at him since he used to come to me to tie up a stumped toe. I have been so busy laying up a fortune for my only child that I have never had time to get acquainted with him. I'm going to make amends—if I can."

"You'd be surprised," Mr. Baruc went on earnestly, "at the number of similar situations we run into. Why, I suppose there are annually thousands of instances throughout the country where parents discover, often too late, that they have been so busy with other things that they have failed to become acquainted with their own children."

There's the secret for much of the crime wave about which we hear so much—parents so busy with other things that they have failed to become acquainted with their own children. And that, dear friends, is contracting a debt which must be paid; listen to this from Ralph Waldo Emerson:

"Always pay; for, first or last, you must pay your entire debt. Persons and events may stand for a time between you and justice, but it is only a postponement. You must pay at last your own debt."

He is great who confers the most benefits. He is base—and that is the one base thing in the universe—to receive favors and render none. In the order of nature we cannot render benefits to those from whom we receive them, or only seldom. But the benefit we receive must be rendered again, line for line, deed for deed, rent for rent, to somebody. Beware of too much good staying in your hand. Pay it away quickly in some sort."

The partnership between the banker and the burglar, as already said, was broken at the end of six years by the death of the junior member of the firm—or was he the senior member?

"When Dick lay dying in Bellevue Hospital," said Mr. Baruc, "there was at the foot of his bed a picture at which he looked a great deal. This picture showed a shepherd guiding his flock into the fold. One day, just before the end, Dick turned to me and said:

"I guess they must let some sheep into the fold that ain't all white, Mr. Baruc. I got a notion," he added wistfully, "that they let in even the black ones that have a little patch o' white on 'em. Come to think of it, I don't believe I ever saw a sheep so black that he didn't have a little white about him somewhere, if you looked hard enough."

"And somehow," finished the Good Samaritan of Wall Street, "I have a hunch that Dick hit the nail on the head!"

AN ODE TO "MA"

By M. M. McDANIEL, Route 3, Telephone, Texas.

She has returned to a tranquil fireside,
In her home graced with her charm;
After serving our state as governor
She holds a place in our heart that's warm.
Her tenure was ever successful,
Her judgment proved true and sound,
E'en though political prates
Raved and scored her up and down.

Filled with pent up prejudice
Backed by money, covered with taint,
They labored and investigated,
Black, her name they tried to paint,
Just political adversaries, these folks,
Who tried hard the name of Ferguson to beat,
But now, what did they gain?
Naught but a dismal defeat.

Her term she served with success,
Despite their scandaous wag
Conscientious of her duties
And her courage was never known to lag.
Accomplishments for the people were many,
Friends—she has a multitude
So lay down political filibusters
For you've been defeated by Ma in the feud.

Long live this Woman of Texas,
Who nobly served her state,
Who fought square in the open
And delivered the Ku Klux Klan their fates.
May Texas always prosper,
May she continue ever to grow
So we may have another "Ma"
For she made good we know.

Moody has aligned himself with "Fergusonism" to the extent of recommending a raise in the tax upon gasoline.

One of the greatest insurance companies in the nation finds that deaths from alcoholism among its policy holders are increasing at an alarming rate.

The Forum is going to thousands of intelligent and patriotic Texans and they are keeping themselves informed about their state affairs. Why not you?

Crossing accidents multiply and undertakers are worked over time to keep up with the orders for funerals of those who fail to beat the big locomotive to the crossing. And there are lots of them.

Remember that the Forum is the medium through which truthful accounts of what the legislature down at Austin is doing are furnished to the people of Texas. Subscribe now and don't miss a number.

The fool who struck a match in an Idaho town to find out what caused the acetylene gas lights to go out, went out, and along with him six others who furnished a busy day for undertakers. At any rate it is to be presumed his curiosity was satisfied, but some other fool will do the same foolish thing when a like opportunity offers.

A sheriff in Florida was caught by dry officers when they raided a place where they suspected liquor was being dispensed. That sheriff will have an effective alibi by calling attention to the case of Bielaski, federal government agent who operated a merry night club several months in New York, he says, merely to "get evidence."

