

"The nation's greatest peril lies in the fact that, following the most brutal war, the steady encroachment upon our liberties is made possible because of the callous and unthinking attitude of our citizenship.—Samuel Untermyer, lawyer.

West Texas—Tonight and Tuesday partly cloudy, slowly rising temperature.

WATERNITY HOSPITAL IS SWEEPED BY FLAMES

COLD WEATHER SPREADS OVER WHOLE COUNTRY

Mercury Far Below Freezing Locally and Sub-Zero At Many Places.

The promised cold wave descended over Eastland county and the whole of Texas Saturday night, coming, in fact, about twelve hours before the hour named by the forecasters. The norther howled as it approached and howled as it continued to blow while the mercury dropped rapidly to the frost line, to the freezing line and then far below the freezing line. A minimum of 12 degrees above zero was authoritatively reported, while many declared their thermometers went even lower.

Sunday was partly cloudy and the norther, blowing steadily, caused the cold to be felt even more intensely. Today, however, only a few scattered clouds were seen in Eastland county, the sun shone bright and clear and the temperature gradually moderated. While freezing temperatures are likely to prevail tonight, a delightful week is anticipated.

The greater part of the nation continued in the clutch of a cold wave today despite the gradual rising temperature in New York and New England. Ten cities reported a total of 25 deaths resulting directly or indirectly from freezing weather. United States weather bureau at Washington predicted the climax of the cold wave tonight in the North Atlantic and middle Western states, but held forth no promise of relief for the south, where the cold has been of unusual intensity.

With the mercury in and around Chicago at 5 to 25 degrees below zero, 12 persons had succumbed there within 48 hours. The south was swept by near-zero weather, the temperature being four degrees above at Asheville, N. C., and similar low temperatures at Atlanta, Ga. and Roanoke, Va.

Frost is feared tonight at Tampa, Fla., where a new low record of 36 degrees so far this winter was established today. Two negroes were burned to death at Columbus, Ohio, where the cold handicapped firemen called out by blazes due to the overtaxing of heating stoves. At St. Louis and at Cincinnati the mercury fell to near zero.

Tanawaha river at Charleston, West Va., was frozen over for the first time in 12 years, a minimum of four degrees above zero being recorded. Snow fell at San Antonio, where the mercury stood at 20 degrees above zero. Even California was assailed by cold weather over the week-end, the mercury reaching freezing point at San Jose.

New York city was greeted with gradually rising temperature today after two deaths had been reported there and one at Yonkers.

LIGHT SNOW REPORTED FALLING AT HOUSTON

HOUSTON, Dec. 28.—A light snow fell here today with the mercury standing around 26 above zero at 5 o'clock this morning. It was the coldest weather of the year.

Burning Coal Bins Cause Spectacular Fire Near New York

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—A spectacular fire, destroying a two-story coal office and five three-story coal packets in the Williamsburg section, today drove about 1,000 persons living nearby from their homes.

RADIO PROGRAM

Radio programs are announced for tonight as follows: Fort Worth, WBAP, 475.9 Meters. 6:00 to 6:30 p. m.—Dinner music by the Texas Hotel Royals. 7:30 to 8:30 p. m.—Concert given by employees of the Northern Texas Traction company, under the direction of R. E. Loup. (W. E. B.) 9:30 to 10:45 p. m.—"The Trail Blazers," the Montgomery Ward & company orchestra, under direction of Frank Macco. (The Hired Hand.) 11 p. m. to midnight—Varied entertainment offered by stars of the week appearing at the Majestic theatre. (C. B. L.) Dallas, WFAA, 475.9 Meters. 6:30 to 7:30 p. m.—Archie Collins and his orchestra. 8:30 to 9:30 p. m.—Sears-Roebuck Agricultural Foundation program.

THE WEATHER.

West Texas—Tonight and Tuesday partly cloudy, slowly rising temperature.

Snow And Sleet Falls In Texas At Mexican Border

AUSTIN, Dec. 28.—Austin was covered with an inch of snow and sleet, Monday, in the coldest spell of the winter. At Lagrange, snow amounting to several inches in places fell during the night. The temperature fell to 20 degrees. At Lockhart a half-inch of snow fell. The thermometer went to 11 above at Bonham, at Winstonsboro the mercury stood at 10 above, Del Rio had 19 degrees of cold, the coldest December since the weather bureau was established here in 1903. Snow and sleet fell at Greenville the thermometer stood at 12 degrees at 10 a. m. Monday, and at Paris the mercury hovered around 10.

