

# The Gorman Progress

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GORMAN, Eastland County, TEXAS, THURSDAY, December 16, 1954

NUMBER FORTY-THREE

## Date Moved Up To Wednesday, December 29th Record Breaking 26 Teams Enter Tournament



A new all time high for entries in the Indian Trail Tournament lists 26 teams for this year's show. Brackets will be complete and mailed to all participating schools the last of this week.

### Desdemona B'ball Tourney Tournament Opens

The annual Desdemona Basketball Tournament will begin at 6 p. m. on Wednesday night (last night). Girls teams taking part in the tournament are Lingleville, Carbon, Cisco, De Leon B team, Gorman A team, Gorman B team, Desdemona A team and the Scranton girls A team. The boys teams include the Lingleville, Scranton, Carbon, Gorman, Cisco Boys B team De Leon boys B team, Desdemona Boys A team and the Desdemona boys B team. Mr. Foster of the Huckabee High School and an assistant are referees for the tournament.

In two games last Tuesday in the Desdemona gym the Gordon girls were victors over the Desdemona girls by the score of 49 to 33, but the Desdemona boys were winners over Gordon boys by the score of 57 to 37.

For the Desdemona girls Doris Nabers led with 16, Loveta Carr with 10 and Janette Rodgers with 7 points. For Gordon Finch led with 19, Rogers with 18 and Pierce with four points.

In last week's tournament and this week's games the Desdemona guards, Betty Yancey, Mary Lee and Wanda Jo Jacobs played strong defensive games. In the boys game with Gordon Leroy Nabers led for Desdemona with 19 points, Guy Owens with 15, Floyd Redwine 6, Bobby Koonce 12, and Harold Lewis with 6.

For Gordon Foster led with 15, Bearden 14, Bell 4, Grigsby 2, and Ball 2 points.

In two games with Scranton on Friday night in the Desdemona gym the Desdemona teams were both winners. The girls won by the score of 49 to 33 and the boys 46 to 44. For Desdemona girls Doris Nabers led with 28, Janette Rodgers with 13 and Loveta Carr with 8 points. For Scranton girls Simmons led with 16, Ingram with 10 and Sawyers with 6 points.

For Desdemona boys Bobby Koonce led with 17, Guy Owens 10, Leroy Nabers 7, Floyd Redwine with 7 and Leon Rodgers with 2 and Donald White with 4 points. For Scranton, Billy Parks led with 18, Blackwell with 11.

While playing in the gym last Friday morning Harold Lewis suffered a severe accident in breaking some bones in the right hand and will be missing to the Desdemona team for several weeks.

The open-house games last Friday night were very well attended and the Desdemona teams invite the general public to attend the tournament.

### American Legion To Host Barbecue

The American Legion will host a barbecue Friday night at the Fire Hall, December 17th at 7 o'clock.

All members of Legionnaire families and prospective members are invited to attend.

### CARD OF THANKS

I wish to thank each and every one who visited me while I was in the hospital, for the beautiful flowers and cards. To the doctors, nurses, and the whole hospital staff for their attention and kindness.

May the Lord's blessings be on each one.

Ernest Weaver

17 towns will be represented when the competition gets under way. Some of the very best teams in classes B, A, and AA will be seen in action. Boys class B teams entering are Gorman, Desdemona, Lingleville, Pottsville, Abilene B team, Putnam and Olden. Boys class A teams are Cross Plains, Clyde, and Abilene Christian Demonstration School. Class AA teams are Ranger, De Leon and Mineral Wells.

Girls teams come from the following schools: Gorman, Desdemona, Carbon, De Leon, Lingleville, Cross Plains, Pottsville, Stephenville, Rising Star, Putnam, Olden, Cisco, and Lipan.

Many of the teams listed will be title threats within their respective districts and it is believed that no weak sisters will be seen in the tournament this year. Because of the record number of entries the tournament will begin on Wednesday, December 29 and will continue through Saturday, January 1st. Play on Thursday, Friday and Saturday will begin early in the mornings and go til the night sessions are completed.

Gorman merchants have purchased trophies and awards for the players and teams. This gesture is greatly appreciated by the school. A complete list of contributors will be published later in the Progress.

The trophies are on display in the Browning Appliance window.

### Illness In Gorman

Gorman folks registered at the Blackwell Hospital Tuesday of this week were Mrs. Edward Clark, Mrs. W. R. Collins, E. I. Denton, Delmer Smith, and T. N. Seay.

Russell Bridges of Desdemona is also a patient and Carbon folks registered Tuesday were Willie Jarrett, H. A. White, Mrs. H. I. Bird, and Dora Phelps.

John Gilbert was released from the hospital Wednesday after being hospitalized Monday night.

### BIRTHS

Lindsey Betrum Hodges born to Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Betrum Hodges of Route 1, Gorman on December 1 weighed 7 pounds and 8 ounces.

Patricia Joyce Drapes born to Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Drapes of Breckenridge on December 12th weighed 8 pounds and 12 ounces.

### Mother Of Mrs. Acree Ill In Eastland Home

Mrs. Tom Pritchett, mother of Mrs. G. C. Acree, is ill at her home in Eastland. She has been under the care of a physician for several months previous when she suffered an attack of shingles from which she has not recovered.

Her daughter, Mrs. Duncan Holmes of Corpus Christi, has been visiting here. She and Mrs. Acree went to Eastland Monday afternoon. Mrs. Holmes remained with her mother.

### CARD OF THANKS

I want to thank everyone for every card, letter, visit and for flowers and every other act of kindness during my recent stay in the Gorman hospital. Your thoughtfulness made each day more pleasant.

I shall always remember the doctors, nurses and other hospital staff members and other friends and neighbors with a thankful heart. Especially Bro. Pennington whose visits were such an inspiration to me.

May God richly bless every one of you.

Mrs. L. A. Ogle

### Santa Claus Is Coming Saturday Before Show Time

Santa Claus will buzz through Gorman again Saturday at 2 p. m. The King Theatre will not open until after Santa has made his visit.

This will give everyone an opportunity to shop while the children are seeing the show.

Rain did not stop the jolly old elf last Saturday so be it rain or shine or even snow Santa will be looking for all of his friends in Gorman Saturday, December 18.

The City Commission in cooperation with the Fire Department have arranged for his second visit.

### Business Men Host At Dinner Party Carolers Entertain

The biggest and for many the best party of the Christmas Season was the dinner party at the school cafeteria Monday evening. Business Men were host to their wives for the gay occasion.

Tables laid in white were decorated with runners of cedar and pine dotted with luminous Christmas Balls and centered at intervals with candles.

The menu consisted of baked turkey and dressing, cranberry sauce, a vegetable-cheese salad, green beans with potatoes with rolls, pie and coffee.

John Kimble, president of the Club, greeted guests and presented Mrs. E. E. Todd who had arranged the program. Mrs. Todd expressed thanks on behalf of the wives for the delicious dinner. She then introduced Mrs. Dick Wynne who accompanied Christmas Carolers, Ernestine Todd, Glenda Laminack and Mary Evelyn Laminack, in a trio harmony. Ernestine also gave a novelty number, "I Saw Mamma Kissing Santa Claus." Glenda sang in solo. Juni Wynne read "Twas the Night Before Christmas."

Mary Evelyn directed a singing. Ministers Leroy Cowan and J. W. Sharbutt gave the invocation and the benediction.

### Band Members Entertain at Parent Teachers Meeting

One of the largest crowds to attend a meeting of the Parent Teachers Association heard members of the School Band render a program of popular and semi-classical music Thursday evening.

A saxophone trio number was given by Carol Hatcher, Carole Ray Ramsey and Mary Del Thompson and Carol Hatcher also played a solo. Lewis Mehaffey appeared in a trombone solo, Emma Jane Skaggs and Margaret Steele played an accordion selection. Cornet selections were played by Gary Clark and Brent Lasater.

The Sixth Grade won the Parents Attendance Contest. Teacher of the Sixth Grade is Mrs. Marvin Moore.

W. C. Browning was elected to serve as treasurer of the PTA succeeding Harvey Parker who has resigned prior to moving to San Antonio.

Plans were completed for the School Christmas Parties.

### Announcements

Gorman Schools will remain closed after Christmas until January 3rd.

We have been notified that the Texas Electric Company, the Empire Southern Gas, the First National Bank and the Post Office will be closed Christmas Day and New Years. The Post Office will also close at noon, December 24th.

Stated meeting of the Gorman Chapter No. 443, O. E. S. will be held Monday night at 7 p. m., December 20th. A Christmas program will be held at 7:45.

Hattie Lee Todd, W. M. Thereasa Baker, Secretary

### Funeral Services For Mrs. Barton Held At New Hope

Funeral services for Mrs. T. L. Barton, Route 2, Gorman, was held at New Hope Baptist Church Wednesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock with Sister Mary Lawson of De Leon and Brother Hallenbach of Eastland officiating. Interment in charge of Higginbotham Funeral Directors was made at Bear Springs Cemetery. Mrs. Barton died at her home Tuesday, December 14th, following a long period of illness.

Born Zanie Corinne Clark, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Barry Clark of Gorman, she had married Mr. Tom Barton on March 15, 1895. She and Mr. Barton had lived for 48 years on the same farm. She had been a member of the Church of God for 40 years.

Surviving the deceased are her husband, T. L. Barton, three daughters, Mrs. F. M. Couch of Level land, Mrs. O. M. Justice of Rankin, Mrs. Leo Collins, and two sons, Thomas Barton of Level land and Nona Lark Barton of Gladewater, also a sister, Mrs. Pearl Brown of Comyn.

There are also 11 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren.

### School Board Elects Melvin Shell To Succeed Dr. Cole

At their Monday night meeting the Gorman School Board elected Melvin E. Shell to its membership to succeed Dr. C. T. Cole, serving the unexpired term of Cole who has moved to Dublin.