Twenty-eight years of blindness suffered by a woman of 38 years of age ended when a dentist pulled an abscessed tooth. Still dentists and medical experts are not agreed that possession of an abscessed tooth and having it extracted will restore sight in every case of blindness. In fact they don't know just "how come" this woman to have her sight restored.

With Hiram Evans applauding the new governor and the owner of the chief daily newspaper supporting the sheet and pillow case empire of the Dallas dentist named for the most sought after job in the gift of the new governor the citizen who does not have to hide his face to proclaim his loyalty to his flag has cause to ponder upon political developments.

Young Mrs. Horace Dodge, who married a son of one of the brothers whose automobile factory was sold for \$146,000,000 cash, is asking for a divorce. Her husband is a speed boat manufacturer and she married him in 1921. Her petition says that the chief trouble in her married life is that her husband had "too much leisure" and used it to cultivate acquaintance with other women and with booze.

Chief Dry Enforcement Officer Andrews for the United States tells the congress that bootleggers not only are increasing their sales but they have been making and preserving and aging their product until now they are putting on the market an aged whiskey like unto olden times. He says he must have "under cover" spies to buy, sell and drink the stuff in order to catch the bootleggers. At any rate this plan will help bootleggers' sales.

Right upon the heels of the press announcement that a microphone is to be installed in the house of representatives at Austin comes the statement in news dispatches that the Fortieth legislature promises to go into the records as the noisiest law making body in many years. With a microphone those members whose discourtesy moves them to dictate letters in a loud voice to their stenographers while their colleagues are trying to save the state, some personal secrets may be revealed. It looks as if the discourteous members either will be driven to whisper their dictation or the microphone must be denied.

There is one member of the house of representatives of Texas who does not care what women wear or whether they wear anything, in fact, he says, they can go naked if they wish, so far as he cares. His attitude toward women's apparel was expressed in answer to a communication received from some of his constituents demanding that he sponsor a bill to "suppress the nakedness of women in public gatherings by sending all scantily clad members of the sex to jail for six months and adding a fifty dollar fine to their punishment." This solon need not worry. If the damsels wish to reduce the artificial coverings of their beautiful forms they will not consult the legislature of Texas or any of its members, and they will suffer no statutory punishments.

Baby Crop of Texas, 315 Tons, Valued at Over \$500,000,000

Austin, Texas, Feb. 2.—The Texas baby crop for 1926 numbered 84,000, and amounts to 315 tons of the most valuable product produced in the state. This crop according to the lowest estimate placed upon human life would amount to the enormous value of \$219,000,000, and computed according to the new value placed upon baby life by Dr. Louis I. Dublin, statistician of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, the value of the Texas baby crop is approximately more than \$500,000,000,000.

Comparison of the value of the baby crop of the state with the value of the annual mineral production, it is found that the baby crop amounts to one-fourth a million more than the combined production of all minerals, including petroleum, sulphur, natural gas, cement, clay products, asphalt, coal, gypsum products, sand, gravel, lime and limestone.

Every Day Salad Day

Crisp salads offer a most appetizing way of getting enough fruits and vegetables in the day's meals. Serve some kind of a salad every day.

May Day in Texas to Be Child Health Day With Merry Program

Austin, Texas, Feb. 2.—Dr. H. N. Burnett, director of the bureau of child hygiene of the state board of health, has been named state chairman of May Day for child health, the appointment being made by the director of the American Child Health Association. Dr. Burnett plans a state wide observance of May 1 as Child Health Day, and to this end, will ask the cooperation of public health nurses and parent teachers associations of the state in the preparation of appropriate May Day exercises.

"The object of May Day celebrations," Dr. Burnett stated, "is to direct attention to promotion of child health. It is planned to emphasize upon the children themselves the ideal of joyous health through outdoor May festivals, and to have grown-ups give consideration to means designed to advance child welfare."

Information About Oil Burners

Information about oil burners for house heating is available upon request from the United States Department of Agriculture.