CENTENARIAN CELEBRATES ANNIVERSARY

Mrs. Sarah Wood, Pioneer Of Eastland County Has Family Reunion.

Mrs. Sarah Wood, pioneer citizen of Eastland county, celebrated the one hundredth anniversary of her birth at the home of her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. A. V. Compton, here Christmas day. In honor of this event there was gathered a host of relatives and friends including twenty-one grand children, thirty-three great grand children and one hundred and three great grandchildren.

Mrs. Wood was born near Summerville, Ga., December 25, 1825, and moved to Chickasaw county, Miss., at an early day. She moved to Comanche county, Texas, in 1878 and has lived in this section continuously ever since. She married early in life, but her husband died in 1861 and she never re-married. She is the mother of five children, three of whom, two girls and one boy, are now living. They are Mrs. A. V. Compton, 77; Mrs. S. J. Vaughn, 73; P. A. Wood, 65, all of whom were present at the celebration.

Fire Devastates Town Of Loraine In Mitchell County

SWEETWATER, Dec. 28.—Fire of undetermined origin destroyed ten business houses in Loraine, 18 miles west of here, over the week end. Damage estimated at more than \$18,000. Intense cold and a lack of water hampered the fire fighters.

Severe Cold In Florida Threatens Satsuma Fruit Crop

PENSACOLA, Fla., Dec. 26.—Satsuma fruit growers in Northern Florida are facing thousands of dollars loss in weather 16 above zero, believed to be the coldest in the history of the local bureau. Satsuma growers suffered a great loss three years ago.

Mrs. Marie Louise Baldwin, transportation expert in the United States Indian Bureau, was once an Indian papoose. She began the study of law at the age of 49 and already has two degrees.

There Ain't No Santy Claus



YEGGMAN FLEES WHEN OFFICERS INTERRUPT HIM

Cisco Police Fire At Him But Miss. Two Burglars Caught.

CISCO, Dec. 28.—An attempt to blow the safe at the Katy depot here Thursday night was frustrated by police, who, when notified that someone was in the freight depot, arrived upon the scene in time to take a few shots at a man, who dashed from the building as the officers approached.

Friday night burglars entered the Gulf Refining Company's office here, knocked the knob off the safe door and secured a small amount of change, it is stated. The loot taken from the Collins hardware store here by burglars on Sunday night a week ago, has been recovered by the officers. The goods, which consisted of rifles and flashlights, were taken from two boys, caught by officers as they were attempting to enter another store in town last Friday night.

Miss Sarah Beall, a mathematician, and the only woman now connected with the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey, has recently completed a book which is a complete history of the astronomical work of the survey since 1846.

AIR TRANSPORTS LEAVE DEARBORN HEADING SOUTH

Four Ford All-Metal Planes Will Be Put Into Commercial Service.

DEARBORN, Mich., Dec. 28.—Led by Maj. W. A. Robertson, flying a Curtis light service biplane, four Ford all-metal transports left here today for Florida to inaugurate a passenger and freight airline between Tampa and Miami. Major Robertson is vice president of the company that will operate the planes and will manage the business.

W. S. DENMAN HASTENS TO HIS DYING FATHER

W. S. Denman of the Prairie Oil & Gas Company, Ranger, was called to Bowie Christmas night on account of the serious illness of his father, J. A. Denman, who died Sunday morning at 6 o'clock. Mr. Denman has been ill for almost a year and his death was not unexpected. He was 48 years old. Announcement of funeral arrangements have not been received by Mrs. Denman, who did not go with her husband to Bowie, but she said the funeral probably would take place some time today.

VICTIMS MOURN THREE MILLION DOLLARS GONE

Federal Indictments Indicate Investment Losses In The Fraudulent Concern.

CHICAGO, Dec. 28.—Scores of school teachers, business men and laborers were fleeced out of about \$3,000,000 by officials of the Consolidated Theatres and Realty Corporation of Chicago and Indianapolis, federal officers estimated today following announcement of federal indictments against Roderick H. Grunberg, his son and other officers of the company. They are charged with using the mails to defraud.

A "sucker" list of about 5,000 names was found on Grunberg, officers said. Grunberg and his son were arrested in New Orleans some time ago, it was revealed today. Chicago contributors lost about \$1,000,000 and Indianapolis victims about \$2,000,000, officers said.

