

Voice of the Foothill Country

# Motley Co. Tribune

\$1.00

98TH YEAR

THURSDAY, MAY 23, 1991

ISSUE NO. 21

## Motley County Centennial



Early Day Motley County Camp Meeting

### Mary Keith Is Matador's Oldest Living Resident



Mary Keith, 97 years old, a resident of Crosbyton Care Center

Oldest living resident of Matador, and possibly of the county, is Miss Mary Keith who still has her home here and whose parents, Mr. and Mrs. D.C. Keith was the first couple to marry (in December, 1891) after Motley County was organized in February of that year. Three years later their daughter, Mary, was born May 1, 1894, in a dugout south of Matador on her father's farm.

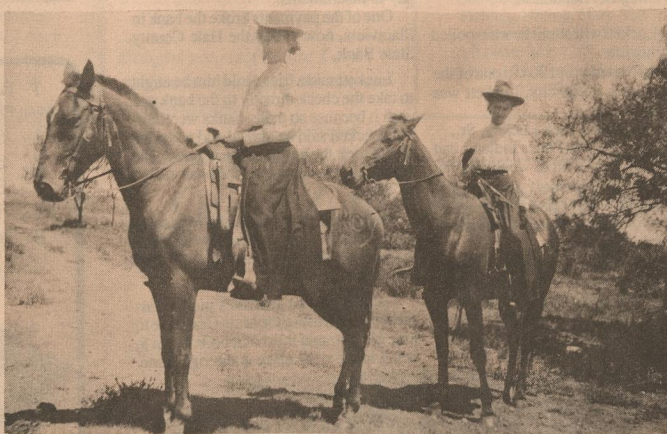
The early history of the county and its pioneer founders, events surrounding the Matador Ranch, and the organization of the town of Matador were well-known facts which Mary absorbed from her youth and information from her family. Her father worked for the Matadors for forty years, and her older sister, Sue, married a Matador cowboy, Bob Alley, and lived at the Mott Camp several years.

From these and other sources, Mary soon became recognized as a local authority on the "early days" when questions arose. She attended Matador schools,

riding horseback for many years with her sister. She attended C.I.A. (College of Industrial Arts, later renamed Texas Woman's University) in Denton where she and a girlhood friend, Allie Chalk Burleson studied Home Economics.

Mary lived in Matador all her life except a short period following World War I when she worked in Spur at the Sol Davis Drygoods Store. In 1940 she and her mother moved into Matador to a new native rock house. Until that time they had continued to live in their farm home south of town following Mr. Keith's death in 1933. Mrs. Keith died in her home here in 1943.

During the years Mary became active in the civic work of the community. She was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary when it was active, and was a longtime member of El Progreso Study club, and served as librarian of the organization's public lending library during the 1930s until the facility was dis-



Sue and Mary Keith, 1909. Sue was 16 and Mary was 15. Photo taken at Matador Ranch

solved. She worked in the school lunch room for several years, and later worked alert 97 and despite the fact that she cannot walk, she enjoys parlor games, watching television and visiting, and especially looks forward to receiving the

Miss Mary", as she eventually became known, has been living in the Crosbyton Care Center since October, 1986 due to health problems. She is an alert 97 and despite the fact that she cannot walk, she enjoys parlor games, watching television and visiting, and especially looks forward to receiving the

### Clarence Jinkins Is Motley County's Oldest Man

Clarence Jinkins, 95, remembers going to school at 4 years old. His dad, Pat Jinkins, was the first school teacher at the Clements School. Even though at age 4, he wasn't old enough to go to school, his mother thought it would be a good idea. He recalls that the walk was "a mile and a quarter, over a creek and through sand hills and grass".

Clarence and Gussie were married, December 14, 1918, in Gussie

Cartwright's home by Rev. Z.B. Pirtle. For their honeymoon, the couple rode to town with the Reverend and stopped to visit Jimmy Jameson and his new bride, then stayed with Clarence's parents. Their friends shivered them that night.

Clarence and Gussie celebrated their 71st wedding anniversary last December.

Gussie is 91 years old, one of Motley County's oldest and finest ladies.

### Centennial Celebration Here At Last!!

At last, the Motley County Centennial Celebration has arrived! Activities begin on Friday, May 24 with the Whiteflat Historical Marker at 2 p.m. An unveiling of the marker will take place in Whiteflat at the old post office site which has been spruced up for the occasion by volunteers led by Earlyne Jameson and Luther Green. A reception will be held in the Matador Methodist Church immediately following the short dedication service.

#### RENDEZVOUS

Buckskinners will set up camp in the City Park area as they arrive. The camps will be open for viewing and demonstrations will take place throughout the weekend. The mountain men and women will compete with black powder muzzle loaders target practice and tomahawk throws.

#### PARADE

On Saturday an early morning parade at 10 a.m. kicks off the day's activities. Those entering the parade should register at the Gazebo at 9 a.m. so that the announcer and the judges will have their names and then proceed north on Main Street to the gathering point at the Old Spears Gin yard. First prizes will be awarded in a myriad of categories.

#### BRING YOUR LAWN CHAIRS!

The program will begin at 11 a.m. at the courthouse square where Karla Leslie, TV co-anchor and feature reporter for Channel 11 News, will deliver a short address. The Motley County citizens who have lived here the longest will be recognized and county officials will pay tribute to those who have served in the courthouse positions since 1891. Recording artist Richard Campbell and daughter Jana Campbell will present a medley of patriotic songs for your listening pleasure.

At noon the Lions Clubs will

serve a barbeque luncheon at the American Legion building which will cost a nominal \$3 a plate.

Also at noon the branding party will begin, continuing until 2 p.m. with beef producers branding their brands on a display board at the rock house north of the courthouse.

#### ENTERTAINMENT

A variety of gospel and singing groups, country singers, and cowboy poets will entertain on the courthouse square beginning at 12:30 and continuing right up to the Fiddler's Contest.

Sr. Citizens games will include the Ugly Face Contest for adults and a horse pitch and broomstick race for the kids. Domino and card games will start and continue through the afternoon at the Sr. Citizens Center.

The Fireboys Water Polo challenge will take place around 5 p.m., if the volunteer fire department can restrain themselves that long! A Country Dance at the Fire Hall will begin at 9 p.m.

#### CAR SHOWS

Classic automobiles, and a few soon to be classics, will be displayed on the Matador Motor lot. Prizes in several different categories will be awarded at 3 p.m.

#### JAIL TOURS

The historic 1891 jail will be open for tours and Polaroid mug shots will be taken by request for a small donation.

#### CONCESSIONS

Arts and crafts, handmade and hand painted items, souvenirs, T-shirts, ceramics, books, notecards, various raffles, Centennial Coins and programs, posters, barbeque, hamburgers, funnel cakes, lemonade, iced tea, and cokes will be available west of the courthouse at the sidewalk booths.

Old Timey Photos will be available in the Stanley building,

continued on page 3



**Coca-Cola Dr. Pepper**  
3 LITER 12 PACK-12 OZ. CANS  
**\$1.99 \$3.39**




**Doritos**  
TORTILLA CHIPS  
REGULAR \$1.99  
**99¢**



**Kleenex**  
ASSTD. BATHROOM TISSUE  
4 ROLL PKG.  
**89¢**



**Folgers**  
ASSTD. GRINDS COFFEE  
13 OZ. BRICK BAG  
**\$1.99**



**Honey Boy Pink Salmon**  
15 OZ. CAN  
**\$1.89**



**Crisco**  
REGULAR OR BUTTER FLAVOR SHORTENING  
3 LB. CAN  
**\$1.99**



**Buns**  
TENDERCRUST HAMBURGER  
8 CT. PKG.  
**49¢**



**Buns**  
TENDERCRUST CONEY  
8 CT. PKG.  
**49¢**

**GROCERY SPECIALS**

 <b>JIF</b> SMIX-CRUNCHY PEANUT BUTTER 28 OZ. JAR <b>\$3.49</b>	 <b>SENECA</b> APPLE JUICE 48 OZ. BTL. <b>\$1.39</b>
 <b>HIDDEN VALLEY</b> ORIGINAL HIDDEN VALLEY RANCH DRESSING 24 OZ. BTL. <b>\$2.99</b>	 <b>FRUIT DRINKS</b> ASSTD. FRUIT DRINKS H-I-C 64 OZ. BTL. <b>\$1.79</b>
 <b>AUNT JEMIMA</b> REG/LITE/BTR. LITE SYRUP 12 OZ. BTL. <b>\$1.59</b>	 <b>ULTRA GAIN</b> YOUR CHOICE: REG/LITE/BTR. LITE 42 OZ. BOX <b>\$1.89</b>
 <b>COMET</b> LONG GRAIN RICE 28 OZ. BOX <b>99¢</b>	 <b>KAL-KAN</b> ASSORTED DOG FOOD 14 OZ. CANS <b>2 \$1</b>

**SCHOOL'S OUT**  
Kids are home for lunch

 <b>CAMPBELL'S</b> ASSORTED KID'S SOUPS 5 10% OZ. CANS <b>\$3</b>	 <b>CAMPBELL'S</b> ASSORTED NOODLE SOUPS 2 10% OZ. CANS <b>89¢</b>	 <b>CAMPBELL'S</b> HOME COOKIN' CHICKEN NOODLE SOUP 19 OZ. CAN <b>\$1.29</b>
 <b>CAMPBELL'S</b> RAMEN NOODLES 3 OZ. PKGS. <b>\$1</b>	 <b>CAMPBELL'S</b> BEEF/NE CLAM CHOWDER/CKN. NDLS/SIRLOIN BGR. CHUNKY SOUPS 10% OZ. CAN <b>69¢</b>	 <b>V8</b> REG/SPICY HOT/LOW SODIUM V-8 6 CT. PACK <b>\$1.59</b>
 <b>CAMPBELL'S</b> TOMATO JUICE 6 CT. PACK <b>\$1.29</b>	 <b>FRANCO AMERICAN</b> CIRCUSOS/SPAGHETTI/SPAGHETTOS OR TEDDYOS 14% TO 15% OZ. CANS <b>\$3</b>	 <b>FRANCO AMERICAN</b> ASSTD. MEAT PASTAS 14% OZ. CAN <b>89¢</b>

**SUPER SAVINGS**

 <b>CASCADE</b> REGULAR OR LEMON 50 OZ. BOX <b>\$1.99</b>	 <b>MOUNTAIN SPRING</b> ORIGINAL OR MOUNTAIN SPRING DAWN 22 OZ. BTL. <b>\$1.19</b>
 <b>DOWNY</b> REGULAR OR SUNRINSE FRESH 64 OZ. BTL. <b>\$2.49</b>	 <b>SHOUT</b> 50' OFF LABEL JOHNSON LIQUID SHOUT 32 OZ. BTL. <b>\$1.99</b>
 <b>GLADE</b> ASSORTED JOHNSON GLADE 7 OZ. CAN <b>89¢</b>	 <b>JOHNSON'S</b> ASSORTED JOHNSON PLUG-INS EACH <b>\$1.99</b>
 <b>JOHNSON'S</b> LEMON FAVOR 14 OZ. CAN <b>\$1.59</b>	 <b>JOHNSON'S</b> PLEDGE LEMON OIL 16 OZ. BTL. <b>\$2.39</b>

 <b>PET</b> PET REGULAR OR 99% FAT FREE EVAPORATED MILK 2 TALL CANS <b>99¢</b>	 <b>JELLO</b> JELL-O NO BAKE MIX STRWBERRY/CHERRY CHEESE CAKE 21 OZ. BOX <b>\$1.99</b>
 <b>DREAM WHIP</b> DREAM WHIP TOPPING 5.6 OZ. BOX <b>\$1.89</b>	 <b>A-1</b> LARGE SIZE STEAK SAUCE A-1 10 OZ. BTL. <b>\$2.49</b>
 <b>SCRATCH</b> SULFODENE SCRATCHEX SCRATCHEX 11 MONTH FLEA COLLAR REG. \$4.49 <b>\$2.49</b>	 <b>PURINA</b> DOG CHOW 40 LB. BAG <b>\$12.99</b>
 <b>REYNOLDS</b> HEAVY DUTY FOIL <b>\$1.39</b>	 <b>EL MONTE</b> PEET PICKLE RELISH 12 OZ. JAR <b>\$1.19</b>
 <b>DODGE</b> 9 INCH COUNTRY DUTCH PLATES 48 CT. PKG. <b>\$1.79</b>	 <b>DODGE</b> 7 OZ. COUNTRY DUTCH CUP OR GOLD CUP 50 TO 80 CT. PKG. <b>\$1.89</b>

**FAMILY PACK HEAVY GRAIN FED BEEF**  
**Boneless Top Sirloin Steak**  
LB. **\$2.89**

**SINGLE PACK**  
LB. **\$2.99**

**FAMILY PACK FRYER BREASTS**  
LB. **\$1.29**

<b>HEAVY GRAIN FED BEEF T-BONE STEAK</b> LB. <b>\$3.99</b>	<b>CLAMON DELUXE (WITH T.V.P.) GROUND BEEF PATTIES</b> 3 LB. BOX <b>\$4.29</b>
<b>GUARANTEED 81% LEAN-FRESH FAMILY PACKA GROUND CHUCK</b> LB. <b>\$1.89</b>	<b>OSCAR MAYER MEAT BOLOGNA</b> 8 OZ. PKG. <b>\$1.29</b>

**FRESH PIZZA** 50¢ OFF ON ANY 12" FRESH MADE IN STORE PIZZA PURCHASE  
LIMIT ONE COUPON PER FAMILY GOOD ONLY AT PAY-N-SAVE MAY 26-JUNE 1, 1991

**Field Trial**  
BEEF OR CHICKEN DOG FOOD **3 \$1**  
14 OZ. CANS

**Field Trial**  
ASSORTED CAT FOOD **2 79¢**  
13% OZ. CANS

**ROYAL OAK** 40' OFF LABEL REGIMES/QUITE CHARCOAL **\$2.79**  
10 LB. BAG


**DOLE ASSTD. IN JUICE PINEAPPLE** **79¢**  
20 OZ. CAN

**FROZEN FOOD & DAIRY**

 <b>MRS. PAUL'S</b> CRISPY CRUNCHY FISH FILLETS OR FISH STICKS 13.6 OZ. BOX <b>\$2.29</b>	 <b>PET RITZ</b> APPLE/PCH/CHRY COBBLERS 26 OZ. BOX <b>\$1.99</b>
 <b>BANQUET</b> STHRN. FRIED/HOT-SPCY/GLC-HERB FRIED CHICKEN 28 OZ. BOX <b>\$2.89</b>	 <b>CITRUS HILL</b> CHILLED ASSTD./PLUS CALC. ORANGE JUICE 64 OZ. <b>\$1.49</b>

**CITRUS HILL ASSORTED FROZEN ORANGE JUICE** 12 OZ. CAN **\$1.19**

**FRESH GREEN Cabbage**  
LB. **19¢**



**RUBY RED GRAPEFRUIT**  
4 FOR **\$1**



**PRODUCE SPECIALS**

<b>FRESH CRISP CARROTS</b> 3 1 LB. BAGS <b>\$1.00</b>	<b>HASS AVOCADOS</b> 3 FOR <b>\$1.00</b>
<b>NEW CROP CALIFORNIA LONG POTATOES</b> 3 LBS. <b>\$1.00</b>	

**ASSORTED "PLUS" SHAMPOO WHITE RAIN** 11 OZ. BTL. **99¢**

**ASSORTED ROLAIDS** 75 CT. BTL. **\$1.99**

**ASSSTD. WIDE SOLID OR ROLL ON SECRET** 1.7 OZ. SIZE **\$1.99**

**ASSORTED MOUTHWASH SCOPE** 12 OZ. BTL. **\$2.39**



WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES

PRICES EFFECTIVE MONDAY - SATURDAY, MAY 27-JUNE 1  
**DOUBLE COUPONS ON MONDAY AND WEDNESDAY**  
Every Monday and Wednesday your manufacturers "cents off" coupons are worth double at Pay-N-Save No. 21. Limit one coupon for any particular item. No cigarette coupons. Offer limited to manufacturers coupons of \$1.00 value or less. Coupons over \$1.00 will be redeemed at face value. Amount cannot exceed retail of the item. Subject to certain In-Store Policies concerning coupons. Not doubled on advertised specials.

**Money Orders Safeguard**  
Available At Our Service Counter.

# MOTLEY COUNTY CENTENNIAL



DR. J.W. MOTTLEY

*Motley County was originally created from Bexar District in 1876, the county was officially organized in 1891 and named for Dr. J.W. Mottley, a signer of the Texas Declaration of Independence; although an error in the law altered the name's original spelling, Motley County has gone on to become one of the Panhandle's finest and most respected regions.*

## 1891 - 1991

# Early Public Education Of Motley County



Roaring Springs School. This building burned in 1944. (photo courtesy of Carla Jones)

by Beverly Vinson  
*Educational Roots Grow Deep*

Public education was a major goal of early Texas settlers. President Mirabeau Lamar, in his message to the Congress of the Republic of Texas in 1838, advocated setting aside public domain for public schools, saying, "The cultivated mind is the guardian genius of democracy and, while guided and controlled by virtue, is the noblest attribute of man."

In 1839 each county was given three leagues of land to support public schools and fifty leagues for a state university. Then in 1840 each county was given another league. With delay after delay, it wasn't until Governor Elisha M. Pease, on January 31, 1854, signed a bill that the Texas Public School System was established.

When adopted in 1876 the present Texas Constitution provided "all funds, lands and other property heretofore set apart and appropriated for support of public schools, all the alternate sections of land reserved by the state of grants heretofore made or that may hereafter be made to railroads or other corporations, of any nature whatsoever; one-half of the public domain of the state and all the sums of money that may come to the state from the sale of any portion of the same shall constitute a perpetual public school fund."

Over fifty million acres of the Texas public domain were allotted for school purposes.

On April 15, 1891, four leagues of school land were awarded Motley County. These were situated in Bailey county listed as #176, #177, #178, and #179 amounting to 17,772 acres drawing 2¢ per acre from J.S. and D.W. Snyder of Georgetown, Texas.

At the Commissioners court meeting in March, 1891, the court order #9 contracted a B.F. Powell to locate the Motley County school land in Bailey County for 2¢ per acre. In 1909 the Commissioners court sold that land for \$124,250.50 to G.T. Oliver of Amarillo. This money was placed in the permanent school fund as ordered by the state. This fund has been invested in road, school and county bonds at various times. Five and one-half percent interest received on this fund goes to the available fund for teachers' salaries.

From the Commissioners Court Book #1, page 24, order #51: Thursday, May 28, 1891 -- ordered by Commissioners court that the county clerk be instructed to forward Motley County school land patents to Hale County for record.

The May 4, 1891, Commissioners court order #19 stated that scholastic

districts be and here divided into two districts, #1 and #2 in District #1 and #3 and #4 in District #2. On May 13, 1891, the Commissioners court set 20¢ on each \$100.00 valuation in school district #1 and #2.

The Western side of the county of Scholastic District #1 comprising Common school district #1 and #2 included Whiteflat (1890), White Star (1891), Matador (1891), Dutchman (1890), and Quitaque (1893). The Eastern side of the county or Scholastic District #2 with the Common School district #3 and #4 included Ballard (1892), Clements (1893), and TeePee City (1894). It might be interesting to note the settling of the towns according to age: TeePee City, 1874; Matador, 1887, but not organized until 1891 when the county was organized; Whiteflat, 1890, when the post office was granted; Flomot (Gilpin, South Quitaque), 1906; and Roaring Springs, 1913.

## School Districts Of Motley County

by Beverly Vinson  
*Educational Roots Grow Deep*

The official business of the county schools was handled by the County Commissioners Court until the organization of the county board in 1911. As recorded in the minutes, the state law required that a member of the county board of education be elected from each commissioner's district and one from the county at large. In accordance with this law, Carroll Thompson was elected from the Commissioner's District Number One, with J.M. Parsons from District Two, J.B. Foster from District Number Three, T.N. Dodson from District Four, and W.A. Graham from the county at large. Carroll Thompson, superintendent of the Matador School, was elected president of the first meeting in September, 1911. In later years a school in Lubbock was named for him as he was quite a distinguished educator. The chief duties of the board were to classify the schools, add to or take away any territory of the various districts, approve transfers and, in later years, supervise and approve bus routes.

One of the first duties of the county board was to adopt the state course of study and see that it was put into effect. The curriculum of the early schools depended a great deal on the qualifications of the teachers and previous education of the students. Textbooks were scarce and classroom materials, such as, provided today were unheard of. Reading, writing, arithmetic, spelling and geography were taught in practically all schools.

After reading through the minutes of the county board of trustees minute book, it seems that they met quarterly unless some important business arose for which a called meeting was held.

The county did away with the County Trustees when an act by the state legislature passed a law that a county that had no Common School District did not need to have the County Trustees. In Motley County, that was when Forrest Campbell became County Judge, seven or eight years ago.

After Motley County was first divided into two district with several schools in each district, it wasn't long before individual schools wanted to separate and form their own districts. To do this they had to appear before the Commissioners Court and give reasons for their wishes. The reasons were usually so they could vote their own tax and run the business of their school as the citizens of the district desired.

A Common School District is a district governed by three trustees, elected by the voters of the district, and the County Superintendent. An Independent School District is a district governed by seven trustees elected by the voters of the district. A rural High school District is a district resulting from consolidation and operates as a common school district except that it elects seven trustees instead of three.

The first to be created out of the original two districts was White Star, located in the western section of the county. On June 19, 1892, this was done, and it became District #1. On July 15, 1892, the court created District #2 comprising the territory served by the Ballard School. This district is known as Fairview. District Number 3 was created on August 18, 1892, and was the territory served by Dutchman School. The South Quitaque School was formed into District Number 4 on Feb. 13, 1893. Number 5 was created on July 17, 1893, from the Union Corner community. This district was soon joined to the county-line district of Dumont which includes territory in Motley, Dickens, and Cottle counties.

After the creation of District #5, there was a lull in the creation of new districts until 1898. On January 10, 1898, the Matador School territory was made into School District #6. On February 16, 1899, Whiteflat territory was formed into District #7 and in 1906 the Barton School was organized and a new scholastic district created. It was made District #4 since South Quitaque School had been moved and was known as District #8. South Quitaque was made from territory around Flomot. Northfield district was created

Number 9 on July 28, 1906. It was a new school and established to serve the people of the northeastern part of the county who had no school until this time.

With the formation of the town of Roaring Springs in June 1913, the Dutchman School was moved to the town and organized into District #10. The Lambert School was formed in 1914 and designated #11 on June 22, 1914. One month later Folley School was organized and made into District #12. On August 6, 1917, the County Board of Education divided the Tongue River District which had been without a school into two parts and designated the eastern half as District #5 or Darden Canyon District. The western half of the territory was designated as Flag Springs District or District #3. The Bird District was created by the County Board on April 8, 1919, and was designated as District #13. It was created from territory formerly belonging to Dumont and Darden Canyon. The final district to be created was the Montgomery District known as District #14, being created May 6, 1919. On June 22, 1929, a small part of the Lambert District was joined to the Bridle Bit District of Hall County giving the county two county-line districts (1939).

During 1925 four of the county districts were made into independent districts by the State Legislature - Matador, Flomot, Roaring Springs and Whiteflat.

In 1928, a building wave struck the county and as a result some of the districts had rather large debts. Modern buildings started to be constructed as early as 1920. In the summer of that year Matador constructed a modern two-story brick building. In 1930 a modern grade school and gymnasium were built. The older building was made into a senior high school

building. Roaring Springs erected a modern brick building in 1921 followed by a modern high school with gymnasium in 1935. In 1922 Flomot built a modern two-story brick building. In 1936 a large modern gymnasium was added. Whiteflat erected a two-story brick building in 1925 and in 1937 voted bonds to erect a new grade school and gym. However, this was never started. In 1926 Folley voted bonds and constructed a modern stucco building. Fairview voted bonds in 1929 and a modern brick building was constructed. In 1939 the Barton District constructed a four-room brick building with a concrete storm cellar. Northfield District erected a modern frame building in 1917; in 1934 they voted extra bonds and built a modern brick school building and gym combined.

Flag Springs, Darden Canyon, Folley, Lambert and White Star districts all had frame buildings of two, three and four rooms. The Bird School had a one-room frame that was erected when the school was organized in 1919. Montgomery had no building, and the county-line districts had modern brick structures.

The population of Motley County in 1891 was 139 and of this number 63 were enrolled in school sometime during the year. In 1929 enrollment reached an all-time high of 1821. In 1931 it was 1703; in 1933 it dropped to 1628; in 1939 it was 1371.

The districts of Motley County had consistently refused to consolidate with other district and especially with the independent district. One reason for this was that the independent districts had more room in their schools that they could use. This was due in part to the decrease in

enrollment. The schools usually accepted any transfer for the state apportionment due on the student. The first district to transfer was Barton in 1935 when the entire student body went to Matador. They had to furnish their own transportation, and Matador was to receive the state apportionment. In 1936 Montgomery and Folley districts were transferred to Turkey with the same type contract. White Star transferred their students to Whiteflat in 1937 with White Star furnishing transportation for all students to Whiteflat. Whiteflat was to transport the tenth and eleventh grades to Matador. The Fairview school decided to do the same thing a few weeks later under the same contract. The main reason for these high school transfers was to give the high school students an opportunity to graduate from a fully accredited high school and enable them to enter college without having to take entrance exams.

The transfer record for the school year of 1939-40 was: White Star school will go to Flomot. Barton will send its students to Matador as it has done for the last three years. Folley transferred to Flomot and Montgomery would go to Turkey. Darden Canyon and Flag Springs signed a three year contract to transfer their students to Roaring Springs, and Roaring Springs is to receive their tax money and the state money as to provide free transportation for each district.

In September 1941 a twelve-year system was adopted with the additional year added at the Primary level.

It might be of interest to some that on September 10, 1936, there were 1556 scholastics as the schools started in the nine common and four independent school districts. There was generous state aid with that many scholastics; and \$4,822.23 alone was allotted for transportation.

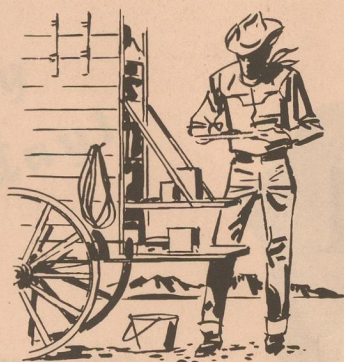


Whiteflat School, about 1913 or 1914. (photo courtesy of Connie McWilliams)



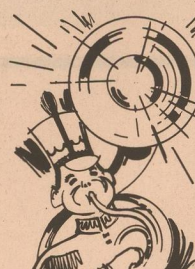
Flomot School (photo courtesy of Viola Calvert)

Happy Birthday Motley County



Kountry Kitchen Cafe

Happy 100th Birthday  
Motley County



Higginbotham-Bartlett

## Whiteflat Baptist Church



Whiteflat Baptist Church, 1924  
(photo courtesy of Stuart Dixon)

On February 21, 1891, just two weeks after the official organization of Motley County a group of early settlers to the county met at Whiteflat to organize the Whiteflat Baptist Church. It was the first church of any other type of organization in the new county.

Bro. J.C. Powers acted as moderator and R.E. Lee was secretary. Charter members were Mr. and Mrs. A.B. Newman and Lizzie, Mr. and Mrs. W.E. Powers, Mr. and Mrs. J.W. Lee, M.J. Lee, Mr. and Mrs. R.E. Lee and Bro. Powers.

Several others joined through the next year including A.B. Echols and Mr. and Mrs. W.H. Rattan.

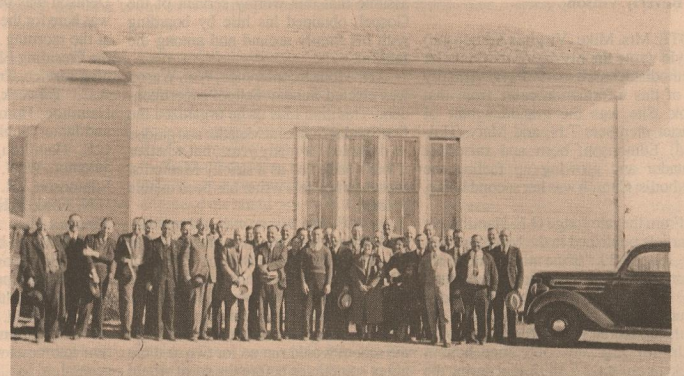
The Whiteflat Church oversaw and supported the organization of the First Baptist Church of Matador in May of 1893 and for several years shared pastors, with alternating Sunday Preaching services. The Whiteflat Church also had a part in the beginnings of other area churches and was instrumental in organizing the first association in the area. Many pioneer names are on the rolls

of the Whiteflat Baptist Church as they and the other denominations through the years saw the need for spiritual strength given by Christians joining together to worship God.

