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COMPETITION Competition—keen competition, is the keynote of practically every business forecast for the new year which are now beginning to find their way to the reading public.

Business men in general are rather optimistic over the business prospect for the next year, even in the face of the presidential election, which is usually regarded as a deterrent to business.

Business in general and big business in particular has come to the realization of the fact that business next year or any other year for that matter is just what the business man makes it.

Business everywhere is taking to modern efficiency methods and such things as that, most of which have some merit in reducing overhead expense, but after all it is the sales that keep any business on the right side of the business ledger.

So it is sales that really count and it is sales that the wise business man is after more than any other one thing. The real live business man has turned much of his attention to the problem of creating sales, to real effective merchandising.

Their "Christmas Wreath"



SOCIETY AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS

DE MOLAYS HAVE ANNUAL DANCE A nice crowd enjoyed the annual De Molay dance held at the American Legion clubrooms, last evening.

M'DOUGAL FAMILY HAS REUNION. Christmas was a very happy day at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. F. McDougal on the Caddo highway.

PERSONALS. Mr. and Mrs. D. S. Steward of Dublin spent the holidays with her sons, H. L. and T. D. Steward of Ranger.

Rotary Program Postponed Till Next Meeting The program scheduled for today's meeting of the Rotary club at the Cholsm hotel at 12 o'clock was postponed until next week as several of the chairmen of the different committees were absent.

VICTORIA BOY IS ACCIDENTALLY SHOT By United Press. VICTORIA, Tex., Dec. 28.—Harvey Edward Nuckols, 38, was accidentally killed while cleaning his shot gun in his tailor shop here early today.

GUY QUIRL AND WIFE RETURN FROM ZEPHYR Guy N. Quirl, Eastland county Boy Scout executive, who, with Mrs. Quirl, spent the Christmas holidays with their parents at Zephyr, has returned to Eastland.

REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COMMISSION IS HELD The Ranger city commission met in regular session Tuesday night at the city hall but only a short meeting was held and now new business was brought before the commissioners.

Fifty new Wesleyan chapels have been opened in London in the past year. Middlesex county council of England has banned Sunday motion picture shows.

Blackwell Well New Producer In Sibley District

The No. 1 Blackwell of the Mc Lester Oil company, Parsons and others in the Sibley-Duffer district nine miles south of Ranger is showing all the ear marks of being a good producer—one of the best in fact in that entire district.

The well, which is approximately a quarter of a mile east of the Barkley and Gholsm well on the Duffer ranch, got the top of the sand at 2,390 feet and at less than one foot in the pay it started flowing and is being flowing steady since, it is estimated to be making close to 100 barrels of oil daily and between 3,000,000 and 4,000,000 cubic feet of gas.

Storage has been put on the lease and a separator is being placed. It was thought the well would be drilled in some time late today or possibly tonight.

The bringing in of the Thorp virtually proves a large amount of new territory and operators say that it means that an extensive drilling campaign in that section will be inaugurated immediately.

A number of other wells drilling in different parts of the Gordon pool, are being watched with much interest, however, none of them are so very near the pay. Should some of these, which are extension tests, prove producers, the drilling campaign that would be sure to follow, would be still more extensive than if the territory opened up by Mc Lester's Thorp No. 1 alone was drilled.

BUSINESS MEN OF RANGER SEE PROSPERITY (Continued from page one) every factor that tends to cause a slump or give rise to a boom.

The outlook is optimistic and no note of pessimism was expressed by either of the business representatives. Even though the business of the merchants has suffered from the slack operations of the major oil companies, both of these business men look for a good business year in 1928.

TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY WANTED—White girl for general housekeeping. Phone 649-J, Ranger.

Bus line competition is bothering railways and electric lines of Hawaii.

LIBERTY LAST DAY RONALD COLMAN VILMA BANKY MAGIC FLAME

DOUBLE PROGRAM On the screen Blushing Bride!

FLORENCE VIDOR in HONEYMOON HATE! A Paramount Picture

Supreme in her own field! That's Florence Vidor, the queen of drawing room farce. Or the stage COLIETTA AND HER Jazzomania Revue

Wounds Not Likely To Prove Fatal

(Continued from page 1) tiary, and Lee to serve 10 years in the penitentiary. When Marshall Ratliff was indicted by the Eastland county grand jury on the liquor charge, Alex Speer, cashier of the First National bank of Cisco who was in the bank and wounded at the time of the recent robbery, signed Ratliff's bond.

A few months after Lee and Marshall began serving their sentences they, through the efforts of their mother, were granted conditional pardons by Governor Ferguson. Only a few weeks ago Lee was arrested in Corpus Christi on a charge of burglary alleged to have been committed at Cisco and is now in the state penitentiary, Governor Moody having revoked his parole.