The Consolidated Theatres and Realty Corporation, more than a year ago, was placed in the hands of a receiver by an Indiana court. After pooling the assets, the receiver was able to pay a dividend of only 6 per cent, it was said. The corporation sold bonds on property it did not own, it is charged.

It is reported that accused officials may base their defense on unfortunate investments in Indiana. One family is reported to have a little more than \$100,000, while other losses distributed among about 5,000 victims range from \$100 up. About 100 teachers in Chicago are said to have contributed an average of \$3,000 each to the alleged swindle. The concern, according to postal inspectors, is said to have assets worth less than \$200,000 and to have liabilities in excess of \$5,000,000.

Comanche Band May Be Sent To Lions Annual Convention

A movement to send the Comanche band to San Francisco as the official band for Texas Lions' clubs at the International convention to be held in San Francisco next summer was started recently at a meeting in Comanche when Judge N. M. Rosenquist of Eastland, deputy district governor for the Lions, was present and delivered an address on Lionsism.

FRANK V. LANHAM CONFERS WITH JAMES E. FERGUSON

AUSTIN, Dec. 28.—Frank V. Lanham, former chairman of the state highway commission, was here today and conferred with former governor James E. Ferguson.

WIDOW OF CONSTABLE POE APPOINTED IN HIS STEAD

FORT WORTH, Dec. 28.—Mrs. Frank Poe, wife of Constable Poe slain in a gun battle last Wednesday today was appointed by the commissioners' court to fill out her husband's unexpired term of office. Poe was slain by a man he was seeking to arrest on a charge of theft.

Farm Marketing And Surplus Absorption Up For Discussion

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—Prospects for permanent and far-reaching farm legislation, sought vainly for several years, took a boom today as a compromise plan to absorb surplus products was being worked out.

A farm commission to purchase surplus supplies in times of plenty is proposed and will be discussed by an all-state bankers' conference at Des Moines, Iowa, tomorrow. Senators Brookhart and Cummins and several representatives will discuss the project.

FARMERS WILL DISCUSS CROP IMPROVEMENT

They Are Called To Meet In Gorman Next Saturday For This Purpose.

A meeting has been called for Saturday, January 2, at Gorman for the purpose of discussing the kind and quality of fertilizer to be used by the farmers of the Gorman territory for 1926 crop. Also the matter of pooling orders to be placed in the immediate future will be discussed.

A meeting of this kind was held at Gorman last year and as a result more than sixty tons of commercial fertilizer was ordered and used to an advantage by a number of the farmers in the Gorman territory. Last year the first National Bank of Gorman assisted the farmers in handling the shipments of fertilizer ordered and it is stated that it will do so again this coming year.

Gen. Smedley Butler Recalls Resignation From U. S. Marines

PITTSBURGH, Pa., Dec. 28.—General Smedley Butler is on his way to Washington today seeking to get back his commission as brigadier general in the marine corps, which he resigned to continue his work as public safety director in Philadelphia. Butler said he would return to his honorable job in the marines, "for its no use going around being a mendicant," he declared. He denied any intention of being a candidate for governor of Pennsylvania, as was reported at a prohibition enforcement rally here.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—Gen. Smedley Butler today withdrew his resignation from the marine corps and accepted the post of commandant at Marine base, San Diego, Calif. He called on Maj. General LeJune and, after a handshake and slap on the back, dictated a letter recalling his resignation.

Butler returns to the marine corps after being deposed a director of public safety in Philadelphia, his dismissal by Mayor Kendrick coming after he had sent in his resignation from the marines to continue at Philadelphia.

FREIGHT RATE CONFERENCE IS OPENED AT DALLAS

DALLAS, Dec. 28.—With representatives of nearly all railroads in the state here, the Texas section of the Texas-Louisiana bureau opened discussion of freight rates today. Several subjects concerning Galveston, Houston and other cities will be considered. Rate readjustment on numerous small commodities is sought.

Candidate



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WEEPING WOMEN TAKEN SAFELY DOWN LADDERS

Fire In Salvation Army Rescue Home Causes Distress, But Gets No Victims.

JERSEY CITY, N. J., Dec. 28.—Fire in the Salvation Army maternity hospital today drove 13 mothers with their newborn babies into the cold. Sixteen mothers had to be taken out through windows and carried down ladders to the ground.