Asks Why Old Sol Is Hiding His Face From World Since Jan. 18

Editor Forum: I wish to say through the columns of Freedom, to wit, the Ferguson Forum, has it not alone championed good government, the rights of freemen? Today the Texas legislature are warring over the search and seizure act, rights of the fundamental law, which says the right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no warrant shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, particularly describing the place to be searched, and the person or thing to be seized, and further, no state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States.

Obedience to the above is required by all, whether officer or not. The Constitution of Texas creates the legislature of Texas and gives it all the authority of law it has, no more, therefore, limits its life and power by the delegated authority therein given. I will admit, election to office swells some heads large. Self defense is the law of nature. It belongs to all alike. An officer has no preference in this matter. He alone swears to obey and support it. If he fails to do so he violates his official oath. This violation makes him a criminal.

But permit me to ask, did personal rights, good government, and clemency of mercy go out of business January 18, 1927? I ask this question for the reason Old Sol, the luminary of the Universe, seems to have withdrawn his genial and smiling face from the Texas soil of intellect and vegetation, since the inaugural of the new administration, after which, Old Sol has been behind the dark, drizzling atmosphere of complaint and discomfort. If he was not in mourning, why did he do so? Nature never is false to her law, therefore the new administration drew the curtain of dark clouds over the face of sunshine, retarding and shacking our comfort, but today the sun is shining, which promises the crepe has been removed and the mourning days are numbered. But not the lustre of the last administration, a creature of light, guiding to fresh laurels the rainbow of promise, good, wise and experienced statesmen, are jewels that have passed through the ordeal of that and carved their name high on the arch of fame.

So many names has Texas carved on this arch that a ladder is necessary to aid in the reading. Prudence, selfishness, blind ambition alone may answer. It is true, Texas has her Alamo where her Crockett and Bowie fell, but their fall planted the single star emblem upon their graves of glory. But Lee and Davis, not limited by state lines, all South of the Mason and Dixon line, point the finger of pride and glory to those names.

B. B. BOYD,

Temple, Texas, Jan. 28, 1927.

Style Show of Lower Valley Promises to Stage Big Features

Mercedes, Texas, Feb. 2.—The Lower Rio Grande Valley International Style Show and Beauty Contest is developing rapidly, promoter George L. Satterwhite makes this statement of the events already completed.

First, over forty of the leading firms have signed up for furnishing over \$10,000.00 in costumes including bathing suits, sport suits, and evening gowns for models entering this contest.

Second, there have been over forty models selected and fifty more to be selected. A careful survey of the entire Valley is being made by these firms and near one hundred of the most beautiful girls will compete in the event.

Third, another section is the Junior Review of little girls in bathing suits from three to eight years of age. Thirty-five or forty of these have already entered. A number of Spanish girls have entered the Spanish Review which is a special event of this program and international styles and costumes of many nations have been engaged which will be another event.

Mr. Satterwhite states that when the prizes have been worked out for the beauty contest they will amount to over \$20,000.00 as the first two prizes are a Chrysler roadster and a \$500.00 diamond ring. Announcement of the prizes for little tots will be \$200.00 in cash, \$50.00 first prize; five twenty-dollar gold pieces and next five prizes will be ten-dollar gold pieces, making a total of eleven prizes. Satterwhite states that the plans are being completed now for a mammoth parade starting at Mission in the morning of the 19th going by way of Edinburg and taking lunch at Harlingen and finishing the parade at Brownsville about 5 o'clock in the afternoon.

It is expected when the arrangements are complete there will be one hundred and fifty beautifully decorated cars and ten sections of music consisting of bands and orchestras on large decorated trucks. Many other notable events are developing every day.

Lifting Water Lowers Spirits

Lifting laundry water in and out of portable tubs makes each day the hardest of all in many rural homes. The latest publication of home laundering issued by the United States Department of Agriculture contains a hint for reducing this task to a minimum. Pipe the water to the tubs by means of a flexible rubber hose, if possible and by all means siphon off the waste water with a hose when ready to empty the tubs. To make such a siphon, fill a short length of the hose with water, close the ends and invert it, placing one end under the surface of the water and the other at a lower level. Open without removing the shorter end out of the water. A faucet soldered into the end of the wash boiler facilitates emptying it.