Shell, prominent business man and co-owner of the Gorman Peanut Company, is a graduate of Gorman High and Tarleton State. He and Mrs. Shell have two children in school, Terry and Marilyn. Both Mr. and Mrs. Shell have been active in their support of the community, the school and their church.

A second item of business transacted by the board was the approval of the use of the school cafeteria by a group of high school patrons who will host a party for high school and a number of college students who are Gorman exes, December 28th.

### Christmas Decorating

Despite the drouth, the anticipated short crops, the gripes about folks leaving, real estate down and other current criticism, we note that a host of folks have put out the Christmas welcome with cards, gifts, yard and porch decorations, trees or candles in the windows.

Also we note that some of our stores, if crowds mean anything, are seeing their best season.

Never have all the merchants give so much consideration to Christmas gift window displays and the displays are changed often.

Shut-ins have their Christmas Trees, too. One home we visited on invitation to see their Christmas arrangement was that of Mrs. Oscar Howard, who takes great pleasure in doing for shut-ins throughout the year. Mrs. Howard has made a village with the church and homes completely furnished.

In the church a woman kneels to pray while the minister stands at the portal directing his choir on the lawn of the church.

The city window which we think most beautiful, is that of the Texas Electric decorated by Miss Ozella Pulley.

Real Estate may be down if you want to sell, but try buying. Folks have been leaving, but just try to find a place to live.

Gorman is a pretty good place to be even with the afore said gripes when Christmas is everywhere.

ELDON SHIPMAN ENTERS DECATUR BAPTIST COLLEGE. Eldon Shipman, young Baptist minister, has entered Decatur Baptist College. Mr. and Mrs. Shipman, Joyce and Sherry moved to Decatur this week. Their home on Winkler is for sale.

### School Census To Be Taken In January

The Gorman School Census will be taken in January. Follow the usual custom census blanks will be sent to parents by the children. The school administration will greatly appreciate the cooperation of the parents in filling the blanks and returning same to the school.

Some parents have children who will reach the school age of six years before September, 1955. It is absolutely necessary that these children be registered on a census blank.

Parents who have children in this group and who do not receive a blank, because they have no children in school or for other reason, should secure the blanks at the school.

Cooperating with the school and for the benefit of any parents who might wish to fill blanks downtown or when the school is not open, the Gorman Progress will have census blanks which may be had for the asking.

### Former Gorman Couple To Observe 60th Anniversary

A former Gorman couple, Mr. and Mrs. L. Allen Greer of 506 South Bassett Street, Eastland, will observe their 60th Wedding Anniversary, December 16, 1894, with an open house to be held Sunday, December 19th at their home.

It has been announced that all friends and relatives are invited to attend.

Many Gorman folks will remember Mr. and Mrs. Greer and some will recall that they were married in De Leon. They had lived in and around Gorman for fifty years. For the past nine years they have lived at their present address.

Children of the couple expected to be with their parents for the celebration are W. C. Greer of Arlington, J. L. Greer of Henryetta, Oklahoma, Mrs. Mae Erwin of Kermit and Mrs. Maude Lee McDowell of Monroe, La.

### Carl Dean Stacy Buys Rhymes Station

The Carl Stacys have purchased the Humble Service Station from the Frank Rhymes.

Stacy stated that the purchase included the house and lot adjoining the station and that they would probably move in around the first of the year.

Possibly Mrs. Stacy may find time to help with the books. Harold Gray has been retained as employee. In fact, Gray will operate the station until Stacy is replaced at the Texas Electric Service Co where he has been employed for the past seventeen months.

Stacy is looking forward to resuming the friendly business of meeting and serving folks with what he, along with Humble Refining Company, considers the finest in petroleum products and service.

Carl and Verlan are 1949 graduates of Gorman High. They were married February 1950.

Their young son is Scott Stacy.

### LOCAL PIANISTS PRESENTED IN DE LEON RECITAL

Young pianists, Carol Hatcher and Shirley Hogan, were presented in recital along with other members of the piano class of Mrs. A. P. Schmidt Sunday afternoon at the First Methodist Church in De Leon.

Carol played "April Wedding Festival" and Shirley played "Londonderry Tune."

Mrs. Schmidt has more than forty pupils. Selections other than piano were readings by members of Mrs. Mae Whaley's class and also Chorus numbers.

Wade Smith, grandson of Mrs. Vera Hamrick of Gorman and son of Mr. and Mrs. Wade Smith of De Leon, played "Down On The Farm."

### With Our Boys In Service

We hear that Joe Mauney, now Sgt. Mauney, is expected to return from overseas duty at an early date.

A/2C Rayford Battenfield, son of Mr. and Mrs. Orville Battenfield, Route 1, Gorman, is enroute home after having spent 18 months on Okinawa.

Rayford served with the 51st Motor Sqdn. as an anticraft mechanic. After enlisting February 8, 1952 he received his basic at Lackland AFB finishing with 100 percent rating. He also completed a course in Engineering at Fort Belvoir, Virginia.

He returns wearing the medals of the United Nations and the Korean and National Defense.

George Clark, U.S.N., has been home on leave.

Willie Burl Moore and wife have been visiting here. He has been deactivated.

Pvt. Raymond Hattox is now stationed at Ft. Sheridan, Illinois.

### Area Folks Place At County Pecan Show At Cisco

A number of folks in this area found time to enter their pecans in the Eastland County Pecan Show in Cisco December 10-11.

Among the winners were Mrs. A. L. Underwood of Carbon, who won first place with Burketts. Her orchard is adjacent to Hill Top Service Station.

C. D. Simonms of Gorman placed 2nd with Mahans and C. L. Underwood placed 3rd with Mahans. Henry Capers placed with native pecans.

Mrs. Underwood's pecans will be sent to College Station.

B. B. Freeman of Cherokee county placed with eight varieties. His Burketts will also go to College Station.

### Harold Hilley Drops Six Point Buck

Harold Hilley is a mighty proud fellow this Christmas season. While on his first deer hunt during the first week end he dropped a six-point buck on the Hilley-Thomson lease near Fredericksburg.

Young Hilley was accompanied on the hunt by the luckless three, Quail, Boyd, and Donna David of Jamesa.

Mrs. David was houseguest of Mrs. Hilley while the men were on the hunt.

### KING THEATRE

Thursday and Friday Dale Robertson - Debra Paget in Gambler From Natchez Also Screen Spotlight Saturday Rod Cameron in Boss of Boomtown Also Charles Chaplin, Jr. Fangs of the Wild and Bugs Bunny Cartoon

Sunday - Monday Bob and Melba Mathias and Ward Bond in The Bob Mathias Story PLUS Billy Graham The Mighty Fortress Adm. 25c and 50c

Tuesday - Wednesday Johnny Weismuller in Tarzan, the Ape Man Also Casper Cartoon Thursday - Friday Gary Merrill - Jan Sterling in The Human Jungle Also Color Cartoon

Adv.

### Desdemona News

Reporter, Mrs. Ethel Keith

Mr. Mitch Bailey, who has been a house patient for many months, can now enjoy his wheel chair.

Mr. Tom Northcutt who has been a bed patient almost three years became ill last week but is better at this writing.

Mrs. Doey Williams and Mrs. Bert Crawley were shopping in Fort Worth one day last week.

Visiting in the R. H. Abel home the past week end were Mr. and Mrs. Robert Abel and son, Larry Bob of Oil Center, N. M., and Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Walker of Odessa.

The Robert Abels also visited with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. R. Joiner.

Mrs. Robert Myers also visited with the Joiners.

Mr. Vernon Duke and family of Wink spent a weeks vacation here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Rufus Duke.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Abel drove home a new '55 Plymouth.

Miss Mary Nell Pate and Kenneth Morgan visited in Desdemona with her aunt, Mrs. B. E. Elyeu and family, Sunday.

After being a house patient, nursing a knee injury for several weeks, Jimmie Heeter can now be seen out on the street.

Mrs. S. E. Snodgrass is gradually improving.

#### LEE DUPUYS MOVE TO ODESSA

Mr. and Mrs. Lee Dupuy and children and Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Seiter are moving to Odessa.

Mr. Dupuy will work in the oil field and Mrs. Dupuy is accepting a place in a cafe.

#### Little Indiana Town Owes Fame To Unusual Name

The little community of Santa Claus, Indiana, owes its fame to its unusual name. And at Christmas time its small post-office is swamped with mail from throughout the world by people who want their letter postmarked Santa Claus.

In addition, thousands of letters are received at the post-office addressed to "Santa Claus, Santa Claus, Ind."

The notes range from the wistful to the desperate, requesting such things as a marmalade, a sled, a sweater, or a pair of overshoes.

They come from countries all over the world—small villages in Canada and big cities in Europe.

Use SPANISH PEANUTS FOR SUPER VITALITY

#### MRS. RUSSELL VISITS SON IN MARYLAND

Mrs. Whit Russell left Wednesday, December 1st for Maryland. She will enjoy an extended visit with her son, Whit Russell, Jr., and family.

Miss Jo Russell accompanied her mother to Dallas to catch the train.

#### WATERWAYS IMPORTANT NEED IN THIS AREA

One of the main needs of farmers in this area is waterways, according to the supervisors of the Upper Leon Soil Conservation District.

Now is the time to lay out and construct waterways for seeding this spring.

Much of the land in this area needs terracing to prevent small washes from growing into gullies and to help control sheet erosion according to a survey made by the supervisors in determining the local needs. Many fields are not terraced because there is no place to empty the terraces without causing excessive damage by the concentrated flow of the runoff.

Bar ditches have proven to be poor outlets for terraces. The over-fall into the bar ditch will eat back until an uncrossable gully has formed along the terrace channel, the very thing that was sought to be avoided.

Native pasture with good turf is the best outlet. The water helps the grass and the grass in turn keeps the soil in place.

If a field needs terracing and has no pasture to outlet the terraces upon, a grass strip can be planted to handle excess water. A little shaping is often needed prior to planting the grass to prevent the water from channeling. A good sod should be established in the waterway before any terraces are emptied into it. Several grasses are capable of doing a satisfactory job. Among the best are King Ranch, bluestem, bermuda grass and Johnson grass.