Two detectives were the first to arrive in answer to the fire alarm. They found Miss Ada Snowlander, superintendent of the hospital, unconscious on the second floor of the building, overcome by smoke while at the telephone summoning help. After taking her to an ambulance, police went into the rooms and began carrying out the mothers. Sixteen women were taken from the third floor out through windows, stairways having been cut off by smoke. Meanwhile nurses ran to the hospital nursery and carried to safety the tots sleeping there.

When the firemen arrived with ladders the hysterical women clinging to ledges outside the windows were carried to safety, many crying for their babies although assured all had been saved.

President's Father Is Stricken With Partial Paralysis

PLYMOUTH, Vt., Dec. 28.—Col. John C. Coolidge, father of the president, has been stricken with paralysis, affecting his right leg, and has been ordered to bed by his physician, Dr. Albert M. Cram. While Dr. Cram does not consider his condition as immediately serious, he has notified the president of this development by long-distance telephone.

PLYMOUTH, Vt., Dec. 28.—Following a second visit to the home of Col. John Coolidge, father of the president, who is now confined to his bed, Dr. Albert M. Cram reported a slight improvement in his condition. He said that there was not a question but that he was suffering from paralysis, which so far has affected only his right leg.

Commissioners Lower Taxes On Various Properties

Orders reduced the valuations for taxable purposes on the following property have been passed by the Eastland county commissioners court. Rendition for Texas Central Oil & Gas Company, reduced from \$15,000 to \$8,880 by error of assessment on the unrendered roll.

Valuation on lot 3 to 11, inclusive of block c-2 original townsite of the city of Eastland, reduced from \$400 to \$300 for the year of 1924, and from \$400 to \$300 for the year of 1925.

Seven Men Arrested Following Killing Of Three Gangsters

BROOKLYN, Dec. 28.—Seven men-one suffering from bullet wounds in his right leg, are under arrest charged with homicide for the killing of "Pezleg" Lonigan and two other members of the "White Hand" gang in a Brooklyn club Christmas night.

Forest Ave. High To Play Waco At Dallas On New Year's Day

ITALY, Dec. 28.—By the toss of a coin Dallas won the right here today to select the place for the Forest-Waco game. The final game will be played at Fair Park, in Dallas, Friday, New Year's Day, at 2:30 o'clock.

Ministerial Assembly Now Meeting In Cisco

CISCO, Dec. 28.—The Ministerial Assembly, composed of the ministers of the Church of God for Texas and Oklahoma, opened its annual session here today, which will continue until Friday afternoon. Rev. H. M. Riggles, one of the leading ministers of this church, will be here from Oklahoma City, and many other notables from both Texas and Oklahoma are expected. Mr. Riggles will occupy the pulpit in the evenings during the meeting.



Who, the students' year book at the Oklahoma State Agricultural college conducted a beauty contest it sent pictures of forty-three co-eds to Cecil De Mille, movie director, asking him to select the most beautiful. He rejected all but these two, saying he couldn't decide between them, so they'll get equal prominence in the book. They are, left, Miss Mary Janet Turnbull, Woodward, Okla., and right, Miss Lorene Rayburn, of Clovis, N. M.



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**BIBLE THOUGHT.**

Eternal Life: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself. This do, and thou shalt live.—Luke 10:27, 28.

Prayer: May the love of God be shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who is given unto us.

**THE ITALIAN DEBT.**

The contention of the debt commission that we shall get back from Italy all the money we advanced, and more, is questioned by senate experts, and the matter is to be investigated before being ratified. The payment of a sum of money in 67 years is not repayment unless compound interest is added, and it will be better for all concerned if the insistence on the point we are being paid back in full is dropped and the American people are given to understand very plainly that we are not, but that cancellation in part is inevitable.

Another interesting point raised is that while the Italian government is allowed to pay back only 25 cents on the dollar, the settlement was the occasion for a government loan by the House of Morgan of \$100,000,000. Naturally this loan will have to be paid back in full and at a very good rate of interest. In other words the \$5,000,000 which Italy is to pay the United States in the next few years will be less than the charges that Italy is required to pay for the Morgan loan.

It is contended that the interests of private groups should not be allowed to become paramount to public interest. Debt payments to the United States should have prior claim over private loans, for unless Italian industry materially improves during the next few years the United States may be found holding the bag.