Cost of Cotton Raising in Texas Analyzed in Review of Contest Report of 1926

BY T. W. LELAND,
Head of Department of Accounting
and Statistics, Texas A. & M.
Colleges.

The analysis of the record of the contestants of the 1926 Dallas News Cotton Contest consists of the following:

Determination of gross income, determination of the cost of production and determination of the profits or the loss. A table showing these results is submitted with general statements of the methods used and a discussion of the significant facts revealed.

Gross income is obtained by calculating the value of the lint and seed. Value of the lint was determined by using the Dec. 1 New Orleans price for No. 5 or middling spot cotton. The price of seven-eighths-inch, middling cotton on this day was 12.18c. Premiums for staple and the quoted differences would have been used had the necessary data as to grades and bale weights in the contestant's record been available. Such data was not available in all cases, so the figure 12.18c was used throughout to make the analysis uniform. The gross income of the high producers as calculated in the gross income prize table published in 'The Dallas News' made due allowance for grade and staple paid by the cotton trader. The gross income of the balance of the contestants has been recalculated, using 12.18c per pound of lint in order to make all the incomes comparable.

The seed production was priced at \$20 a ton. The total value of the lint and seed were added to obtain the gross income figures in the table. The table lists the contestants in the order of lint yields. In almost every case the rank as to gross income is the same as that of lint production.

Of the 227 records showing lint production the range in yield was from 6,070 pounds to 265 pounds. The average yield of 227 records was 1,934 pounds of lint on the five acres or 387 pounds per acre. This yield compares very favorably with the average yield per acre for the United States, as reported, by the United States Department of Agriculture. In the cotton report of Nov. 14, 1926, the average yield per acre for Texas was estimated as 154 pounds, for the United States as 186.3 pounds. The average yield for the contestants is, therefore, over two and a half times the State average. F. H. Littleton's production is eight times the State figure. The contest indicates the possibilities of increased production per

acre through intensive cultivation and effective methods of production. It also emphasizes the necessity of fewer acres in cotton if these methods of cultivation are to be applied.

The gross income figures ranged from \$851.13 to \$37.59. The average was \$268.13, or \$52.63 per acre.

The cost of production analysis is divided into the following costs: Man labor, horse labor, seed, fertilizer, poisoning materials, machinery and overhead, rent, picking, ginning and marketing.

Man labor, horse labor and tractor hours were taken from the crop records. An hourly rate of 20c for man labor, 15c for horse labor and \$1 for tractor was used throughout the analysis. The average wage paid to hired labor without board in Texas this fall has been approximately \$2.20 ("Crop and Markets," October 1926, page 319). Assuming a farm work day as ten hours, a flat rate of 20c an hour seems to be a conservative figure. Rates for horse labor cost and tractor cost were based on a conservative analysis of State-wide farm records and bulletin material.

Fertilizer cost was divided into three parts: commercial fertilizer, manure and green crops. Data for commercial fertilizer costs were provided in the crop records. To determine the cost of manure a flat charge of \$1 per load was made. Although this is an arbitrary figure, it is preferable to the omission of all cost on this item. The cost of green crops was taken as one-half of the approximate cost of growing the crop and plowing it under.

The amount and cost of the poisoning material were given in the crop records. To obtain cost of machinery and overhead, a charge of 10 per cent of the operating costs (man labor, horse labor, seed, fertilizer and poisoning) was made. This item, although an approximation, is an attempt to include costs not given in the records, such as depreciation and repairs of machinery, insurance and other miscellaneous figure each operator is charged in accordance with the amount of operating costs. The use of this rate does not materially affect the rank of the contestants in costs of production and gives a more correct figure for costs than the omis-

sion of the item. It is recognized that this treatment of machinery and overcharges the users of considerable man labor and undercharges the user of considerable farm machinery. No methods of correcting this fault were available in the data given.