Time and circumstances brought about a shifting of the population and in November of 1963 the church was forced to disband, uniting with the First Baptist Church in Matador to continue in their parents and grandparents spiritual footsteps.



Old steepled Baptist Church in Matador, 1935-36 (photo courtesy of Glenn Woodruff)



Matador Baptist Church, 1935-36, and Lions Club members. (photo courtesy of Glenn Woodruff)

## Descendant of First Motley County Clerk Still Makes Her Home In Matador



Hazel Walton

by Lila Meador

When descendants of the first elected officials of Motley County are recognized May 25 during the opening celebration of the centennial year, the list will include Hazel Walton Donovan, a direct descendant of the county's first County Clerk. Her father, Walton A. Walton was appointed to the office when the county was organized Feb. 5, 1891, and was re-elected to office in subsequent years. He served for 20 years, and was still in office when he died June 17, 1911.

Hazel was born in Matador, the younger daughter of Mr. Walton and his wife, the former Carolyn Virginia Cribbs, and although a small girl when her father

died, she remembers him well and his devotion to his family.

When asked where she was born, Hazel is quick to answer, adding, "Matador has been my home all my life." There was a sojourn of several months in Corpus Christi, where her mother was considering moving when Hazel was in the seventh grade. "I cried every day we were there," she says. "Mama finally gave up and we came back home."

She remembers that she has lived on Main Street in south Matador, all her life. The family home was first located in the middle of the street, about even with the present Bill Durham home. It was later sold and moved farther south to the east side of the street, and is now owned by R.C. Giesecke. In the meanwhile Mrs.

Walton had married Dr. E.W. McKenzie and they built the home at the end of the street which the Dan Brandons now own. After Hazel and R.E. Donovan married in June of 1929, they built the home where she still lives - on the west side of Main, south.

During the years Hazel has been active in civic, community, school and church affairs. She is co-executor of the Willie ranches, an estate left by her late sister, Virginia Walton Willie. She has been secretary of the Ex-Students and Ex-Teachers Association since 1954 and was twice chosen as Homecoming Queen. She is also secretary of East Mound Cemetery Association and reporter for the Women's Golf Association of Springs Ranch. She reports its activities in a newspaper column, "In The Rough." She assisted in fund drives for the Red Cross and other community projects for many years, and was substitute teacher in the local school system for a number of years. During the years her daughter, Rose Carolyn (Mrs. Carl) Pierce was growing up, her interests centered on youth activities. She is a member of the First United Methodist Church and an adult Sunday School class.

In addition to her other involvements, Hazel serves as election judge for general or special elections, and helps with general, county and school elections. Her favorite pastime is playing bridge and participating in golf schedules. She also knits and does other needlework.

The Matador Ex-Students and Teachers Association dedicated its 1973 Homecoming program to her, and the Matador Tribune noted: "To be involved is to be a friend, which is to say that Hazel Donovan is a friend to, as well as a part of the community."



This house built in 1926 by Dr. and Mrs. E.W. McKenzie at the end of Main Street to replace the former home - the W.A. Walton home - which had been in the middle of the street and is now the R.C. Giesecke home. In a few years the McKenzie's added on to their home on the east side - to become his dental office. This house is now the Dan Brandon home.

(Photo courtesy of Hazel Donovan)

# Congratulations Motley County



Early Day Matador Cowboys

Over 100 Years of Ranching History

## Matador Cattle Company

A division of Koch Oil Industry



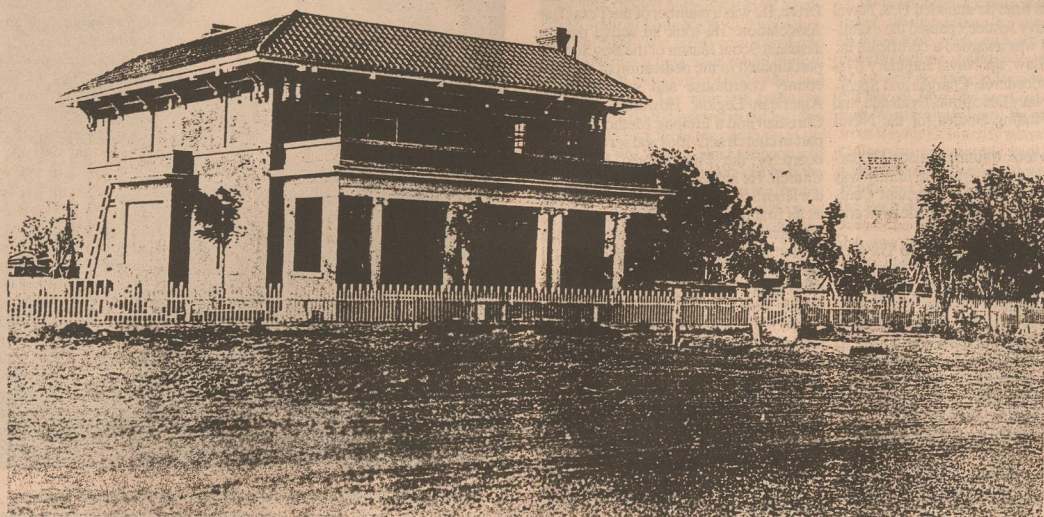
The home of the Walter Waltons, built in 1900. Lumber was hauled from Childress. It was located in the middle of the street, from Steve Burns home. It was moved in 1926 and now is the home of R.C. Giesecke.

(photo courtesy of Hazel Donovan)



# Traweek House Receives Recorded Historic Landmark Subject Market and Listing on National Register of Historic Places

# Architecture of Traweek House



TRAWEEK HOUSE, Matador, Texas 1916. Photograph made in the summer of 1916, shortly after completion of the house. It is unoccupied.

by Mrs. Howard Traweek

In May 1964, Traweek House, the home built in Matador in 1916 by Dr. and Mrs. Albert Carroll Traweek Sr., received the distinction of receiving an official Texas Historic Medallion. Mrs. W.N. Pipkin, at that time chairman of Motley County Historical Commission, and Motley County Judge Elbert Reeves were instrumental in securing the medallion.

In 1990 and again in 1991, Traweek House was awarded two additional honors. It has received Recorded Texas Historic Landmark status and a Subject Marker from the Austin based Texas Historical Commission, and has been approved by the Texas State Board of Review of the same commission to be placed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Texas Historical Commission administers the federal register project in Texas.

The National Register is a program of the Department of the Interior that recognizes properties significant in American history, architecture and archeology. Traweek House was eligible for these historic honors through its association with Dr. Albert Carroll Traweek Sr., early day physician of Motley County; and for its unique and well crafted architecture. The Recorded Texas Historic Subject Marker reads as follows:

### TRAWEEK HOUSE

Dr. Albert Carroll Traweek Sr. (1875-1959) and his wife Allie (Rainey) (1881-1963) came to Matador from Fort Worth soon after their marriage in 1897. Dr. Traweek began his medical practice, and the couple bought a small frame house. They eventually were the parents of six children. A prominent and respected physician, Dr. Traweek first traveled on horseback or by horse and buggy to visit his patients. He was known as the "pneumonia doctor" because of his success in treating people with that illness. He

established a hospital and was the county's first public health officer.

In 1915 after a previous dwelling on this site was destroyed by fire, construction began on this house. Designed by Dr. Traweek's uncle, noted west Texas builder, Charles Stephens Oates, the house was completed in 1916 at a cost of \$14,000. The two story stuccoed masonry structure reflects a combination of architectural styles, exhibiting Italian Renaissance, Prairie, and Classical Revival detailing.

Among those who visited the Traweek Home were Baldwin Parker (son of Quannah Parker, last chief of the Comanche Indians) and many state and national officials. The home which has remained in the Traweek family, received an official historical medallion in 1964 and is a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark. 1990

An additional plaque, placed on the back of the marker reads:

Traweek children:  
A.C. Jr. M.D.  
Mary, D.D.S.  
Lucile  
John  
Allie  
Howard, L.L.B., J.D.

Youngest son, Howard Traweek, County Attorney of Motley County for fifty (50) years, and his wife, Eleanor (Mitchell) Traweek were the last of the immediate family to live in Traweek House.

The bronze National Register of Historic Places plaque has the following inscription:

TRAWEEK HOUSE  
HAS BEEN LISTED IN THE  
NATIONAL REGISTER  
OF HISTORIC PLACES  
BY THE UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE  
INTERIOR  
1991

Dedication, officiated by Dr. David R. Murrah, will be held at Traweek House at the site of the markers at 2 p.m., Saturday, May 25, followed by a reception at Motley County Library. A cordial invitation is extended to those who would like to attend.

The Traweek family would like to express appreciation to those who have worked in conjunction with them to meet criteria requirements at the local, state and national levels: Marisue Potts, Chairman of the Motley County Historical Commission; Norman Harp, architect, former Matador resident, now of Santa Fe, New Mexico; Frances Rickard, Director of the State Marker Program Texas Historical Commission; Cynthia Jo Beeman, Historian of the State Marker Program Texas Historical Commission; Amy

E. Dase, Historian of the National Register Program Texas Historical Commission; James W. Steely, State Historic Preservation Officer, Texas Historical Commission; Ann Perry, Secretary State

Marker Program Texas Historical Commission; Marlene Casarez of Marker Application, National Register Division, Texas Historical Commission; Dr. David R. Murrah, Executive Director of Southwest Collection Texas Tech University, and member of the Texas State Board of Review for the National Register Program; other members of the Texas State Board of Review; and Keeper of the National Register, Washington, D.C.

Much appreciation is extended to Billy Osborn, Leslie Lester and Tim Adams for setting the markers.

by Eleanor Traweek

be sufficient.

Constructed on the site of a frame residence which was burned to the ground in 1915 when the two youngest Traweek children built a campfire in the attic, the present Traweek house consisting of 10 room and a partial basement, was completed in 1916. It was designed to be as fireproof as possible. The house is built almost entirely of masonry, with walls which are 14 inches thick and composed of plaster, interlocking tile, brick and stucco. It measures 38 feet, 4 inches wide across the front and is 46 feet 2 inches deep. The first and 2nd floors contain 3,445 square feet. This does not include basement measurements. Two stories in height, Traweek is topped by a shallow red tile hip roof with a flat rooftop which supports 2 interior chimneys.

Traweek House was planned and constructed by Charles Stephens Oates, veteran west Texas building contractor of Abilene, Texas and at one time president of the Abilene chapter of Associated Contractors of America. Mr. Oates, the maternal uncle of Dr. Albert Carroll Traweek Sr., can be credited with the foresight to include ideas in his plans which were innovative for a house of this vintage and area. An example, unusually large closets were built in each bedroom, Uncle Charlie's insistence about including this feature prevailed over Dr. Traweek's protests that wardrobes would

Distinctive features of the house include the six circular white wooden columns which support the balcony above; the original wooden beaded ceiling on the lower porch; vertical leaded glass panels of clear, green and gold stained glass flanking the beveled glass front door; bookcases enclosed by double leaded glass doors; and tiger stripe oak woodwork. An original leaded, stained and jeweled glass window measures 2 feet, 4 inches by 3 feet 2 inches and is of the "Royal Crown" motif, a pattern that combines diamond, floral and rectangular patterns in gold, ivory, crimson and emerald. The house contains 3 interior stairways and 3 coal burning fireplaces.

Two clothes chutes, one installed in the wide hall upstairs, the other in the downstairs hall lead to the laundry in the basement. They were considered time and step saving devices in an early day.

The upstairs bath contains the original tub which is 5 feet, 5 inches in length. It was installed a few years after the house was built.

The importance of Dr. Traweek as an early day doctor in Motley County is reflected in his home. Traweek House has come to be regarded as a symbol of the pioneer doctor who, dedicated to his calling, won the confidence and the love of the pioneers he served. Well preserved Traweek House has always been loved by the Traweek family.



Mary and Albert Traweek, about 1904 or 1905.

(Photo courtesy of Eleanor Traweek)

## Crossing Red River

by Naomi Tilson

W.R. Tilson, who was one of the early settlers of Motley County, was a ranch hand for the Matadors, a large ranch. They often drove their cattle to market having to cross the Red River, which was very deep and very dangerous with quicksand.

The Indians often camped along the River, often killing off some of the cattle. Mr. Tilson was riding herds and stopped to talk to an Indian woman who was cooking something in a pot. She asked him if he would like some and as he was dipping out of the pot, the woman said, "Dip Deep, Pup in the Bottom". Mr. Tilson went right on and ate.

# Congratulations Motley County



THACKER JEWELRY EMPLOYEES

Here's to another great 100 years!



Happy 100th Birthday Motley County



Oden Chevrolet

Floydada, Texas

## Howard Traweck, Motley County Attorney 1938-1988



Sons of Dr. and Mrs. Albert Carroll Traweck Sr., accept Texas Historic Medallion at the Dedication of Traweck House as a Texas Historic Medallion Home, Matador, Texas May 28, 1964. From left to right: Howard Traweck, County Attorney of Motley County; and Albert C. Traweck, Jr., M.D.

(Howard Traweck collection)

by Eleanor Traweck

Howard Traweck, County Attorney of Motley County for fifty years, was born in Matador, Texas on July 5, 1912. It was his legal residence for his entire life. Motley County was the only home he ever knew. He loved it and was totally familiar with it.

He was the sixth child of pioneer physician, Dr. Albert Carroll Traweck Sr., and his wife, Allie (Rainey). Both of his parents were native Texans.

From the time Howard was 10 years old he knew that when he grew up he wanted to be a lawyer. Judge G.E. Hamilton was practicing law in Matador at that time. The judge was always Howard's friend, and the little boy spent many hours in his law offices talking with him, asking him questions, and gleaning bits of legal information. Later, Howard's avid interest in debate and his elective courses in high school and college were entered into with a singleness of purpose: to become an attorney.

When he graduated from Matador High School in 1930 the entire country was in the throes of a severe depression. There was no money to go to college. Howard looked for work all that summer and finally found it. It is to his credit that he took a job as a manual laborer on the road gang building the highway from Matador to Paducah, and working on the bridge east of town. Men with families to support were standing in line waiting for somebody to quit or to get fired, and Howard said he felt lucky to get hired at 35¢ an hour working 10 hours a day. He remembered bogging halfway to his knees in the river bed when he carried cement to build the bridge.

At this time his oldest brother, Dr. Albert Traweck Jr., was in the Navy in San Diego, and in the fall of 1931, Howard went out to stay with him, and with Albert's wife and baby son, to go to school at San Diego State College. He went out for Freshman football and won some medals in Freshman track. The next year he entered Texas Technological College, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in government on August 28, 1936. He was accepted in law school at the University of Texas in Austin and graduated with a Bachelor of Laws on August 29, 1938. He later received a Doctor of Jurisprudence Degree.

Howard came back to his old home town to practice law, working in connection with the county attorney at that time, C.B. Whitten. On November 1, 1938, Mr. Whitten died suddenly following an emergency operation for acute appendicitis. The local weekly newspaper, The Matador Tribune, which came out 2 days later, stated that it was authorized to announce the name of Howard Traweck as candidate for the office of County Attorney of Motley County, subject to the

general election to be held Tuesday, November 8, 1938. The paper reported that:

"In making his announcement Mr. Traweck declared that he regretted the necessity of offering himself as a candidate so soon after Mr. Whitten's death, but since the election is next Tuesday, he has no other opportunity to seek the consideration of the voters."

Howard's name did not appear on the general election ballot since Mr. Whitten was the Democratic nominee for the office. He was a write-in candidate.

An article in The Matador Tribune stated:

"...Howard Traweck, write-in candidate for the office of county attorney after the death of Democratic Nominee C.B. Whitten on November 1 was almost the unanimous choice of voters. He received 313 of the 414 votes accounted for late yesterday, while boxes from Flomot and Folley are yet to be reported. It was believed by some observers that Mr. Traweck would have received an even larger vote had he had time to make his candidacy more generally known."

After the attack on Pearl Harbor, Howard volunteered in the United States Navy and entered service as an Apprentice Seaman. He was sent to the U.S. Navy Training Station in San Diego, California. At the end of Boot Camp, because he had a law degree, he was appointed Yeoman 3rd Class to keep records for the company. He was assigned to duty as an assistant in the Provost Marshall's office; passed the exam for Yeoman 2nd class; and applied for a commission.

On October 1, 1942 he was appointed Lieutenant Junior Grade. He completed a course of instruction at the Naval Training School at Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey and another at the Naval Training School at Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, in recognition. He was then stationed at the Submarine Tracer Training Center in Miami, Florida in the seamanship department as an instructor in recognition. There he advanced to the rank of Lieutenant.

He had temporary assignment at the U.S. Submarine Base, New London, Connecticut for a course of study in Lookout Training. After nearly 3 years in Miami, he applied for a change of duty and took an opening in OSS (the forerunner of CIA). He was sent to Georgetown University and to Manassas, Virginia for training.

From there he went to OSS Training Camp in Catalina, California. After completion of this training camp he received orders to OSS Headquarters in Washington, D.C. for assignment over seas in the far east. He was to go to Kunming in the interior of China, disguised as an Army Major, to help train the Chinese to fight the Japanese. The end of

the war terminated those orders before he got to Washington. In Washington he received orders to report to the Navy Air Station in New Orleans where he worked in a separation center until he was discharged by the Navy. He received his honorable discharge at Camp Wallace, Texas (Houston), on November 3, 1945. He remained in the U.S. Navy Reserves. During this time he attended U.S. Naval School (Navy Justice), passed the examination and was awarded a certificate in:

"Navy Law, the Naval Judiciary System and Procedures, Charges and Specifications, Navy Discipline, Evidence, and the Fact Finding Bodies for the Naval Reserve."

He also took training cruises. Of particular pride to the Traweck family was commendation which Lieutenant Commander Lewis S. Cotton made concerning Howard. He wrote:

"During this cruise Howard Traweck displayed an excellent ability to cooperate and to learn. He should be qualified for administrative duties after three months afloat. Displayed definite administrative ability. Has unusual ability to learn. In conscientious worker. Is recommended for promotion involving administrative duties ashore. Has pleasing personality. Particularly desire him."

Howard retired as a Lieutenant Commander.

While Howard was still in services the local paper printed an article stating that it was:

"authorized to announce Howard Traweck as candidate for re-election in the office of county attorney of Motley County and subject to the action of the Democratic Primary, July 25, 1942."

In July he was duly elected.

When Howard returned to Matador after his discharge from the Navy, he picked up his life again with his private

law practice and as County Attorney of

Motley County, and threw himself into community work. He was active in Lions Club and was elected Boss Lion in 1946; became chairman of the Father-Son Banquet, a Lions sponsored activity; was county chairman of the U. S. bond drive was named county chairman of the Texas Committee for Redistricting; and served as chairman of the four county USO Fund Drive. He was a member of the Texas Bar Association. He took an active part as assistant Scout Master of the Boy Scouts; participated in the dedication of the new county courthouse and was active in American Legion. Howard, a devout Christian and a lifelong Methodist, took part in church activities and served on the board of the First United Methodist Church. He helped to organize the Matador High School Homecoming and served as its first president and subsequently as president at a later date. And he made numerous speeches to various groups on law related subjects. Whatever it happened to be, Howard took pride in doing his job well.

On November 4, 1961, Howard was married to Eleanor Mitchell. Their daughter is now Nancy Barrow, M.D. Their grandchildren are Laura and Brian.

Howard knew his home country well from his many years of living in it and from his work in handling land sales and in reading countless abstracts. One friend, "Salty" Jones, has said that "Howard Traweck was a walking encyclopedia of Motley County."

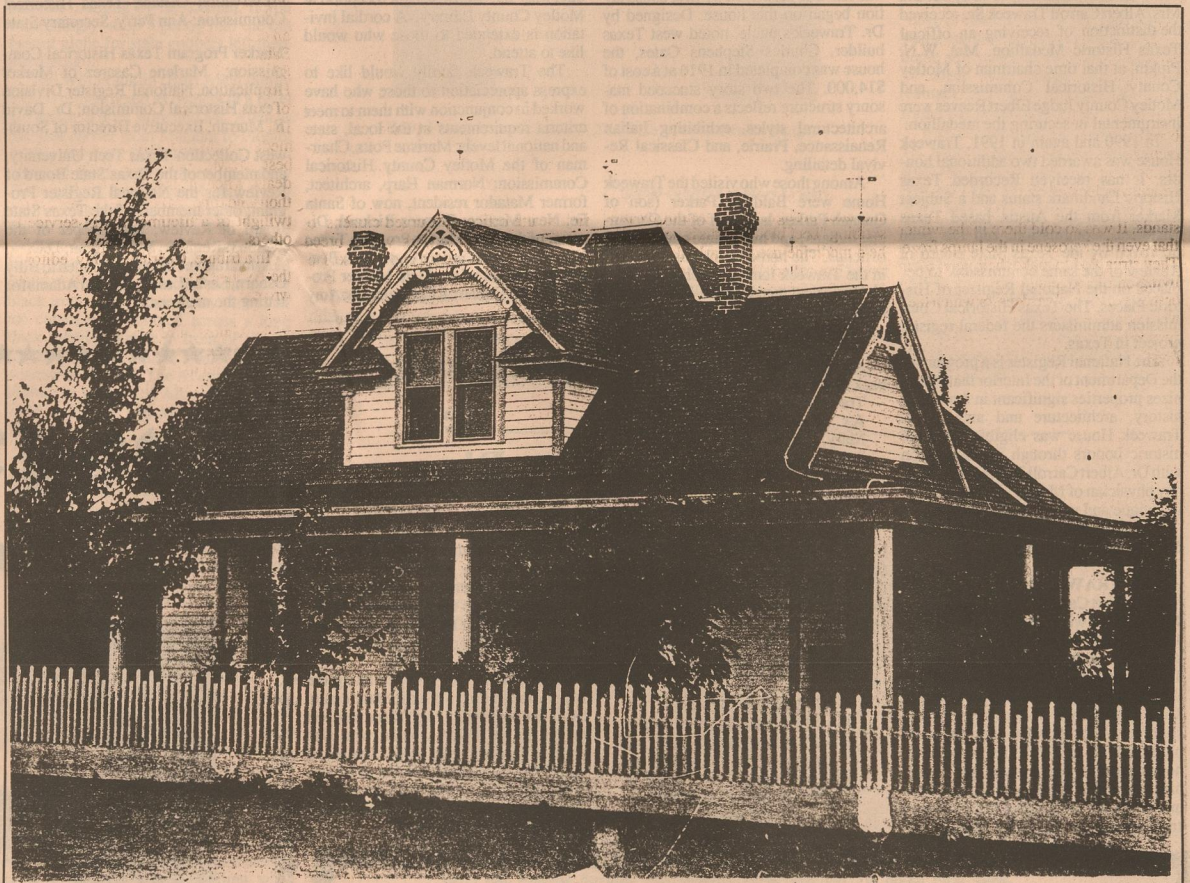
Howard Traweck was a man of wisdom and judgement, able in his position as prosecuting attorney of Motley County, to separate the offense from the offender and to serve justice without being judgemental. He knew the law and carried it out with honor, fairness, efficiency, commitment and rare dedication. After his death on August 5, 1988, he was honored with a Senate Proclamation sponsored by the honorable State Senator John Montford.



Irene Lawler Traweck on the right with two other Matador teachers (photo courtesy of Dorothy Traweck Hanesworth)

And now abidith faith, hope and love. These three, but the greatest of these is love.

I Cor. 13:13



The Dr. Albert Carroll Traweck Sr. home, which burned in 1915

Congratulations  
Motley County

on your 100th Birthday  
We hope your next 100 years  
are as good as the first

Floyd County  
Hesperian-Beacon

Floydada, Texas

Happy Birthday  
Motley County



Matador  
Floral

Happy  
Birthday  
Motley County



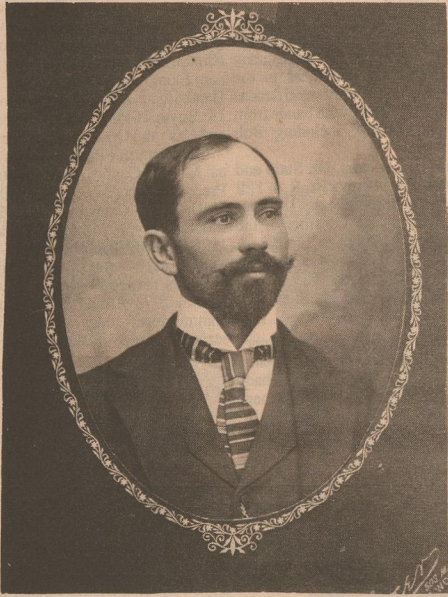
FLOYDADA

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RALLS, NWY/ FLOYDADA, TEXAS



# Dr. Albert Carroll Traweek, Sr.



Dr. Albert Carroll Traweek, Sr.

(Howard Traweek collection)

In September, 1897, Dr. Albert Carroll Traweek Sr., a graduate of the medical department of old Fort Worth University came to west Texas to practice medicine. He brought with him his permanent license dated February 19, 1897, and his bride of 3 months, 15 year old Allie (Rainey). Afraid of being considered too young for such a responsible profession, he grew a beard to make himself look older than his twenty-one years. He practiced medicine in Memphis, Texas for a short time before moving to Matador. He was a practicing physician in Motley County for more than 62 years.

Matador, in 1897, was a raw west Texas town with a few scattered wooden buildings bordered by plank sidewalks. When the young doctor put up his little sign there, all the houses in sight numbered nineteen including his own, and many people were living in dugouts. The young couple lived in a small frame house which was located on the lots just north of where the present Traweek house stands. It was so cold there in the winter that even the kerosene in the lamps froze. They struggled to make their way, often living on the vegetables from their own or their neighbors' gardens, or which they were allowed to pick from the garden at

the Matador Ranch headquarters.

Dr. Traweek began his career in this wild rough country as a saddlebag doctor. Later when wagon roads made it possible, he reached his far flung patients by horse and buggy, and still later by motorcycle. In 1907, Dr. Traweek bought the first horseless carriage in Motley County for the price of \$1,340. It was a four cylinder, twenty-four horsepower Bendix with patent leather fenders and coal oil lamps. The lack of good roads was a handicap, so he and his friend, Jack L. uckett, built a road east to Paducah and one northeast to Northfield. Traces of the country roads are still visible.

Dr. Traweek treated injuries and every ailment that flesh is heir to which was common to the area. In this early day when typhoid, smallpox and diphtheria were dreaded diseases, he treated them with a remarkable degree of success. He performed the first intertation for diphtheria in Motley County on his own child, Mary, when she contracted the disease, and later brought her to health by prescribing "beef blood". This is believed to be a medicine used in early days which was also called "beef, wine and iron tonic." Dr. Traweek was known throughout the area as "the pneumonia doctor" because of his successful techniques in

the treatment of this disease.

He often operated by lamp light. He set broken bones in splints he had whittled; doctored rattlesnake bites; removed bullets, and treated gunshot wounds; and patched up injured cowboys on the Matador and other far reaching ranches.

One of Dr. Traweek's cases, in particular, is remembered by present day doctors. Mrs. Gober, wife of the local blacksmith went out one night to do her evening milking. The milch cow, mean and cantankerous at best, spun round hooked her horns in the woman's abdomen, and ripped it open. The woman's intestines dropped out on the ground in the lot. She was able to pick them up, put them in the apron she was wearing, and get back into the house. Dr. Traweek worked half the night washing and sewing up perforated entrails. In an age which did not know anti-biotics, it was a new miracle that the woman recovered. Young Sam Dunn, whose father was the Methodist pastor in the town at the time, watched the operation and was impressed by Dr. Traweek's skill. He later said that the operation was one of the contributing factors in his decision to become a doctor.

A civic minded man, Dr. Traweek was a staunch supporter of every movement to improve the economy and the commerce of the area. He advocated the building of dams in some of the creeks and rivers originating west of Matador as a means of providing irrigation and recreational grounds. He donated a windmill to pipe water to irrigate the city cemetery. He directed the local Will Rogers Memorial Campaign to commemorate the late philosopher-humorist. Dr. Traweek also served on the board of directors for the citizen-owned shortline railroad, The Motley County Railway Co., which was incorporated in 1913 to join Matador with the Quanah, Acme and Pacific line. He made every endeavor to see that improvements were made in the community which would benefit its citizens. He was a charter member of the Matador Lions Club; the Matador Masonic Lodge #642; and the Chamber of Commerce. He was an active member of the Democratic Party and of the Methodist Church.

Dr. Traweek also believed in education for his children. All of them received higher education, and with the exception of his son, John, who met death by accident as a young man, each child chose a profession as a career.