Instead of looking upon the acres in a waterway as lost, they can be looked upon as a gain, for two or three acres are protecting thirty or forty acres. A direct return can be realized by controlled grazing without damaging the sod.

For farmers wanting more permanent pasture a profitable answer is to develop a larger waterway than necessary and utilize excess water usefully.

#### HOLLE WARNS AGAINST TRAGEDY SEASON OF WINTER FIRES

AUSTIN, Dec. 2, 1954 - "Tragedy season" for the aged may be here again, manifested in the form of one or more catastrophic fires in convalescent or nursing homes, State Health Officer Henry A. Holle said today.

"It is only natural that dangers of destructive fire in homes caring for aged people rises in direct proportion to temperature drops during fall and winter months," Dr. Holle pointed out.

"Full time use of heating and electrical equipment in these homes, plus the fact that ambulatory patients who smoke are forced inside during cold weather, calls for greater fire precautions."

Dr. T. E. Dodd, in charge of nursing home licensing activities at the State Health Department, said every nursing home administrator should insist that local fire department personnel make regular inspections of their premises and operations at least every thirty or sixty days, "even though we require each licensed nursing home in Texas to be approved for fire safety."

Dodd added: "In addition to carrying out all suggestions made by the local fire department, each nursing home administrator should have a definite plan that has been practiced and perfected to meet all emergencies caused by a fire."

"Such a plan should be worked out in cooperation with the fire department and all members of the nursing home staff should know their duties and assignments and be ready to act at any time."

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#### Turkey Makes Festive Eating Any Day!



These are days of plenty — plenty of turkey, that is — and with turkey on the plentiful foods list now that means it is economically priced, too! Once just roasted food, the new style is cut up turkey for broiling or barbecuing outdoors. Cut up turkey fried and Creole dishes give Southern cookery a new twist. Oven fried turkey is one of the newer recipes. The Southwest is a leader in producing turkeys and it gives your table something "extra" to serve turkey in a variety of ways during the Fall and Winter months when it is plentiful and pleasant budget-wise, too!

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CLOVER FARM <b>CHERRIES R.S.P.</b> No. 303	Can <b>25¢</b>	CLOVER FARM <b>SHORTENING</b> 3 -Lb. Tin	<b>79¢</b>
<b>MEXICORN</b> 12-Oz. Can	<b>19¢</b>	CLOVER FARM <b>GRAPE JELLY</b> 12-Oz. Glass	<b>21¢</b>
<b>PEAS</b> GREEN GIANT No. 303	Can <b>23¢</b>	CLOVER FARM <b>BLACK PEPPER</b> 1 1/2-Oz. Tin	<b>15¢</b>
<b>SPINACH</b> DEL MONTE No. 303	Can <b>15¢</b>	SKINNER'S <b>RAISIN BRAN</b> 10-Oz. Box	<b>19¢</b>
CLOVER FARM <b>MINCE MEAT</b> 9-Oz. Box	<b>25¢</b>	<b>CHILI</b> WOLF No. 2	Can <b>49¢</b>
<b>SALMON</b> HONEY BOY No. 1	Tall Can <b>39¢</b>	<b>DOG FOOD</b> BIG MIKE 2 No. 300	Cans <b>13¢</b>
<b>PRUNES</b> WHITE SWAN LARGE, DRIED 1-Lb. Box	<b>35¢</b>	<b>SALT</b> CLOVER FARM 26-Oz. Box	<b>9¢</b>
<b>RICE</b> RIVER BRAND 2 -Lb. Ctn.	<b>33¢</b>	<b>CLOROX</b> Quart	<b>17¢</b>
<b>REYNOLD'S WRAP</b> 25-Ft. Roll	<b>29¢</b>	JENNIE LIND <b>XMAS MIX CANDY</b> 10-Oz. Bag	<b>29¢</b>
<b>MIXED NUTS</b> BUSTER'S 8-Oz. Can	<b>49¢</b>		

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### Handel's 'Messiah' Attended By Gorman Folk

Among the Gorman folk who attended the presentation of "Messiah" in Cisco Sunday were Mrs. W. T. Shell, Mrs. T. F. Morrow and Mrs. Donald Bolt. Mrs. Bolt took her daughters and a number of other young people with her.

Handel, among the world's greatest composers, had enjoyed popularity as a favorite of the King of England for a number of years in the 1730's. When his popularity waned his friends deserted him and the critics all but murdered him with their malice.

It was while in a spirit of bitter dejection, August 24, 1741, he returned to his room feeling that even his faith in himself had left him. Lighting his candles he found and opened a manuscript from his librettist, Charles Jennens.

It proved to be a compilation of scriptural texts called "Messiah". Musing and without hope he read, "Comfort ye, comfort ye my people. . .", poetry of beauty and truth, and he read again and more until finally there were the lines, "Hallelujah! for the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth. King of Kings and Lord of Lords, and he shall reign for ever and ever."

Night and day harmonies of choruses, orchestras and organ flowed as smoothly as Handel could move his pen. When three weeks and "Messiah" were completed Handel knowing he had accomplished what to him was divine he said, "Whether I was in my body or out of my body as I wrote it I know not."

Although the oratorio was written in England, Ireland was the first to hear it and to proclaim its greatness. The profits amounted to 2000 dollars which he gave for the relief of men imprisoned for debt.

Later when he offered the presentation of his "Messiah" to England he was bitterly persecuted. Bigots declared his work sacrilegious. Women of organized so-

### Guard Against Fire This Yule Season

Guard against fire in your home this Yule season.

The average Christmas tree can go up in smoke in only a minute or so and that doesn't leave much time to call for help.

A live tree with roots packed in a bucket of earth is the safest. Be sure and keep the dirt moistened. A small tree is safer than a large one and festive trimmings can make up what is lacking in size.

Don't use lighted candles. (This may seem an unnecessary precaution in this day of electric lights, but lighted candles contribute to tragic fires every year.)

Check the wiring for the tree to see that it's not frayed and is in perfect condition. The switch for turning off and on electric lights should be at some distance from the tree. Don't plug or unplug lights beneath the tree.

Don't leave tree lights on when it isn't necessary and especially when the family is away from home. From time to time, check over the tree and see if needles near the lights are turning brown. If they have, move the lights.

Watch the calendar. New Year's is the day for the tree to go down. If you should extend the time, don't leave the lights on the tree for more than a half hour at a time.

Place the tree well away from stoves, radiators, and other sources of heat. When you smoke, stay away from the tree. Also be sure that the tree is secured in such a way that it cannot fall. Do not put it near a doorway where it might block an avenue of escape, should a fire occur.

ciety fought him by setting up other events on the performance night.

But the majesty and greatness of the oratorio could no longer be denied when the King allowed himself to be persuaded to attend the performance and feeling himself so inspired by the resounding notes of the Hallelujah Chorus rose to his feet and remained standing throughout the chorus.

King George II on that night established a custom, followed the world over, "standing in tribute for the Hallelujah Chorus."

Prime requisites to your well-decked Yule: gala greens and festive flowers. We've bright ideas for gifts and decorations.



**PRESTON'S FLORIST**  
GORMAN, TEXAS

### Holiday Dinner

We will serve our Holiday Dinner on Christmas Eve.  
We will be closed on Christmas Day



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**GREETINGS AND BEST WISHES FOR A**



**Merry Christmas**



**HAPPY NEW YEAR**

**Thompson Hardware**

Gorman, Texas

**"Snowman Frosty"  
 Greets Party Goers  
 At Baker Home**

"Frosty, the Snowman", is on the job night and day greeting guests at the Gene Baker home. "Frosty" who guards the front door during the holiday season is a creation of Mrs. Baker and her daughter, Mrs. Carter Hart. When darkness falls he is still on duty and his face lightens as he raises his peppermint cane to say, "Hi!"

Members of the Woman's Society of Christian Service gathered at three o'clock for their annual Christmas Party at the Baker home. Inside adding to the festivity were Santa at the improvised mantle, a heavily laden Christmas Tree and sparkling arrangements of bright ornaments hanging here and there.

Mrs. Don Bolt in charge of the program gave a brief review of "The Outcast of the Mountains" from the current Saturday Evening Post. She also presented Mrs. Audie Brown and Mrs. Newt Crawley who told of Christmas in the Heart and Christmas with children. Mrs. William Brogdon gave the devotional with the theme, "We can have Christmas at anytime we are willing to let Christ come in."

Mrs. Barton Eppler lead in the singing of Christmas Carols. Exchange gifts were distributed by Mrs. J. E. Walker and Mrs. Marvin Blair.

Hot lime punch was served with a sandwich plate and candy favors.

Those attending other than the above mentioned were Mesdames B. F. Pendarvis, T. F. Morrow, Craig Smith, M. H. Fairbetter, J. W. Sharbutt, W. T. Shell, H. L. Capers, Keith Whitt and M. E. Shell.

The Love Offering for the Holiday Institute reconstruction program was above 18 dollars.

**Mrs. Pennington  
 Protrays Christmas  
 Story For Excelsiors**

Mrs. M. A. Pennington gave a lovely portrayal of "The Christmas Story" Tuesday evening for the members of the Excelsior Club meeting for their annual party in the Gene Baker home. She told the story as she placed the landscaping for the various scenes and the colorful personalities on a flannel board.

Bringing her narration to a close with the lines telling of how God in his message through the angel saved his son from death by the sword of Herod, she climaxed the story with, "And we know as God saved His own Son he will save us."

Mrs. Carter Hart, a guest and daughter of the hostess read a poem, "The Legend of the Skimpiest Tree." Mrs. Hart is a talented reader and her reading had beauty and mystery, ending with the miraculous, which is typical of so many Christmas Stories.

Mrs. Vera Hamrick, yearbook chairman, was in charge of the program. Mrs. Dona Moorman, secretary, conducted the roll call which is always an interesting and educational feature.