The rent data were given in this record. In cases where no rent figure was provided, a rental was calculated on the basis of the value of farm land alone as given by the governmental census records.

The cost of picking was obtained from the actual data given in the records. In case this item was lacking, \$1 a hundred for seed cotton was charged.

The cost of ginning was procured from the cost records. In the absence of this figure, 35c a hundred for seed cotton and \$1.75 for bagging and ties was charged.

The cost of marketing was limited to hauling to the local market, with proper allowance for waiting at the gin and the return trip. The costs per rifle were calculated as follows:

Horse Labor—
Two horses (or mules) at
15c per hour.....\$.30
Man Labor—
One man at 20c per hour... .20

Total cost per hour.....\$.50
Cost per mile (assuming a
traveling rate of 2 1/2
miles per hour)..... .20

If seven bales of picked cotton are hauled five miles to the gin or market, the cost would be:

Cost of hauling one load
to the gin or market
five miles at 20c per
mile.....\$1.00
Cost of waiting at gin..... .50
Cost of returning to farm
five miles at 20c per
mile..... .100

Total cost per bale of
picked cotton.....2.50
Total cost of seven bales
at \$2.50 per bale.....17.50

The cost by items and the resulting total costs, while not absolute, figures are very valuable for comparative purposes. Producers of cotton who know their own costs may compare them with those of the low cost producers. The differences revealed by such comparisons may be necessary variations, due to differences in soil, climate or some other similar factor. However, such comparisons should frequently enable producers to cut some items of costs to revise methods in order to lower costs, or to obtain a lower unit cost through a higher outlay for fertilizer, better seed or some similar item.

With the price of cotton at 12c, the cost problem is a difficult one. Lowering of costs is forced upon the cotton producer. He must reduce his costs below the market price if he is to secure a profit. The Dallas News contest shows the great possibilities that exist in this field. The cost records and the table prepared from these records afford valuable data to help in lowering costs. The News is to be congratulated for its services in obtaining this material.

The value of the data for comparative purposes is limited, however, by inaccuracies and incompleteness of records. Attention is called to the fact that in case any element of cost was not given and could not be estimated, the total cost of production was not calculated. This accounts for the occasional absence of figures in the table. Only 160 records were found with complete cost data. The total costs of production for these records range from 4.53c to 42.98c per pound of lint. Fifty per cent of the contestants with complete records produced their cotton for 11c a pound or less. Since the lint was all priced at 12.18c, over 50 per cent of the contestants with complete records show a profit.

The number of man labor hours and horse labor hours is included in the table to give better idea of the intensity of cultivating on these five-acre tracts. Man hours range from 8 to 132 hours per acre. Horse or mule hours range from 12 to 120 hours per acre. Taking the 160 complete records the average was 37 man labor hours and 48 horse or mule hours per acre.

The United States Department of Agriculture in bulletin No. 1,000 estimated the man hours prior to harvest as 31 hours in Ellis County and 49 in Rusk County. The horse or mule hours were estimated as 33 and 42 hours in these same counties. The five-acre tracts, therefore, according to the records submitted, received but little more than the acreage of Texas in man and horse hours.

The explanation of increased yields lies in methods or facts other than the mere application of additional hours of labor. A comparison of the yield and man and horse hours column shows but little relation. The yield column has been listed according to pounds of lint. The man and horse hours show no similar steady decline.

Other cost items, such as seed, fertilizer and rent, will be analyzed in detail later; 124 of the 160 complete records showed applications of fertilizers. The average cost was \$57.50. For those using fertilizer the most common figure of cost ranged from \$20 to \$50. The average rent paid was \$26.43.

Four methods were used in stating the net profit or loss; net profit or loss per acre, net profit or loss per pound of lint and income per dollar of outlay on the crop.

Net profit or loss per acre differed between gross income and the seed and lint and the cost of producing the seed and lint. A net profit results when the income is greater than the cost; a loss results when the cost is greater than the income. Net profit or loss per acre is the net profit or loss divided by five, the number of pounds of lint is obtained by dividing the net profit or loss by the number of pounds of lint produced.