Dr. Traweek served as the county's first health officer. He urged citizens to clean up the open sewers which breed flies, mosquitoes, stench and disease. He recommended vaccination against smallpox, typhoid and diphtheria. In 1929, he built a modern hospital. After it was re-

modeled in 1934 it represented an investment of \$20,000. It included an electric kitchen, electric sterilizers in the operating room, an electric clock in the waiting room, and was able to accommodate ten patients, or twelve in an emergency. He performed major operations, but was unable to revive a drowned child who along with his horse fell into a septic tank.

Always eager to keep abreast of the latest advancements in medicine. Dr. Traweek took graduate work at the Chicago Polyclinic and New York Polyclinic on several occasions. Besides his medical degree from the medical division of Fort Worth University, he received one from Baylor University when Fort Worth University was merged with Baylor. He was a Fellow of the American College of Physicians, one of the highest honors in the field of medicine; a member of the American Medical Association; and a member of the house of delegates to the Texas State Medical Association. He was especially proud of his affiliation with the Dallas Southern Clinical Society. As a charter member of the Panhandle District Medical Society, he was honored in 1951 as being the "oldest doctor in standpoint of service in the district."

The son of a widely known merchant family, Albert Ignacious Traweek and Georgia (Oates) Traweek, Albert Carroll Traweek Sr. was born in Comanche, Texas, December 1, 1875. He moved with his family to Dublin, Texas at a young age, and to Floydada in 1892. He was married to Allie Rainey in Fort Worth on June 21, 1897, before coming to Motley County that fall. Allie was the daughter of Louis Rainey and his wife, Mary Ann (Johnson) who pioneered in Tarrant County, Texas.

Albert Carroll Traweek M.D. died January 10, 1959 in Quanah, Texas where he was receiving medical treatment. Ironically, he died of pneumonia, a disease he was noted for curing in his patients. He was 83 years 1 month and 9 days old. In part his obituary reads:

"A gate is closed after the passing of an era in Motley County. The death late Saturday afternoon of Dr. A.C. Traweek, 83, in Quanah Memorial Hospital...brought to the conclusion one of the most eminently successful careers in the honored profession of medicine...Matador has lost one of its best known...and loyal citizens. Thus death, whom he met often and defeated a thousand times called Dr. Traweek in the twilight of a lifetime rich in service to others."

In a tribute, Charles A. Guy, editor of the Avalanche-Journal, Lubbock, Texas wrote:

"...Almost until the day of his death, Dr. Traweek was in active practice around Matador and in the very best tradition of a once widely revered calling. There aren't too many doctors left like 'Old Doctor' Traweek...and more the pity...because they were a great and noble clan."

Dr. and Mrs. Traweek were the parents of six children: Dr. Albert Carroll Traweek Jr. (married Irene Lawler); Dr. Mary Lee Traweek Resenstein (Mrs. Vincent Potter) dentist; Lucile Traweek (Mrs. Orval Wells) teacher; John Louis Traweek (killed in an automobile accident in 1937); Allie Lenore Traweek (Mrs. Ralph Dockendorff) teacher; William Howard Traweek, attorney and County Attorney of Motley County for fifty years (married Eleanor Mitchell).

Much credit is due Mrs. A.C. Traweek Sr. for the help she gave her husband in his years of service to Motley County and for the home she made for their family. When her husband died, Mrs. Traweek remained in the family home until her death, October 14, 1963.



Young Dr. Albert Traweek

## Albert and Irene Traweek

by Dorothy Traweek Hanesworth

Irene Lawlor Traweek came as a young, single teacher to Matador in the early 1920's after answering an ad in the Greenville newspaper for a teacher in "Matador" as they called it.

She rode from Dallas to Childress on the train with two other young teachers from the thriving three-shaded young city of Dallas who immediately both burst out crying as the train pulled into rural Childress. The three of them boarded in a home in Matador and the city girls found difficulties from plumbing facilities to social life. Both were on the train out of Childress bound for Dallas the next late spring.

One hectic morning in winter, Irene was especially rushed to get to work to begin her day. Arriving late, she faced her seated students, removed her winter coat, and looked down to see that she had forgotten her skirt.

"Dr. Albert" Traweek, as he was known, began his medical practice in

Matador in 1935 following his service as a U.S. Navy physician. His experience with the wives and children of naval personnel served him well in his family practice in Matador as well as farms and communities from Spur to Quanah, and from Dougherty to Paducah for nearly fifty years. His pay for medical treatment was often what was at hand for some patient hard up for cash. One particularly dry summer, he accepted about ten large wash tubs of thick mud with large hungry cat fish trashing about in it. Some farmer's pond was drying up and he owed for his

dry summer, he accepted about ten large wash tubs of thick mud with large hungry cat fish trashing about in it. Some farmer's pond was drying up and he owed for his baby's delivery. Some of "the payment" was served for supper that night and it was impossible to distinguish the food from just eating mud outright.

Albert recalls that after the delivery of yet another baby girl to a family already boasting of eight children - all girls - that his was the unenviable task of telling the father, thereafter always referred to as "Nine daughter Anderson" in Matador.



Irene Lawler Traweek, at 18 years old.

(Photo courtesy of Dorothy Traweek Hanesworth)

### SILENCE IS A POWER

Some measure of greatness must belong to one, who can, by the precise lowering of an eyelash, leave thoughts that linger longer than another who talks for an hour. Action, not words, is the dominating power of the world. Silence is the religion of the mighty.

Trail Dust — Doug Meador

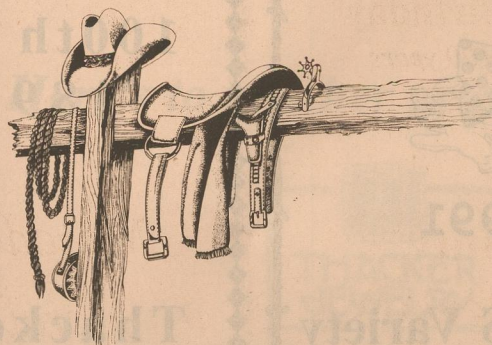
Congratulations  
Motley County  
100 Years



First State Bank

Congratulations  
Motley County

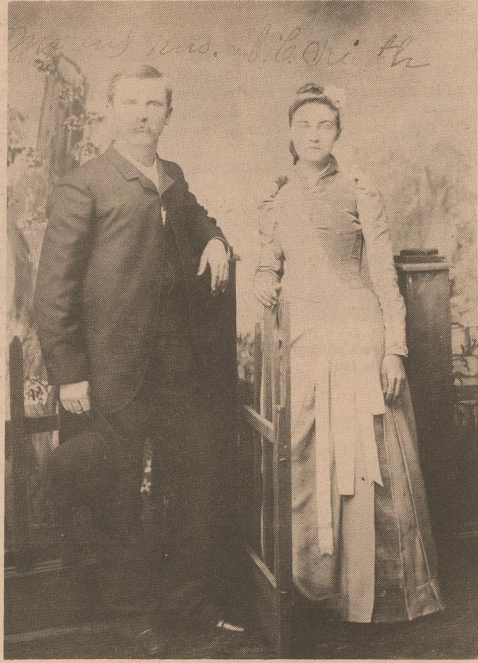
Happy 100th Birthday



Dickens  
Electric



# A Pioneer Wedding



A Pioneer Wedding, Mr. and Mrs. D.C. Keith, the first marriage performed in Motley County.

many times to Mr. Keith on the way, but when he started to perform the ceremony he forgot it and had to take his copy out of his pocket and read it.

The Keiths began housekeeping in their first home, a half-dugout on the North Pease River at a Matador Ranch line camp. Later they filed on land south of Matador, and for about 40 years Mr. Keith shipped cattle for the Matador Ranch, and farmed his land.

Mr. and Mrs. Keith had six children, all born in Motley County. Nannie Sue was born on December 25, 1892; Mary May, on May 1, 1894; Gilbert C. on February 3, 1896; Dan Phi, on August 30, 1897; Hester Sophronia (Helen), on April 2, 1899 and Charlie Benjamin, on August 13, 1904.

D.C. Keith passed away on January 3, 1933. Mrs. Keith and her daughter Mary built a home in Matador where Mrs. Keith lived for three and a half years before her death on July 1, 1943. Mrs. Keith lived 10 and a half years after the death of her husband.

(Mrs. Keith told this story to Mrs. Bertha Stearns in an interview about 1940.)

Charlie and Mary Keith are the only children living of the D.C. Keith family. Mary Keith, who is perhaps the oldest living person born and reared in Matador is 97 years old. She resides now in the Crosbyton Care Center, Crosbyton, Texas. Charlie Keith lives southeast of Matador where the original Keith homestead stood.

by Lila Meador

The first marriage rites performed in Motley County were those uniting Ella Eugenia Cribbs and Daniel Crawford Keith on December 23, 1891. The following announcement of the wedding was copied from The Motley County News, December 1891:

"On this morning at 9 o'clock a.m. at the residence of Mrs. Mittie McDonalds, Mr. D.C. Keith to Miss Ella E. Cribbs, Esq. McHugh officiating. Mr. Keith is one of Motley County's most industrious young men, while Miss Ella who has been amongst us but a short time has gained the love and affection of all. Mr. Walter A. Walton and Mr. H.L. White acting as groomsmen and the bride's two lovely sisters, Miss Maggie and Miss Carrie Cribbs acting as bridesmaids. May their pathway be strewn with flowers and no sorrow ever be their lot is the best wishes of a friend." This was written by Walter A. Walton, County Clerk at that time, and who later became the husband of Miss Carrie Cribbs, sister of Miss Ella.

The McDonald Line Camp, where the marriage took place was on the Matador Ranch and later was designated as the McDonald pasture. Although the house is still standing, no one has lived there for many years.

The courtship of Miss Cribbs and Mr. Keith was an unusual one. In 1885, Bud Merriman, a cowboy friend of Mr. Keith, was planning to return to Granbury, Texas, but went by the Matador Ranch to see Mr. Keith before leaving. During the conversation Mr. Keith was saying how lonesome he would be during the long winter months on the ranch, so he asked Mr. Merriman if he knew some nice young lady that would write to him. Mr. Merriman told him about Miss Ella Cribbs, so Mr. Keith wrote her a letter.

The day the letter came to the home of the Cribbs, they were moving so the letter was thrown unopened into a trunk with

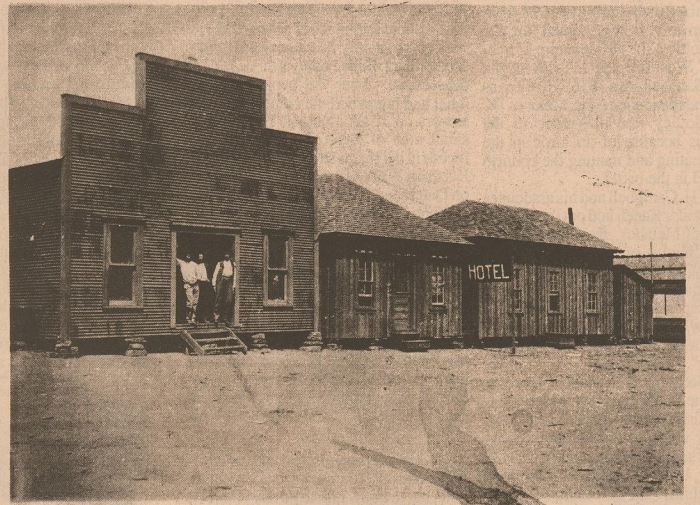
some more letters. Miss Cribbs forgot about the letter until a month later when she was looking for something in the trunk, and found it. After much persuasion by her sisters, she decided to answer the letter, "from that old cowboy," as she called him when talking to her sisters. This correspondence went on for about five years before they saw each other. During Christmas of 1890, Mr. Keith decided to visit Miss Cribbs for the first time. He arrived in Granbury late one afternoon and went to the Sheriff's office to inquire where the Cribbs family lived. After getting the required information he hired a horse at the livery stable and went on to the Cribbs home which was a few miles out of town. He visited in the Cribbs home for a week.

The Cribbs family moved to Motley County in 1891. It took three weeks to make the trip. Miss Ella had been in Motley County exactly one month before her marriage, having arrived on November 23, 1891.

The bride's dress was made by Mrs. Frank Baxter, wife of one of the first and best known blacksmiths on the Matador Ranch. Mrs. Baxter had formerly been a dressmaker in Kansas City, Missouri. She had the only sewing machine in the county at that time, and it took a week to make the dress. The material for the dress was grey cashmere, trimmed with grey velvet. It was made on a cambric foundation. The dress was a two-piece basque. It had nine steel buttons on each sleeve and six on the front. It was indeed a beautiful dress, and has been used for many occasions where old costumes are needed.

Because of the slow conveyance, Mr. Keith was an hour late for the wedding. One of the cowboys who arrived early began to tease Miss Ella about the late bridegroom and offered to take his place. However, Miss Ella told him she would wait. Mr. Keith finally arrived with the preacher, who was a Catholic from Ireland. The preacher had his marriage ceremony memorized and had repeated it

# ROARING SPRINGS



The Lane: Men standing in the doorway of Mr. M.E. Keahey's grocery store, which housed the bank in one corner. Also pictured is Lottie Lee's Hotel. Photo courtesy of Freda Keahey.

NOTE: This information was submitted by Mrs. LaVoe Thacker. Most of the research was done by Mrs. Eleanor Traweek, when working on declaring Roaring Springs Depot as a Historical Landmark.

According to an early day citizen, the earliest president of the railroad was one Sam Lazarus of St. Louis, Missouri, who had ideas of developing the town, the springs and the surrounding area through the medium of the railroad. His friend, a multimillionaire from St. Louis, shared his interest and indicated that she wished to share her pocketbook in this venture. Mr. Lazarus never realized his ambition, however, because he died in 1926 in New York, New York. Charles H. Sommers became the second president. He and John Huffstutler were the men who had laid out the townsite.

The forerunner of the town of Roaring Springs was a campsite on a winding road down through the mesquites a half mile east of the present town. It boasted a few temporary buildings - some stores and a hotel - and was known as "The Lane" but when workers began to come into the area to construct the railroad line, tents were set up as makeshift living quarters

there and the settlement became known as "Rag Town". On the scheduled date, June 19, 1913, the Q.A. & P. track was completed to this point and the town of Roaring Springs was officially opened - a dual accomplishment for the area. On that hot, noisy, and eventful day a gala celebration was held, and the first engine of the brand new railroad steamed into town. Within the year, the depot, a Mission style building constructed of yellow brick with red tile roof, was completed.

In 1903 under the name of Acme, Red River and Northern Railway Co., an extension of the railroad from Red River to Acme, Texas, was made, but by 1909, with its corporate name changed to Quanah, Acme & Pacific Railway Co., it had lengthened its line in a southwest direction from Acme to Paducah, Texas.

Surveys were made in 5 different directions from Paducah - but eventually the line was constructed through the Southern part of Motley County, reaching the staked plains via Wolf Creek point, following closely a wagon trail adopted by buffalo hunters in the early 80's.

When plans were final, the Roaring Springs Townsite Company (a subsidiary of the Railroad) purchased a section of

land from the Matador Land & Cattle Company. This land became our town of Roaring Springs.

On June 19, 1913, the Q.A. & P. track was completed to Roaring Springs and the town was officially opened, a dual accomplishment of Sam Lazarus and John Huffstutler. Roaring Springs was platted sometime in 1912 and lots were sold, but not recorded until July 5, 1913. It seemed fitting that the town and the depot should bear the name of the famous springs located 3 miles from the town. Notable from prehistoric days as a favorite Indian campground and for the purity of its water. For many years the Springs had been a favorite camp for the Comanche Indians.

The Roaring Springs depot was in use until December, 1971, when the Railroad announced plans for the building to be sold and dismantled. Through efforts of the Predicta Study Club and the Lions Club the depot was purchased in the name of the town. The agreement was finalized with the Railroad in December, 1972.

Verlin Bigham (former Roaring Springs resident) helped through his friendships with two members of Burlington Northern Railway.

In 1978 the Depot was dedicated in memory of Melton S. Thacker, businessman and benefactor of Roaring Springs.

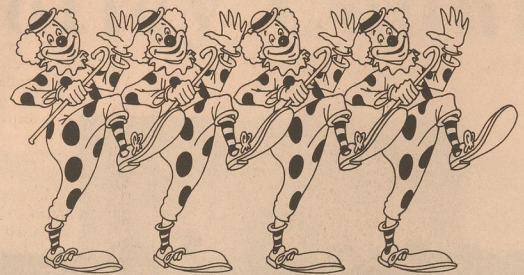


J.N. Edmondson (Photo courtesy of Connie Browning McWilliams)



Shannon Davidson with Jolene and Rosemary Bloodworth, about 1939. (Photo courtesy of Jolene B. Higginbotham)

Happy, Happy, Happy . . . . .  
BIRTHDAY  
Congratulations for 100 years!



Flomot Gin

Congratulations  
Motley County

May you be blessed  
with another 100 years  
of happiness  
and prosperity



Script  
Printing

Floydada, Texas

Happy Birthday  
Motley County

Congratulations  
on 100 years!



Billie Dean's  
Restaurant & Motel

Motley County  
100 years of history

Happy  
Birthday



Seigler Funeral Home



# A Town Is Born

by Walker Williams (1957)

Motley County was created in 1876 and organized in the spring of 1891 from Bexar Territory. It was named for Dr. Junius Motley, the aid-de-camp of Secretary of War Thomas J. Rusk at the Battle of San Jacinto in 1836, when Texas won its independence from Mexico. Dr. Junius Motley (the difference in the spelling is because of an error in the statute creating and naming the county) was killed in the battle.

Henry H. Campbell and his associates of the Matador Ranch laid out the plan for the town of Matador, the county seat of Motley County, on a section of land owned by Campbell. In order to meet the state's requirements Matador cowboys set up temporary "stores" consisting of only a few goods or articles placed in a neat pile with a sign giving the name of the "store".

Joe Beckam, a Matador cowboy, became the first sheriff and Walter Walton the first county clerk. Henry H. Campbell was elected the first county judge and served from January 1, 1891 to January 1, 1895. Mr. and Mrs. Campbell had one child, Harry H. Campbell, who was born at the Matador Ranch headquarters in 1881, and was the second white child born in the county. Harry Campbell is now the president of the First State Bank in Matador and owns a ranch on the edge of the Plains in west central Motley County and east central Floyd County. This ranch was established by his father in the early days and since then Campbell has added other acreage to the original tract until it now comprises some sixteen sections of well watered land stocked with extra good hereford cattle.

In about 1892 Joe Beckam, the sheriff, left Matador for the Oklahoma Territory without letting it be known where he was going or why he had several thousand dollars of the county's money in his possession. After the people realized what had happened the county commissioners court appointed J. L. Moore, a small man of about five feet and five inches in height, as sheriff and my father, Harrison Williams, a farmer and rancher on Dutchman Creek near the present town of Roaring Springs, as deputy sheriff.

A few months later Beckam returned with his brother Buck and a gang of well-armed men. One night my mother, father, myself, and my young brother, Oscar, spent the night with the J.L. Moore family at their farm near town. Everyone slept on mattresses on the floor and since Mr. Moore had not returned when we went to bed Mrs. Moore layed a Winchester rifle on the floor by her bed and my father placed his six-shooter by his pillow.

Shortly afterwards Beckam was arrested and my father was ordered to guard him, but to allow him to go any where he wanted to within reason. One day Beckam wanted to go to the county clerk's office near the central part of the city square. The office was in a barber shop. Beckam was in the lead and stepped inside the door where somebody handed him a six-shooter. He turned quickly with the weapon cocked ready to fire while at the same time an attorney named Nugent stepped around the corner of the building with a cocked Winchester rifle. They relieved my father of his pearl handled forty-five and started marching him

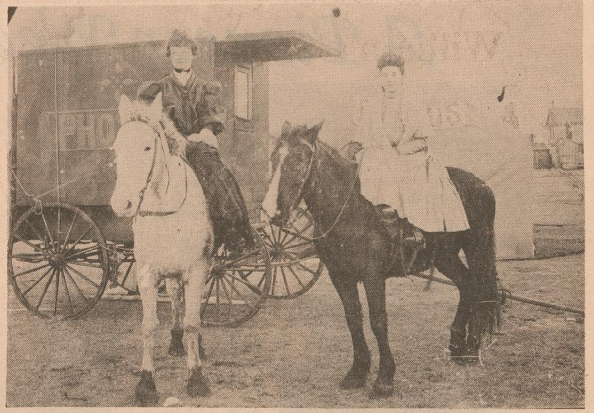
towards the jail, a two story rock structure a little way down the hill to the north. Before they reached it my father yelled, "Go upstairs and stand them off!", at Mr. and Mrs. Moore who were in the front yard of the jail washing clothes. Moore, who was a little deaf, misunderstood and came to meet the group. Then one of Beckam's gang took Moore's six-shooter. Mrs. Moore, a lady of almost six feet in height, saw what happened and jerked Beckam's pistol away from him and covered him with it. Then she took another look at the well-armed group and said, "I see you've got John's gun so you can have your's now" and handed Beckam's gun back to him. About this time Nugent, who had forgotten to close the hammer on his Winchester, accidentally squeezed the trigger while the barrel was resting on his foot. The result was a partial loss of a

toe and the sudden break up of the argument between the people in the jail yard. Beckam and his gang left town then in a short time in a fast gallop.

Sometime that night the gang stopped at Tee Pee City about fifteen miles east of town and robbed A. B. Cooper's store. Jim Cooper, Cooper's son, said in later years that Beckam's pistol looked as big as a cannon at the time.

Joe Beckam and his followers were next heard of in Oklahoma. Sam Elliot, my mother's brother, was sheriff of Rodger Mills County there and was in the posse that found them holed up in one of the cow camp dugouts of the Waggoner Three D Ranch. A gun fight took place and Beckam was killed that night.

Nowadays the people of Motley County select their sheriffs with a great deal of care.



These two ladies were photographed by the first photographer in Motley County, Parker Randolph, in 1904.

(Photo courtesy of Mrs. Vance Gilbreath)



Left to right: Joe Bloodworth, Manager Whiteflat Gins; Charlie Mitchell, Cotton Buyer; Tom Hamilton, Bookkeeper.

(Photo courtesy of Jolene Higginbotham)



Gathered at an Old Settlers Reunion: (l-r) J.R. Moore, C.D. Bird, Jim Meador, Doug Meador, Joe Meador and J.E. Russell.

(Photo courtesy of Sonny Russell)



Men singing in old Methodist Church in Matador: Jim Edmondson, Randall Whitworth, Boss Edmondson, Frank Jameson.

(Photo courtesy of Connie Ross McWilliams)



Boys ready to leave for WWI.

(Photo courtesy of Grace Zabielski)

## ADDING DIGNITY

The house is a small unpainted hovel, but the tall poplar trees in the background lend a certain dignity, as survivors of valorous dreams. As if they had been fed from the ceremony of their planting by the springs of a noble vision.

Trail Dust — Doug Meador

# Cooper Oil Company

J.B., Jean & Jessie  
MATADOR, TEXAS



Matador Cowboys, at TeePee pens, about 1938

A Tribute to the Pioneers of  
Motley County  
who made possible what we  
are enjoying today.



PIONEER CHILDREN at play at historic Roaring Springs picnic grounds, believed prior to 1909. Rev. R.L. (Bob) Jameson was holding a revival meeting under a brush arbor, and families came from miles, in buggies and wagons and camped out, to attend services. Photo was made by the late R.P. Criswell, and belongs to his cousin, Mrs. R.A. Day of Matador. Children in foreground are identified as Julia and Marie Lockett, (Mrs. Cecil Godfrey of Spur and Mrs. Rowe Sams of Waco). Boy at left is Bob Jameson Jr. Three other boys in picture are unidentified, (one with black hat, one with straw hat and one bareheaded). In the back row, two girls around the stump are identified as Ora Edmondson (Mrs. Orwin Roy of Crosbyton) and Mrs. Mildred (Morriss) Walker of Dallas. Third girl is the sister of Mrs. T.N. Edmondson. Standing are Tose Criswell (Mrs. Riley A. Day), Vera (Carpenter) Carmody of Amarillo; Nellie Beauchamp (Mrs. J. W. Haney, former Mrs. John Lawrence), and Vera (Cammack) Rhodes of Houston; Winnie, and Bess Morriss (Mrs. Jim Williams of Sulphur Springs, sitting on log).

(Photo courtesy of Bob Jameson)



Out for a morning ride: (left to right) Kate Bourland, Fred Bourland, Chesna Nance, Fred C. Bourland, W.R. Dirickson, Dutch Echols, Bert Edmondson, Lillye Edmondson.

(Photo courtesy of Mrs. L.H. Dirickson)

## William Cammack and his descendants



Cammack Family Reunion at Matador, at the homeplace, about 1940.

Thomas Newton Cammack was born to William and Lieutency (Bragg) Cammack, June 7, 1837 in Choctaw County, Alabama. He died September 25, 1919 in Matador, Motley County, Texas. He is buried in East Mound Cemetery, Matador.

He married Juliett L. McKinney in Tyler County, Texas in about 1867. She was born in Mississippi. She died October 22, 1868. He then married Izora Vasthi McKinney, November 1, 1869 in Tyler County. She died January 30, 1908 in Matador, Texas. Her burial was in East Mound Cemetery.

About 1853, at age sixteen, he migrated to Madison County, Texas, with his father and his family. From Madison County, he entered the military service of the Confederacy in October 1861.

In 1891, at age fifty-four, he moved to Motley County taking his family and household goods with a supply of lumber to Childress by train and thence about forty-five miles by buggy and wagon to Matador. His family then consisted of his wife, five sons, four daughters, the youngest of whom was one-year-old, a son-in-law, and a grandson. There is some question whether his married daughter, son-in-law, and grandson accompanied him to Motley County. Two more children were later born in Motley County. 'Cousin John' or 'Big John', son of T.N.'s deceased uncle, David N. Cammack, and another man drove the cattle and horses, of which there were quite a number, from Williamson county. The family arrived in the county the year of its organization, at the

time of one of the worst droughts in the history of the county. They suffered many hardships. For a time they lived in Matador. In November 1891, T.N. purchased all of Section 40, John Gibson, which was the second section east of Matador town-site, where he established his homestead. It is family tradition that the house which he built contained some of the first glass windows to be used in the county. Family tradition also holds that while he and his son, Billy, were on a trip to Childress to haul lumber for the house, fifty horses and fifty head of cattle were stolen. He tracked them to Foard County near Crowell and recovered all of the horses and eighteen head of the cattle. He waited near an old house in the area several days for the thieves' return, but they never did show up.

In June 1892, T.N. entered into a sub-contract for a star route mail service for one round trip each week from Matador to Espuela, in Dickens County, and return by Beckton, in Lubbock County, for the period July 1, 1892, to June 20, 1894. The following year he entered into a similar contract for six round trips per week from Childress to Matador via Lee and TeePee City for the period from July 1, 1893 to June 30, 1894. At that time he moved the family to TeePee City, where he could better supervise the operation, and settled in a half dugout about two miles down the river from TeePee City. His sons boarded along the route to change horses so they could have fresh teams for the mail hacks to make the runs.

One story told by the family was about

a driver hauling a load of lumber as freight. He built a fire under a balking team in an effort to get it to move and succeeded in moving it only far enough to burn the wagon. Another incident occurred on one of the daily mail trips because outlaws were known to be in the area. On a cold winter day, one of the drivers, fearing for his own life, refused to pick up a stranger out on the road. Later the unidentified man was found frozen to death.

When the family moved to TeePee City there was no school, but T.N. and two other fathers in the area arranged financing, built a small rock schoolhouse in 1894, and held school for three months in 1895. When Cecil visited the old TeePee City site with his father in about 1932, the rock building had been torn down and the corner stone and its contents were gone.

About 1896 T.N. moved back to Matador, when Bill Cloyd was sheriff, to keep books and records in the office of the Sheriff and Tax Collector. He was later elected for one term as sheriff in 1900. While he was sheriff, he lived in the county jail in Matador, and his sons Ed

and Webb lived in their brother Bill's dugout near TeePee City and looked after their father's horses. T.N. was reputed never to have carried a gun while he was sheriff although there were times when he had to deal with men of bad reputation. In 1900 he leveled a deficiency assessment for seven thousand head of cattle against the Matador Ranch, as reported in the case of *Cammack, Tax Assessor vs. Matador Land and Cattle Co.*, (1902 T.C.A.) 70 S.W. 454. It was contended that the ranch had driven cattle across the county line between Motley and Cottle Counties, when the cattle were being counted, to reduce the total number of cattle assessed on the ranch in the two counties. After his term as sheriff, he was employed at various times in that office as a deputy and served as tax assessor-

collector. From time to time, he worked on tax records in the sheriff's office until a few years before his death. There is no record that he ever made application for a Confederate pension.