Gifts were distributed by Mrs. D. J. Jobe and Mrs. Baker.

The club passed a motion to the effect that they would work with other clubs of the city to raise money for the building of a civic center.

Any contributions for seeds to Pakistan or other Southern Asia Countries should be handed to Mrs. M. H. Fairbetter by December 21st.

A salad plate was served with hot punch to the members present and guests, Mrs. Hart and Mrs. J. M. Nix.

Garlord Battenfield of Morgan City, La, who is with Magnolia Oil, visited his parents, the O. O. Battenfields, this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Jan Acrea of Stephenville visited with his parents for a short while Saturday.

**Friendly Ladies  
 Enjoy Party  
 With Review**

Mrs. J. M. Nix and Mrs. M. H. Fairbetter were hosts for the Christmas Party of the Friendly Ladies Class Saturday morning in the home of the latter.

Mrs. Fairbetter gave a review of "Dig or Die, Brother Hyde" by Harriet Harper Dexter and Milton Fairbetter, Jr. played several Christmas accordion selections. Mrs. C. R. Day, class president, conducted brief business.

The hostesses served coffee with fruit cake topped with whipped cream centered with a cherry to Mesdames Keith Whitt, Melvin Shell, William Brogdon, Othell Clark, Frank Rhymes, Dean Kirk, C. R. Day, Giff Acrea, Bob Pierce, Dorothy Hatcher, Edward Harrison, Mrs. Gene Baker, and a guest, Mary Ruth Kirk.

**MOORE TWINS IN  
 WEDDING HOUSE PARTY**

Hazel and Ruby Moore of Abilene and formerly of Gorman were members of the reception party honoring Mr. and Mrs. Jimmie Dale Carter at Winters.

The Moore twins are friends of the bride who is the former Birdie Sue Worthington of Abilene and formerly of Winters.

The reception was held in the church parlor of the First Baptist Church following the wedding on Saturday evening, December 10.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Bennett and boys of Weatherford visited with his mother, Mrs. Ruby Bennett, during the week end.

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**woods furniture**

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**Still Reducing Prices**

**Ironing Pad - Cover Set**

99c

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 Each - 95c**

**7-way Floor Lamps**

6.95

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 4 pc. 79.95**

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Be sure and turn to 1510 on your radio dial

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7 cu. ft. - Freezer across top

139.50

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60 Inch - 5 pc.

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**Vacuum Cleaners**

With all Fittings

as low as \$37.50

**Full Size 36" RANGE**

Divided Top Burners - NEW

79.95

**Coffee Tables**

**End Tables**

**Lamp Tables**

3.95

**Living Room Suites**

Assorted Colors

2 pc. 89.50

**412 Coil Mattress and**

**Matching Box Springs**

Both only 59.50

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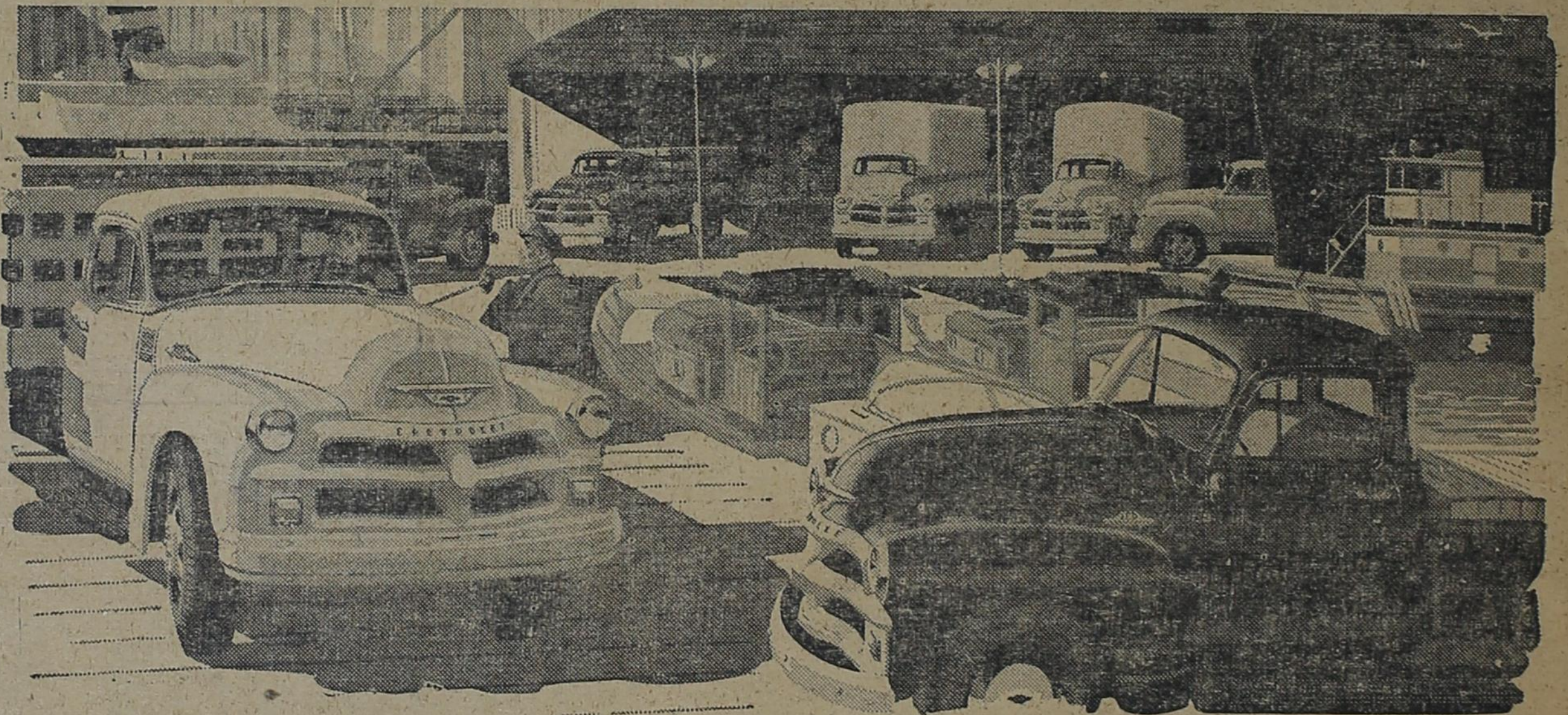
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 Buy America's First-Choice Trucks**

**'55 CHEVROLET TRUCKS**



**Chevrolet trucks alone  
 give you all these  
 features that mean  
 more work per day ...  
 more work per dollar!  
 And they're America's  
 lowest-priced line  
 of trucks!**

**JOB-TAILORED  
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You get exactly the right power for your job. All three great valve-in-head engines deliver gas-saving, hour-saving high-compression performance!

**EXTRA  
 RUGGEDNESS  
 AND  
 RELIABILITY**

Sturdy single unit tubular steel rear axle housings! Strong, rigid frames! Diaphragm-Spring Clutches with high torque capacities and built-in long life.

**MORE  
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 CONVENIENCE,  
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Cabs have efficient ventilation and insulation; mountings that cushion frame vibrations; one-piece curved windshield with full-width defroster outlet.

**ADVANCED  
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 FOR EASIER  
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Less effort needed with efficient Recirculating Ball Steering Gear; Torque-Action and Twin-Action brake design helps you stop surely and easily.

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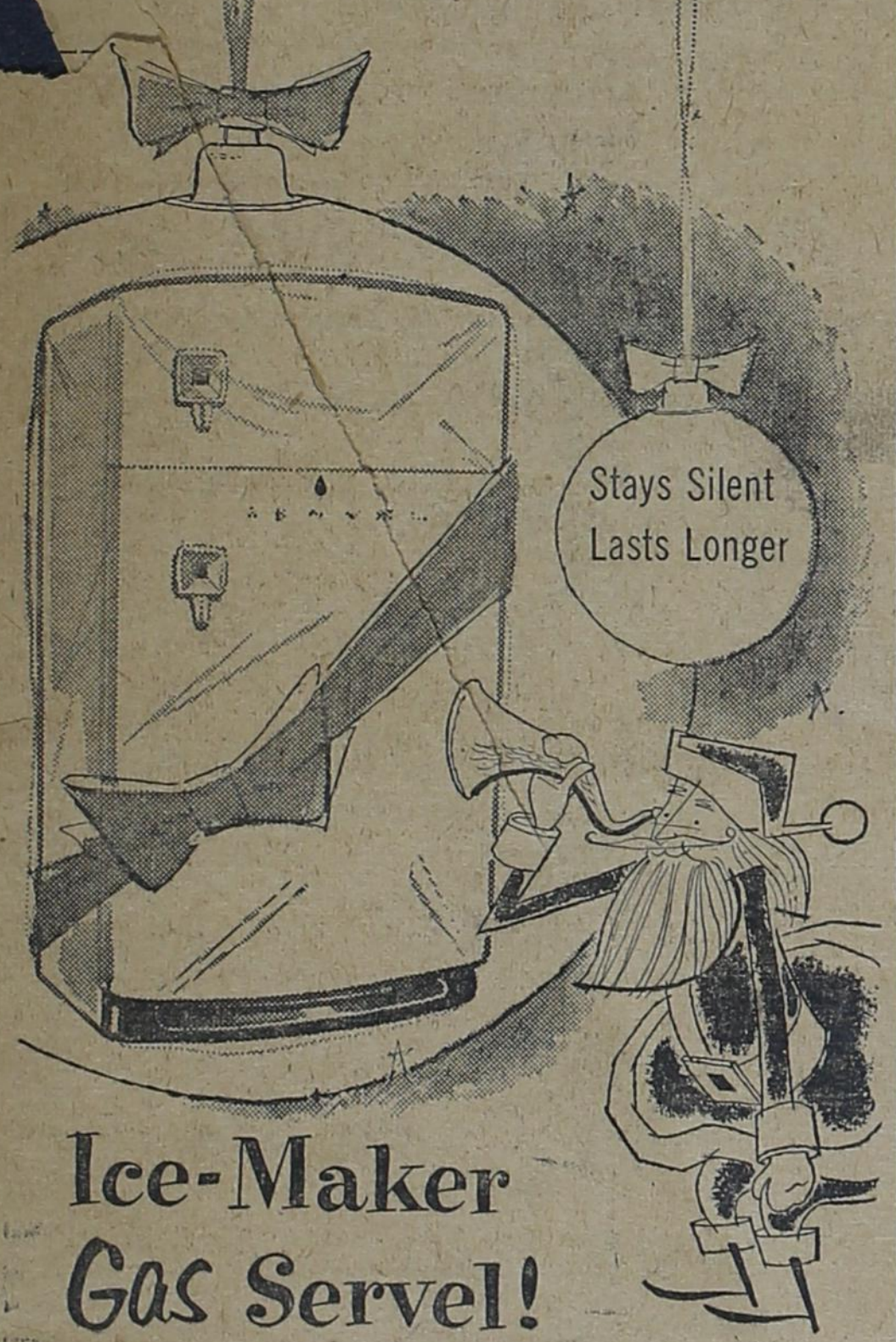