Ratliff, the evidence shows, according to officers, was the leader of the bandits who robbed the Cisco bank and was the one who acted as Santa Claus. The belief that the robbery of this bank was planned partially for revenge and that of the Police Chief Bedford, a veteran and efficient officer, had some kind of a tip to the fact that a robbery of some bank in the county had been planned several weeks before either the Carbon or Cisco banks were robbed, is growing.

At 1 o'clock this afternoon no new developments in the hunt for the two fugitives, who eluded the officers when Ratliff was captured Tuesday morning near South Bend, had been reported to the sheriff's department here.

That at least one of the bandits who took part in the Cisco robbery was connected with the robbery of the First State bank of Carbon, is the belief of Dr. S. P. Rumph, president of the Carbon bank who was in the bank at the time it was robbed.

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Shark Yam Puts Jonah And Whale Story to Shame

HONOLULU, T. H.—Captain Clinton Jones, veteran of the western ocean, tells a shark story that is a whizz. "I was looking over some of my old papers," the captain said, "when I ran across the log of the bark Neptune of which was master in 1877. This records the strange story of the shark, the man, the grindstone and the child."

"The Neptune was bound from Santiago to Boston, touching at Chihuahua, Sonora, Ricardo Iglesias and his two children were aboard as passengers. "One morning we were hauling around Cape Cruz when one of the Don's children fell overboard. The ship was making six knots at the time. We tacked ship, leaving the forward aback the ship's head.

"After about 45 minutes the boat returned to the ship. The don was greatly excited and the little boy's sister was in tears. Breakfast was prepared and we had hardly seated ourselves when there came a cry of 'man overboard!' It developed that the Don in his grief had jumped over the side. I ordered everything flat back and a boat was put out but there was no sign of the don. The boat was hauled up again and the ship was put back on her course, but she had hardly gathered way when a shark took a hook that was out. "I brought the ship into the wind with the mainyard aback and we finally got the shark alongside. A

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tackle was swung from the main yard and bowline was run down and looped over the shark's tail. "As the shark was hauled on deck he coughed up what was inside of him. "First came the don and then the grindstone and finally the boy. "The don was grasping a long dagger and said the boy had been turning the grindstone for him while he sharpened the dagger, preparatory to cutting his way out of the shark."

BOY SCOUT EXECUTIVES TO MEET MONDAY NIGHT

The annual meeting of the executive committee for Eastland county Boy Scout organizations, will be held in Eastland Monday night, according to announcements made in Eastland this morning by County Scout Executive Guy N. Quirl. While arrangements had not been made for the use of the Eastland Country club for the meeting, Mr. Quirl stated that it was his intention to secure the place if possible.

More than 150,000 tons of sugar were shipped from Cuba to London recently. London girls have a craze for bridge.

Greeting Cards Pfaeffle's Ranger's Jeweler

LIBERTY Saturday Midnight BEBE DANIELS "She's a Sheik"

FEDERAL Tires and Tubes BLACK & WHITE MOTOR COMPANY Elm Street Ranger

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BILLY EVANS' SPORT TALK

The toughest decision I ever made came early in my career as a big league umpire. To be more exact, it happened in the very first inning of the second world series game in which I ever officiated. That was the 1909 clash between the Pittsburgh Pirates of the National league and the Detroit Tigers of the American.

Pittsburgh had taken the first game of the series and was anxious to assume a commanding lead by winning the second battle. A crowd of 32,000 was on hand, a record-breaking gathering for the world series up to that time. Forbes Field in Pittsburgh was taxed to capacity.

Temporary stands had been erected along the right field foul line from just back of first base to the stands that extended from center field to the right field foul line.

It was agreed that a ball striking fair, then bounding into the stands located on foul territory, should go for two bases. This was to guard against fluke home runs.

It was also agreed that a ball bounding into the stands in fair territory, those that skirted the outfield from right to left, should go as a home run.

Great First Inning.

I shall never forget the first inning of that second game. I was the umpire-in-chief, calling balls and strikes. Bill Donovan, ace of the Detroit staff, was doing the pitching. The Tigers confidently expected to even up the series with "Wild Bill" pitching.

Bobby Byrne, the first man to face Donovan, walked on four straight balls. Tommy Leach doubled to right on the hit and run, scoring Byrne. It looked like a rout for "Wild Bill" and the Tigers. Fred Clarke moved Leach to third on a sacrifice, bunting to Donovan.

This brought the great Honus Wagner, batting hero of the Pirates, to the plate. He disappointed by striking out.

The next batter was "Dots" Miller. He hit a long drive down the right field foul line that looked for a time as if it might clear the fence. The ball struck just inside the foul line in deep right, then bounded from

view. Leach scored on the hit and Miller also made the circuit. The fans went wild, believing it was a home run.