**CANADA ACCEPTS PAN-AMERICANISM.**

The Pan-American Commercial congress, held in New York and attended by delegates from all nations on this continent, expressed the view that business, political, social and educational relations between the United States and the other American nations is satisfactorily progressing.

The outstanding event of the congress was the announcement made by Frederic Hudd, Canadian trade commissioner in the United States and an official delegate, that Canada henceforth desired to be considered as one of the Pan-American nations. Mr. Hudd asserted that for all its senior membership in the British empire, Canada felt that "her immediate destiny lies on the North American continent, in co-operation with her neighbors," and he pledged Canada's allegiance to Pan-Americanism in its broadest sense.

Recent Washington census figures indicate that giddy, gay, short-skirted New York stands as a bulwark for the sanctity of the home and family. Only one marriage in 23 ends in divorce, while Nebraska, Oregon and other states shows a divorce for every two or three marriages. The Washington figures show that marriages in the whole country decreased 3.7 per cent in 1924 and divorces increased 3.5 per cent.

A proposition is before congress to make Woodrow Wilson's birthday a national holiday. There is a growing impression that we already have a sufficient number of holidays which are observed only by banks, saloons and public employees. To add to the number which are generally disregarded seems to be an empty honor. The Fourth of July is not a national holiday, and will not be until all states have adopted it as such. We have no "national" holiday.

**Society**  
**AND THE ACTIVITIES OF WOMEN IN RANGER**  
 Mrs. R. B. Campbell, Editor  
 Telephone 224

**SCHERTS-NEILSON WEDDING.**  
 According to a wire received by Mrs. R. Scherts of the Southland hotel, this morning, signed "Babe and Ben," Miss Babe Scherts and Mr. Ben Neilson, were married yesterday afternoon in Fort Worth. They motored over to the city shortly after lunch but did not tell any one that they expected to marry while there, and the message was somewhat of a surprise, as they did not intend to marry until a later date. No particulars were given in the message of the marriage ceremony.

Mrs. Neilson, known to her many friends as "Babe" Scherts, is the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. Scherts, and a most attractive young woman. Until her mother took over the Southland, Mrs. Neilson followed her profession, that of a special nurse, and so successful was she in her vocation, that her services were always in demand, however, she gave up her work to assist her mother in managing the hotel. Mr. Neilson has been in Ranger over a year, coming here from Honey Grove. He is one of the popular tellers at the Ranger State Bank, where he has made for himself and for the bank many warm and lasting friends. Mr. and Mrs. Neilson will be at home at the Southland on their return from a honeymoon trip.

**POSTPONED.**  
 The Tuesday Bridge Club has been postponed until Tuesday, Jan. 5, at which time it will meet with Mrs. K. C. Jones.

**HOME FROM CHRISTMAS TRIP.**

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Pitcock and daughter, Louise, are home from a Christmas motor trip to Atlanta and Queen City, where they spent the holidays with relatives. Little Louise Griffin, a cousin, accompanied them home.

**ALDERSON-MOSS WEDDING.**

The Gainesville Daily Register carries the following article in regard to the marriage of Miss Ann Alderson of Ranger and Mr. Hubert H. Moss, which will be of interest to the bride's Ranger friends:  
 Miss Annie Alderson and Hubert H. Moss were united in marriage Wednesday afternoon at one o'clock the ceremony being performed in the presence of Rev. J. Frank Murrell, the pastor, officiating. The church had been prettily decorated for the occasion, and the ceremony was witnessed only by relatives and a few intimate friends.

The bride is the attractive daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Blair Alderson of Ranger, Texas, and is well known in Gainesville, having been principally reared here, attending the local public schools, and is now a teacher in the schools here.

The groom is instructor in science at the Newsome Doughterty Memorial High School, and is a brother of Mrs. B. F. Mitchell of Gainesville, having taught in the local school for a number of years.

Mr. and Mrs. Moss left after the ceremony for San Antonio, Texas, where they will spend their honeymoon, after which they will be at home in this city.

Out-of-town guests at the wedding included the bride's parents and brothers, Mr. and Mrs. Blair Alderson and William and Carey Alderson, all of Ranger.