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**Chevrolet is first in sales in all these weight capacities—1/2 ton, 3/4-1 ton, 1 1/2-2 tons!**



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**Ice-Maker  
 Gas Servel!**

A practical gift... yet it's packed with unique surprises! Give your wife the GAS refrigerator and she'll marvel at the miracle of ice without messy trays... be pleased that Servel's freezing system is silent. You will like the "no-moving-parts" guarantee — TEN YEARS.

Only GAS offers these features. Come in today... see how wonderful a gift can be.

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MARKET-PLACE OF MILLIONS..

NOTICE - We do first class renovating on mattresses. We make new cotton and inspring mattresses. Pritchard Mattress Factory, Phone 3841, De Leon, Texas. We pick up and deliver

DEAD ANIMAL SERVICE - Hamilton Rendering Co. - Free and Sure - Call Collect Phone 303, Hamilton, Texas

FOR DOZER WORK see SCHUMAN and VANCE, De Leon, Texas. Brush Pushing, Tanks and Sub-Soil Plowing. 12-18fn

If you are sick see your doctor. If your watch is sick see Elbert Denton.

Mattresses Rebuilt - Have your old mattress made like a new, beautiful interspring mattress. Prices are reasonable, work guaranteed. Eppler Furniture Store of Gorman, Representing Summers and Son Mattress Company of Stephenville.

To Be A Pleased and Satisfied watch repair customer is to take Your Watch to Irvin J. Taber for Repairs, Irvin J. Taber, Watchmaker, Mehaffey Drug. 2-25fnc

FOR SALE - My home - 4 large rooms, all modern conveniences. Gene Wright. See Gabe Wright at Wright Garage. 9-9-fn

PEANUTS, Atomic Energy Food Use SPANISH PEANUTS FOR SUPER VITALITY

FOR SALE - Some very attractive farms and also some good homes in Gorman priced to sell. C. E. Sims, Gorman.

FOR SALE - My home. All modern conveniences. 3 bed-room and 2 baths. Phone 175. C. T. Cole, Gorman.

HOLIDAY SPECIAL - Parakeet and cage, only \$6.98. All colors in birds. Crown Cages. Jackie Don Wheeler. 12-22c

HOLIDAY SPECIAL - Parakeet and cage, only \$6.98. All colors in birds. Crown cages. Mrs. Troy Johnson. 12-22p

LOST - 1 White Goat. About half grown. Notify Boyd Hilley.

FOR SALE - Ideal home for folks wishing to live close in. 4 rooms and bath. 1 1/2 block to grocery, 2 blocks to main street. Inquire at Maupin Service Station. 12-23p

FOR SALE - Eldon Shipman house on Winkler St. across and down street from Ben R. Townley home. 4 rooms and bath. See Floyd Gowan. 12-23p

FOR RENT - Modern furnished apartment. W. D. Harper. fnc

Use SPANISH PEANUTS FOR SUPER VITALITY The Type We Grow

**Miss Anse Brown Hosts Desdemona Class Party**

Mrs. Anse Brown was hostess to the "Faithful Workers" Sunday School Class party Wednesday afternoon at her home east of Desdemona.

Following a short business session "Secret Pal" names and gifts were revealed. Plans were made to contribute a home made gift to each aged person in this community.

A colorful plate and coffee or cold drinks was served to 17 guests. They were, besides the hostess, Mrs. Brown, Mesdames Hattie Tate, Hattie Slone, Arlie Belyeu, Ethel Keith, Jessie Lewis, Gussie Ragland, Nona Grimshaw, Marie Duke, Ella Tidwell, Leota Powers, Myrt Reed, Carrie Carr, Lillian Hammond, and invited guests, Mesdames Helen Arnold, Nora Lane and Doris Bryan.

**BAPTIST YOUNG PEOPLE GO CAROLLING**

The Young People of the First Baptist Church, led by Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Hirst, went Christmas Carolling Monday evening. The homes visited were Mr. Jess Richardson, Mr. Walter Underwood, Mrs. Mason, Mrs. Ella Porter, Mr. C. O. Alsbrook and others.

We appreciate the fine work done by the young people in bringing Christmas cheer to our shut-ins. We hope that there will be more of this.

**SUNBEAMS ENJOY PROGRAM AND TREE**

The Sunbeams enjoyed their program Monday afternoon, and also the exchange of gifts. They were surprised by the Businessmens Bible Class who presented each child with a Cellophane bags of fruit, candy, and nuts. Says Bro. Pennington, "They are the finest boys and girls that could be found anywhere."

Miss Henrietta Wilson of Abilene visited with her brother, Ross Wilson, and Mrs. Wilson during the week. Bobby Bullard, a Brownwood High student and a friend of the Wilson family was also a week end guest.



**HOMEWARD, THE SPIRIT WINGS**

As the spirit takes flight to a brighter world, the family and friends gather in loving memory of a life, well lived. Our part is simply to help make final services a worthy tribute.

**Higginbotham's Funeral Home**  
Phone 11 Gorman  
Night 138J or 58

**J. H. Weavers To Mark 50th Wedding Anniversary**

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Weaver will celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary on December 26th with open house from 2 p. m. until 5:30 p. m. at their home, 404 Leon St., De Leon.

**Baptist Orphanage Gets Ready For Christmas**

To many children, Christmas without their parents would be a tragedy. But tragedy came to the children of the Baptist Mexican Orphanage at San Antonio in the past and to some when they were too young to remember.

Now they will have Christmas with the home mothers and what a Christmas theirs will be.

There is preparation everywhere on foot, underfoot, in the air and everywhere.

These home mothers are making preparation in a spiritual and intellectual manner. Santa Claus is lots of fun. But the dear old gentleman will come up second for children who know the Christ of the Manger in Bethlehem and the Christ of the loving heart.

Every house mother has a devotional period with her children before they are tucked in their beds, four beds to a room and three rooms full of children for each mother.

The goal of the orphanage is 30 cottages for the Mexican orphans. There are eight at present. Five hundred and thirty-five Baptist Churches contribute to the institution but there is need for as many as nine hundred contributors.

Two mothers known to many are Mrs. Zetta Mathis and Mrs. Bud Morgan.

**Baptists Plan For Christmas Services**

The services at First Baptist Church for Sunday, December 19, are to be built around the general theme of Christ's Birth and earth ly Ministry.

The hymns used in the services both morning and evening will be the familiar hymns used at this season.

The Sunday evening services will include the various departments of Sunday School, each making a contribution to the service as it wishes to do so.

The church is looking to the Intermediate and Young People for the greater part of the service.

The church is happy over their young folk who give themselves to service in the church.

**YOUTH RALLY SATURDAY**

There is to be a Youth Rally at Second Baptist Church, Ranger, Saturday night at 7:30. The youth of Gorman is cordially invited to attend this fine meeting. If you plan to go, show up at the First Baptist Church here at 6:45 Saturday evening and go with the crowd.

**Methodist Groups Prepare For Annual Christmas Program**

Various groups of the Methodist Church are preparing for the Christmas program to be given Wednesday evening December 22nd at the Church.

Mrs. Don Bolt is training two choir groups for vocal numbers. The young people will join with the adult singers and the Primary and Junior singers will be together.

Mrs. M. F. Allen will give a reading with the theme putting Christ back in Christmas.

A number of children will render solo selections, vocal and instrumental.

The program precedes the old fashioned Christmas Tree. Mrs. J. W. Ramsey and Mrs. Eugene Baker are on the decorating committee.

Each one should bring a gift suitable for a person his own age.

Parties have been planned for some of the groups.

Mrs. Dorothy Plyer visited with her uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Pullig, Monday. She was Mr. Pullig's guest at the Business Men's Dinner Party. Her mother, Mrs. Fannie Burkett, has returned to Austin with her.

FOR FREE HOME DEMONSTRATION OF THE NEW SINGER SEWING MACHINES & VACUUM CLEANERS - ALSO REPAIRS IN GORMAN - ORDERS ARE PICKED UP EACH MONDAY AT

**Mrs. Dave L. Ramsey**

PHONE 108W GORMAN

MIKE ALEXANDER - Bonded Representative

**Singer Sewing Machine Co.**

**Why Not**

WHY NOT AVOID THE LAST MINUTE RUSH THIS TIME?  
ONLY 7 MORE SHOPPING DAYS 'TIL CHRISTMAS  
Shop FROSSARD'S Today

**Open Evenings From 22nd - 24th**  
For Your Shopping Convenience

**CLOTHING AND ACCESSORIES FOR EVERYONE**  
1ST QUALITY - LADIES DARK SEAM HOSE 79c  
MEN'S STRETCH SOX 59c

Pajamas  
Anklets  
House Coats  
Panties  
Luggage  
Costume Jewelry  
Gloves and Accessories are Ideal Gifts for the Ladies

Ladies Gowns in Nylon - Outings & Brushed Rayon

Belts - Ties - Billfolds  
Gloves & Accessories are Always Fine Gifts

House Shoes and Pajamas For All.