In March 1903, T.N. had the misfortune of losing all but two hundred acres of Section 40, John Gibson, which he had purchased upon his arrival in 1891. Leon and H. Blum of Galveston had secured a judgement against him from prior dealings, and levied an execution in Motley County. He designated the east two hundred acres of Section 40, described by metes and bounds, as his exempt homestead and conveyed the remaining 440 acres in settlement of the execution. The family always contended that this levy was wrongfully made execution. The family always contended that this levy was wrongfully made as the indebtedness had been paid. According to his son Webb, T.N. said he met the holder of the indebtedness and offered to make payment, but the man did not have the note with him. Nevertheless, T.N. paid off the note and told the man he could send the note to him when he returned home. A short time later the man died and the note was found in his effects with no evidence of payment in existence. He purchased from the Matador Land and Cattle Company, in the spring of 1904, the approximate west two hundred thirty-seven acres in Survey 41, John Gibson, which adjoined the Matador town section on the east and conveyed to the company the two hundred acres which he had retained as his homestead in Section 40.

Family legend is that T.N. Cammack was a cousin of Cynthia Ann Parker, and thus a cousin of her son Chief Quanah Paker. We have been unable to verify this relationship by record proof. It is known, however, that about 1912 or 1913 Quanah and a band of his braves passed through Matador, and he spoke in Matador and Roaring Springs. He camped on the town section in front of T.N.'s home place east of town and visited with him. T.N. gave a calf to butcher. Pictures are in existence of their activities in butchering the calf, as well as the meeting in town with Chief Quanah.

T.N. was an active Baptist. Brother Cammack had been an active deacon. He was recognized as a deacon in the newly organized church and was elected church clerk. The original book shows that he served in this capacity until August 1897, although he lived in TeePee City much of the time. He was a senior deacon at the time of his death. He was also a charter member of the Matador Masonic Lodge and was active in its affairs. For more than the last twenty years of his life he devoted himself to public service in the county. In his later years he was hard of hearing and used an ear trumpet to aid in his hearing.

Thomas Newton Cammack was a true pioneer. Even in his later years he wanted to push further west, but his wife would not consent to go further. One of his sons said that his father frequently preferred to be alone in the open country with his horse and his gun, from which one might conclude that he did not like people; but he would give his last dollar to a man if he thought the other man had more need for it.

His children were Juliett, by his first wife; John Newton, Emma Jane, Rosa Elvina, William Richard, McKinney, Thomas Edgar, Webster, Vasthi Elizabeth, Esther Eveline, Bragg Charles and Vera Callie.

## THE CHARLES GWINN FAMILY



Pictured are Charles and Margaret Gwinn (some spell it Guinn) with their family, about 1911. Children, front row left to right: Richard, Ernest and William. Back row: Walter, Clarence, Arthur and David.

(Photo courtesy of Codine Guinn of Belaire, Texas)

Charles, a native of West Virginia, moved his family from Childress County to Motley County about 1917, buying a farm in the Teepee Flat Community northeast of Roaring Springs, where he lived until he died in 1933. The two younger boys died in a tragic fire before the move. The family lived in a dugout at first and cleared the land for farming, grubbing out the mesquite trees by hand.

Arthur was drafted into the army from Motley County in WWI and became one of the county's casualties in that war, being killed at Verdun, France, about a week before the armistice. His feelings about his home were expressed in his last letter to his mother, "Give me the gold old west, where you can saddle up your horse and tear out." Walter also served in WWII. Clarence and David lived in Motley

County for a time but eventually moved away. Clarence to the Texas plains and David to Missouri. Walter and Richard lived the rest of their lives in Motley County.

Some relatives of Charles and Margaret still live in the County including Mary Gwinn, widow of Walter, grandchildren Charles "Chig" and James Gwinn and a number of great and great-great grandchildren. Other descendants are scattered throughout Texas and in more than a half dozen other states.



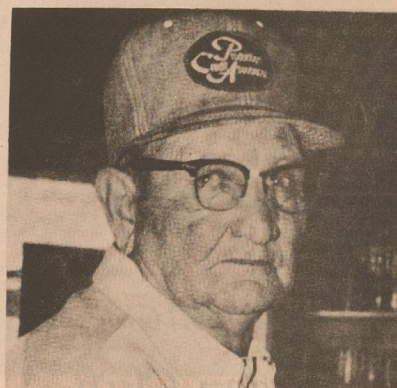
Matt Walker washing saddle blanket in Roaring Springs falls.

(Marisue Potts photo)



Simon Hall, Matador's Chuckwagon Cook and Mr. Melton Thacker, 1942. (Photo courtesy of Donnie Jenkins)

## Happy Birthday Motley County In Remembrance of C.R. Davis



1916-1985

C.R. began his association with Campbell Chevrolet in 1947. He worked there until 1967 when he purchased the business and operated as C.R.'s Conoco until 1983, when his grandson Don Baxter purchased the business, now Don's Tire & Automotive.

C.R. was a sweet, kind-hearted man who always had bubblegum on hand for the kids.

C.R. chose Motley County as his home in 1943. He and his wife, Sis, raised four children in Matador, all graduates of Matador High School

C.R. Davis and grandson,

Don Baxter, in 1983.



Don's Tire & Automotive

347-2801

Texas T's & Floral

347-2711

We Appreciate Your Business!

Happy 100th  
Birthday



Giesecke Butane

## D.A. Fulkerson Operated Matador Toll Bridge



Mr. and Mrs. D.A. Fulkerson on their 50th Anniversary, October 7, 1934, in Matador.

by Lila Meador

When David Anthony Fulkerson and Sarah Elizabeth Dunlap were married October 9, 1884 in Pinocle, Ark., where they had been born, they started a trek to Texas in a wagon train with her parents, who returned to Arkansas after they reached Red River. Mrs. Fulkerson never saw her parents again.

After first living in Collin County, the Fulkersons later moved to west to Earth County, and from there came to Motley County in 1914. Mr. Fulkerson operated a toll bridge between Paducah and Matador for several years before moving to

Matador. During that time one of their sons stayed in Matador with friends, in order to attend school. During the 1920s "Uncle Dave" as he became known, operated a hamburger stand and became popular because his hamburgers were recognized as the "best in town". Besides, they cost just a nickel.

The couple were parents of 12 children, three of whom were still living when Mr. Fulkerson passed away Nov. 12, 1948: Cecil, who died September 21, 1981; Carney, who died March 22, 1989, and Nolan, who lives in Lubbock. Mrs. Fulkerson died September 3, 1938 at their home in Matador.

## The Judson D. Mitchells

by Rosalyn M. Work

Judson D. and Isabel Gerrells Mitchell arrived in Roaring Springs from Hamilton County on September 30, 1923. Bringing their three oldest children by train from Hamilton County, Texas. The children were Doyle, age 7; Rosalyn Joy, age 4 and Frank, age 2. Marian Alice was born in Roaring Springs in 1926. Mr. Mitchell was in the General Insurance and Real Estate business. He was administrator for the Roaring Springs Townsite Company for twenty-five years until it was purchased by the City.

At the time of his death in January, 1990, he was the oldest living Justice of the Peace in Texas, having served in that capacity for 63 years. Isabel Mitchell became the first Rural Aid Supervisor social worker during the depression and developed the first cafeteria in the Roaring Springs School to feed the hungry, depression children. She served for 28 years as City Tax assessor-collector. Both Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell were very active in the First Baptist Church and were involved in the building of the "new" Baptist Church. Both were extremely active in community and school affairs. Mrs. Mitchell died in 1968 and Mr. Mitchell died in January, 1990.

They are survived by two daughters, Mrs. Robert E. (Rosalyn) Work of Saratoga, California and Mrs. Louis F. (Marian) Jones of Los Gatos, California. Frank N. Mitchell was killed in Korea in 1950. He was awarded the Medal of Honor, the Nation's highest award, for exceptional bravery in that conflict. He is survived by a daughter, Barbara Stern, who lives in Spain. Doyle died of a heart attack in 1972 and is survived by his wife, Dorothy and a son, Dan, of Lubbock.

A highlight of Judson D. Mitchell's life occurred the summer before his death in August 1989 with the placing of a



Mr. and Mrs. J.D. Mitchell

marble monument in honor of Medal of Honor winner, 1st Lt. Frank N. Mitchell in the park in downtown Roaring Springs by his Roaring Springs High School classmates, Class of 1938. On the same occasion, the City Council of Roaring Springs designated the park Frank N. Mitchell Memorial Park.

Another honor will be bestowed on 1st Lt. Frank N. Mitchell on May 22, 1991 at which time family and friends are

invited to the Basic School at Quantico Marine Base, Quantico, Virginia for the dedication of new officer training building, to be known as "The Mitchell Build-

ing." Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell's great-grandson, Jeremy David Jones, son of Carla Jones of Roaring Springs and Jonathan Jones of Los Gatos, California, lives in Roaring Springs.

## Memories of Early Day Fire Fighting in Roaring Springs

by Garlin Murphy

NOTE: This article was submitted by Jennie Lou Murphy. It was written by Garlin Murphy in 1986. Mr. Murphy died August, 1987.

Each time I read an item in the Matador Tribune about the efficient work of the Roaring Springs Fire Department it brings to me memories of the beginning of the first organized Fire Department in Roaring Springs.

After two disastrous fires in the twenties - one in the block next to the depot, and another in the space now occupied by Thacker Supply the City Council voted to buy a fire truck. This was about 1928.

The fire truck was purchased, shipped by rail to Amarillo and was delivered to Roaring Springs by the sales representative (accompanied by a driver). The salesman had agreed to organize the fire department and give proper instructions on answering a fire call, making hook ups, etc.

The day of delivery turned out to be bitterly cold with a really strong north wind. As a result, the sales representative purchased a fruit jar of moonshine to fortify himself against the cold while riding in the open seat of a fire truck. By the time they reached Matador he was in a hilarious, celebrating mood. He was picked up by the long arm of the law and given a free bed in the Matador jail house for the night.

On the following morning, as prearranged, the city fathers along with several volunteers met with the sales rep who I'm sure suffered from a severe hangover. He gave us a peppy time of instruction.

A few of the names I remember are, either E.E. Moss or H.V. Bigham as fire chief, Ezra Bowen, Andy Hurst, Babe Hurst, George Gabriel, Merl Freeman,

Clyde Mitchell, Albert Smith, a Mr. Conn (mechanic employed by F.C. King), Jay Meador, and myself. I'm sure there were others I don't recall. All are now deceased, except myself and two or three, I am not sure about.

When we made the first mock up on Circle Street, George Gabriel and I were assigned to jerk the nozzle attached to the hose from the truck. We were to step off when the truck slowed down in order to string out the hose to the nearest fire plug.

Not having any previous experience, George and I stepped off and hit gravel face down, trying hard to hang on to the nozzle. Outside of losing much skin and a few minor bruises we both survived. Since George was wearing dress trousers and a tie, he felt discouraged over further service and we lost our first member on the spot.

We practiced religiously and became very efficient. We entered a contest at Paducah and won second place.

The first real fire we were called to was an outhouse belonging to M.E. Keahy - at that time many privacies were in the backyard.

Since I am recalling these happenings from almost sixty years ago, there may be some discrepancies but I think they are fairly accurate. Best of luck to those of you who are now giving your time for the protection of your neighbors.



Baptismal service in pond at the Matador Ranch, close to the Headquarters. (Photo courtesy of Glenn Woodruff)

Happy Birthday  
Motley County

Visit our Booth at the Centennial Celebration

We will have plants for sale  
and tickets on a wheel barrow



Matador  
Garden Club

Motley County Is 100 Years Old!

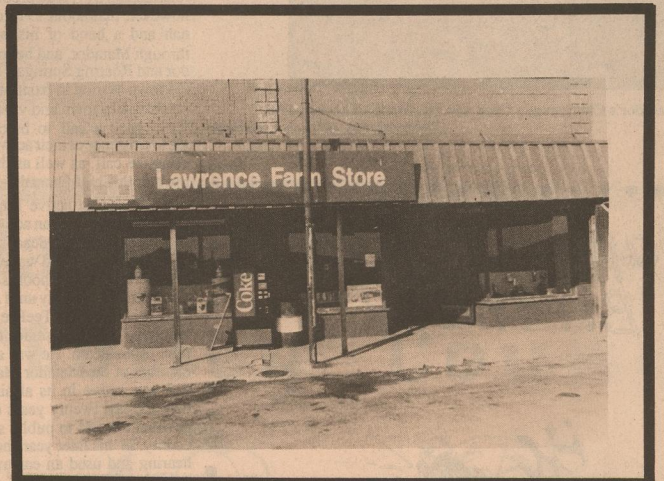
Happy  
Birthday!!

Turner Gin



Congratulations  
Motley County

100 Years of History



Lawrence Farm Store



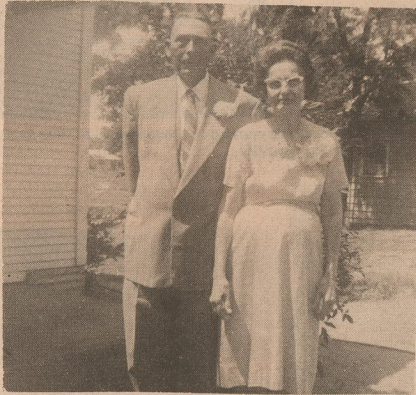
Mr. and Mrs. Otto Underwood. The Underwoods were married June 13, 1916. They came to this area in 1927. Thirteen children were born to Otto and Rosetta. Mr. Underwood died in 1970. He was a retired farmer. Mrs. Underwood is 91 years old, one of the oldest living residents of Motley County. She maintained her home in Roaring Springs for many years. She has been a resident of the Lockney Care Center for about a year.



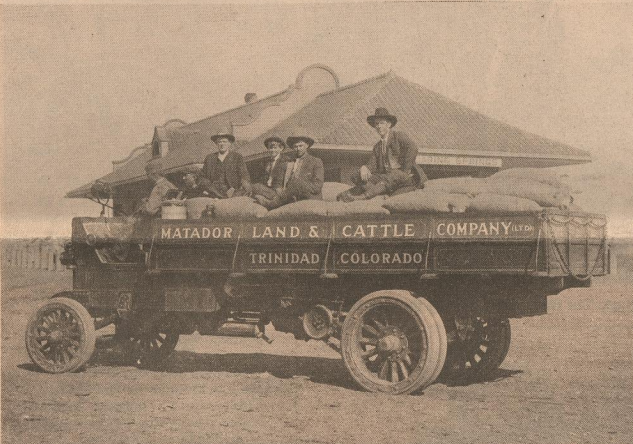
Mr. and Mrs. Luster Cornelius Meredith on their wedding day, March 3, 1929. Mr. and Mrs. Meredith came to Motley County in 1950 from East Texas. They had ten children. Mr. Meredith was a retired farmer, when he died in 1973. Mrs. Meredith still maintains her home in Roaring Springs.



Mr. and Mrs. Carl Hines Ashley. They were married August 17, 1935 in Dickens County. Their families came to Motley County about 1930. Mr. Ashley operated a Mechanic Shop in Roaring Springs for many years. They had four children. Mrs. Ashley died April, 1985. Mr. Ashley died February, 1991.



Mr. and Mrs. Otto Underwood, on their 50th Wedding Anniversary in 1966.



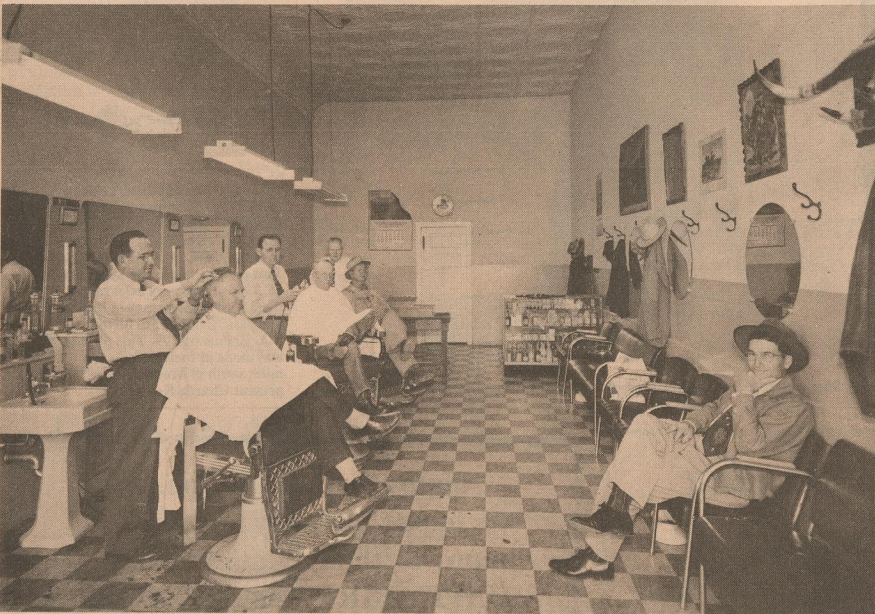
Loaded with cake for Matador Ranch Cattle at Roaring Springs Depot. A.T. Swepton driving, about 1914.

(photo courtesy of Betty Campbell)



MISSION SERVICE STATION in 1943: (right to left) Bill Dunning, J.C. McMahan, Bill Rushing. The Donaldson family came to Motley County, the Whiteflat area in about 1909.

(Bill Dunning Photo)



JENKINS BARBER SHOP: (left to right) Homer T. Jenkins, Douglas Pitts Sr., in chair; Emmitt Jenkins, and Mr. Green in chair; Henry Pipkin, George Blackshear in chair; at right is John Hamilton. This picture was taken about 1950.

(Photo courtesy of Donnie Jenkins)



Before election that gave counties their own government, county business was administered by the nearest organized county. Motley County business was administered by Baylor County. Court lasted several days, until all business was taken care of. Judge Joe A.P. Dickson, Carl Nugent, District Attorney and Hazel Walton, County Clerk, W.A. Walton had brought the gentlemen home with him for lunch, which was more or less the custom in those days. Picture made at front gate of Walton home, in the middle of the street, with view of Matador in background. Picture was made about 1909-1910.

(Photo courtesy of Hazel Donovan)

## Motley County Tribune and White's Communication

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Welcomes you to

# Motley County

for the 100th birthday  
Centennial Celebration

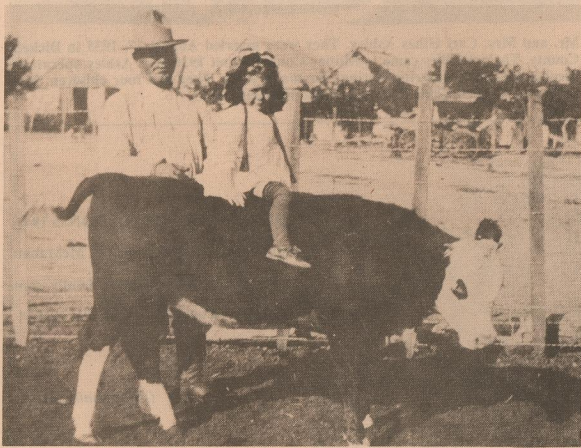




Dutchman Camp in about 1911. (Left to right) Jewell Ford, A.W. Ford, Wynona Ford (Gilbreath), Mrs. A.W. Ford, Christene Randolph (baby) and Mrs. Parker Randolph. (photo courtesy of Wynona Ford Gilbreath)



Mr. and Mrs. Jim Ford. The married in Albuquerque, N.M. at St. John's Methodist Church May 15, 1919.



Frank Leonard and daughter, Edna Leonard (Waybourn), at McDonald camp on Matador Ranch. Edna was 2 years old. She was born at Mott Camp in 1906. (Photo courtesy of Edna Waybourn)



EDNA LEONARD WAYBOURN



Charlie Hampton and The Mail Hack. The Hack would pick up the mail off the train at Childress, overland to Floydada.



Jameson Men: Top row left to right - Bob, Lem, Luther, Charlie and Almus. Bottom left to right - James Knox, John, Ed, Tom. (James Knox was their father.) Bob, Almus and Charlie were Methodist Ministers.



Phylander Alexander Cribbs and Nannie G. McShann were married on November 28, 1860 in Alabama. They were the

Sometimes people would come in on the Ft. Worth and Denver Train here and ride the Mail Hack to Matador or Floydada. This picture was taken at Turtle Hole Creek. Mules were changed at the Waybourn place on South Pease River.

(Photo courtesy of Edna Leonard Waybourn)

parents of five children, Lillie, (Mrs. N.A. Thompson); Margaret (Maggie) Mrs. John Vaughn; Ella (Mrs. D.C. Keith); Dan, Carolyn (Carrie) (Mrs. W.A. Walton). This picture was made September 15, 1915. They were celebrating their 55th Anniversary (a little early) and Mrs. Cribbs 75th birthday. P.A. Cribbs was 79. This picture was made at their home a few miles south of Matador, the present Charlie Keith home.




Red Payne and Humpy Briggs, old time Matador Cowboys, visiting at an Old Settlers Reunion. (Photo courtesy of Ruby McWilliams)

**LIKE TEMPERED STEEL**

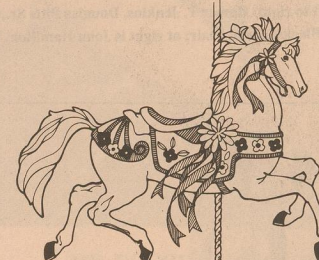
Friendship is a bar of steel that goes into many fires, tempered in the white heat of doubt and finally left to the chill of understanding. If it is too brittle, it will break in the strain of association and if it is too soft, it will twist and warp during the course of relationship. True friendship achieves the happy medium of an exacting consistency that will withstand many strains.

Trail Dust — Doug Meador

Happy 100th Birthday  
Motley County



happy birthday to you.....  
happy birthday to you.....  
happy birthday Motley County...  
**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!!**



**100th Birthday  
1891-1991**

*Kathy's*

**The  
Windmill**

# History Repeated At Russellville Camp

100 Year Circle Complete



John Edward and John Calvin Russell, 1842.



J.E. Russell, Sr.

(Photos courtesy of Sonny Russell)

by Linda Russell Roy

*Dancing with broomweed and through mesquite fons, the prairie wind knows. Skimming over smooth creek rocks and dodging flashing windmill blades, the prairie wind claims all with its touch. Caressing the sturdy, young face of the cowboy, the wind senses a familiar spirit, one of its own, come again through another generation to love her rough cedar breaks and tiptoe sky.*

1880'S

John J. Russell, new to the promising prairie and gentle hills of Motley County, planted roots that would spread for more than a century when he first settled in this untamed part of Texas in the last decades of the 1800s. Buying some land southeast of town of Matador, he set in motion a tradition that would trail through six generations of Russell men. His choice of land would influence the naming of loading pens eventually built nearby, next to a railroad spur. From Russellville thousands of head of cattle would begin their journey to market, and the newly-formed Matador Cattle Company, a Scottish syndicate determined to profit from the young country's natural wealth, soon set up one of its camps close by. First called Rat's Nest Camp, it later became known as the Russellville Camp.

1890'S

In 1892 young John Edward Russell stepped down as chuckwagon cook, a job he had held with the Matador Cattle Company for more than a year.

The Matadors preferred that their wagon men be single. Always on the move and shouldering many responsibilities, Russell would have his hands full with little time left to devote to family matters. But J.E. had recently married Parilee Cornett, and jobs were hard to come by so they decided to keep their marriage a secret. Their secret was safe until Parilee began showing signs of carrying the first of their six children, and they had to announce the marriage. J.E. Russell was the first wagon man that was not fired for getting married. Instead, the company offered to sell Russell some of their land if he would stake off a five-mile square, but he thought the price of 50 cents an acre was just a little high. But their offer of making him camp man at Russellville Camp was too attractive to pass up. The Matador Land and Cattle Company was good to work for, providing his family with a dugout for shelter and staples from the commissary.

Destined later to dedicate his life to law enforcement and become associated with the famed Texas Rangers in tracking down cattle rustlers, the cowboy thrived in the life he had chosen, despite its

hardships. It was really less a matter of choice on his part, however, but more a matter of being chosen. Did he sense that his great-grandson would also be chosen? A hundred years later, another Russell would know the beauty and frustration of the life of a Texas cowboy and try to implant in his own small son a love for the flavor and spirit of such a life.

1920'S - 1930'S

The maternal heritage of the cowboy also wove a pattern of Matador tradition through Luther Cox. Cox was a perfectionist. The hard time of the 1920s and 1930s had honed the ruddy, intense young face with determination. Already the camp man at the Matador's Ballard Camp when he married Meddie Howell, he eventually moved his growing family to Turtle Hole Camp and finally to Dugout.

When death's untimely call took him in the summer of his life, his oldest son W.O. turned from the opportunity of a football scholarship and college to return to the Matador and Dugout to take his father's place as camp man. To help the widow and her four children make ends meet, the Matador also employed Cox's middle son, L.M., as a chore boy after school.

Does Luther smile down as he sees the only son of his only daughter choose decades later the same life and become, himself, a Matador camp man.

1940'S

Use of the automobile for something other than a curiosity spun a rut between generations that some hesitated to navigate. While John Jackson, manager of the Matador around World War I, recognized the potential benefit of this vehicle in the ranch operation, he never learned to drive. John Calvin Russell gladly climbed behind the wheel and was chauffeur for Jackson for several years.

Although working most of his life as a self-employed rancher and cattle trader, Russell had been born at Croton Camp while his father, J.E., was camp man there, and there was an intrinsic bond with the ranch. About 20 years after his term as Jackson's driver, Russell returned to the Matador to work as a special inves-

tigator for the Cattleman's Association just for that ranch. For though he loved the freedom of being his own boss, Russell respected the Matador ranch men, and like his father, he felt proud to be associated with them. His grandson would feel the same.

John Merwyn Russell had many happy memories of playing around the Matador's wagon when he was about 10 or 12 years old and of receiving a little spending money for "day work" the preteen was assigned. It seemed only natural, then, when he returned from overseas duty during World War II, that work for the Matadors would be an agreeable prospect. In the interim between the end of the war and earning his degree at Texas A&M University, Russell fought his own battle with the wild cattle that hid out in the thick brush of the Matador rangeland. These mavericks had to be caught and cleared out of the pastures so that the Matadors could move their yearlings onto the grassland. After about four months of wrestling with those cattle, he had to really adjust when he found himself in the quiet classrooms at College Station. His son later made the same adjustment in reverse.

1990'S

John Douglas Russell, a young cowboy fresh from college, settled with his family in the Russellville Camp of the Matador Cattle Company, a division of Koch Industries. Drawback to his place of heritage, he had turned from today's more conventional career opportunities to pursue the life he loved. He instinctively felt a rhythmic pattern continuing as he took the job of Russellville camp man just as his great-grandfather had 100 years before.

Though the goals of the Matador Ranch are the same, many other things are very different from a century before. And that harmonious blending of the old and new is an assurance of the enduring quality absent from most industries. Koch Industries makes sure its men know that the Matador Cattle Company is designed to be a profitable business. If they just want to "play cowboy", they are warned to look elsewhere for employment.

Russell still works from horseback like his great-grandfather, but he also operates from his truck and sometimes from an 18-wheel tractor-trailer rig. The nurturing of a healthy and productive

herd is still the main focus of the ranch, but now that is achieved through genetic engineering and artificial insemination, carefully controlled nutrition, and regular inoculations. While the Hereford breed was the mainstay of the early ranch, today's herd reflects a desire to ferret out the best breed possible through experimentation with some of the more exotic lines.

So as J.D. takes his 3-year-old son, John Colton Russell, with him to "check the cattle", he continues to weave the fabric of a life that has sparked countless legends. And as they bump along the dusty road in the first glory of a West Texas dawn, they don't travel alone. They are never alone.

Most families feel bound to the Matador Cattle Company and its traditions. The pride of association is not only filial, but an instinctive clutch at a life that finds substance in hard physical work and cunning choreographed by nature's caprice.



PIONEERS OF MOTLEY COUNTY: Doug Meador, Jim Meador, J.E. Russell and Joe Meador.

(photo courtesy of Sonny Russell)

## Dirickson Family



The Dirickson family: (l-r) Bill, Wishy, Mrs. Dirickson, Vesta, Orville and Melvin.

In the winter of 1914 Mr. and Mrs. W.R. Dirickson with their family of six children left Mountain View, Oklahoma, and headed for West Texas to find a new place to live, driving their herd of cattle all the way.

Dick was only seven, but he rode a horse and helped herd the cattle all the way. They were on the road 30 days, between El Dorado, Oklahoma and Quanah, Texas.

The Diricksons had to make stops for the Red River to go down, so they made camp and waited a week or more. They next reached Cottle County (Paducah) where they stopped for several months (leasing pasture) while they searched for a location for a home.

Scouting for a location was something

else - they finally bought a section, leasing another section 10 miles east of Matador. The kids enrolled at Clements School. They moved to town (Matador) in 1920.

In 1929 Mr. Dirickson bought a section and a half, 23 miles north of Fort Sumner, New Mexico and leased 36 sections in the adjoining country.