Probably the most significant profit figure is that of profit or loss per dollar of outlay. The expenditure of any dollar on the crop, whether in the form of labor charge, land rental or other cost, ought to return the original dollar and a profit. If such a return is not produced the outlay of the dollar is unprofitable. However, it is not always advisable to make the expenditure of a dollar when a profit is secured. If the dollar can be spent elsewhere with a larger return, the expenditure for a smaller return may be said to be

unwise. These facts make the profit or loss figure expressed in terms of dollar of cost a very valuable figure for comparative purposes.

Calvin Littleton's dollar outlay in cost, which includes 20c for man labor hours and 15c for horse labor hours, brought a return of the original dollar and an additional \$1.32, or a total of \$2.32. H. C. Thornton, one of the highest producers, received only 95c in return for his cost outlay.

In general, the return moves downward with decreasing yields of lint, but there are many exceptions to this statement. These exceptions should be studied for reliability and completeness of cost data submitted. If the data are complete and correct, frequent cases will be found with a larger return per dollar than those shown by some of the sixteen high producers. However, the returns of F. H. Littleton, Calvin Littleton, R. T. McCauley, J. R. Smith, L. F. Mock, as expressed in terms of dollar of cost, can not be matched in any other records. The possibilities of low costs per pound and high returns per dollar of cost through high yields is clearly demonstrated in the returns submitted. It is also apparent that even on these five-acre tracts, cotton was produced at a loss by almost 50 per cent of the contestants. The average return on a dollar of cost as computed by the Dallas News was 1.097c, the lowest case showed a return of only 31c, or a failure to return costs of 69c on the dollar. This column of the table should be studied closely, for it is the most important figure in the analysis for measuring the return of the producers.

Longest Tunnel in United States Will Soon Be Completed

Tolland, Colo., Feb. 2.—When drills boring from each side of the Continental Divide near Tolland, meet in the center of James Peak within the next few weeks, consummation of one of the greatest feats of modern times will have taken place.

A force of 700 men is laboring daily to rush completion of the gigantic project, known as Moffat tunnel, this spring. When finished it will extend slightly more than six miles, making it the longest tunnel in the United States. Passing directly under one of the highest peaks in the continental divide, it will open up the long isolated Moffat country, a virgin territory larger than the State of New York, and will save approximately 12 hours from the route to Denver and Salt Lake City, on the opposite side of the Rocky Mountain range.

Unless more unforeseen difficulties arise, the tunnel will be ready for the first train to pass through it on July 1. At present, trains crossing the divide are forced to climb a winding mountain trail more than 30 miles long before they arrive at Corona, on top of the range, 11,666 feet above sea level. Trains passing through Corona, a town which consists merely of a telegraph operator's hut, entirely inclosed by a snow shed, move on the highest standard gauge railroad tracks in the world.

For several months in the year traffic is even stopped at times at a time because of heavy snowfalls on the right-of-way. The chief operating expense of the line, according to its annual report, is caused by the necessity for almost constant use of snow removal equipment.

When the Moffat tunnel is completed, all of these difficulties will be eliminated. Trains will travel on almost level ground until they come to the entrance of the tunnel. There they will start climbing a gentle grade straight through the continental divide and more than two miles below ground. When they get to the middle of the tunnel, the grade will change and they will gradually go downward and out into the open country beyond.

The tunnel is expected to cost \$10,000,000 before it is completed, is being financed by the counties it will serve. The railroad using the bore, in turn will repay the counties affected. The rental scale will be graduated to provide for the expected increased earning capacity of the route after the new route has been in use several years.

Almost insurmountable difficulties have been passed so far by engineers constructing the mammoth hole. Such obstacles as soft rock, requiring extensive and permanent timbering and underground rivers, which had to be pumped away, have faced the contractors almost constantly.

At one place, for instance, an unknown subterranean river was struck. It filled the tunnel as rapidly as the pumps could empty it. Finally it was noticed that Crater Lake, high up in the mountains, was becoming lower. Engineers dropped several tons of coloring matter into the lake. When they went down the tunnel they discovered that the water swirling through it was the same color as that in the lake above. The lake almost vanished before the contractors were able to stop its rushing flow through the tunnel.