Sport Shirts & Blue Jeans for Boys & Girls  
Towel Sets & Blankets are Fine for the Family

**FROSSARD'S DEPARTMENT STORE**  
Gorman, Texas

**WE WILL BE CLOSED DECEMBER 25**

**DROP IN FOR THE BEST IN Christmas BUYS!**

CAL TOP CATSUP	BOTTLE 15c	GLADIOLA FLOUR	10 POUND BAG 89c
LETTUCE	LARGE HEAD 10c	SUGAR	10 LB. 99c
ORANGES	5 POUND BAG 29c	KLEENEX	300 COUNT 19c
RUSSET SPUDS	10 POUNDS 45c	CHARMIN NAPKINS	80 COUNT 2 BOXES 25c
CELERY	STALK 20c	CHOCOLATE COVERED CHERRIES	BOX 55c
CARROTS	CELLO PKGS. 2 for 25c	CRANBERRIES	ONE POUND BOX 25c
CELERY	STALK 20c	SWEET POTATOES	NO. 2 1/2 CAN 25c

**Many Other Bargains In Our Store**

IMPERIAL MINCE MEAT BOX 23c

**Creamy Mince Pie**  
9-oz. pkg. mince meat 2 tablespoons dark molasses 2 slightly beaten eggs 1/2 cup sugar 1/4 cup Pet Milk  
Turn on oven; set at very hot (450°). Break mince meat into pieces. Put into saucepan with water. Cook and stir over low heat until smooth. Mix rest of ingredients; stir in hot mince meat. Pour into deep 9-in. pie pan lined with unbaked pastry made with pie crust mix. Bake 10 min., reduce heat to 350° and bake 30 min., or until firm. Serve warm or cold.

**FROZEN FOODS**  
ORANGE JUICE PICTSWEET 2 CANS 35c

CHICKEN POT PIE Swanson's 35c each  
BREADED SHRIMP 59c box

**JAY'S GROCERY and MARKET**  
Phone 40 We Deliver Gorman

TALL KORN BACON lb. 49c  
HOME MADE SAUSAGE lb. 49c  
LONGHORN CHEESE lb. 49c  
DECKERS OLEO lb. 23c  
ALL MEAT BOLOGNA lb. 35c

CRISCO 3 LB. CAN 83c  
PET MILK 2 TALL CANS 25c



**Late Starter?**

YOU CAN'T RUN to your insurance agent for more insurance while your home is going up in flames.

Now, before disaster strikes, is the time to make sure you have adequate insurance. Play safe. Call on us for a protection check-up today.



W. G. KIRK      BERENICE JEFFS

**Gorman Insurance Agency**  
 Phone 134

GORMAN, THE PEANUT MARKETING CENTER OF THE WORLD TEXAS

**When the Leaves Begin to Fall -**

... it's time to begin thinking of the close of the harvest season and the beginning of another year. To our many customers and friends who collectively have made this year's business one of the best in our 32-year history, we wish to express our sincere gratitude. And in so doing we renew our pledge to a constant effort of improvement and expansion of our equipment and facilities to the end that you will have here all the answers to a complete abstract service.

**EARL BENDER & CO.**  
 EASTLAND (ABSTRACTING SINCE 1923) TEXAS

**Drive through the winter in low-cost Comfort!**

**BUS STOP**

**OK USED CARS**  
 INSPECTED · RECONDITIONED  
 WARRANTED IN WRITING

The red OK Tag means 6 ways better

- Thoroughly Inspected
- Reconditioned for Safety
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This is an **OK USED CAR**

Sold only by an Authorized Chevrolet Dealer

**CHEVROLET**

**SMITH BROS Chevrolet Co.**  
 PHONE 26 + Corner Kent & Ross  
 Gorman, Texas

**DUSTER ROCK BLUFF NEWS**

Mrs. Lorene Johnson, Reporter

Take time and give thanks for the Christmas Season: The store are filled with Christmas gifts, the streets are decorated for Christmas and people are planning, shopping, and hoping for a wonderful, happy Christmas. At Christmas time perhaps more than at any other time during the year, we need to take time to be still, to quiet our thought, to let go of anxiety and tension.

Let us decide now, before the real rush of Christmas begins, to give some time every day during the next several days to just being still, to quieting our thoughts and emotions, to renewing our energy by returning in prayer to the source of our being.

"In quietness and in confidence shall be you strength." We shall find that our daily time of stillness of meditation and prayer will make shopping a joy. Make our planning easy and bless every thing we do during the Christmas Season.

Let us give thanks now for life, health, and the joys of the many wonderful privileges we have been blessed with, especially for Christ, love, wisdom, joy, and peace. "For unto you is born this day a Saviour". Luke 2:11. To every reader, may all the joys of this Christmas Season be with you throughout the coming year.

Yours truly,  
 Lorene Johnson

Duster Baptist Church had only a few out for Sunday School. Church of Christ and the Rock Bluff church had fair attendance.

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Hodges are the proud parents of a baby boy born December 1st at the Gorman hospital. They also have a daughter 18 months old.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Barnes and boys, Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Gray, and Mr. and Mrs. Ira Frasier are enjoying a new television set.

Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Gott and family were visitors in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Seal Smith.

Visitors in the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Lay were Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Holbrooks and Pat of Bryan, Mr. and Mrs. Doyle Burleson of Brownfield and Mrs. W. N. Huddleston of De Leon.

Glad to report Mrs. Hesper Gray, Mrs. Newman Pounds and Mrs. Winkles, who have been on the sick list, are recovering satisfactorily.

Mr. and Mrs. Belr Scott and son of Andrews visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Scott, a few days.

Mr. and Mrs. N. J. Pounds visited Mrs. Henry Thomas who is seriously ill in the Gorman hos-



By Dorothy Killian

IT WAS about eight o'clock on New Year's Eve when Jane Walters turned to stare out the kitchen window into the wintry darkness. She didn't want Don to see the tears in her eyes, but she hadn't been quick enough.

"It's a raw deal all right, honey," he said from the chair where he sat with one leg, in a cast, propped up on a stool. I take you away from all your city friends and bring you back to Brantville to live, and then what do I do? Break my stupid leg during our first holidays together and leave you high and dry without an escort for the New Year's Eve party."

"You couldn't help it, Don." She tried to sound bright, but the truth was it did matter. She had found herself more homesick than ever with the coming of the holidays. This little town to which Don had come back as operator of the grain elevator was like a foreign country to her. And, with the furnace acting up, here they were sitting in the kitchen of all places on New Year's Eve.

Jane sighed and turned slowly away from the window. "What kind of a party will Grandma Jenner be having?"

Don chuckled. "Oh, it'll be corny, all right—no blaring trumpets. And yet, Janie," Don leaned forward and went on earnestly, "I really think you'd enjoy these people if you'd, well, kind of let yourself go."

"Maybe so, Don. But I just have the feeling that they consider me an outsider. I—did you hear that



"It's a raw deal all right, honey," he said.

scuffling noise? Sounds like somebody's in our back yard."

"Lots of somebodies, I'd say," Don replied.

There was a resounding thump on the back door. Jane opened it and stepped back, bewildered.

"Surprise, surprise!" a chorus of voices shouted, as a couple of dozen people trooped in, Grandma Jenner in the lead, swinging a huge granite coffee pot.

"You do look floored, my dear," she said, planting a peck briskly on Jane's cheek. "But it's an old custom around here—when you can't come to a party, the party comes to you. Look at Don there, he doesn't seem too surprised."

Don grinned. "I was kind of hoping this would happen," he said. "But Jane hasn't gotten too well acquainted yet."

"I know," Grandma said quickly. "And it's mostly our fault. To tell you the truth, honey,"—she turned to Jane—"We were kind of afraid of you, you seemed sort of distant. But when you phoned that you and Don couldn't make the party, I heard the tremble in your voice, I suddenly realized that you're just as human as the rest of us. So here we are. Now let's get on with the fun."

It seemed no time at all before Grandma called out, "We've just time for a spelling bee before midnight and refreshments. Get yourselves lined up folks while I put the coffee on to boil."

The crowd laughingly divided into two lines on either side of the big kitchen. As Jane hesitated, someone pulled her into position. "Speer the words, Mac," Grandma said to the school principal. "You're used to this kind of thing."

Mr. MacRay began giving out words. Amid shouts of praise for the successful spellers and hoots of derision for those who stumbled over a word, the game progressed until only Jane and Mr. Nichols were left.

The caller cleared his throat and, turning towards Jane, pronounced the word, 'hospitable'.

Jane hesitated and looked slowly around the room. She saw Grandma Jenner hovering over the coffee pot at the stove, Mr. Appleton gently adjusting the cushion under Don's outstretched leg, and Mrs. Ames just coming in from the pantry with a tray of apple pies.

"Yes, I can spell 'hospitable,'" she said. "B-R-A-N-T-V-I-L-L-E."

There was a moment of silence. "Bravo!" several voices called out, and just then the kitchen clock began to strike twelve.

"Happy New Year!" Jane echoed with the rest as she looked around at her new friends and finally met the eyes of her beaming husband. It was indeed going to be a good year.

**HALLMARKS RETURN FROM TRIP EAST**

Mr. and Mrs. George Hallmark, Sue and Linda, reached home late Tuesday night. All are thrilled over their trip. Of course, according to George everyone was anxious to get back to Gorman except him.

Only he was the one who got down town to see the folks before others of the party ventured out.

The Huey Long Bridge, which really is one of the seven wonders of the Southland, surely impressed the travellers with its magnitude.

Sue and Linda are all for the white sands and the turquoise waters of the Gulf.

On the whole we should say their trip was a highpoint of all their lives.

**Small Towns First to Light Outdoor Trees**

It was a small town that first thought of lighting an outdoor community Christmas tree.