After Mrs. Dirickson's death in 1938 Dick was the only one left ranching. Two of his brothers continued "cowboying" for the Matadors.

As a tribute to his ranching heritage C.D. Bird, J.R. Moore and A.B. Echols said he was the best all round cowboy they had ever used. Not being able to buy land for ranching Dick wound up in show business, The Rogue Theatre.



1919 FLOMOT COTTON FIELD: Those on wagon are Tede and Ora Blackshear, Earnest and Rul Everhart; on the ground are Mary B. and Viola Blackshear, Bessie and Stella and Mr. Everhart.

GOOD SOLDIERS

Hardships, like dangers, are usually experienced before their severity becomes apparent. Those who have suffered most are more reluctant to describe tribulations that can but seem a little foolish and weak beneath the burden of martyr's glory. Good soldiers seldom find pleasure in the discussion of unpleasant things that each has known in battle.

Trail Dust — Doug Meador

Happy 100th Birthday



Taylor's Pizza Box

Congratulations Motley County

We have appreciated your business and support during our three years of business.

Specials throughout the Store!



Guys & Gals

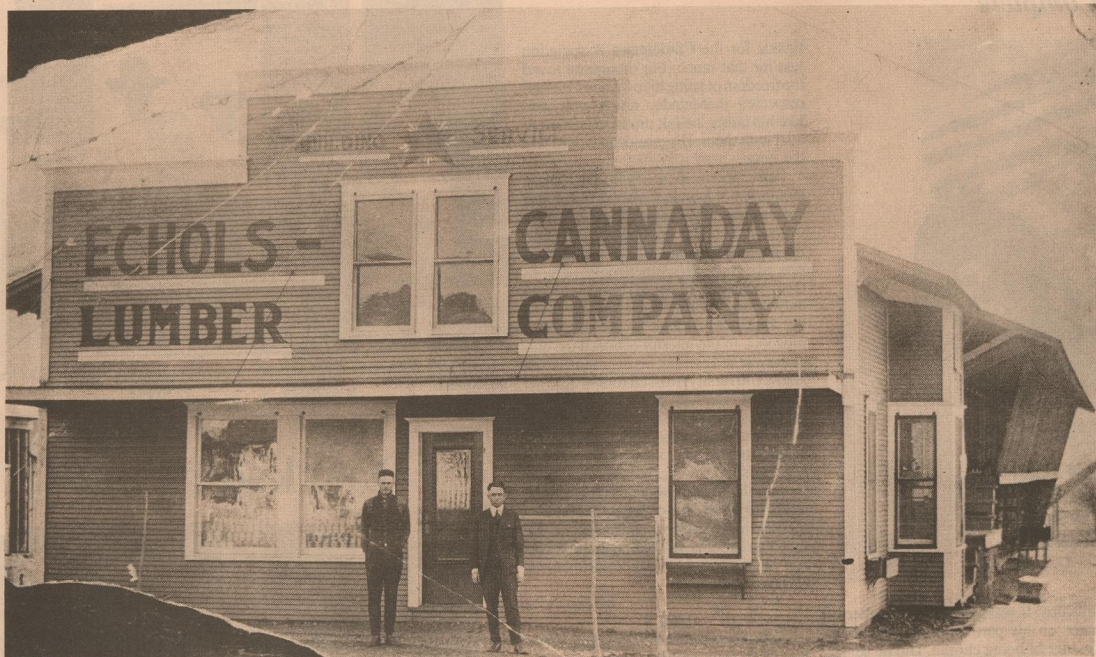
100 years of rich pioneer history

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



Stockman's, Inc.

# The Echols Midas Touch



One of the enterprises of A.B. Echols, a man of many business interests.

Echols, a name that is intertwined with the history of the area, was set apart by the colorful personality of Armpstead Benjamin. The thirty-year old native of Georgia filed on a claim north of Whiteflat. In September of 1890 the General Land Office awarded him Section 30, Block T.

To the west of the growing settlement in the Caprock foothills, he purchased a 17,000 acre ranch five years later. In that year of 1895 on January 21 at Whiteflat, he and Mary Osborne Lisenby became the 21st couple married in the county.

Joining the family around 1897 was A.B.'s father and mother, Robert Petty and Elizabeth Varner Echols. Born in 1825, R.P. had joined his fellow Georgians in the Civil War fighting. From Kingston, Ga., after taking the oath of amnesty, the "paroled prisoner of the army of North Georgia," was granted permission to go home on May 12, 1865. Leaving their ravaged home state, the Echols family moved to Arkansas and then to Parker County in Texas. In 1888 R.P. paid land taxes in Jack County.

The 1900 Census counted Robert, "Elisabeth," and "Bular" in one household. Nearby was his son's family: "Armstaid," Mollie, four year old "Bular," and two year old Robert. Yet to come was the feisty Ollie.

A cattleman of unusual skill who rode the range well into his sunset years, Armp Echols was also noted for his business deals.

In 1907 Echols was named vice-president of the newly chartered First State Bank and four years later, the president, an association which would last for a quarter of a century. He also served as a director of the First National Bank in Childress. As the president and principal stockholder in the Motley County Railway formed in 1913, his investment amounted to \$30,000, according to the shortline's lawyer, G.E. Hamilton.

A relatively small investment of \$2,000 in the Texas Chief oil well in the Burkburnet field in 1918, posted a handsome profit for Echols and the ten other investors, some say as much as 80 to 1.

Echols and his son Bob owned or leased an additional 50,000 acre ranch.

A.B. served on the prestigious board of directors of the Texas Southwestern Cattle Raisers Assn. of Fort Worth.

For sixty years Echols was a Baptist, a commitment he took seriously. So seriously, in fact, that he remained a teetotaler all his life, also abstaining from coffee and tobacco. The Whiteflat Cemetery, west of the school, post office, and mercantile, was carved from a portion of his ranch land.

One esteemed visitor to the Echols ranch was Temple Houston, lawyer son of Sam Houston. Echols and neighbor rancher Bob Haley attended Temple's jury trial in Clarendon when the lawyer pleaded for his life and won perhaps his most important case.

In an eloquent tribute, Douglas Meador, editor of the Matador Tribune, wrote upon A.B. Echols death on May 22, 1939:

"Following the phantom trails of vanished herds and guided by the campfires of comrades whose spurs have grown rusty, he views the wide ranges of eternity. The noble saga of his life has been written on the eternal parchment of jus-

tice and the quill returned to the hand of God.

"Pioneer, Cattleman, and defender of right, he enters paradise with every bond of duty paid, and the benediction of his life becomes a part of the land he knew and loved.

"An empty saddle hangs in the shed like an abandoned shell on the shore of some unknown sea and his favorite horse listens to the dirge of sorrowing winds in the deep flumes of a Texas sky. Beyond the range he knew the best are the blue

Quitaques and the ancient Caprock horizon in a homage of silence as the sunset beats a golden trail to the gate of his corral. A great good man is gone; the stranger he never knew here will be his friend in paradise."



Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Lancaster, about 1908.

(Photo courtesy of Lorene Lancaster)



Mr. and Mrs. E.D. Lawrence about 1909.

(Photo courtesy of Lorene Lancaster)

## The Cooper Family — Anna Benson Nelson Cooper



Jim (J.J.) Cooper, about 1898. Mr. Cooper carried mail from Childress to TeePee City and back.

(Photo courtesy of J.B. Cooper)



Anna Cooper when she was about 17 or 18 years old. She came to America through Ellis Island from Sweden and made her way to Denver, where she and her husband, Mr. A.B. Cooper, met. Her sister, Nellie, came with her.

(Photo courtesy of J.B. Cooper)



Mr. and Mrs. Lem Lancaster and their children, Elzie, Jonathan and L.V. This picture was taken in 1896.

(Photo courtesy of Lorene Lancaster)



THE COOPER FAMILY: J.J. Cooper, Norah Cooper, Grandmother Cooper, Ivy O. Cooper, Carrie Heisa, and Geneva Cooper. Taken at TeePee City about 1924.

(Photo courtesy of J.B. Cooper)

Hard work, perseverance, and endurance were always a part of Anna Cooper's life. As a young girl in Kristinstad, Sweden, Anna Benson Nelson became indentured to her aunt and uncle upon the death of her parents. A strong, healthy girl, Anna helped her uncle with the hog killing. She cut wood on the mountain side, hauled it down the mountain and loaded

it on the wagon. Many loaves of rye bread she baked in the outdoor oven.

Because of overcrowding conditions and harsh economic times, many Swedes, like Anna, emigrated to America with the dream of a better life, a home, and land of their own.

Sailing from Stockholm, seventeen-year-old Anna landed in New York in

1865. Saving whatever she could, she worked as a housekeeper or maid in Chicago, as she made her way further west to Koakuk, Iowa, then further west to Lawrence, Kansas, and on to Denver, Colorado.

In December, 1878, in Denver she met and married Arthur B. Cooper, recently retired scout from General Custer's command. The newlyweds took the train to Kansas City, then Dallas, headed for the frontier of Texas.

Arriving in February, 1879, at the outpost of TeePee City, a saloon, hotel, and store, the Coopers found several families by the names of Counsel, Harper, Hammock, and Bowman living in picket houses. Issac Armstrong was in charge of the trading post and the U.S. Mail.

Cooper traveled to Jacksboro, filed on 160 acres of land, and bought three more sections of railroad land, using money the thrifty Anna had saved over the years.

Their first son, James Motley, was born in the dugout while Cooper was away freighting. When the child died, some cowboys buried him; Cooper never saw his first born.

Anna's next child, Nora Cordelia, was born in 1882 and said to be the first white

girl born in what was to become Motley County. Then in 1884 James Jureys was born. Anna knitted socks and gloves for them and made their clothes by hand.

When their dugout was ruined by flooding water, the Coopers moved back near the site of their first dugout at TeePee City, this time building a two-room half-dugout of rock. Here Mary Elizabeth, "Nelli", was born in 1886, but she failed to thrive and died before her first birthday.

In 1898, whether disgusted by never-ending political squabbles, disheartened by his bad judgement of character, or eager to recoup his losses, Cooper left the country. The gold fields of Alaska beckoned. Although he never struck gold, he did become a postmaster and acquired some lots in Cordova. When he died in 1916 at the hot springs of Sitka, among his things were a watch, a gun, and a violin. The ever tough Anna was now the sole supporter of her little family.

In 1915, after living in dugouts and a half-dugout for 35 years, Anna built a house on her land. For the next 17 years until her death, although Jim tried to convince her to move to town, Anna resisted. She had come to America for a home and now that she had it, she wasn't going to leave it.

Happy 100th  
Birthday!



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## Bill Tilson, Early Settler



W.R. Tilson, 1929 or 1930.

(Photo courtesy of Eugenia Bethard)

by Eugenia Bethard

In 1891, Matador was made a township and Tilson was instrumental in this endeavor. He accompanied "Paint" Campbell to the County Seat of Crosby County to obtain the necessary papers to establish a County. The people of the community had set up the required places of business, temporary of course. Mr. Tilson's place of business was a Real Estate Agency, set up with four planks across four bales of hay. Mrs. J.L. Moore had a millinery shop, using a plank for her counter. Immediately Mr. Tilson joined in with the effort for a church and school in Matador. Also the Tilsons helped

organize the Methodist Church in Whiteflat, both being accomplished in 1898. The first seven years the Tilsons attended Union Services at Matador in various meeting places, quite often spending the day with the Rance Moore family.

In the spring of 1885 Bill Tilson was employed by the Matador Ranch and was again sent to the Riley Work. That fall, he and Mr. Drace dug a well and dugout on Sec. 3A Block T, this being the first work towards a settlement on Whiteflat. This dugout was walled up with planks having a plank floor and plank overhead, dirt on top of that. That was the home where he brought his bride, Sallie Williams of Childress.



Mrs. W.R. (Sallie) Tilson, 1929 or 1930.

(Photo courtesy of Eugenia Bethard)

Mr. Tilson acquired the necessary approvals to establish the Whiteflat Post Office. He helped build the first school house in Motley County which was at Whiteflat. He got the subscription of \$1,600 for the second Whiteflat schoolhouse, which was the first two-story schoolhouse in Motley County. At the closing of the Whiteflat school, the bell, originally given by Mr. and Mrs. Tilson, was returned to the Tilson family. The family, in 1979, gave the bell to the Motley County School, and it is now the traveling Victory Bell of the "Matadors."

In the Duff Green files, Bill Tilson is aptly described as "A Virginia product that somehow found his way to Texas

during the early eighties and ultimately worked on the Matador Ranch during its harem-scarem, wild heydays. Tilson was both a Virginian and a Texan. Like most Virginians I ever knew, he was trained in his youth to be a good horseman - trained as a journey - and never lived to be too old to love the sport."

Bill Tilson served as Commissioner of Precinct No. 2 in 1902, 1906, 1908, 1910. He was one of the County's earliest settlers and aided in establishing both Whiteflat and Matador, continually working for the school and church and the general betterment of the Whiteflat community he had established and named.

## Campbell Family



Harry H. Campbell

by Grace Campbell

The first H.H. Campbell came to Motley County in 1879. He was known as Henry or "Paint". It was the beginning of a project that had been a dream. The Matador Cattle Company became a reality with five men forming the corporation. Mr. Campbell considered this area of which Motley was a part as the most ideal for cattle breeding. Leaving the ranch at the end of 1890, he laid off the town section of Matador and assisted in the organizing of Motley into a county. He was elected the first County Judge and was elected to a second term. His and his wife's interest in ranching never waned and their descendants continue on today with the same interests. Mrs. Campbell was a hospitable person and interested in anything, plant or animal, in the area. She served as postmistress at the Ranch and many years in the town. They are buried in Ennis, Texas, along with their infant girl.

After attending schools near and far, Harry Campbell, born May 15, 1881, son of Lizzie and Paint Campbell, finished his formal education as a junior. He worked as a bookkeeper for a Childress business until it closed. He, like his parents, then settled down to the ranching industry. Harry married Belzora McClure, twin sister of Lenora McClure Luckett,

and they had a daughter, Erin (now Mrs. Ernest Shearer, Alpine). After the death of Belzora, Harry married Ollie Hand. Harry and Ollie were gracious hospitable people. Harry was also interested in banking and at the time of his death was president of the board of directors of the First State Bank. Ollie loved young people, having parties for them and enjoyed having the senior girls visit her after she was incapacitated, when she presented them sewing baskets filled with the necessary equipment she collected.

They are buried in East Mound Cemetery. Harry and Ollie had three sons, Henry Harold, Lyman Bundy and Hal Vance. They live in Motley County and all are in ranching and farming. They and their wives have given, and continue to do, volunteer work in almost all areas of Church, Civic and Political activity in the County. Bundy and Vance are World War II veterans. Now their children are taking active places in the ongoing of ranching and volunteer activities. The H.H. Campbell Family are still here. Look around! You may be working with grandsons, great grandchildren and/or their spouses even their great-great grandchildren.

For more information, "The Early History of Motley County" by Harry H. Campbell may be found in the local library.

## A New Pupil At School

by Naomi Tilson

Anna Kimbell taught her first school in a dugout in Northfield. She had four pupils and made \$20 a month and thought she was making a large salary. One day they looked up on the ledge and there was

a large rattlesnake listening to the lessons. Quickly they left the dugout to the snake. Byrd Bain, an eleven year old pupil killed the snake, so Miss Anna Kimbell and her four pupils returned to the dugout to continue their studies.



Roaring Springs falls in 1913. Photo courtesy of Freda Keahey.



Downtown Roaring Springs in early day snow storm. (Photo courtesy of Mrs. Harold Casey Jones)

## Bob's Oil Well



Many memories surround this longtime landmark, Bob's Oil Well. It still stands as a sentinel to Matador at the corner of U.S. Highway 70 and Texas 70.

With \$100 and a little credit Bob Robertson seized the moment to open a filling station in Matador on the corner intersection of two major highways. Never mind that it was the depression and most businesses were reeling or folding altogether.

Then the Irishman, in his dramatic style, set a sixty-four foot wooden oil derrick atop the service station and called it "Bob's Oil Well." Ablaze with hundreds of lights, the landmark could be seen for miles before approaching Matador from any direction.

The World War I Marine veteran was born in Greenville, Texas, on August 28, 1894. He came to Matador in the 1920's and worked for J.H. Sample in the Spot Cash Grocery. Later he operated the Mission Service Station across from the northwest corner of the courthouse square. Robertson married Olga Cunningham on December 9, 1925. They had one child, Reatha Rayne, who was their "little darlin'."

In 1939, the year Robertson promoted Shannon Davidson Day, the wooden tower was replaced by a taller and stronger steel replica, reaching 86 feet into the sky, beacon light of the foothill country. The parade and rodeo celebration honoring the pony express rider who made the winning ride from Nocona, Texas, to Oakland, California, brought an estimated six thousand people to town.

As a novelty around 1936 Robertson started keeping a cage of rattlesnakes to

attract tourists. Three years later one of the reptiles hatched a litter of twelve little rattlers in captivity. From this modest beginning, a roadside zoo was born.

Two large lions arrived in June of 1940 from the City Park Zoo of Denver. Two years of age, the lions weighed approximately 400 pounds each and were shipped in heavy boxes similar to those used in circuses. A cage, 14 x 20 x 7 feet, made of iron, concrete, rock and wood was built and enclosed by a rock wall.

Just about a year after coming to Bob's Oil Well zoo, "Trader" and "Kit" became parents of four lion cubs, a highly unusual event for lions in captivity. About the size of house cats, two of the cubs were removed from the cage and cared for in the Robertson home. In 1942 quintuplets were born to the fertile lioness.

The roadside zoo marked by the lighted derrick became a popular tourist attraction. Besides the lions, at one time the dynamic showman/promoter had monkeys, a buffalo, a bobcat, a racoon, coyotes, and a pit of writhing rattlesnakes.

Advertising signs popped up along the roads leading to Matador: "Bob's Oil Well, Matador - 300 miles", then "Bob's Oil Well, Matador - 250 miles." Truckers, furnished with a sign and posthole diggers, were paid to place the markers which appeared on the way to Detroit, the Arizona line, and even old Mexico. World War II soldiers overseas wrote home that

they saw signs in Europe and the Pacific Islands which read "Bob's Oil Well, Matador, Texas - 3,000 miles" or the exact mileage from home.

Bob's Oil Well business cards were distributed by passing truckers who left them in service stations and cafes along their way. One was reportedly seen in a New York cafe.

His little empire grew to include Bob's Cook Shack, Bob's Foodway Grocery, and Bob's Garage, east of the filling station. Then in a consolidation move, Robertson sold the grocery store. He closed the garage, which he then used for storage and repair of his fleet of Conoco trucks from a new venture, the wholesale and retail distribution of gas and oil products.

In 1946 the new Bob's Cook Shack south of the station was built and adorned with colorful native rock and petrified wood hauled from the Salt Creek area. The modern cafe with a stainless steel kitchen was decorated with a western bar (strictly soda fountain), big mirrors, western furniture, and a Wurlitzer juke box.

As commander of the Fleming Post of the American Legion, Robertson led the public-minded members in caring for East Mound Cemetery east of Matador. Under his energetic leadership a rock arch or gateway was built over the entrance.

Robertson spearheaded the drive to purchase the Legion hall and to raise funds for new and larger building for veterans of both World Wars. As a member of Fleming Post and the Matador Lions Club, he was charged with erecting a memorial to the over 600 men from Motley County who fought in World War II. The World War I Legion members seemed determined that those returning from World War II would not be met with the same public apathy that they faced after signing the Armistice in 1918. As a beginning, placed on the courthouse square was the Honor Roll, a billboard which listed 660 Motley County men who served in the armed services.

However, it was not until 1950 that members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars decided to build their own meeting hall, using \$2,000 of their funds. Then the American Legion members voted to remodel and enlarge their post, dedicating it in 1951 to the community. The memorial fund was split between the two groups. Robertson's dream of honoring

veterans, all veterans, with a memorial was not to happen as he visualized it.

Voices rose and fell in the upstairs room at the Motley Hotel on January 13, 1947, as Bob and his wife Olga discussed divorce proceedings. With her attorney, John Hamilton, they dickered over the property settlement. With the day's business concluded, the attorney started down the stairs, followed by Mrs. Robertson in discussion.

As he reached the lobby door, Hamilton heard a loud noise. Mrs. Robertson turned and rushed back to the room--then she screamed. Hamilton vaulted up the stairs and found Robertson lying on the floor with a gunshot wound in his temple. A German luger, with one shot fired, was found near the body. The attorney quickly called Dr. J.S. Stanley and Sheriff John Stotts, but Robertson was pronounced dead by the physician.

County Judge William R. Cammack and Justice of the Peace Henry Pipkin conducted an inquest, concluding that Robertson's death was due to a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

"A gun in his own hand wrote the final chapter in the history of Matador's most colorful character," wrote Matador Tribune editor Douglas Meador. "Spirit of the amiable, 56-year old, red-faced Irishman who rose from a filling station operator to one of this West Texas town's leading business men, is released from mortal duty."

Less than two weeks later, a brisk wind toppled the steel tower, the symbol of Bob Robertson's ambition and empire, and stripped the foothill country of the landmark beacon which had guided travelers to and from Matador for fifteen years. The roof of the old cafe east of the station was damaged and telephone service disrupted, but the tower appeared to be unscathed.

Over two years later Mrs. Robertson, who commissioned her son-in-law Scotty Davis to rebuild the tower, restored the landmark to its position atop the service station. Lights, almost double the original amount, blazed from the tower on October 20, 1949. However, the cafe never regained its original momentum and closed in the 1950's. Over the years it reopened and closed several times, once under the flagship of Wylie Oil Company.

In 1991, Bob's Oil Well, surrounded by weeds and neglect, stands in resolute darkness, mute testimony to a promoter's wild and fantastic dreams for his town.

Congratulations  
Motley County

HAPPY  
100TH  
BIRTHDAY!



Tommy's Garage

# Charlie David Bird, 1866-1961



The children of Charlie and Daisie Bird: (l-r) Free, Carl, Cliff, Glen, Lila and Gus.

(Photo courtesy of Barbara Bird Jameson)



Charlie David Bird carrying flag in the early 40's at Old Settlers Parade, riding Old Gray. Rider to the right is (Cap) Ed Russell.

(Photo courtesy of Sue Bird)

## Kingery Jameson Wedding

1923

Homer Kingery and Miss Eva Jameson were united in marriage at 3:00 o'clock, Wednesday afternoon, June 6th, at Roaring Springs. The ceremony being solemnized by Elder Drennard of the Church of Christ.

Homer Kingery is one of the most popular young men ever reared in Motley County, and that is saying a great deal. He is a clean, moral, conscientious, polished young Christian gentleman who enjoys the confidence and respect of all with whom he comes in contact, and one whose future is full of promise, and whose success in life is assured, as gauged by application to his undertakings, proper conception of obligations either expressed or implied can give such warrant, and they are the greatest assets that the young man of today can possess.

The bride is the eldest daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. R.L. Jameson, of Whiteflat, and like the man of her choice, has been reared in Motley County, where her becoming graces, virtues and accomplishments have endeared her to a wide circle of friends. She is a musician of marked talent and her every effort in life has been characterized by the highest ideals, which give unquestioned warrant of her meeting and discharging the duties of the new relations of life with a single purpose of faith and conscientious convictions.

The earnest solicitations of a host of friends attend them.

They will make their home at the old Kingery homestead, southeast of town.

by Michelle Bearden

Staking a claim on the grassy plains of the Llano Estacado region of Texas in the years between 1884 to 1890, young Charlie David Bird nourished a dream held fast in his eighteen year old heart - land, cattle, a ranch of his own.

The ambitious youngster started working to make his dream come true by co-working on any ranch that would let him work. First working for the Pitchfork Ranch in 1884, he went from there to the Flying V, the "F" Ranch, the Double N Bar Ranch and finally the great Matador Ranch in June of 1885 where he ended up working for fifteen years off and on. In 1887, at age 21, he helped drive 2000 Matador steers through Indian Territory to Kansas where the nearest railhead lay. Between times of employment Charlie worked his ranch situated in Motley and Dickens Counties.

Born on Pumpkin Creek at Canton, Georgia on Oct. 31, 1866, Bird came to Erath County, Texas as a five year old. He was later privileged to help organize

three counties, Floyd, Motley, and Dickens counties from 1890 to 1891. He returned to Erath Co. to meet and marry Daisie Blair on December 8, 1891.

Charlie Bird brought his 21 year old bride first to a dugout at Red Lake in Dickens Co., then to a dugout on the ranch in Motley County. They lived in this dugout on the Tongue River 18 miles Southeast of Matador until 1900 when a frame house was built by Charlie and a farmer living on the ranch. Charlie hauled lumber for the initial 14x 14 house from

Quanah and Plainview with a borrowed team and wagon. He later added on to the house as needed and as money for lumber was available. The cavernous attic was made into a large room for Bird's five sons while his one daughter had a room downstairs. In 1923, with the family grown and gone, Mrs. Bird elected to eliminate the second story and the lumber was used to help build a son's house across the river. A uniform small stone rock fence was started by Mrs. Daisie Bird in an on-going effort to keep cattle

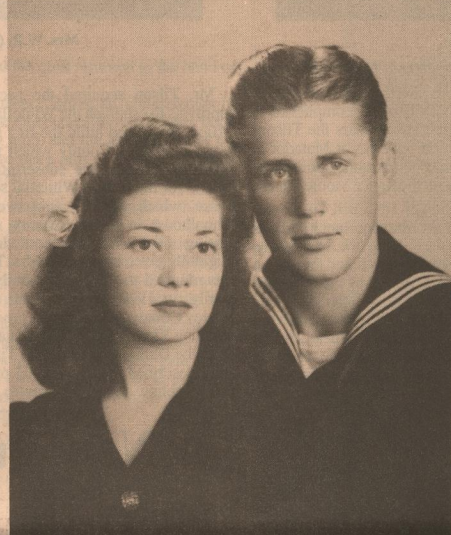
our of her yard. Charlie helped out by

hiring a itinerate workman to finish the landmark fence and also to build rock flower beds, a rock scrub board and cauldron holder to wash clothes.

Charlie spoke with Quanah Parker many times as the proud Indian chief frequently traveled through the Bird Ranch, camping on his way from the tribe's winter and summer grounds. Charlie ensured friendly relations with gifts of beef each time the tribe came through.

Charlie Bird, a bigger than life man built a 19 section ranch out of humble beginnings with a strong thread of perseverance, hard work and a little good luck. At his peak, Charlie ran over 2000 head of whitefaced herefords with the T Cross Bar brand on their left side. Bird was a charter member stockholder of the First State Bank of Matador which he and several others started in the early 1900's and where he served as chairman of the Board for over a half century.

Two fourth generation descendants of Charlie Bird currently raise cattle on this historic ranch. One great grandson, James Bearden lives in the old ranch house that Charlie built when his dream was still just a bright promise.



Nona Helen Kingery and Clyde Williams. This photo was made shortly before Clyde departed for overseas duty in the Pacific and on to Japan, WWII.

(Photo courtesy of Nona Williams)



Homer G. Kingery (Photo courtesy of Nona Williams)

## Pioneer Pastor Describes Early Camp Meetings



Rev. Robert Lee Jameson, 1874-1959

(Photo courtesy of Nona Williams)



Mrs. R.L. (Mintie) Jameson

(Photo courtesy of Nona Williams)

NOTE: This article is reprinted from Matador Tribune, issue August 22, 1940.

One of the early pastors of this section was (the late) Rev. R.L. (Bob) Jameson of Whiteflat, who came to Motley in 1906 as a circuit preacher from Paducah. He was born at Marshfield, Missouri, on October 4, 1874, and married Miss Mintie R. Barmore, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T.M. Barmore, at Crowell, Texas. They have eleven children, six sons and five daughters.

Regarding his early experiences, Rev. Jameson writes as follows: "I came to Matador as pastor of the Matador Circuit, Methodist Church, in November, 1906. For the first two years, I preached at Matador on two Sundays, at Whiteflat on Sunday, and at the Dutchman School one Sunday. For the following two years, I gave Matador three Sundays and Dutchman one, and in the early part of 1907, I organized the Whiteflat Church.

"At the Fourth Quarterly Conference held in 1910, the Matador Church asked and was granted full time, which it has maintained ever since.

"In the summer of 1905, I went to

Roaring Springs to assist the Matador pastor, the late J.T. Hicks, in the first camp meeting held at the Springs. At this meeting, every unconverted person attending made a profession of religion.

"A lone cowboy traveling through the country stopped by the Springs to make camp for the night as was the custom in those days. He attended the service that night, and he too was converted, going on his way the next day a happier man.

"During the following four years as pastor, I held camp meetings at the Springs in cooperation with the Dickens pastor.