**RANGER FOLKS GUESTS AT FORT WORTH DINNER.**

Dr. Carl Wilson, Mrs. H. B. Wilson, Miss Ethel Oleta Larrison of Corsicana, Dr. and Mrs. C. C. Craig, and Mr. and Mrs. Dean Hitt, were Ranger guests of Judge and Mrs. Storey at an eight-course dinner last night given at their home in Fort Worth. Mr. and Mrs. Maddison Farnsworth, formerly of Thurber, were also dinner guests. The Ranger party motored home late in the evening.

**MARRIAGE ANNOUNCEMENT.**

Cards have been received announcing the marriage of Miss Ann Alderson of Ranger to Mr. Hubert Hart Moss, at Gainesville, Dec. 23. At present the marriage announcement contains all the news of the wedding obtainable. Mrs. Moss is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. B. Alderson.

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Persistent coughs and colds lead to serious trouble. You can stop them now with Creomulsion, an emulsified creosote that is pleasant to take. Creomulsion is a new medical discovery with two-fold action; it soothes and heals the inflamed membranes and inhibits germ growth.

Of all known drugs, creosote is recognized by high medical authorities as one of the greatest healing agencies for persistent coughs and colds and other forms of throat troubles. Creomulsion contains, in addition to creosote, other healing elements which soothe and heal the infected membranes and stop the irritation and inflammation, while the creosote goes on to the stomach, is absorbed into the blood, attacks the seat of the trouble and checks the growth of the germs.

Creomulsion is guaranteed satisfactory in the treatment of persistent coughs and colds, bronchial asthma, bronchitis and other forms of respiratory diseases, and is excellent for building up the system after colds or flu. Money refunded if any cough or cold is not relieved after taking according to directions. Ask your druggist. Creomulsion Company, Atlanta, Ga. (adr.)

**OUT OUR WAY**



VISITORS DAY.

erson of the Majestic hotel, and has been teaching school in Gainesville for some time, visiting here during the summer time, and during these times making many friends by her sweet and gentle personality.

**PERSONALS.**

Miss Ethel Oleta Larrison of Corsicana accompanied her aunt, Mrs. H. B. Wilson, home from her recent visit to this city, and will be her guest for the next few weeks.

Dr. Carl Wilson and mother, Mrs. H. B. Wilson, have returned from Corsicana and Fort Worth, where they visited during Christmas with relatives and friends.

Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Coyle are very happy over the arrival of a little son, who was born at the City-County Hospital several days ago.

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Snapp are also entertaining a little son, who was born Sunday at the Clinical hospital.

Dr. and Mrs. A. N. Harkrider and children have returned from Louisiana where they visited relatives during the holidays.

Mrs. O. F. Driskill and children are visiting relatives in Coleman for a few days.

**Four Men Killed, Two Injured When Locomotives Collide**

Special Correspondence.  
 FORT WORTH, Dec. 28. — Four men were killed, two of them being scalded to death, and two other were seriously injured in this city, on the north side, Sunday about noon, when a Fort Worth & Denver City switch engine collided with a freight train near the plant of the White Eagle Oil & Refining Company at Niles City.

The dead:  
 Harvey DeCamp, 55, switch engine foreman.  
 Ray Sands, 23, of 3530 Avenue J. Polytechnic, switch engine fireman.  
 B. C. Pickett, 40, helper on switch engine.  
 Jack J. Lord, 35, engine helper.

The injured, both bruised and scalded, are: Pat J. Wallace, engineer on switch engine, living at 1502 May Street, Fort Worth, and L. N. Luttrell of Wichita Falls, engineer on freight train.

**Final Nickel Plate Merger Hearing Resumed By I. C. C. At Washington Today**

By United Press.  
 WASHINGTON, Dec. 28. — Final arguments on the proposed "billion dollar" Nickel Plate merger began here today before the Interstate Commerce Commission. By agreement of counsel the case will end Thursday with four days for argument of both sides.

All of the testimony has been completed and both intervenors and applicants have filed their briefs, leaving only the varying interpretations of opposing counsel on the merits of the merger to be presented to the commission.

The carriers which would be merged with the Nickel Plate under the application include, the Chesapeake and Ohio, and Hocking Valley railroads, the Pere Marquette, and the Erie systems.

The minority stockholders of the C. & O. and the Hocking Valley lines made counter claim against the Van Sweringens' claim that the consolidation would be of immeasurable public benefit.

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It was argued by C. & O. counsel that the effect of the merger would be to strengthen the Erie and other lines at the expense of their own road.