Four communities are believed to have thought of the idea about the same time—as early as 1913. Two of them, McDonald and Germantown, were in Pennsylvania. Salem, Ore., decorated a large Sitka spruce. Riverside, Calif., illuminated a large evergreen, an Aracuria.

The first national Christmas tree was in 1924 and was sponsored by the American Forestry association. The event is now televised every year for all parts of the country to see.

The most spectacular outdoor displays in the United States are at the White House and Rockefeller Center in New York. The New York display is possibly the most elaborate in the world.

But it was the small towns that first thought of the idea.

Today, nearly every community in the land has some kind of Christmas decorations. Many communities string colored lights across the street and decorate light posts with evergreens. Many suspend bells and stars at street intersections and have dazzling community trees.

pital Sunday.

Mrs. Della Graham and Mr. and Mrs. Joe Graham of Loraine were visitors in the Carl Graham home recently.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Coan of Ft Worth and Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Jackson of Gorman were visitors with their parents Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Lyndell Coan and son of Smithville visited her sister and family, Mr. and Mrs. Dean Pounds, over the week end.

Mr. and Mrs. Mead Parkom of Merkel are visitors in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fulton Smith. Mr. Smith and Mr. Parkom enjoyed a deer hunt.

Mrs. Seal Smith and Mrs. Bill Barnes were shopping in Stephen ville one day last week.



Many items have been added to our stock since we announced a 33 1-3 reduction on all DOLLS, TOYS, GAMES and COLORING BOOKS.

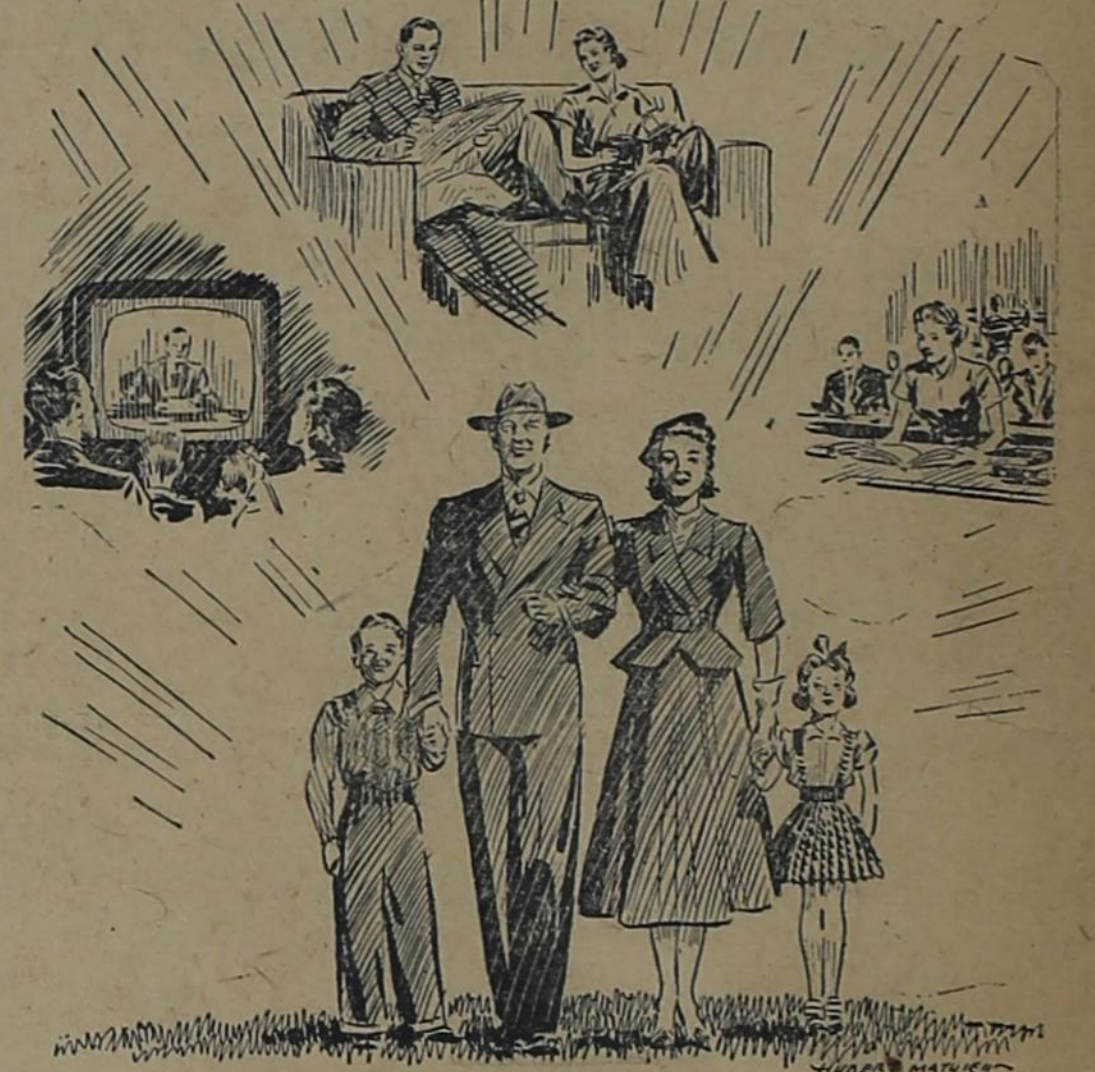
-- Remember -- These prices hold good until Christmas!! See our display window of gifts for the whole family.

**BIBBY'S VARIETY STORE**

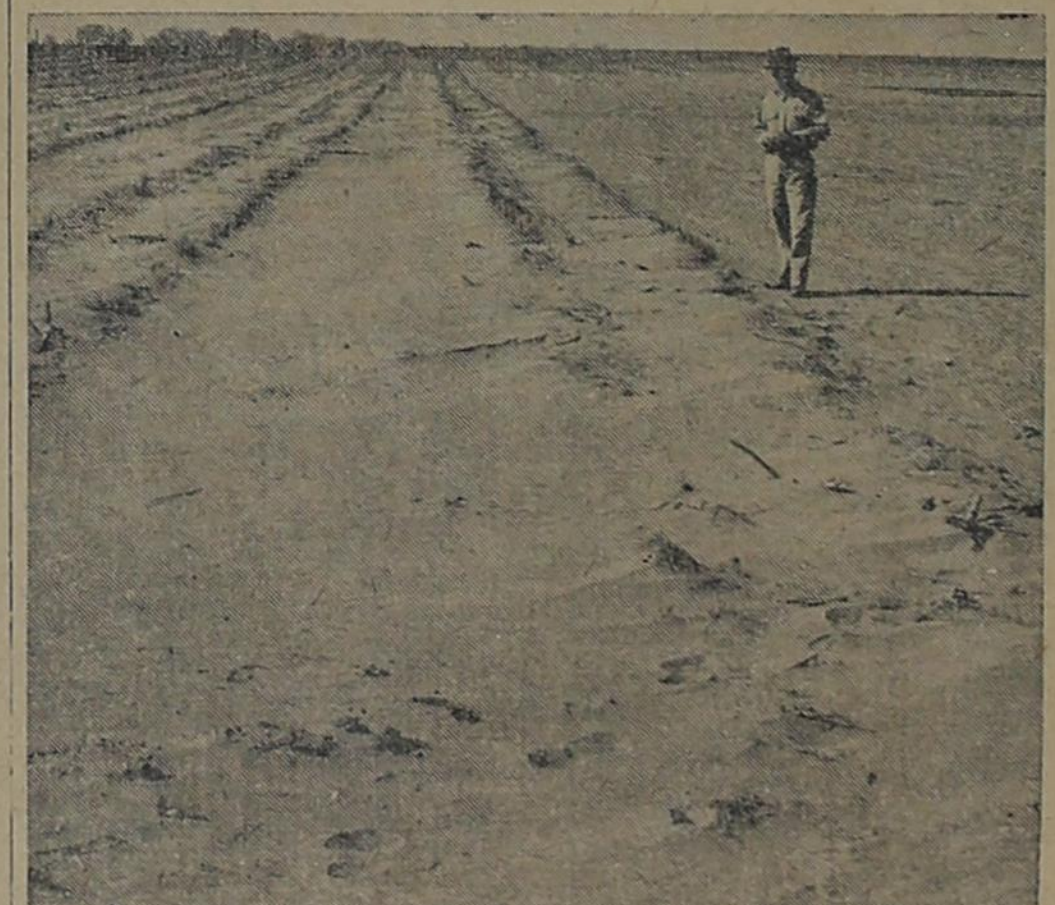
Gorman, Texas

**OUR DEMOCRACY — by Mat AS DAY IS FROM NIGHT—**

A LARGE PART OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY HAS SEEN TOTALITARIAN SYSTEMS TRIED IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE WORLD. DARKNESS HAS DESCENDED UPON THOSE PEOPLES, AND CLOSED OFF THE BORDERS OF SEVERAL FORMERLY FREE AND INDEPENDENT NATIONS.



IN OUR DEMOCRACY, WE STRIVE EVER TO BROADEN THE SPIRITUAL, POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC BASE ON WHICH WE STAND, AND TO BRIGHTEN THE RAYS OF ENLIGHTENMENT INSTEAD OF DARKENING THE MINDS OF MEN. AS DEWITT CLINTON SAID IN 1826: 'A GENERAL DIFFUSION OF KNOWLEDGE IS THE PRECURSOR AND PROTECTOR OF REPUBLICAN INSTITUTIONS; AND IN IT WE MUST CONFIDE AS THE CONSERVATIVE POWER THAT WILL WATCH OVER OUR LIBERTIES.'



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# The Panther Squall

## THIRD GRADE

We have drawn names and have everything ready for Christmas.

We want to thank Mr. Bramlett for bringing us a Christmas tree. The tree is not only beautiful, but we enjoy the fresh odor that the cedar gives.