I was in doubt as to what decision to make. I knew the ball had struck fair just before it disappeared from view, but I had no definite idea as to

whether it went into two-base territory or was a sure enough home run.

Had Fool Inspiration.

I conferred with Bill Klem, who was working the bases but the ball had disappeared so quickly he was in as much doubt as I was to the correct ruling.

Fred Clarke, then manager of Pittsburgh, insisted it was a home run, while Hughie Jennings, pilot of the Tigers, argued long and loud for a two-base hit. I wanted to do justice to both clubs, but was up in the air for a ruling, when I was seized with

what at the time seemed a fool inspiration.

I rushed into deep right field to where the ball had struck fair and to open the argument said to the fans seated in that sector:

"Was the ball fair or foul?"

There was none but Pittsburgh

SPORTSMATTER

BY FRANK GETTY
UNITED PRESS SPORTS EDITOR

Earl Sande, now in France, is attempting to arrange some riding engagements in that country and England for the period of his disbarment from the American turf.

"I want to ride in the Epsom Derby and the Paris Grand Prix before I'm through," Sande said recently.

If Earl is successful in obtaining European engagements, he will compete once more against Steve Donohue, most famous and successful of English jockeys of the present day, although one who now feels the coil of years and has a son kicking home winners alongside of him.

A duel between two fine jockeys is something quite as thrilling as one between two fine horses.

Sande, when at his best, rode just about as well as any jock living. He might find Continental conditions not altogether to his liking, although he is fascinated by the scenery surrounding French and English tracks.

"I'm afraid I never could win looking at the scenery as I rode along," said Earl. "These French courses are the finest I've ever seen. I didn't imagine such beauty was built for racing."

Rating Sande as about the best rider of the decade brings in a claim from far-away Sydney, where Australians believe they have the world's most remarkable jockey in Bobby Lewis.

Remarkable certainly is the word, for Bobby is 49 years old, and recently kicked home Trivalve, a notoriously lazy colt, to win the Sydney and Victorian derbies and the Melbourne cup, all within a month.

Trivalve's owner \$110,000 but the thrill was nothing new to Bobby Lewis. He has been riding constantly on Australian tracks for 38 years.

Lewis, in that time, has made plenty of money out of racing and is rated as a millionaire. The lure of the track is too strong for him to retire and enjoy a rest.

No Australian rider puts up a more stirring finish than Lewis, for all his years. His recent performances in getting the shirking Trivalve home in the big handicaps were masterpieces of stretch riding.

"I know this horse," said Bobby. "I rode his father, Cyklon, his mother Trey and his grandmother, Teppo.

Cyklon was a son of Spearmint, and a grandson of Carbine, the greatest horse ever raced in Australia. Carbine won the Melbourne cup in 1890 a year after Lewis started riding.

Bobby has ridden the winners of four Melbourne cups, eight Victorian Derbies and seven Sydney Derbies.

How many races has he won? He quit counting after finishing 1,000—27 years ago!

Grand Daughter Of Eastland Woman Popular Speaker

The Chicago Herald and Examiner of Dec. 19, carried a picture of Madge Margaret Holmes, 10-year-old granddaughter of Mrs. W. K. Jackson of Eastland, and the following story concerning her:

"Madge Margaret Holmes, 10-year old orator, will be guest-speaker for the rudence Penny hour of the government club at the Drake Hotel Christmas eve. She will deliver an original allegorical fairy story, 'The Prince and the Frog.'

She has given several talks over the radio on patriotic subjects and is well versed in historical events.

Miss Holmes is a student at the Ravenswood Grammar school and for some time has been writing stories of this type. She is a junior member of the Daughters of American Revolution.

rooters in that section, it having been reserved for the rooters club of the Pirates. In an instant hundreds of voices were shouting:

"Fair ball by at least a foot."

It was then up to me to learn where the ball landed. None of the fans knew that a ground rule had been agreed upon.

Left it to Fans.

"Well, if it was fair, where did it finally land?" I asked.

"It bounded into this stand," yelled a dozen fans in the two-base section. "Yes and I have the ball and I am going to keep it," said one of the spectators as he held the ball up to view.

"Looks as if it was only a two-base hit, gentlemen," I said to Manager Clarke and Jennings and they both agreed. Miller was sent back to second instead of being allowed a home run.

The Pirates, after having scored two runs in the opening session, were stopped the rest of the game. Donovan was invincible after the first inning and Detroit won, 7-2.

Not only was it the toughest decision I ever made, but it was the cause of four umpires being used in world series games ever afterwards.

In my next article I will discuss the most humorous situation of my 22 years as an umpire.



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