The claim was based upon assertions that:

1. Equipment and rolling stock of the C. & O. is in better condition than that of the other parties to the merger and that exchange of cars and equipment would be a disadvantage to the service of the C. & O.
2. That earnings of the C. & O. have been higher than they will be under the merger and that C. & O. profits will have to go toward maintenance of the non-paying subsidiaries of the Erie.
3. That the financial and statistical statements of the Van Sweringens are not in conformity with the Interstate Commerce Commission standard and that voluminous reports of accountants on the standing of the new company are not bona out by actual conditions.

A unified service, the Van Sweringens contend, combining these four systems, would meet the public demand for improvement, would help to solve one of the major transportation problems in effecting a consolidation in line with the desires of the present administration, and would save money in the end.

Counsel for the Van Sweringens have denied that the minority interests would suffer as the result of the absorption of weaker roads. Col. W. E. Coulston announced that he would answer many of the points upon which the minority rests its case during the argument this week.

**Lawyer's Directory**

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 Civil and Criminal Practice  
 In All Courts. Texas  
 Ranger, Texas

**Marshall McCollough**  
 Lawyer  
 Eastland, Texas.  
 Room Suite 500, Texas State Bank Building

**SORETHROAT**  
 Gargle with warm salt water—then apply over throat—  
**VICKS VAPORUB**  
 Over 17 Million Jars Used Yearly

**AMBULANCE**  
 Night Phones 227-302, Day 29  
 Funeral Directors, Embalmers  
 Years of Experience  
**KILLINGSWORTH-COX & CO.**  
 120 Main St.—Ranger

**C. H. DUNLAP**  
 Optometrist  
 306 Main St.  
 Ranger  
 Glasses Fitted. Lenses Duplicated

**SIX TUBES SIX TUBES**

**Shamrock Radio Sets**  
 Don't buy a Radio until you hear the Shamrock. Call For Demonstration.

**SUNSET RADIO COMPANY**  
 at COREYS FURNITURE STORE  
 SIX TUBES SIX TUBES

**AUDITING SYSTEMS OIL DEPLETION**  
 Specialists in Oil Field Accounting  
**THEODORE FERGUSON**  
 Certified Public Accountant  
 514 Texas State Bank Eastland, Texas

**Announcement**  
**Six Months to Pay**  
**Overhaul Your Ford**  
**OVERHAUL YOUR CAR NOW—PAY FOR IT AS YOU DRIVE**

Effective today, we have established in our shop a special service for customers who desire to have work done on their car and who are not in a position to pay cash at time it is done.

WE WILL COMPLETELY OVERHAUL your FORD car in our shop and give you SIX MONTHS in which to pay the repair bill, payable in monthly installments.

BY TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THIS NEW SERVICE WE OFFER you secure protection entitled to those patronizing an AUTHORIZED FORD DEALER and you are assured, also that the work will be done by competent Mechanics.

REMEMBER, NO REPAIR BILL TOO SMALL OR TOO LARGE TO BE HANDLED UNDER OUR NEW PLAN. Don't hesitate any longer because you can't spare the money. Drive your car into our shop and let us explain our plan.

**AUTHORIZED FORD AND LEVEILLE-MAHER MOTOR CO.**  
 RANGER, TEXAS FORDSON DEALERS PHONE 217

**COLD Grip**

Take **Bromo Quinine** tablets  
 Laxative

Serious illness and complications often follow an ordinary Cold. Check it; use the old Reliable, Safe and Proven Remedy, "Laxative BROMO QUININE." The First and Original Cold and Grip Tablet. Proven Safe for more than a Quarter of a Century.

The box bears this signature  
**C. W. Snow**  
 Price 30c.



He's Lost



Dr. William McGovern of London is being sought in northern Peru by a searching party that fears he has met some accident.

Although she can neither read nor write, Koudret Hanoum, now past 60 years of age, has been elected Mayor of the village of Germet, Turkey.

1—LOST AND FOUND.

LOST—Case with dress goods samples. Leave at Times office, please. LOST—Coin purse containing \$2.56 gold piece and other valuables.

4—SITUATIONS WANTED.

HOUSEKEEPING for widower, or nursing invalid; middle-aged woman 108 S. Oak st., Ranger.

7—SPECIAL NOTICES.

FURNITURE refinished, repaired, upholstered, stoves fixed. Bob Lee 116 N. Austin, Ranger, formerly with Tharpe Furniture Co.