"At one of the services a Lubbock preacher, Rev. W.P. Calloway, was doing the preaching. I noticed some confusion among the young people who were occupying benches to the left of the platform upon which the preacher was standing. Watching closely, I saw a rattlesnake crawling from under the benches and go under the platform.

"I stopped the preacher, and we stood the platform on edge, killed the snake, and without further confusion, the preacher proceeded with his sermon.

"We had some great services at those old camp meetings, and many of those who attended have been converted there."



Eva Jameson Kingery (Photo courtesy of Nona Williams)

Congratulations  
Motley County  
Happy 100th Birthday

Alexander  
Fuel



Happy 100th Birthday  
MOTLEY COUNTY  
Centennial Celebration  
May 25, 1991



Production  
Credit Association

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Motley County  
ON YOUR  
100TH BIRTHDAY

PIZZA GOLD

Highway 70

Foydada, Texas

983-2781

# History of the El Progresso Club

by Beverly Vinson

The year was early October 1927. Five women of Matador, Mrs. Frank Eiring, Mrs. Knox Crews, Mrs. U.L. Willie, Mrs. J.R. Whitworth and Mrs. Harry Willett were playing bridge when the conversation turned to different types of entertainment. This group decided their time could be better spent in cultural growth, hence, the idea for a study club emerged. Other ladies of Matador were contacted, those whom they thought might be interested in such an organization.

The previously mentioned women, with Mrs. Roy Burleson, Miss Ollie Echols (Mrs. D.I.W. Birnie), Mrs. Bob Echols, Mrs. M.P. Leaming, Mrs. J. Farris Fish, Miss Amy Glen, Miss Marie Luckett, Mrs. Bush Mayfield, Mrs. Leonora Luckett, and Mrs. M.J. Reilly met Oct. 13, 1927 in the home of Mrs. J.K. Crews with the intent of forming a study club. They felt a need of some study and exchange of ideas that would keep them abreast of the times as well as to continue with their educational aspirations. Mrs. Crews was elected president of the club which was given the name of El Progresso.

In 1928 an application to join the Texas Federation of Women's Clubs was sent to the state office - dues to be seven dollars. Federated came in Sept. 1929. The first out-of-town speaker was Mrs. Lon Smith of Floydada who spoke on "Women", this being Dec. 7, 1928.

The first donation given by the club was five dollars to the P.T.A. An electric clock was given the grade school and song books purchased along with library books for the school. Help was given to the city park by planting seeds, bulbs and trees. A city clean-up campaign involved the club in 1930 and donations to the Red Cross, gifts to needy children and much work on hands and knees was put in on the city park project.

In 1932 a cotton contest was sponsored by the club for the county and during the summer of 1933 contributions to maintain the loan library for children were given. In October El Progresso organized a Junior Club with Mrs. B.F. Tunnell as sponsor and they (El Progresso) paid the Federation dues for them, (\$5.00). In 1934 a Music Club was organized under the club's sponsorship. Starting a library had been one of the aims of the club for sometime and in 1935 this was achieved. Each member contributed at least one book for the new library project. A fee of one dollar year per family was set, a tea held on April 10, 1935 was for the opening of the library which was located over the old First National Bank building. To help the library fund the club served the Junior-Senior banquet for sixty cents per plate and forty dollars was cleared. The library continued to be a major club project and in 1930 it was moved to the grade school building from the bank building. Eight hundred books were moved to the school. (Shades of the 1984 when the county library was moved from the school to the American Legion building, then after securing the Commercial grocery building moving again into it. Many more volumes were transported across the street that time with many able bodies doing the work.)

The years 1940-1945 were filled with activities that concerned the problems of our nation, WWII. Club members helped in the Red Cross room, knitted mufflers and made shirts, bought defense bonds and donated to the Red Cross to by comfort kits that were issued to each man who embarked for foreign service. The Club also paid the Matador Tribune to help send papers to boys in service.

With the end of the war and servicemen returning to their homes the club found other ways to help in the community. They assisted in Boy and Girl Scout programs, getting a library established in the colored school by collecting one hundred and fifty books and helping the teachers in the Negro school arrange and catalog same.

In 1948 Mrs. U.L. Willie was endorsed as a candidate for state treasurer of TFWC. In August 1949 an emergency meeting was called by Mrs. Farris Fish, club presi-

dent, for the disposition of the public library. It was given to the Matador School and in the fall of that year Miss Mary Keith wrote a history of said library.

Eternas Study Club was organized in 1951-1953 with El Progresso paying their Federation dues as they had other clubs previously.

One thing that has contributed to peace and progress in El Progresso Club is the fact that the presidents have tried to carry on and build to the work of the previous administration.

During the reign of Mrs. J.L. Woodruff, 1955-1957 she consulted the county judge as to what the club could do to further the development of the city-county park. His answer was for the club to purchase all the needed lots and deed them to the county so the man and machinery could be used there with the city furnishing water. That, with much hard work, saved an almost lost cause.

During the term of Mrs. W.F. Jacobs the renowned Mrs. V.Y. Rejebian of Dallas gave her famous lecture on the "Bible." Though the treasury was emptied for the price paid, her interpretation and appreciation of the "Boos of Books" enriched our lives.

During the term of Mrs. Forrest (Jerry) Campbell the historical plaque was placed at the home of Dr. and Mrs. A.D. Traweck, Sr.

It was during the term 1965-1967 in which Mrs. L.B. (Lucretia) Campbell was elected to serve Santa Rosa District as president, then, during the term of Mrs. Winifred Darsey in 1967-1969, Mrs. U.L. Willie served on the State Board as a member of the TFWC Maintenance Committee, Headquarters Bldg. in Austin, Texas.

A variety of programs have come down through the years and one that was entirely TEXAS was during the years of 1971-1973 when Mrs. Furman Vinson was serving as president. Such programs as Indians of Texas, Texas Trails, Our Court System Christmas in Texas, Expanding Religion in Texas, etc. were given.

1975-1977 were saddened by the loss of our last charter members, Mary Willett and Margaret Whitworth. Again, another State President visited the local club, Mrs. Harriette Whatley. It has been the privilege of the club to have nearly every year, or at least every two years the state president visit.

Through the years El Progresso Club has been progressive in its help to the community and county. They helped sponsor girls going to the 4-H Congress in Washington, D.C.; the Christmas program was held for many years in the lovely home of Mrs. J.L. Woodruff, then after her move to Grapeland, Mrs. Bill McCaghen took over and these programs are always when everyone is there to celebrate the joyous holiday season with friends, Christmas carols and delicious food; Senior High School girls are always entertained in recognition of their attaining the goals of seniority; causes such as that raised by Madalin M. O'Hare banning religious TV and radio programs was presented by a petition which all signed and returned to the proper authorities.

Mrs. Frank (Laverna) Price, the only woman to serve three consecutive years as President did so in order for El Progresso to comply with state by-law changes making each individual club elect officers during the same year as the state slate. During this tenure the club met to present as Santa Rosa District President, Mrs. Harold (Grace) Campbell, when the state convention was held in Amarillo in April 1980. El Progresso was one of four clubs to host the district workshop during October 1980 when a noon meal was served as a money-making project.

In December 1981 El Progresso joined other organizations in Matador to provide "An Old Fashioned Christmas". Chicken Casserole was the main dish with dessert extra. Pies were left over and sold giving the club over \$350.00 to add to their coffers. Projects for this later period of the club were sending girls to Girls State, gifts to Wichita Falls State Hospital (later Vernon Center), contrib-

uting to CARE, Girlstown, U.S.A. and planning for Texas Sesquicentennial.

A highlight was during the 1985-1987 term when a city-wide style show was held in the Senior Citizens building. Fashions from two stores, Jewelry for another, and clothes made at home were modeled, refreshments were served and a huge success was declared by all. It was during this time the Jail was given to the club with much work going into refurbishing it for the celebration on May 26 when the Texas Sesquicentennial Wagon Train "came to town!" The jail was cleaned up, painted up and a museum with artifacts from the early days displayed in cases, on the walls, in the windows, etc. It was a huge success with members dressed in early-day garb acting as hostesses - everyone was thrilled! The jail project was entered into the General Federation of Women's Club C.I.F. program but failed to win (Community Improvement Program) but it was an incentive for the members to work above and beyond the call many times for much work was put into making the jail a place we are proud to show visitors.

On Valentines day a game party was held with guests invited, games were played under a covered dish luncheon served to a good group of members and guests, this coming in the 1988 year when Mrs. Douglas (Lila) Meador was club president.

One of El Progresso Club's most devoted and beloved honorary members, Mrs. Ben (Vinie) Keltz passed away leaving a gap in our roster and hearts. The year led by Mrs. Joe (Loys) Campbell was filled with music which the club always enjoys, a trip to the home of Mrs. Robert (JoAnn) Dickson in Anson to see her many lovely antiques, the always enjoyed annual Gentlemen-Guest evening, this year with former countian Joanne Darsey Stevens, was told of the Santos by Twentieth Century Santeras. During this 1989-90 term the club entered the Constitution celebration by having a great program from the gazebo on the courthouse lawn with color-guard, flag raising, speech by the County Judge and releasing of red, white and blue balloons and ringing church bells as well as any others that would ring all at a specified time.

Mrs. Joe Campbell has again assumed the presidency for 1990-1992. These coming years also promise programs to inform and educate, projects to assist the community and county, especially for the Centennial celebration of Motley County on May 25, 1991, field trips to inform and educate as well.

Past presidents of the club and the years they served are as follows: Mrs. J.K. Crews\*, 1927-28; Mrs. M.P. Leaming\*, 1928-30; Mrs. E.C. Stearns\*, 1930-31; Mrs. J.R. Whitworth\*, 1931-33; Mrs. J. Farris Fish\*, 1933-35; Mrs. U.L. Willie\*, 1935-37; Mrs. M.J. Reilly\*, 1937-39; Mrs. Leonora Luckett\*, 1939-41; Mrs. U.L. Willie\*, 1941-45; Mrs. A.J. Daffern\*, 1945-49; Mrs. Frank Pohl, 1949-51; Mrs. G.E. Hamilton\*, 1951-53; Mrs. Vivian Campbell, 1953-55; Mrs. J.L. Woodruff, 1955-57; Mrs. W.F. Jacobs\*, 1957-59; Mrs. D.E. Pitts, 1959-61; Mrs. W.N. Pipkin, 1961-63; Mrs. Forrest Campbell\*, 1963-65; Miss Sue Glenn\*, 1965-67; Mrs. Robert Darsey, 1967-69; Mrs. L.B. Campbell, 1969-71; Mrs. Furman Vinson, 1971-73; Mrs. R.E. Campbell Jr., 1973-75; Mrs. Harold H. Campbell, 1975-77; Mrs. Franklin Price, 1977-80; Mrs. Furman Vinson, 1980-82; Mrs. John Hamilton, 1982-84; Mrs. Robert Dickson, 1984-86; Mrs. Douglas Meador, 1986-88; and Mrs. Joe Campbell, 1988-1992.



C.J. and James Cornett. Picture made next to Motley County Jail in about 1913.

(Photo courtesy of L. Cornett)



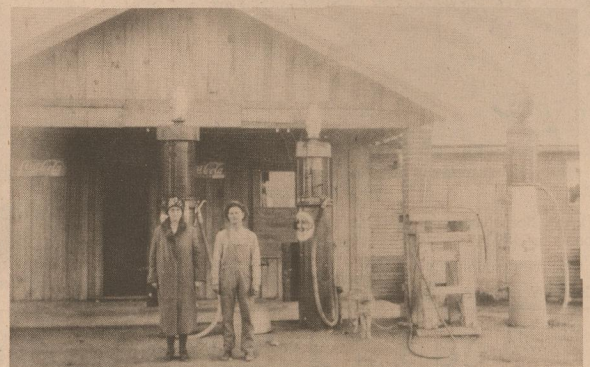
Cornett kids: (l-r) C.J. Cornett, L. Cornett and James (Pat) Cornett, pictured on east side of Motley County Jail in 1914. These children lived at the jail with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Cornett. Mr. Cornett was the jailer for several years. (Photo courtesy of L. Cornett)



Pat Cornett Family: Man pictured third from left (top) is Pat Cornett and his family. They came to Motley County in 1890. He built the jail and the first courthouse in Motley County.

(Picture courtesy of L. Cornett)

## Longtime Residents Came To Texas From Missouri



The Tipton Station in Northfield, Texas.

When A.A. Tipton came to Motley county from Caruthersville, Missouri in the spring of 1927, it was at the invitation and insistence of his sister-in-law, "...to get away from the cyclone country." Also, "You can always get a job on the railroad," she wrote.

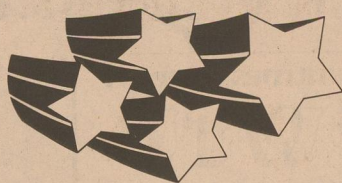
"She" was Mrs. J.A. Tipton of Northfield, whose husband was A.A. Tipton's

brother, and the two wives were sisters. The men were born in Tennessee, and during their adult lives had worked for railway companies in Arkansas and Missouri. A.A. Tipton also was a carpenter.

After obtaining a job with the Quanah, Acme & Pacific Railway, Mr. Tipton sent for his wife and children, who made

the trip to Texas in the fall of 1927. However, Mrs. Tipton brought only her two younger children, Burrell, 9, and Mary Ola, 5. The two older daughters, Lila and Opal remained in Caruthersville so that Opal graduated from high school the following year. Lila had graduated and was working as bookkeeper for a hardware firm. They joined the family

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100 years of history  
1891-1991



Motley County  
Historical Commission



Jim and Katie Crowell Tipton

in Northfield in June, 1928. That fall they came to Matador, Lila to work at the First National Bank, and Opal at Willett's Dry Goods.

Mr. Tipton's work with the Q.A.&P. was temporary, and he and the family moved to Flomot, where they lived until

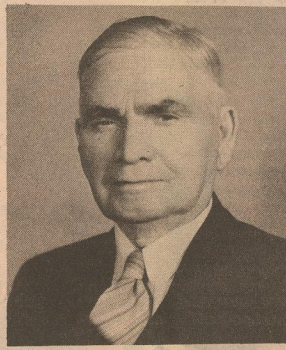
the theatre, have been razed. Mr. Tipton was born in Sevier County, Tenn. Mrs. Tipton, the former Aletha Crowell, was born in Murphysboro, Illinois and died May 1, 1964 in Matador.

# Motley County Memories

# Marian Burt (Central) Roaring Springs First Telephone Operator



Daughters of Mr. and Mrs. J.W. Hamilton: (l-r) Catherine, Ola, Ella, Elizabeth and Margaret - sisters of G.E. Hamilton.



G.E. Hamilton, first lawyer in Motley County.

(Photo courtesy of Mary Meason)

by Mary Hamilton Meason

As the time nears for the Centennial Celebration of Motley County, I have been thinking of the many changes that have taken place during my almost eighty years of life in Motley County. All those years I have spent in Matador with the exception of the one year that I lived in Childress and the years that I was away in school.

Those eighty years have been very happy ones, but also they have been sprinkled with sadness, heartbreak and disappointments. But as the saying goes, "Into each life some rain must fall."

As I think about the improvements in living conditions, the first things that comes to mind is the bathtub instead of the wash tub, the flush toilet instead of the old outhouse, electric lights in place of kerosene lamps, whose chimneys always needed cleaning, and electricity or gas for cooking and hot and cold running water inside the house. The old wood range we had first really cooked good and the oven was great for warming our feet. That oven was also a great place for drying out baby chickens that had been caught in the rain storm and nearly drowned. They were wrapped in a big warm cloth and kept in the warm oven until they were dry and fluffy, then they were returned to the mother hen.

Those wonderful woodranges also had a draw back! It had a warming closet, and when we children left food on our plates they were put in that warming closet and we had to eat that left over, warmed over food the next meal. Another thing I disliked about that warming closet was that when it was my older brother's time to wash dishes if anything had syrup or gravy in it, he always put those things to "soak" and put them in that warming closet! After his time to wash dishes it was my time to clean up the kitchen and there was always something soaking in that warming closet!

I have faint recollection of riding in a buggy and we always went plum hunting in a wagon that was full of wash tubs, children, cousins and aunts.

Then our first car! A Dodge touring car which my father said he would never drive faster than 19 miles and hour!

A train ride was the next thing to paradise! A train ride from Roaring Springs to Quanah was a great event in my life. I can still remember how that coach smelled, the smell of the smoke from the locomotive and a special memory of the cinders that blew in the open window and into my eyes! An how that did hurt!

## TV Crew Visits Matador

Feature reporter Karla Leslie and her camera man visited with Lucretia Estes Campbell, Wilda and Spencer Dixon, Marisue Potts, and Billy Wayne Denison at the Jail, Johnny Stevens and Bundy Campbell at the Matador Ranch Headquarters, and took shots of the downtown windows, streets, and the interior of the bank where the centennial quilt hangs.

A two minute segment, carved

from over two hours worth of tape, aired on May 21 at 10 p.m. and May 22 at noon on Channel 11.

The co-anchor newswoman met many people she recognized from the times she visited her grandmother Mrs. Velma Fulfer, county treasurer from 1949 until 1968. "Motley County feels more like home than home," Karla related. She will be the feature speaker during the centennial program.

posed of many denominations will begin at 2 p.m. Everyone is invited to participate, either by singing or just enjoying the great music.



Has hope;  
For He is our strength, our joy  
He is our peace, our contentment.  
He is our faith; our love;  
He is our faith; our love;  
He is all things to those  
Whose God is God.  
I'm so glad I know Him!

west of the post office, employing a variety of costumes depicting several eras.

Pony rides for the kids will probably be located north of the courthouse square.

Come join the fun, but don't forget to bring your lawn chairs and umbrellas!

On Sunday, at the First Baptist Church in Matador, an old fashioned singing convention, com-

distributed last year than ever before, and more countries are now allowing their people to follow their religious beliefs.

How customs have changed! It seemed to me, as a child, that funerals always took place in the very hottest weather! The church bell was tolled and that was always the saddest depressing sound. If the departed one was a member of any of a lodge, the lodge members would walk all the way from the church to the cemetery behind the horse-drawn hearse. That was the same hearse that mysteriously appeared on the old school house steps one Halloween!

People were so caring and concerned about any family who had a serious illness in the family. We had one doctor and no hospitals at that time. The nearest surgeon was in Fort Worth and I remember well when that surgeon would come here from Fort Worth to operate on people. The surgery was done in the homes. There was no gauze bandages, but old clean sheets were torn into strips to be used as bandages and those strips of sheets were tied up in a bundle and placed in the oven of the wood range to be sterilized. I remember all this so well because my father and my uncle both received surgery by that doctor in our home.

The kindness and caring of Motley County people is still very much in evidence. If there is a death or illness in a family there is an immediate show of kindness and caring by the visits, food, cards and calls from people you may not see but two or three times a year. People are always there to show their love and concern.

There were so many good times when I was a young girl in Motley County. The young people today would probably take a mighty dim view of what we considered a good time. We always had Valentine parties, Halloween parties- and just parties-with some adult nearby as a chaperone.

Swimming was always a favorite past time of mine. For years there was no swimming pool, clear, clean and COLD, but any tank or hole that had enough water in it to swim was great. Willow Creek had a wonderful deep hole with a clean sandy bottom. That is where I

learned to swim. Then there was Cribbs tank. It was deep enough to swim in and the mud was knee deep, but we swam there, anyhow.

Horseback riding was great fun too. We had one good old horse that my brother and I rode all the time, but finally one of my father's clients gave John a paint horse. I didn't like that horse because he was so unpredictable. I never knew when he would run, buck, or be nice. He threw my brother one time and broke John's leg. After that I never rode that horse again!

Singing conventions at Whiteflat were a lot of fun, too. The young people didn't do much singing, but the boys and girls had a very good time fraternizing outside the church.

Tennis, baseball, hunting rabbits at night and quail by day was a great thing to do, and the boys were very lucky if they could use the family car for a Saturday night date!

Do you remember the fiftieth Motley County Celebration called Shannon Davidson Day? This celebration was to honor a great feat accomplished by Shannon Davidson who rode horseback from Nacona, Texas over the Pony Express route to California. That was a big celebration.

Then we celebrated the seventy-fifth anniversary with a spectacular production depicting events of the county throughout the first seventy five years of Motley County. True to West Texas weather, the second night of that unforgettable program was cut short by a wind and rain storm.

Its funny what young children are impressed by in the everyday world. My earliest recollection of Matador is the wagon yard, of all things! Also the blacksmith shops for some reason were very fascinating. But the ladies Milinery shop! I've never seen such gorgeous hats, then there were the County Fairs! A queen was elected and rode in the parade in a touring car with the top down.

Those were what our children now call "The Good Old Days!"

## Rattlesnake Bill



Mr. and Mrs. Bill Slover

by Diana Garza

NOTE: Research for this article, by Texas Tech journalism student, Diana Garza, was made possible by a grant from the Reader's Digest Foundation.

It all began in 1938 when a rattlesnake bit Bill Slover's new heifer on the hoof. Slover said, "I decided to get all I could after that." Since that time, "Rattlesnake Bill" has caught over 5000 rattlesnakes.

Slover, a farmer who came to this area from Canyon with family in a covered wagon in 1913, said he farmed all the time and hunted rattlesnakes for fun.

Winner of the World Championship Rattlesnake Roundup in Okeene, Okla., in 1954, 1955 and 1957, Slover can be considered one of the best rattlesnake hunters in the world.

"People have come from all over the country to have me take them hunting," Slover said.

Once Slover took a county agent from Amarillo hunting and caught 12 snakes. The agent later cooked the snakes for a group of demonstrators, who did not

realize what they were eating.

"When he told them, they all started to get sick," Slover said, laughing.

Despite all of his hunts and encounters with snakes, Slover has only been bitten a couple of times. "They don't bite me because they're afraid I'll kill them," Slover said.

The largest snake Slover has ever caught weighed 16 pounds and measured 16 feet 4 inches in length.

Slover said one of the easiest ways to catch snakes is to go out at night with a large can. Snakes will crawl right into the can because it is cold and dark.

Slover said that one cannot always tell the age of the snake by the number of rattles because when the rattles get wet, they fall off.

Slover once had an encounter with a rattlesnake with no rattles. Slover did not see the snake under a bush and would have stepped on the snake if a local preacher who was with Slover had not warned him the snake was there.

Slover's wife, Ethel, when asked how she dealt with Slover's hunting, said, "I take it all with a grain of salt."



Marian Burt

by Diana Garza

NOTE: Research for this article, by Texas Tech journalism student, Diana Garza, was made possible by a grant from the Reader's Digest Foundation.

People in Roaring Springs called Marian Burt, "Central," when she was a telephone operator during the 30s because she always knew what was going on in town.

Burt, the first telephone operator in Roaring Springs, worked for the phone company and had a room down the street that she rented for \$5 a month, until cutbacks left her the only operator still employed.

Because she was the only operator, Burt moved into the telephone office. For the next eight years, until quitting in October 1940, she worked almost 24 hours a day. Her bed was next to the switchboard so she could answer it day or night.

"Fifty dollars a month was the most I was ever paid," Burt said. "But that was quite a bit of money in those days." Burt married in 1935, and her husband, B.F., raised hogs in town. They both continued to live in the telephone office, and the bed was still kept next to the switchboard.

Burt was given one week of vacation each year, and her sister-in-law, Ruby Burt, answered the switchboard. Marian

Burt usually paid Ruby \$1 per night for her help. The cost of phone service at that time was 75 cents a month for the rural areas, \$1.50 in town, and \$2.25 for businesses. It cost 10 cents to make a call from Roaring Springs to Matador.

"I had to keep tickets of each call and how long each person talked," Burt said. The tickets were turned into the main office so that customers could be charged for their calls.

The tickets included the date, the caller, the city called, and the time. Long distance callers were allowed three minutes, and then charged a set amount for each minute thereafter.

Burt said she occasionally had a customer argue with her about calls he was charged for, but she said she was able to straighten things out.

Burt said there were about 35-45 subscribers at that time. Many of the calls she placed were to Quanah because cotton was sold over the phone.

During her time as operator, Burt also answered for a doctor whose office was across the street.

Burt said the hardest thing about her job was delivering death messages to family members in the community.

"That was always the hardest thing because I knew all of these people," Burt said. "But after a while, you learn to be strong."

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Come In Now For Lots Of Good Buys  
Save up to 50%  
Dorothy's Ladies Apparel  
Gabriel Shopping Center Plainview

**Taylor's Pizza Box**  
Will Be Open At 7:00 a.m.  
Saturday, May 25th  
Centennial Celebration Day  
Lunch Special  
Rib Eye Steak  
Baked Potato  
Salad  
**WE WILL BE OPEN AFTER THE CENTENNIAL DANCE!**

**WE SPECIALIZE IN TRACTOR AND TRUCK FLATS**  
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PROPANE, GASOLINE, DIESEL AND OIL  
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WE APPRECIATE YOUR BUSINESS  
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**COOPER OIL**  
Matador, Texas Day, 347-2346 or Night 347-2411

## Lem Guthrie



Mr. and Mrs. Lem Guthrie  
(Photo courtesy of Pete Dirickson)

by Mrs. L.H. Dirickson

Mr. and Mrs. Lem Guthrie, with their six children, moved to Motley County from Seymour, Texas in Baylor County in February, 1912. Naturally jobs for a newcomer were not plentiful so Pop and a friend, Earnest Fisher (also a resident) put in a freight line from Childress, using wagons and a team of horses. Later he ran a parttime Variety Store in the old Kansler building, where he also pumped gasoline from a pump and for customers who wanted Ethyl gas (as it was called) would be put in from a container by hand into the gasoline being pumped. Later my sister, Lillye, ran the "express office," in that same building. Next venture for Pop was

the Pierce Fordyce Oil Co., where he delivered gasoline (I presume kerosene) in ten gallon cans to customers by a truck with a bed. He built the first "Filling Station" in town (also the building later) where the American Legion is. In this building he had various auto agencies. At one time he sold the Dodge car and lastly he sold Chevrolets, where big brother, Lee, became his partner. In 1930 the Guthries sold the agency and moved to Wheeler, Texas and started in show business and that's where all the Rogue Theatres came into being and lasted for 30 years. Mr. and Mrs. L.H. Dirickson became owners of the Rogue Theatre here for more than 30 years, adding the Drive-In to the business.

## A.D. and Victoria Beauchamp



Victoria and A.D. Beauchamp  
(Photo courtesy of Mrs. B.W. Koon)

A.D. and Victoria Beauchamp moved to Motley County in 1897 from Jack County. They filed on a section of land near Teepee Creek. Were pioneer mem-

bers of the Methodist Church in Matador. Children of the couple were Vernie, nellie Lawrence Haney and Price. Seth Beauchamp and Lucille McNabb survive.

## Andrew Johnson Hudson Patriarch of Flomot



Andrew Johnson Hudson  
(Photo courtesy of Furman Vinson)

### DREAMS IN BOYHOOD

The boy who has never lain barefooted and with his face to the sky on a load of freshly cut corn or cane, has been denied a glorious adventure. Dream ships of youth flaunt white sails easily on the blue inverted sea and the song that swells in the young heart will continue to vibrate against the metallic walls of reality.

Trail Dust — Doug Meador

## Matador Chapter #66 Order of the Eastern Star

The Eastern Star Home in Arlington was completed and dedicated during the 1923-24 term. In 1930-31 it was decided to add two new wings to the Home to cost \$75,000 - \$85,000. Any Eastern Star member can go there to live.

Matador Chapter #66 was organized on October 5, 1890 with Mrs. Lizzie Campbell the first Worth Matron and T.N. Edmonson the first Worth Patron. This Chapter has been active since it first began when it helped the fledgling Masonic Lodge with serving meals and furnishing various things for the lodge hall. It is noted in the minutes of Matador lodge #824 they furnished the Eastern Star Chapter with a piano for their meetings. They continue to aid one another whenever they can, making the relationship one of great worth.

This order is a very popular organization, one which Rob Morris devoted many years of labor and dedication. There are five degrees which sons and their mothers, wives, sisters and daughters are eligible to join. The Order is closely akin to the various branches of the Masonic brotherhood.

In 1874 it was proposed to form a Supreme Grand Chapter of those already formed, to be held in Indianapolis, where a Constitution was formed, a committee appointed to revise the ritual and a General Grand Chapter duly organized. Texas formed its Grand Chapter on May 5, 1884. Chapters of the Eastern Star are to be found around the world. Texas has

been very fortunate to have served as Most Worth Grand Matron of the General Grand Chapter, Mrs. Mildred Haney Harris from 1961-1964, Mrs. Laura B. Hart who served from 1901-1904 and two men who served as Most Worthy Grand Patron were Dr. Alfred C. McDaniel in 1919-1922 and Mrs. Frank W. Lynn from 1937-1940.