Last week we were sorry to lose Joyce Shipman. She has moved to Decatur. We are sorry that she will not get to be at our Christmas tree.

In our last geography experiment we learned that seeds grow best in garden soil, and that plants must have good soil, water and sun, to grow well.

## FOURTH GRADE

We want to thank Mr. Bramlett for the pretty Christmas tree. It was kind of him to bring it to us and see that it was put on a stand.

Wednesday afternoon December 22 we are going to have a Christmas program in our room at 1:00. We invite our parents to visit us at that time.

Most of our letters on transportation have been answered. Now we have several pictures which we are enjoying very much. We were so pleased with them that we have already written our letters of thanks.

In art we made Christmas

cards and put them on the door. This help to decorate the room. Sunny Rawson and Barbara King have perfect grades in spelling. They also made 100 on three weeks' test.

## FOURTH GRADE (Mrs. Ragland)

We are getting ready for Christmas by putting up our tree and decorating the room. We are also making Christmas cards and presents for our mothers. Mrs. Steele brought us some new library books of which we are very proud.

## FOURTH GRADE (Mrs. Wilson)

We are sorry that Don Self and Glen Frasier have been absent because of illness.

In art we are making Christmas cards. We can send them to whomever we please.

The band is having a program at school Wednesday morning at 8:30. We are also having a Christmas party Thursday night.

Our class is having a Christmas party Wednesday afternoon. We drew names last week. We hope everyone can be here to have fun with us.

## SEVENTH GRADE

We are glad to have Patsy Rawls back this week after her case of pneumonia.

We are sorry to hear that the Parkers are moving. Judy is a good friend of all of us. With her leaving we will have only 36 pupils in our class.

It is beginning to look like Christmas in and around the school rooms. In our room we have already drawn names for our Christmas party.

## EIGHTH GRADE

The basketball team went to Olden last Monday. The boys and girls were both beaten, but we surely are not downhearted. The next game will be January 6th. We play Carbon and are all out to win.

Last week we drew names for our Christmas party which will be Wednesday December 22. Everyone is looking forward to the Christmas holidays. We have our room decorated.

Last week we got some new library books of which we are very proud.

Our thanks to Mr. Bramlett for the nice Christmas tree.

## FISH TALES

The Freshman class has been counting the days until school turns out for Christmas. We have drawn names in our class and are planning on having a delightful next Wednesday.

We had a test in Math Tuesday; it proved pretty easy.

In English we are learning the parts of sentences, kinds of sentences and parts of speech.

We are proud of Girls basketball team because they won consolation at the De Leon Tournament. We also think the boys played good games.

I won't attempt to tell you

what we are doing in our studies this week but we are all confused in Algebra.

We hope by the time this is published that Fred Rodgers and Jake Sparr can be back in GHS

## JUNIOR NEWS

With the approaching of the Yuletide days everyone is in gay spirits. They are awaiting the arrival of St. Nick. Only a few days until Christmas. However, Christmas hasn't much effect on our school work yet. Everything is about the same.

In Plane Geometry we are on angles of polygons and are supposed to take up congruent right angles.

In Chemistry we are studying about petroleum and natural gas - where it is found, how it is produced and ways in which it is used.

In Latin I, we are taking up the principle parts of a Latin verb. A Latin verb has four principle parts whereas an English verb has only three.

In American History we finish our stock reports. Most of us lost some money but it was fun, playing the stock market. This week we are studying several chapters getting ready for six weeks tests before we get out for the holidays.

In Literature III we are studying Twentieth Century Drama. We read some of our short stories that we wrote last week. Most of them were real good.

## SENIOR NEWS

I guess everyone is looking forward to the Christmas holidays.

We are studying hard before Christmas so we won't have to study so much after Christmas.

In Bookkeeping we are beginning a new project which will take us until the holidays to finish.

In Shorthand we are trying to finish the book before the holidays. We are having to double up and take two lessons part of the time.

In typing we are developing our speed. We are trying to reach our sixty-ninety. It's hard to type on cold mornings because our hands are cold and they won't move fast.

### RURAL LIFE

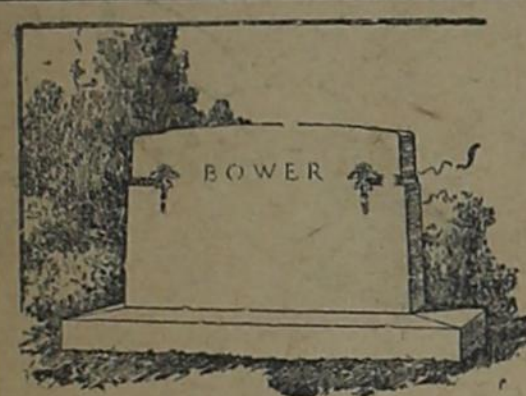
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District Manager

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EVERYTHING ELECTRICAL  
Gorman, Texas

## Christmas Candles Are Traditional For Many Peoples

*"To learn your luck for the year they say,  
Burn a bayberry dip on Christmas day.  
If the flame burns bright and the light shines clear,  
Good luck will be yours through the year."*

This old verse is believed in many lands around the world and is said to be one of the reasons that candles in homes are traditional around the world.

The custom is believed to have started in Ireland. As the Irish put it: "Who knows, on some Christmas Eve, Jesus and Mary and Joseph may come again, not to Palestine, but to the Holy Isle on the farthest edge of Europe." And it is the custom that the candle can only be snuffed by one named Mary.

Their first use for Christmas is not recorded in the annals of any nation, but that the "Christ Child Candle," burned in the window on Christmas Eve is, according to an old legend, placed there to light His way if He makes an earthly visitation and in atonement for the night of His birth when there was no room for Him.

THE GORMAN PROGRESS, Thursday, December 16, 1954  
THE GORMAN PROGRESS, Thursday, December 9, 1954



**AUNTIE MAY** says:

*"since I serve 'em with Karo  
I can't make enough pancakes  
... everybody just loves this  
wonderful waffle syrup."*



Buy the big Decanter Bottle!

also in the popular 1 1/2-pound bottle

and in 5-pound cans

### GLASSES

Correctly Fitted

Economically Priced

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Blackwell Sanitarium

Gorman Texas

## A Hymn Is Born

BY CLINT BONNER

### Count Your Blessings

A father's singing inspires his son

Johnson Oatman, Sr. had a rich, powerful voice. To people of Lumberton, N. J., their local merchant was the best singer in the state. That's why Johnson Oatman, Jr., always sat next to his father in church. He loved church music and he loved to hear his father sing. Perhaps that's why Johnson Oatman, Jr., grew into manhood with a desire to contribute something to the faith of his father.

As junior member of the firm of Johnson Oatman & Son, young Oatman found limited outlet for his religious ambitions. So, he studied for the Methodist ministry and was ordained. But the limits of one church were too confining and he went from pulpit to pulpit as a "local preacher." Still he had not hit upon his true calling. When he was 36 years old Johnson Oatman, Jr., found his talent. If he could not sing like his father he could write songs for others to sing. He could preach to millions through his hymns.

IT WAS IN 1892 that Johnson Oatman, Jr.

picked up his pen. Three years later the world was singing, among scores of others, "There's not a friend like the lowly Jesus, no not one, no not one." In 1898 presses rolled off a favorite that is found in hymnals around the globe... his inspiring "Higher Ground."

It was in 1897 that Oatman wrote what some regard as his masterpiece. Composer E. O. Excell of Stark County, Ohio, set "Count Your Blessings" to music and of this number Evangelist Gypsy Smith once said "... men sing it, boys whistle it and women rock their babies to sleep to the tune." And so he wrote. Two hundred gospel hymns from his pen every year for a quarter of a century. The total passed 5,000. When publishers asked him to set a price on his work it is said that he declined to accept more than one dollar.

Johnson Oatman, Jr., died at Mount Vernon, N. J., in 1926. He found his talent and his contribution... and he still preaches every year through such songs as...

When upon life's billows you are tempest-tossed,  
When you are discouraged, thinking all is lost,  
Count your many blessings, name them one by one,  
And it will surprise you what the Lord hath done.

Are you ever burdened with a load of care?  
Does the cross seem heavy you are called to bear?  
Count your many blessings, every doubt will fly,  
And you will be singing as the days go by.

(Copyright, 1897, Renewal 1925. From "The Service Hymnal," Hope Publ. Co., Chicago. Used by permission.)



So, amid the conflict, whether great or small,  
Do not be discouraged, God is over all,  
Count your many blessings, angels will sing,  
Help and comfort give you to your King.

Count your blessings, name them one by one,  
Count your blessings, name them one by one,  
Count your many blessings, angels will sing,  
Help and comfort give you to your King.



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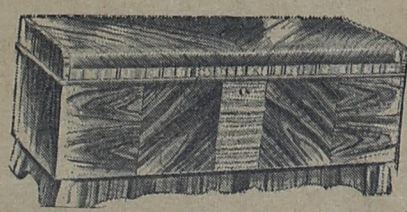
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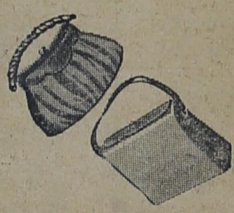
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Mr. Macray  
 words. Amid shouts  
 the successful spell  
 of derision for those  
 over a word, the ga  
 until only Jane an  
 were left.  
 The caller cleared  
 turning towards Jane  
 the word, 'hospitable'.  
 Jane hesitated and lo  
 ly around the room.  
 Grandma Jenner hoveri  
 coffee pot at the stove,  
 ton gently adjusting t  
 under Don's outstretch  
 Mrs. Ames just comin  
 the pantry with a tray  
 pies.  
 "Yes, I can spell 'ho  
 she said. "B-R-A-N-T-V  
 There was a moment  
 "Bravo!" several voic  
 out, and just then the kit  
 began to strike twelve.  
 "Happy New Year!" Ja  
 with the rest as she look  
 at her new friends and fi  
 the eyes of her beaming  
 It was indeed going to b  
 year.

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