Some idea of the stupendous size of the project may be gained from the latest construction figures. Seven hundred miles of holes have been drilled; 2,500,000 pounds of blasting powder used; 11,000,000 board feet of timber, corresponding to 2,000 miles of planes an inch thick and a foot wide, have been put in place; 800,000 pounds of drill steel have been consumed, and more than 2,000,000,000 tons of rock have been removed.

Song "Percy" Too Naughty to Go on Stage for Dallas

Dallas, Texas, Feb. 2.—The song "Percy" has been placed on the "too naughty" list with "Little Red Riding Hood" by the official censor of Dallas. Mrs. Ethel Boyce, censor, banished the song from Dallas theaters because she considered it reflects on young manhood. Several months ago a similar action was taken against the ditty, which asked "How Could Little Red Riding Hood?"

State Aid to Hasten Intra-Coastal Canal Completion Is Asked

Austin, Texas, Feb. 2.—Passage of a law to facilitate and expedite the construction of an enlarged intra-coastal canal connecting New Orleans and Corpus Christi is the object of a delegation from the Texas coast. It was headed by Roy Miller of Corpus Christi, active vice president of the Intra-Coastal Canal Association of Texas and Louisiana. Others in the delegation included County Judge E. R. Holman and Brantley Harris, attorney for the canal interests in Galveston.

The advice of Attorney General Claud Pollard was sought and he will collaborate in the preparation of a bill to meet constitutional requirements and at the same time accord the benefits desired. All of this is necessary to take advantage of the recent appropriation by congress of \$1,500,000 for the construction of an intra-coastal canal from New Orleans to Corpus Christi conditioned that the territory served donate the right-of-way for the canal.

Of the total appropriation \$2,000,000 becomes available as soon as the right-of-way is obtained for work between New Orleans and Galveston, the way to Corpus Christi. The government will not spend any of this amount until the citizens provide the right-of-way and every foot of it must have been deeded before construction can begin. That explains the desire for haste in the legislation.

Under former efforts, an intra-coastal canal was built from Galveston to Corpus Christi. Originally it was five feet deep and forty feet wide, but it has filled badly because of no dredging or other attention. The new specifications call for a channel 100 feet wide and nine feet deep. Once built it would be properly maintained by dredging when necessary.

Embryonic plans in the minds of those advocating legislation to aid the enlarged project call for a law that would empower county commissioners' courts to condemn land for canal purposes where the federal government has made no appropriations conditioned that it be given the right-of-way. The interested counties would thus pay for the land used in digging the canal and by using condemnation proceedings there would be no long delays, such as to require the finding of heirs and others necessary to conveyances of property under ordinary laws. The right of condemnation is desired at once so that condemnation can proceed and the \$2,000,000 can be available.

The canal would traverse Bolivar Peninsula opposite Galveston and thus give that port the benefits of the inside passage. Galveston stands ready to provide the right of way by condemnation or otherwise and is aiding in the movement for legislation to insure quick results elsewhere along the route so that work may no longer be delayed.

Fires Scouted from Air.
During the past fire season airplanes were used over the far western forests for patrol when the atmosphere was too dense for effective observation and for reconnaissance of large fires.

Millions of Dollars Are Saved to Ranchers by War on Rodent Pests Out West

Alpine, Tex., Feb. 2.—At a called meeting of the Brewster County Chamber of Commerce board of directors, called by Pres. Shirley Scales January 26, it was unanimously voted to urge Sen. Benjamin Franklin Berkeley of the 20th District to oppose vigorously the Senate bill requiring all fees for State institutions to be turned into the general treasury.

Also, the Brewster County Chamber of Commerce executive board passed a resolution endorsing the work the United States Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Biological Survey, and urged that the work be extended by said bureau, the last paragraph of the lengthy resolution reading as follows: "Be it further resolved, that the 40th Texas Legislature be requested to provide ample State co-operation with the Bureau of Biological Survey and the people of Texas in furthering this important relief work in Texas."