Texas Grand Chapter is divided into five districts with ten sections in each

district. A District Deputy Grand Matron is responsible for her district with a Deputy in each section, both of these women carry on the directives of the Worth Grand Matron. Matador Chapter has been very fortunate to have served as Deputy of District two, Section five Mrs. Grace Campbell, Mrs. Etoile Stanley, Mrs. Wilma Hobbs, Mrs. Vivian Jacobs and Mrs. Lee Peacock.

The current Worthy Matron is Mrs. Opal Pipkin and the Worthy Patron is

Harold Campbell, grandson of the first Worthy Matron. He has served that position many times assuring the Chapter it will have the needed Mason in attendance when it required. Mr. Campbell is very proficient in the ceremony of initiation and is called upon to assist other Chapters when called upon to do so.

With several initiations during the past several months the chapter is looking forward to more years of continued meetings and work.



Members of the Matador Rebecca Lodge, about 1915 or 1916

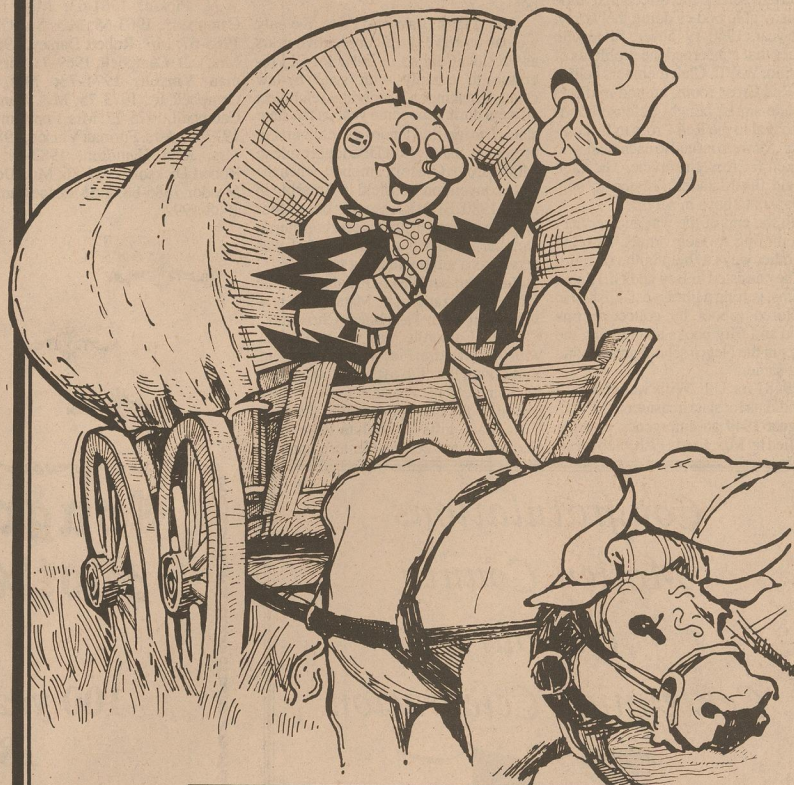
(Photo courtesy of Charles Keith)

### VEXATION STRENGTHENS

Someone has said that pain is the stern guardian that protects our lives from destruction, which is the same capacity or occupied by perplexing anxiety in its relationship with the soul. A controlled portion of vexation washes away the seeds of evil and strengthens the soil for more wholesome growth.

Trail Dust — Doug Meador

**Join the 100 Year  
Celebration of Motley Co.  
on Saturday, May 25th.  
There'll be lots of fun  
for everyone!**



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Employer



**WTU**

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Remember, Reddy supplies the energy,  
but only you can use it wisely.



# Matador Lodge #824

by Beverly Vinson

Throughout Texas history Masonic lodges exercised a degree of social control which strengthened the rule of law and order of the fledgling state. In sparsely settled areas such as Motley County in 1898 citizens were at a loss for organizations, social functions and ways to improve their way of living. After long days "cowboying" or whatever their job may be with time on their hands in all probability mention of furthering their Masonic studies and degrees was probably a topic of concern. There were those who were members of this fraternity who undoubtedly wanted to continue to belong and work in a lodge but the nearest was at Floyd City in Floyd County approximately 35 miles distant and riding horseback that far was certainly something to be reckoned with, however, on October 4, 1898 three men traveled those thirty-five miles to Floyd City Lodge to petition for a dispensation to the Grand Lodge of Texas A.F.&A.M. The day before these men traveled to Floyd City, Bro. R.C. Andrews, then District Deputy Grand Master of the 62nd Masonic District, had visited Matador and the building the men had purchased for said lodge reporting: "I hereby certify that I have examined the Hall in which the within petitioners propose to meet for Masonic purposes, and that it is entirely safe and suitable for Masonic purposes, the building being 30x53 ft. and owned entirely by these Brethren and well finished up, the lower story is now rented for school purposes.

There being no Masonic Lodge in Motley County, the County is rapidly filling up and there is an abundance (of) good material out of which to make Masons and I am convinced that the best interests of Freemasonry would be subscribed by granting the prayers of petitioners."

The petition was granted and signed by J.S. Thomas, T.N. Cammack, F.E. McGaughey, J.C. Lisenby, W.L. Browning, W.B. Gilpin, J.J. Russell, T.N. Edmonson, J.L. Burlison and J.N. Williams. Money was raised by the local brethren for the lodge building with the lower rooms the school.

The first slate of officers elected in Matador Lodge #824 were W.L. Browning, W.M.; J.L. Burlison, S.W.; Jack Luckett, J.W.; T.N. Cammack, Treas.; John McBain, Sec.; W.B. Gilpin, Tiler. As early as 1899 it is noted the Scots were visiting and attending lodge in Matador for Bro. T.G. Duncan, member of The Bruce #592, Scotland was in attendance. It is also a noted fact that John McBain of St. Furgus #466 of Scotland was registered in Matador Lodge #824 U.D. held Oct. 22, 1898, the first meeting of the lodge.

The petition for Dispensation was presented to the Grand Lodge of Texas and Matador Lodge was granted same to meet as Matador #824 U.D. until the next session of Grand Lodge. Now they could meet in the building they had purchased on the south side of the courthouse square in the proximity of the building formerly used as the Post Office next to the City Hall. This was a wooden building, two stories tall, with the bottom portion used as a school. This building used as the Matador Lodge was purchased from Mrs. M.H. Dickson by donations from lodge members who gave as much as \$2.50 to \$25.00, some by note and others when they could.

The first minutes from Matador Lodge #824 U.D.; Lodge met in Matador Motley County, Texas on Saturday, the 22nd of October A.D., 1898 A.L. 5898 under a dispensation granted by R.W. Deputy Grand Master Sam R. Hamilton, on the 6th day of October, A.D. 1898 to the following named brethren, to wit J.S. Thomas, T.N. Cammack, F.E. McGaughey, J.C. Lisenby, W.L. Browning, W.B. Gilpin, and T.N. Edmonson. Visiting Brethren: Bro. R.C. Andrews, D.D.G.M. 62nd Masonic District; J.R. Burrus, Floyd City Lodge #712; H.H. Campbell, Ennis lodge #369; E.A. Foster late of Stonewall Lodge #704; W.F. Kelley late of Fisher Lodge #703; H.R.

Black, Chrystal Falls Lodge #614; R.Y. Black, Chrystal Falls Lodge #614; John McBain, late Sta. Furgus Lodge #466, Scotland; A.B. Newman, late Ft. Richardson Lodge #320.

As can be determined by the sometimes barely legible penmanship of the secretaries, the first Masonic burial to be held by Matador Lodge #824 was April 14, 1900 for Brother Cox.

The lodge continued to prosper and grow with degree work being held at nearly every meeting which was held on the Saturday on or before each full moon at 7:00 p.m.

Bro. T.N. Cammack was elected to Life Membership and exempt from the dues at the July 22nd, 1899 meeting, the first one to have that honor bestowed upon him. Bro. Cammack was appointed a delegate to attend the opening of the Masonic Home for orphans and widows in Ft. Worth on June 17, 1900.

The secretary was allowed dues for the twelve months ending 24 June, 1903 for services to the Lodge, a custom that prevails to this day. It was also moved that the ministers belonging to the Lodge be reminded their dues and made honorary members of the Lodge, another practice continued.

January 10, 1910 Carroll Thompson received the Fellowcraft degree. (In the following year this man became the first

president of the Motley County School Board having been the representative from Dist. #1, the White Star District. In later years Mr. Thompson was a noted educator in Lubbock with a public school named for him.) On February 10, 1910 he became a Master mason.

In April 1904 it is noted Dickens asked help in forming a new lodge in that community, then, in late 1921, Roaring Springs was granted a charter.

March 21, 1921 a Delco system was purchased, then, on July 4, 1925 the city lights were connected and the Delco sold.

It is common knowledge Matador Lodge burned. There is no record stating such a fact but the secretary's book has an entry for November 28, 1925 with the next entry February 27, 1926, also, the date on the cornerstone is for the latter date. At the July 31 meeting it was voted to have a barbecue and entertainment in honor of opening the new Temple.

April 24, 1926 F.M. Eiring was appointed by the W.M. to meet with other organizations of the town to organize a "Simetary" association

Matador Masonic Lodge #824 has been noted for helping their own when in time of trouble, assisting reliefs occurring after disasters of nature; they have sent deserving and able to the Home for Aged Masons in Arlington; children were placed in the Widows and Orphan's Home when

it became necessary relieving the family from added care when they probably could not afford to keep them at home. Donations from Matador Lodge have continued to flow to the Home for Aged and Home and School. During WWI and II dues from servicemen were exempt until their return.

Men who have served as District Deputy Grand Master are: R.F. Thornton, 1933-34; E.F. Springer, 1939-1940; George Springer, 1940-1941; Harold Campbell, 1949-1950; R. Furman Vinson, 1951-1952; D.E. Pitts, 1955-1956; Elbert Reeves, 1958-1959; Glen Brotherton, 1962-1963; Algie Groves, 1963-1964; Sam Ross, 1967-1968; Jimmy Ross, 1974-1975; Roger Vinson, 1981-1982; and Billie Farley, 1984-1985.

Matador Lodge has also been privileged to have a Grand Master serve the Grand Lodge of Texas. R. Furman Vinson served this statewide body in 1978.

Although Matador Lodge has lost members over the past years it continues to function as a charitable organization by contributing to Masonic organizations and this year will offer a graduating senior a scholarship. When they can they assist getting children into the Scottish Rite Hospital for Children, the Home for Aged and Shrine Crippled Children or Burns Hospital.

# L.W. Crowell Was Early Flomot Merchant



Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Crowell of Flomot, 1911. (Photo courtesy of Lila Meador)

by Lila Meador

When Leonard Crowell came to Texas in 1904, his first job was on the I.F. Fish Ranch in the Quitaque Peaks vicinity, before Flomot was ever considered a community. The first store there was established by E.C. Hewitt, in 1907, and Mr. Crowell became the second merchant in 1911, when he opened a grocery and dry goods store.

Mr. Crowell was born at Murphysboro, Illinois, and moved with his family to Arkansas, where they established residence at Paragould. He had reached manhood before leaving home to wrest his fortune from the west. He has remained in the Flomot community since first going there, and has witnessed its gradual growth with a great amount of interest. The first gin was built in 1907 by a Mr. McCollum of Lockney, he recalls.

Families living in that vicinity at that time included those of B.F. Turner, E.C. Hewitt, Welch, B.F. Folly, F.B. Hawkins, W.A. Martin, W.J. Whitworth and D.H. Cooper.

In 1910 Mr. and Mrs. J.H. Watson moved to Flomot, and the following year

their daughter, Mary Elizabeth (Lizzie) and Mr. Crowell were united in marriage. To this union were born three children, Odis, Leonard Jr., and Bonnie Ruth. Two daughters by a previous marriage to Miss Lillie Cooper also reside at Flomot, being Mrs. A.W. Jones and Mrs. Reese Kell. (The Matador Tribune, Thursday, August 31, 1939)

Mr. Crowell died December 11, 1951, and in the fall of 1959, his widow married M.J. Pyron, who died in 1961. Mrs. Pyron died December 25, 1973.

Odis Crowell and his wife, the former Wilma Richardson live in Amarillo. They have four sons, Max, Steve, Jimmy and Kent. Leonard Junior married Ruby Pinkerton (both are deceased). Their daughter, Glynda, died in 1966 from injuries received in a car accident. They also had two sons, Lynn and Joe Bob. Bonnie Ruth lives in Hereford, where she and her husband, W.L. Nall lived at the time of his death several years ago. Their son, Don, lives in Hereford, and their daughter, Mary Beth and her family, husband, Joe and children, Eric and Mandy, live in Matador.



Early day Barber Shop in Roaring Springs. Boy on right, shining shoes, is Casey Jones. This was his first job. Other men are unknown. (Photo courtesy of Harold Casey Jones)



Family of Glen David and Viola Mae (Bailey) Brd. (l-r) Glen, Mae, G.T., Daisy Mae (Sue) and Samuel Charles (Mann), picture made at Old Settlers, Roaring Springs, Texas in the early 40's. G.T. and Sue had just won Most Typical Cowboy and Cowgirl ribbons in the parade.



FIRST FLOMOT STORE: Established in 1907 by E.C. Hewitt. Man standing by the barrel at right is Leonard Crowell, who became the second merchant in 1911, when he opened a grocery and dry goods store.

(Photo courtesy of Lila Meador)



Motley County girls playing on a sunny afternoon, (top l-r) Rosemary Bloodworth, Arnette McWilliams, Jolene Bloodworth; (sitting) Peggy Jean Spray, Juanita McAllister, Ernestine McWilliams, (foreground) Dorothy Jean Casey.

(Photo courtesy of Jolene B. Higginbotham)

## Motley County Centennial

### Happy 100th Birthday!!



Ron Lanford  
Motley County Serviceman

# MISSION CABLE

# Motley County Centennial 1891 - 1991

## Motley County Tribune Celebrating 100 Years of Motley County Newspaper History



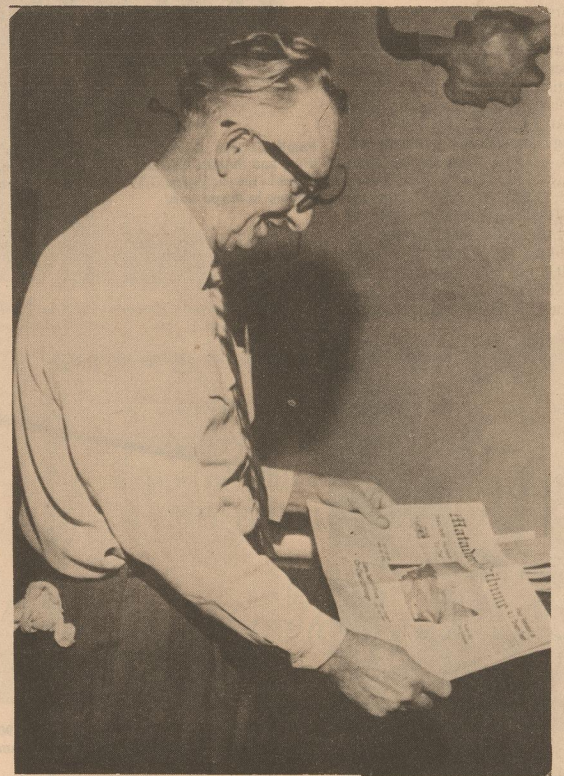
Motley County Tribune Staff

The first newspaper printed in Motley County  
December 9, 1891 — Editor, Clarence Nugent

Douglas Meador, Editor & Publisher  
Successfully published the Matador Tribune  
for 42 years, 1932 - 1974

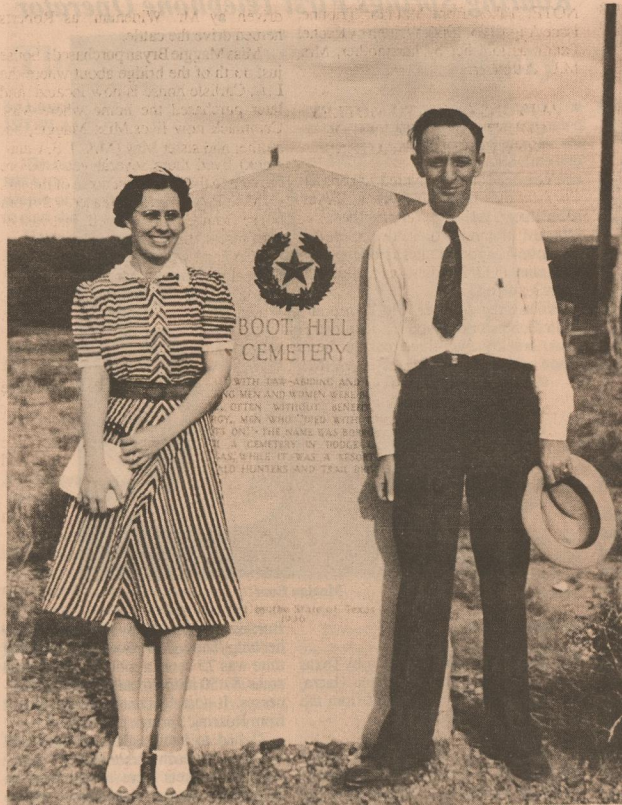
We strive to continue the great Motley County history  
in publishing the Motley County Tribune

*Congratulations Motley County  
On Your 100th Birthday!*



MR. DOUGLAS MEADOR

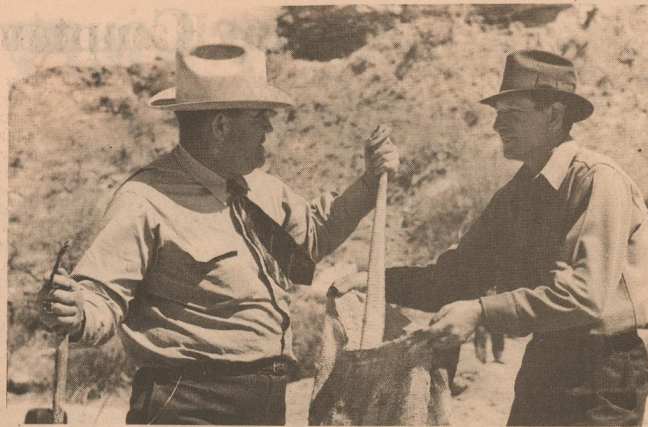
# Lila and Doug Meador



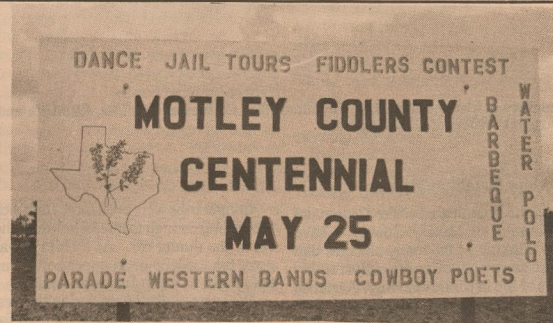
Lila and Doug Meador, July 1940



Lila Meador



Bob Robertson and Alvin Stearns, sacking a "big" rattlesnake.



MOTLEY COUNTY CENTENNIAL SIGNS: These signs were made by Shane Jones, Janie Campbell and Loys Campbell, working extra long hours preparing them. There are two signs, one is west of town, near Johnny Stevens home and one is east of town at the "Y".

by Diana Garza

NOTE: Research for this article, by Texas Tech student, Diana Garza, was made possible by a grant from the Reader's Digest Foundation.

"Writing was all he ever wanted to do," Lila Meador said.

And for most of his life, Douglas Meador did just that. Meador, along with his wife, ran a successful paper in Matador for more than 40 years, despite his never having graduated from high school.

Mr. and Mrs. Meador first met in Matador after she moved here from Missouri in 1928. Mrs. Meador was working at the First National Bank and Meador was working at the local drugstore. He had just recently returned to Matador, having been in California, trying to pursue a writing career. But, after six years away from home, Meador became homesick.

Meador, who began his newspaper career working for the *Childress Index* and then the *Roaring Springs News*, printed the Matador Tribune from 1933-1974. Mrs. Meador ran the paper for about three years after his death before selling the paper in 1977.

The Tribune succeeded the *Roaring Springs News* and later combined with the *Motley County News*.

Meador's column "Trail Dust" was a regular feature in the Tribune. He won his first award for the paper in 1934 when the column was named Best Column in Texas at the State Fair.

Meador's one disappointment in life however, was that his column was never syndicated.

Meador was not only involved with printing the Matador Tribune each week. For one year he owned the Morton Tribune and commuted by bus every week-day. This left Mrs. Meador in charge of the Tribune.

"I always had a lot of help at the Tribune," Mrs. Meador said, "mostly volunteer help."

Mrs. Meador said during the war women with husbands overseas would help her get the paper out.

Sometimes the Tribune would not have a printer working for them, but it seemed that when one left, another would show up to replace him.

These printers, sometimes called "tramp printers," wandered around the country, working for newspapers along the way.

When Meador's mother died, the paper was without a printer because Meador had to leave and go to her funeral. A tramp printer, Earl Miller, rode up to the newspaper office on his bicycle and helped while Meador was away.

"Ben used to always say that God watched over the Tribune," Mrs. Meador said.

During the 42 years that the Meador's owned the paper, Mrs. Meador wrote and proofread copy, and took care of the books. She also had her own column which was printed somewhat sporadically from 1940-1960. Mrs. Meador quit her job at the bank in 1945 to devote more time to the paper.

Besides having help from women of the town and vagabond printers, the Meadors always hired young people, usually seniors from the local high school. "We took them to press conventions with us," Mrs. Meador said. "We always learned a lot at the press conventions, such as front page formats or ways to write a story."

One now famous young person the Meadors hired was Karen Elliott House, a Pulitzer Prize winner, who works for the *Wall Street Journal*.

The Meadors had many people come and go during their 40 years at the Tribune, and many events were chronicled by the paper. Mrs. Meador said one thing Mr. Meador realized was the impact the paper had on the community and the lives of the people of Motley County.

Mrs. Meador said, "Ben would sometimes say it's more of what you left out than what you put in the paper."

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# William Hampton Rattan Family THE PATTON FAMILY



Rev. and Mrs. W.H. Rattan

William Hampton Rattan and Arminda Parker were married at Reno, Texas, on January 1, 1890. They moved to Motley County by covered wagon in 1891. With them came a baby boy, Virgil Arthur, who was born in Parker County on October 23, 1890. The other Rattan children were all born in Motley County. Those children were Jessie Pearl, Littleton, William Wallace, Robert Ray, Samuel Dewey, James Carroll, Fannie Elizabeth, Sally Ester, Fred, and Andy Ward. Carroll and Ward are the only living children.

W.H. Rattan filed on land on the south bank of Tom Ball Canyon in the Whiteflat community. The couple lost no time in making a home. Mr. Rattan prepared the land for cotton and a garden. Mrs. Rattan planted a row of bois d'arc trees. Those trees stood many years and could be seen from the highway. They were a landmark

for the Rattan family to know where their parents had settled first in the county.

Mr. Rattan bought land eight miles northeast of Matador from Wiley E. Gaines. He moved his family there in 1903. The children attended Ballard School, a one-room school two miles or more from their home. Mr. Rattan served as a school trustee for many years. He made many trips to Quanah and later to Childress to buy lumber to build rooms onto their house. The trip took about a week each time. Later when the railroad reached Estelline, he hauled lumber and supplies from there. The home increased from one room to seven rooms and three porches through the years. He also built a barn and other buildings, corrals and a cistern near the house. There was a windmill near the barn.

Brother Billy Rattan, as he was known, was a Baptist missionary. He preached in

homes, schoolhouses, and camps in Motley County, anywhere there was an occasion and a need. He rode horseback and often spent the night with families wherever he was. Later he bought a buggy for use in his travels. He helped to organize the First Baptist Church in Matador. He was hired as its second pastor at a salary of \$30 per month and served the church for six years. Church records show the church began to grow during his pastorate.

Arminda Rattan was a strong pioneer woman. She worked hard to make a home each place the family lived. She encouraged her husband in his ministry and managed the children to help keep the farming going. The family set out a large orchard each place they lived. Mrs. Rattan always had a garden and flowers. Her roses and other flowers brightened the sick, were enjoyed in the church, and were appreciated at funerals. She was a good neighbor who always went when there was sickness and she was needed.

Mr. Rattan purchased a farm one and a half miles east of Matador. In 1916 the family moved to that farm so the children could attend school in Matador and they could be closer to church.

The older boys continued to work the home place and take care of the cattle. Mr. Rattan recorded his cattle brand WH on the left side, on June 28, 1892. Two years later this brand was cancelled and the brand H on the left side was recorded on October 27, 1894. That brand has been in continuous use since that date. Ward Rattan used it and now Garland Rattan is using the brand.

There has been a Rattan family member taking care of cattle or farming continually since 1893 on some place. Little-

ton Rattan and wife Lola lived there during World War I. They later moved to Lamesa and Virgil Rattan and his wife, Minnie, took over. They lived there and reared their family of three boys and three girls, who attended Fairview School.

Mr. Rattan was in failing health after they moved near town in 1916. He died January 7, 1924. Mrs. Rattan stayed on the farm for awhile, but then moved into town. She enjoyed being in town near her church and her friends. She died December 13, 1935.

In 1936 Virgil Rattan and his family moved to the farm east of Matador. Ward and Pearl Rattan moved to the ranch with their son, Garland. In 1941 they moved into Matador so that Garland could go to school, but they continued to keep and manage the ranch. Garland now owns and manages the ranch, making the third generation to be involved.

Two of W.H. Rattan's sons, Wallace and Dewey, were in the U.S. Army during World War I. Their sister Jessie was in the U.S. Army Nursing Corps. She received her training at Baylor Nursing School in Dallas, graduating in 1922.

Fred and Ward Rattan served their country during World War II. Fred was in the U.S. Army Air corps stationed in Amarillo as an instructor.

Ward was in the U.S. Navy and served as a cook on board the USS Hocking, a troop transport ship, for two years in the South Pacific. The W.H. Rattan grandchildren who served in the armed forces during World War II were Tuet, Raymond, Albert, William K., Billy (Carroll and Bea's son who was killed in action), and Walter.

The Rattans are proud of their Motley County heritage over the past 100 years.

NOTE: Taken from Matador Tribune, issue August 25, 1966. Written by Rachel Patton as told her by her mother, Mrs. M.L. Patton, Jr.

## PATTONS CAME TO MOTLEY COUNTY IN CARAVAN OF NINE COVERED WAGONS

A caravan of nine covered wagons left Stephenville, in Erath County, Texas, December 1, 1900, bringing the M.L. Patton, Sr. family to settle in Motley County. The group included four married sons and their families, in addition to other relatives.

During the summer, Mr. Patton and John Robinson had made a trip to this area to see if they wanted to locate here. Upon deciding to make the move, Mr. Patton purchased a small house just south of the present Harry Carter house in South Matador, for himself and a section of land east of Matador, about 10 miles for his sons, M.L. Patton, Jr. and D.J. Patton. This section is now a part of the A.W. Ford Estate.

They returned to Erath County and on November 27, started a cattle drive to Motley County. Jasper Roberts, Press Wideman and Jim Jarrett, and some men they hired to help, drove the cattle. Jim Jarrett had purchased land around Lubbock, and joined the drive to Motley County. Both parties had about 200 cattle. Mr. Jarrett went on to Lubbock after they got to Motley County.

The caravan of wagons met the cattle drive at Old Ranier in Rannels County. The wagons came on to Matador, arriving Dec. 15, and the cattle reached here two days later. Judge Jarrett took his cattle on to Lubbock.

The wagons camped on the T.N. Cammack place near the creek about where the James Renfro house is now located.

Mr. Cammack had just been elected Sheriff and Tax Collector that year.

The wagon train was composed of Mr. and Mrs. M.L. Patton, Sr., in one wagon; Mr. and Mrs. M.L. Patton, Jr. and six children - Ed, Tom, Rosie, Maurice, Johnnie, in two wagons (M.L. Jr. drove one and Tom and Ed the other); Mr. and Mrs. W.T. Patton and four children, Math, Bessie, Marvin and Edna, in two wagons, one driven by W.T. and the other by Tom Doran, cousin of Mrs. W.T. Patton; Mr. and Mrs. R.L. Patton and one child, Elizabeth, one wagon; Mrs. Sarah Bryan and daughters, Miss Maggie Bryan; Mr. and Mrs. D.J. Patton and four children, Essie, Math, Mary and Jerome, one wagon; Mr. and Mrs. Jasper Roberts and three children, Billy, Ben and Boyd, and C.E. Wideman, father of Mrs. M.L. Patton, Jr., and Mrs. Jasper Roberts, one wagon,

driven by Mr. Wideman, as Roberts helped drive the cattle.

Miss Maggie Bryan purchased a house just north of the bridge about where the L.A. Carlisle house is now located, and later purchased the home where Mrs. Cammack now lives. Miss Maggie, her mother and sister May (Mrs. T.E. Cammack) lived there several years before moving to the house just north of the jail.

M.L. Patton, Jr., purchased a 2-room house from George Russell, just east of the present Higginbotham-Bartlett Lumber Co., and with his wife and six children, shared it with Mr. and Mrs. W.T. Patton and their four children, Press Wideman and Tom Doran, for six weeks.

They had a tent at the back of the house, where Wideman and Doran slept. They cooked on a campfire outside and often while the women were in the house preparing food the wind would blow the fire out. M.L. Patton, Jr. later purchased the old home place just at the north edge of town, still owned by Mrs. Patton and occupied by a daughter and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. J.D. Craven.

W.T. Patton also purchased a home on the same road, east of his brother, in which a grandson and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Keith Patton live.

In 1901 Mr. and Mrs. J.H. Sheridan and three children, Annie, Beulah and Pat came to join Mrs. Sheridan's parents and other relatives. She was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J.L. Patton, Sr.

Mrs. Sheridan and children made the trip to Childress by train and Mr. Sheridan came through in a wagon with the household furniture and also brought several horses. Tom King accompanied him and helped with driving the extra horses.

The Patton brothers, M.L. Jr. and W.T. Patton purchased a building where Spot Cash grocery is now located, and opened a saddle and harness shop. Mrs. W.T. Patton's father, Dudley Stone was an expert leather man, and made saddles, horse collars and harnesses, which they sold in the shop. They later built a brick building on the same location, and which the grocery firm now occupies.

M.L. Patton, Sr., was appointed Justice of the Peace of Precinct One, in an election July 1, 1901, and in November 1902, was elected J.P. of the precinct and also Commissioner of Precinct one. He served both offices until his death August 5, 1904 which burned in 1944.

W.T. Patton was an early County Judge of Motley County, serving one term, 1911-1912, and was County Clerk from 1916 to 1922. In October 1905 he was appointed Commissioner of Precinct one to fill the unexpired term of his father at his death.

And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.

Luke 11:9

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# Centennial Contest First Place Winners

## The History of Motley County

by Laurie Hoyle  
1ST PLACE — 7TH GRADE

The history of this town is very important to us. We need to remember what the people of Motley County went through to start this town.

Harry H. Campbell, believed to be the first white child born in Motley County - he became a Texan on May 15, 1881. He has lived his entire life in and around Matador, Texas.

Motley County was created in 1876 and named for Dr. Junius William Motley, who was born in Virginia about 1812. Motley was a delegate from Go-

liad to the Washington on Brazos Convention of 1830. There he was a signer of the Declaration of Independence. He was wounded at the battle of San Jacinto and died the night of April 21, 1836 and was buried on the battlefield.

The Matador Ranch was organized in 1876 and was known as the Matador Cattle Company. The cooperation included A.M. Britton, S.W. Lomax, and John Nichols, all of Fort Worth; Cata of New York and H.H. Campbell of Ennis. Subscribing \$10,000 each were Britton, president; Lomax, secretary and treasurer; and Campbell, manager. The Matador Ranch helped Matador survive.

## Living In Motley County

by Keane Cruse  
1ST PLACE — 4TH GRADE

Motley County is a great place to live because the people there are very nice and friendly. Most of my family and friends live there.

I live in the country by the community of Flomot. Flomot is located in the northwest part of the county. I live about twenty miles from Matador. Flomot no longer has a school. I attend school at Motley County Elementary. I ride the bus about thirty-nine miles every morning to school. Since we have a county school, many

students must make long trips to school. Some of my great-great grandparents were early settlers in Motley County. Both of my parents attended school at

Matador. There are many old families in Motley County, but we also have many new families that have moved here. Some people live and work on farms and ranches. Many people work in towns providing services.

Motley County is a small county, with lots of friendly and nice people. We always help each other when someone has trouble. I wouldn't want to live anywhere else.

## H.H. Schweitzer

by Cobey Turner  
1ST PLACE — 5TH GRADE

What would a cowboy be without a saddle? There were many cowboys in the early days of Motley County. Their life just wouldn't be right without one. One of a cowboys most valuable worldly possessions was known to be his saddle. A cowboy could not work on a ranch without a saddle. Some of the cowboys made their own gear. One such cowboy was Houston Schweitzer.

He started his saddle making in his living room in Arizona with only a piece of leather a nail, and a hammer. He never took saddle making lessons or leather working lessons. He was a very skillful and talented man. When he opened his saddle shop and started building saddles he would pick the best leather he could, because he wanted to make the best he could. He was born in Yellowhouse Canyon in 1894. His mother died when he was a small child. After that he lived in various places. He started out making miniature saddles for play horses using a bent nail and a hammer.

This was a humble beginning of perhaps the greatest saddle maker of all times. Schweitzer found his way to the Matador Ranch working there for 12 years before establishing his saddle shop in the town in 1925. Schweitzer never made a saddle just to sell one. He would make a saddle every week. Even when he would make one every week he was, at one time, 2 years behind. Schweitzer got orders for saddles from six different states, including the surrounding area. You might wonder why he got all these orders. One reason is because he hand tooled every part of the saddle except the seat which saddle maker doesn't usually stamp. There wasn't an inch of the saddle that wasn't hand stamped or hand tooled. Cowboys liked the stamping Mr. Schweitzer put on his saddles. Some cowboys ordered their

saddles with special stamping which appealed to many people.

I have heard one interesting story about Schweitzer. When he was a little kid, he carved little saddles out of the part of a bullet. He would find grasshoppers and put the saddle on him. When the grasshoppers back would get tired he would just go find another grasshopper. Mr. Schweitzer had many fun hours doing this.

Houston Schweitzer had a fairly large family. He was married to Mrs. H.A. Schweitzer. He has one daughter, Mrs. James Moss, who lives in Lubbock. He has two sons. One of them is Houston of Baytown. The other son is Bert, who lives in Lubbock. Mr. Schweitzer loved his children very much. The Schweitzer family were members of the Methodist church.

Houston Schweitzer died early Friday morning in his home. He was age 61 and still going at the time. He died of a heart attack. He had suffered a slight attack Tuesday after completing an order for two of his exquisitely-tooled saddles. Late Thursday, after shipping these to Brad, New Mexico, and making some repairs on an older saddle, the quiet genius closed the doors and went home. The next day he died. I wish I was one of the men who got Schweitzer's last saddles. If I had one I would cherish it forever. Schweitzer once said, "No man can get rich working with his hands. But, for me, there's more pay in knowing I've turned out something good than there is money. It's the satisfaction that counts."

I am proud to say that my grandfather, father and uncles have owned and still own Schweitzer saddles. I hope to pass them to my children, so we can continue the Schweitzer tradition. I feel like we own part of the heritage of Motley County.

I got my information from: Matador Tribune; A collection from Marisue Potts; The Way It Was.

## The Story of Motley County

by Robert King  
1ST PLACE — 8TH GRADE

Quannah Parker was one of the half-breed Comanche Cheifs. He and his force roamed the rolling plains until 1875. Then the white man moved in and tried to force them out. Quannah Parker and his men camped up and down the Pease River including sites at Roaring Springs and at TeePee City.

TeePee city was a town of shoot-outs, drunken brawls, and robberies. It got the attention of one man, G.W. Arrington and his group of Texas Rangers, based at Camp Roberts in Blanco Canyon.

Roaring Springs was set on a windswept hill overlooking a broad valley. It was the main camp of Comanche Indians in December, 1860. In 1929 landowners of the Springs, the Matador Land & Cattle Company, built the swimming pool.

The Buffalo Hunter pushed into buffalo ranges of Western Texas. The Indi-

ans were scared that the buffalo would die out because of the white man.

The playground tractor. It was the year of 1928 when McCormick Deering tractor, celebrating its golden years of retirement. It was celebrated at Motley County School playground.

Tornado, May 1, 1984. Tornado! All the emergency sirens and horns went off at 8:46 Tuesday. At that time it was 1 1/2 miles out of town. Residents ran to shelters and dove into the cellar. The sheriff, Alton Marshall, watched it all the time. The sheriff, Thomas Alton Marshall, said it was a medium sized one. Marshall's nickname is Suzzie. Dude Speed said that the tornado left a path of destruction. We had been in a tornado warning until 9:30. The damage reported was in the millions of dollars. Twelve barricades were built to onlooking people. People from all around here were here to help us right here.

## Silver Golden Pearl

by Bo Speed  
1ST PLACE — 6TH GRADE

Here in Matador there is a woman named Pearl Simpson. She is 73 years old, tall, pleasingly plump, wears glasses, has silver-white hair and is very humorous. This motherly woman was born in Knox City, Texas on August 3, 1917.

Pearl's life was a very hard one. Her family moved from one place to another constantly, looking for work. She and her family moved from Texas to Arkansas to Oklahoma, to Arizona and then back to Texas. She hardly got an education since she was always too busy day-laboring. They finally ended up here in Matador in May of 1935, to visit her grandmother.

In the next few months following her arrival, she fell in love with a man named Herman Cartwright. She and Herman decided to get married and raise a family together. Not very long after, Herman died and Pearl became a widowed mother. But in time, her kids grew up and moved on, leaving her all alone. But, she soon again married. His name was Melvin Simpson. They lived together happily, but a few years later, Melvin died.

Today, Pearl Simpson has gone from bus driver to babysitter. She is a very happy 73 year-old. She's not rich, she is just a kind-hearted trustworthy person.

As you can see, Pearl Simpson, like many other senior citizens, has had a hard life from the beginning. But she's tough, and has managed to live a full, happy life.

## Matador Cattle Company

by Linda Gonzalez  
1ST PLACE — 9TH GRADE

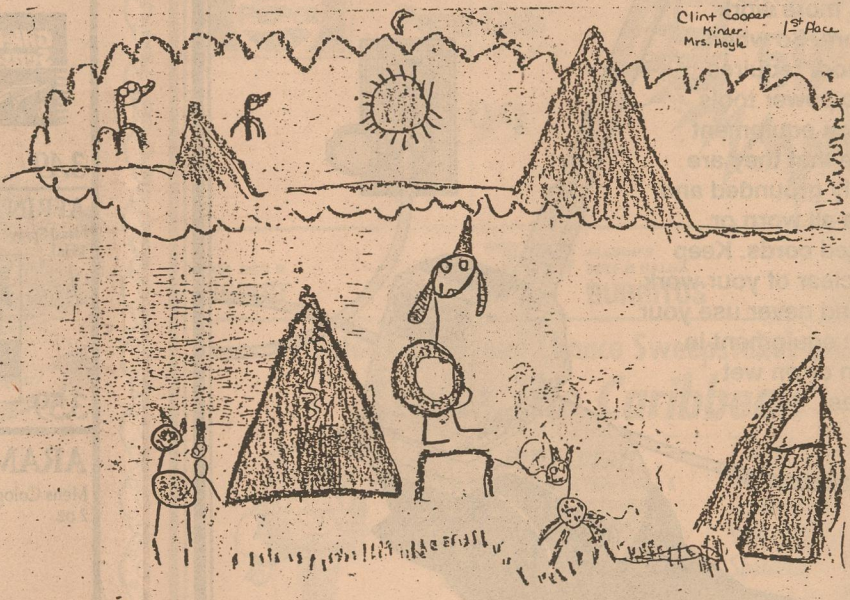
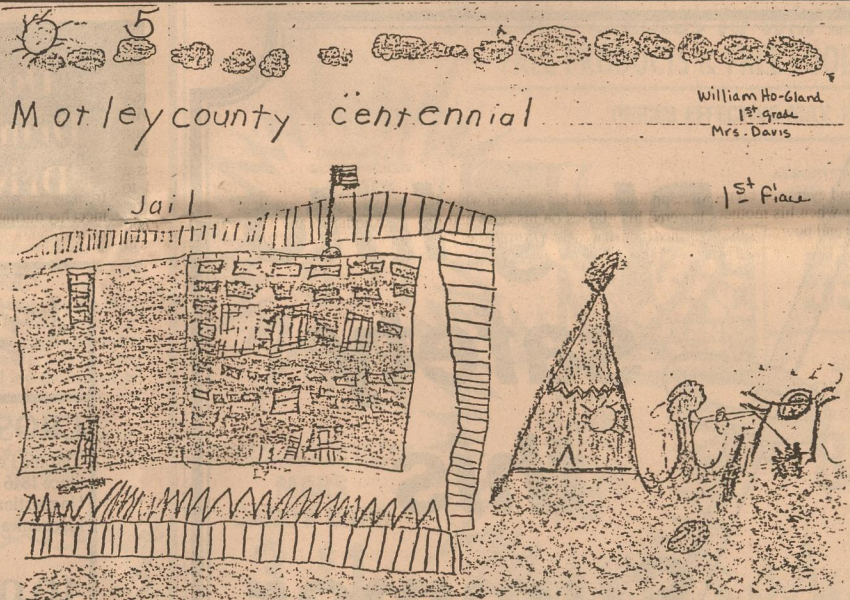
In 1879 the Matador Cattle Company was established and incorporated under the laws of Texas. According to one account, the company was made up of five men, each of whom subscribed \$10,000 to create the capital. The five were Britton, Campbell, Spottswood W. Lomax, and John W. Nichols of Fort Worth and a Mr. Cata, Britton's brother-in-law, of New York. Lomax reported to have been "an enthusiast in Spanish literature," gave the ranch its name. Campbell's first ranch house was the dugout at Ballard Springs, the rights to which were secured from Browning. Here the first cattle obtained by the new company were received and here in December, 1879, John Dawson sold to Matador a herd of thirteen hundred head branded "V", Matador Cattle Company, on the right side. Additional smaller brands were absorbed as they were brought into the country, including the "T41" and "NN" stock driven from Gonzales County in southern Texas and in 1881, the Jinglebob herd, purchased from Coggins and Wylie. With newly acquired herds the purchaser usually "inherited" the range rights claimed by

the seller. In the absence of actual landowners and since statutory laws and the means of their enforcement were remote, a body of custom developed to keep order and confusion at a minimum. Range rights and privileges were established by occupation and were recognized as long as a claimant utilized his range and was strong enough to discourage interlopers. It was generally accepted that a rancher controlling a stream or one of its banks held range rights on the Matador Cattle Company land extending away from the stream to the divide separating his stream to the divide separating his stream basin from an adjacent watershed. Efforts were made to keep cattle within recognized

ranges by a system of patrolling called "line riding", since no fences were present to separate the holdings of neighboring cattlemen and cattle were no respectors of boundaries. Line riders, moving daily along the borders of range drifted

the cattle toward the range claimed by their respective owners. The acquisition of title to lands bordering the watering places strengthened range right by giving to the landowner a legal position on which to base his claims to privileges.

## 100th Birthday



## Centennial

by David Whitaker  
1ST PLACE — 2ND GRADE

We are celebrating our 100 years of living in Motley County. The Indians were the first people to live in Motley County. Indians lived at the Springs. They liked it there. Quannah Parker had two wives. Some of the Indians were nice and some were mean. The mean Indians would kill anything or anyone that came near their camp. The cowboys were the sec-

ond people to live in Motley County. The cowboys had spurs, and saddles. The cowboys had windmills, and wagons. The cowboys gathered up cattle and branded them and turned them loose and and fed them hay cake. The pastures had grass, mesquite trees, hills and a bunch of fences, rivers, creeks, and a bunch of cattle. There was a railroad that came through Matador. The farmers grew cotton, corn, and wheat. It is fun studying about Motley County long ago.

## Thank You

Words are so inadequate to truly convey our feelings for all the wonderful things done for us and for Clyde these past 14 months. We say "Thank you" for the food, flowers, prayers, cards, those who visited him - it meant so much to him. To those who helped take him for treatments, those who sat with him at night and for the beautiful service. Everyone has been so warm and loving. May God richly bless you!

- Billie Clifton
- Maurice, Jane, Jamia and Landy
- Ronnie, Mona, Jill, Kim and Megan
- Larry, Deidra, Monica and Skylar
- Mary Irwin
- Zola Renfro and family
- Ed and Bessie Dean Bartley and family
- Florence Rainbolt and family
- Pete Clifton and family
- K.J. Clifton and family

I would sincerely like to thank everyone in Matador, Texas who took time out to write to me when I was in Saudi Arabia. Your thoughts and prayers brought me home.

God bless you all!  
Jamal Rhinehardt  
Ft. Bragg, N.C.

Jamal is the grandson of Tony and Mike Fellows of Matador

**POSTER WINNERS:** The above Centennial posters were First Place Winners in the Centennial Essay-Art Contest. Top poster is by William Ho-Gland, First Grade Student. Bottom poster is by Kindergarten student, Clint Cooper. Other First place winners were Edward Mendoza, Poster, Third Grade, and Quinn Hays, Art, Third Grade. All the posters and art work were very well done and are all on display at the old Spot Cash Grocery. Please be sure to stop by and see them. You will be glad you did! All First place winners were presented a bronze Motley County Centennial coin on a ribbon.

## Let's Reminisce About Past Whiteflat Days Cowboy Poets to Perform at Centennial Program



Whiteflat Singing School

by Earlyne Jameson

Reminiscing is a form of "random remembering" that people in a group engage. It is funny, but the older we get the clearer our childhood seems to become. We somehow seem to see more clearly certain events of childhood incidents.

When working with the Whiteflat Historical Marker project, many ex-residents, as well as present day residents renewed memories of the once populated Whiteflat area. I would like to share some of these amusing and interesting anecdotes with you.

Good old days bring back memories when the Watkins man arrived in the farmyard and kids begged Mom to buy this and that from the Watkins wonderous products. I can remember in 1924, said one man, when my mother was boiling corn in a black cast iron washpot in the yard when the Watkins man came to the house. He was there to sell his products and watched the corn boil in the pot. I don't guess he had ever seen hominy made before, for when his mother picked up a can of lye and poured it into the boiling corn pot, his eyes got as big as saucers. He dropped his product basket and ran down the road hollering that mother was going to kill the family. Luckily, they had a good supply of Watkins products, because he never returned!

Turn back the date to the 1930's. Worries? You bet! Families endured hard times with remarkable dignity and maintained their pride. They had deep attachments to their home. Remember women giving free haircuts and doing a professional job with hand clippers? My husband just knew there was a Santa Claus until he was "half-grown", because he couldn't believe his mother could afford the gifts he got on Christmas morning!

The 160 and 200 acre plots of land where families lived was an anchor that provided vegetables from a garden, fresh eggs from the chickens, milk from cows they raised and hams from pigs they slaughtered. There was ample wood to be had for the chopping used in stoves. Ex-Whiteflat resident, Jack Green remarked with a shrug that his wife bought milk today that his family in days past threw out to the hogs! His family made ribbon cane syrup that Luther Green considers better than you buy today.

Pioneer families including E.B. Kimbell, A.B. Echols, John Miller and the Damrons told that buffalo, panthers and

bears roamed the countryside southwest of Whiteflat. When a buffalo and bear were killed, the meat was divided among neighbors. Mr. Echols, who had extensive land holdings, is remembered for sharing his feed crops during the depression and drought with farmers who were less fortunate. Some paid for the feed, others did not. He never made an issue about those who failed to pay.

Frazier Watson remembers when he and his family were at a farm east of Whiteflat during a drifting knee-high snow. He and his brothers, in a foot race, caught 31 rabbits that were unable to maneuver a "get-away" in the snow. Rabbits were good eating during the depression. On another occasion, the Watson boys killed 24 rattlesnakes, 17 blue racers and 7 skunks that were in the same den along the bank of the Middle Pease River. The H.M. Murphy boys and friends made a sport of hunting rattlesnakes in the winter. One afternoon, they brought a huge rattlesnake to their front yard for their Dad to see. They were disappointed with his reaction when he lowered his glasses on his nose and informed them it was time to milk the cows.

One of the most unusual barns in the Whiteflat community was made, not built by Hunter Watson. His farm was located southeast of Whiteflat. His hired hands, who worked for a dollar a day and their meals, dug into the side of a rocky embankment and channeled a large enough enclosure to accommodate his many milk cows. The high ceiling and sides of the dirt walls were smooth, firm and clean. He had excavated dirt in one of the stalls into a shelf where he put his milk cans. It was a good shelter from rain and cold weather, yet cool in the summer. He had a corral fence encircling the south entrance to his dirt and rock barn. This original farm structure remained in good condition for many years after Mr. and Mrs. Watson moved to Matador.

Friends are important and some of the earliest memories are intertwined around childhood pals. Boys would take a sight-seeing tour around the community on horseback. They would always ride to the top of Antelope Hill, west of Whiteflat before returning home. At other times they would ride along the river and build a fire to fry bacon and eggs and feel they were early day western cowboys.

The sandhills south of the Middle Pease River was a playground and kids would congregate from all over Whiteflat to wade in the river, build sand castles and

gather wild plums. Many arrow heads and Indian artifacts were found. When raining, there were games of Monopoly. When the \$1,500 was passed out, you wished it was the real thing!

Whiteflat locations trigger all sorts of memories. During the summer months, happiness and fun circulated at the creek on the Ada Shands land east of Four Corners. All ages met there to go swimming. Tarzan antics abounded when they swung from cottonwood trees into the water. They spent enough time in the water to grow fins and gills.

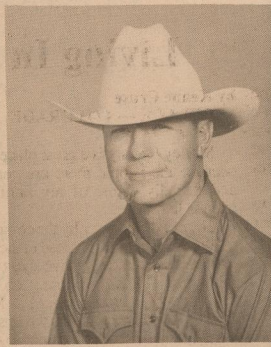
Musical jamborees at the Finis Hargrove home were highlights of good entertainment. Mrs. Hargrove was a music teacher and played numerous instruments. Her children, Shands played a saxophone, Tutt, guitar and clarinet and Lula Kate made the keyboard of the piano dance with rhythm. Varner McWilliams with his banjo, Frank Jameson's guitar and others added to the music festival. Allan Thomas remarked, "Ed Jameson was a 'Regular Troubadour' when he tired to play the guitar and sing!"

Another man, who wants to remain anonymous said, "When we were kids in Whiteflat, there was no shortage of ways to get into mischief. However, parents not cops handled trouble years ago. The sound of spankings wafted from the screened windows and doors all over the neighborhood. Your back-side might be warm and throbbing, but it never entered your mind your parents didn't love you or you didn't deserve the spanking!"

"You know you are getting old when you remember cars with manual chokes and the 1925 Model T Ford", lamented one man. He told the seats were leather. Henry Ford bought so much leather from Argentina that required the leather to be packed in wooden boxes cut to precise specifications. Mr. Ford used the boxes without alteration, as frames for the seats. Mr. Ford would manufacture you a Model T in any color you liked as long as that color was black. No wonder you could buy a Ford back then for \$495! "The gravity feed gas tank on that old 'T' left something to be desired," he said. "When the tank got low, you had to back up hills, lest the car kill on you."

Gone are the summer days of long ago when you would settle comfortably on the front porch and hear laughter drifting on the evening breeze through the town of Whiteflat. There is something reassuring about having a Whiteflat Historical Marker so that this rural area with its treasured memories will not be forgotten.

## Poets to perform at Centennial Program



J.B. Allen

NOTE: Cowboy Poet, Dennis Gaines, Matador Ranch Cowboy, will be the emcee at the Centennial Program, to be held May 25 during the Centennial Celebration, featuring Cowboy Poets, J.B. Allen and Jack Douglas.

Cowboy Poet, J.B. Allen, one of the featured entertainers for the Centennial program, has been writing poetry about four years. He began after hearing Jack Douglas, another Cowboy Poet to be featured at the program, read some of his. "Having a good deal of time on my hands, while working nights at a feedlot, while running a few

475 poems have materialized, of which 72 have been collected together into a book titled, Water Gap Wisdom." Cowboy genes, inherited from Kinfolk for several generations back, dictated that he follow in their footsteps. Born in 1938, there were still enough old timers around to influence his boyhood and their offspring gave him a good schooling after he left the Navy in 1960. He married in 1962, raised two girls who are now married, and worked on ranches for the last 30 years on a large part of the country between the Great Divide and Fort Worth.

Over the last two years, several poetry gatherings have invited him to be on their programs, Alpine, Abilene, and Lubbock in Texas, Ruidoso, Clovis Roswell and Silver City in New Mexico, Wickenburg, Arizona, Goodwell, Oklahoma, and Elko, Nevada.

Jack L. Douglas, born July 1939 in Lubbock, Texas, graduated from Lubbock High School in 1957. He attended Texas Tech and graduated from Sul Ross State in 1961 with a degree in History and a Secondary Teacher's Certificate.

Jack married Dorothy Turner from Tolar, Texas in 1961. They now have two grown married sons, Cody, an Accountant from Lubbock and Dave, a Truck-driver from Levelland.

After College, he taught school, roped, shod horses, and traded cattle for a living. Jack also spent about 10 years buying cattle for a Feedlot. While running a few

cows and calves on a small place. He now has two small ranches in Hockley and Bailey counties. Jack is in the registered brangus business and also manages a crossbred hereford cow-calf operation for his dad. He lives in Hockley County, has an address in Littlefield, and the phone comes out of Pettit, Texas, such is ranch life.

Jack began his cowboying career at the Matador Cattle Company at the age of 15. He went on to work for several other large ranches in the Panhandle. Including the upper Matadors, which became the Quien Sabe and Scharbauer Cattle Company. Jack also spent a lot of time dayworking for James Palmer and Fred Stockton at the Yellowhouse Ranch when the Matadors owned it, during the 1970s and 1980's.

Jack has written 4 cowboy poetry books in the last four years and has the fifth one in progress. The first one was called "Thinkin' It Over", the second, "Back Trackin'", and the third "Fresh Tracks". The fourth book will be out about the middle of May 1991 and is called "Dust In The Wind". He will write on any subject that comes to mind. He also does cowboy art and specializes in greeting cards and cowboy subjects. One of his favorite projects recently was getting to do portraits of Shorty Smauley and Edd D. Smith from old pictures furnished by the families.

## Western Artist Kathy Whitley To Be At The Windmill

Renowned Western Artist, Kathy Whitley, of Crowell, will be at The Windmill, all day Saturday, May 25, selling her prints and small affordable drawings.

Kathy, who is formerly of Austin, has her degree in art, from the University of Texas, where her father Ralph White, is a Professor. She is an avid participant in brandings and ranch activities in this West Texas area. Her paintings are of realistic nature - so much so that the public examines them to be sure they are not photos.

The name of K.W. Whitley has appeared in Southwest Art magazines, as well as other National publications. You will not forget her modest, warm and friendly personality when you come by to meet her during the Motley County Centennial Celebration.

## Motley County's Oldest & Finest

Rachel Patton, 89, is one of Motley County's oldest and finest. She was born December 14, 1901 to Matthew and Matilda (Wideman) Patton in a two story house 3/4 miles from the courthouse square in Matador, Motley County, Texas. Rachel graduated from Matador School and attended North Texas State Teachers College in Denton. She taught school 3 years in Northfield, Whiteflat and Roaring Springs.

She started work at the Motley County Courthouse in the Sheriff and Tax Collectors office in 1927 and worked there for 40 years. She worked in the judges office 11 years before retiring. She was Lions Club Sweetheart for 54 years, elected to Lions Club membership emer-

## Roy Rogers Movie Made In Matador



"MACKINTOSH AND T.J." was the first movie that Roy Rogers had made in 20 years. The picture was made in 1975 and filmed in Matador and the Dickens area with many local and area people in various scenes. The 6666 Ranch, between Dickens and Guthrie was the setting for most of the filming. "Mackintosh and T.J." was a contemporary western. None of the sets were constructed. All sets were against the backdrop of the 6666 Ranch. The movie was shown at the Midway Theater between Turkey and Quitaque on the premiere date of February 6, 1976 and ran through February 11. Locals in the film were Ronnie Christian, Pat Seigler, Bennie Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Pohl, Mr. and Mrs. C.R. Davis, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Campbell, Jack Tidmore, Zipp Durette, Jinks Wilson, Hazel Donovan, Mr. and Mrs. F.H. Welling, Mr. and Mrs. Kirby Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. L.B. Campbell, Floyd Hardin, Winifred Darsey, Dorothy Webb, Kelly Keltz, R.E. Campbell, Jr., Nell Brotherton, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Clark, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Stanley, Laura Rowan, James Stanley, Audie Poteet, Charlie Johnson, Carolyn Johnson.

tus in 1987. She is a 60 year member of Eastern Star and an accomplished musician. She was secretary of Red Cross in Motley County for 40 years.

Ollie Ann (Wason) Pitts, 97, is another one of Motley County's oldest and finest. She was born December 12, 1894 in a half dug-out on the north bank of Willow Creek three miles west of Matador, Motley County. She is the daughter of William and Mollie Wason. She was one of seven children. She married Douglas E. Pitts and they were active in the affairs of the community and church for years. Mrs. Pitts is now in a rest home in Lovington, New Mexico.

Only the strong have sufficient will to be humble.

Douglas Meador

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