Savings of thousands of dollars have been effected in Brewster County alone, through co-operative work with the U. S. Biological Survey, in prairie dog, gopher and coyote control. This is particularly true in the extermination of prairie dogs, and the ranchmen of the Big Bend are keenly interested in seeing this valuable service extended. For this reason the members of the Brewster County Chamber of Commerce are particularly interested in seeing the passage of Senate Bill No. 123, by Sen. Ben. Franklin Berkeley, and Sens. Real and Woodward, co-authors.

From 1922 to 1926, the rodent control progress in Texas has been very pronounced. The following brief resume of the work was furnished by J. C. Whitehead, leader rodent control in charge, Texas division:

"Prairie Dogs: 2,600,000 acres treated—175 tons poisoned grain dispensed—cost of same to co-operators, \$44,832.50. Total expenditure by co-operators, \$155,921.79. Total savings to co-operators in operations cost, \$166,346.15. Number of co-operators, 3,850. Total savings effected for ranches and farmers in grass and crops, \$370,000.

Jack Rabbits: \$2,000,000 annual loss to farmers and ranchers. In spite of meager funds now available, 1,425 co-operators exposed 40,215 pounds of poisoned bait at a cost of \$3,841.20, killing 200,810 jack rabbits. Savings effected, \$173,650, to farmers and \$90,000 to ranchers.

"Barnswallows: 74,000 rabbits killed. Total cost to co-operators, \$403. Savings effected, \$85,000. Bounty cost of 5 cents per head would have been \$3,700, or at 7 cents per head, \$5,100 as against a total cost of \$403 for poison, labor and bait.

"Midland: 20,000 rabbits killed at Midland at a total cost of \$350. Savings effected, \$95,000 for cotton alone, (760 bales. Savings effected in) feedstuffs, \$42,000.

"35,000 rabbits were killed in drives in Runnels, Tom Green and

Concho counties in 1921. Savings effected, \$10,000.

"Pocket Gophers: Three-year gopher campaign started in El Paso Valley last winter to check annual losses there of around \$70,000; 20,000 acres poisoned and trapped at a cost of \$2,500 to El Paso Water Improvement Dist. No. 1, and El Paso County Commissioners' Court co-operating with the bureau. (Ten men, ten crews, placed in field under bureau supervision). Budgets for operating this winter and next, \$2,400 annually.

"Individual and community assistance rendered throughout gopher infested district, with savings of approximately \$125,000. McKeenize Nursery at Tyler, for example, \$300 worth of pecans destroyed by gophers. The gophers totally eliminated under bureau supervision at a cost of \$4.

"Red River County given demonstrations in gopher control in November, resulting in plans for a spring campaign there.

Rats: 300,000 rats killed in campaigns. Average rat will eat and destroy \$2 worth of food and property annually. Figure total savings conserved from loss column for yourself.

According to above authentic data and figures, the passage of Senate Bill No. 123 would mean the saving of not thousands but millions of dollars to farmers and ranchmen of Texas in a very short period. Such legislation would start a move for conservation in Texas, meaning more than probably any other single move.

Tact Used in Getting Rid of Flowers Given Tourists in Hawaiians

Honolulu, Feb. 2. — Steamship companies have solved the problem of disposing of the leis, or flower necklaces, given visitors to Hawaii upon arrival and departure.

Some tourists had been throwing them overboard as the ship left the wharf. Others loathe to part with the perfumed blossoms, had been keeping them until they withered, many miles out at sea.

The Hawaii Tourist Bureau learned from some "kanuainas,"—old timers—that the casting of a lei into the water as the ship departs signified a wish to return.

Upon the suggestion of the bureau, the steamship companies agreed to make a uniform practice of disposing of the leis as the vessels pass Waikiki Beach and eliminate littering the harbor with flowers.

Best Rice.

Boil rice in a large quantity of water until tender, then pour into a colander or sieve to drain, cover with a clean cloth and put it in a warm oven or over a vessel of hot water. As it steams each grain swells and becomes separate.

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