8—ROOMS FOR RENT.

FOR RENT—Two rooms, 220 S. Austin; paved street; Ranger.

9—HOUSES FOR RENT.

FOR RENT—Three-room cottage phone 249, Ranger. FOR RENT—Six-room modern cottage, neighborhood South Ward school. Rent \$35 per month. Phone 28, Eastland.

11—APARTMENTS FOR RENT.

APARTMENT FOR RENT—317 So. Marston street, Ranger. Ray Apartments.

12—WANTED TO BUY.

SECOND-HAND furniture bought and sold at the right prices. Main street Second-Hand Store, 630 Main street, Ranger. Phone 95.

15—HOUSES FOR SALE.

FOR SALE—5 room house with garage, \$1,000; half cash, balance monthly. 1207 Oddie street, Ranger.

16—AUTOMOBILES.

LATE 1923 Chevrolet touring; lots of extras; good rubber; \$125. Late model Ford truck, startow, etc.; \$125. Term to responsible parties. Pritchard, S. Commerce st., Ranger.

17—WANTED TO RENT.

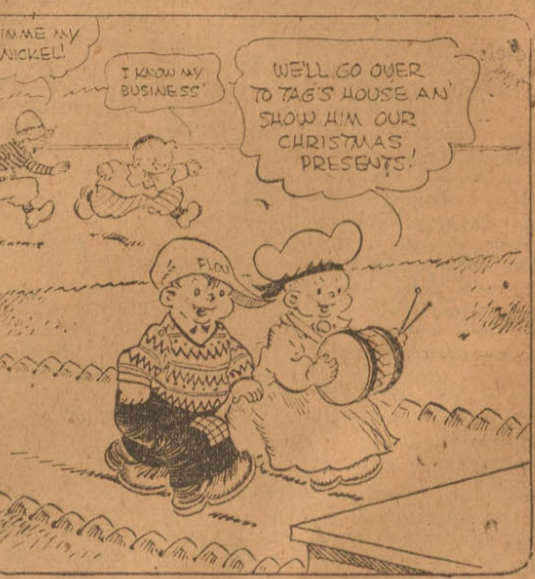
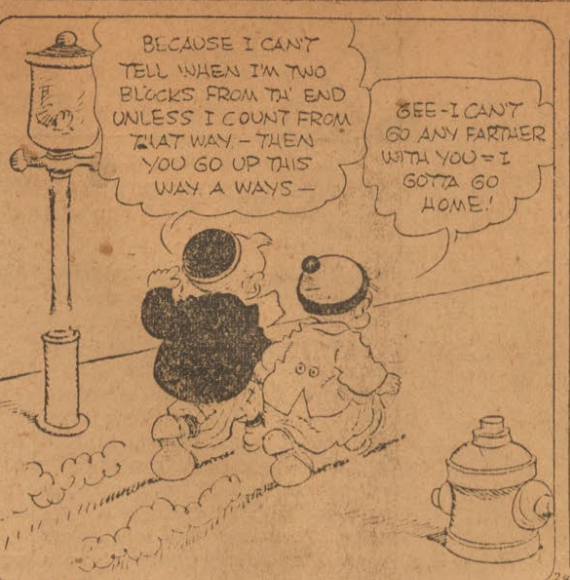
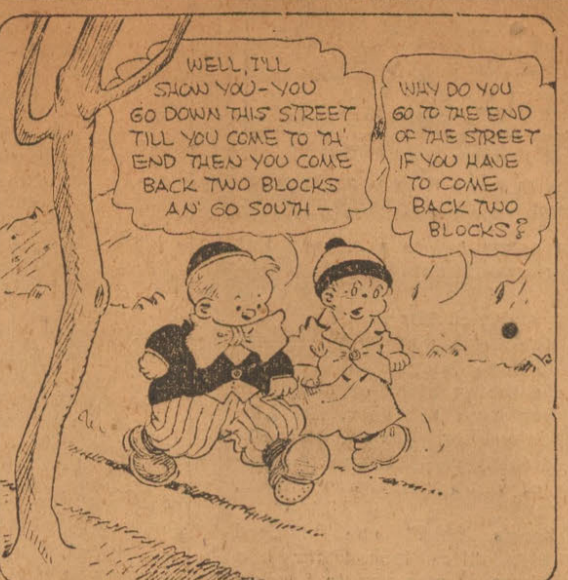
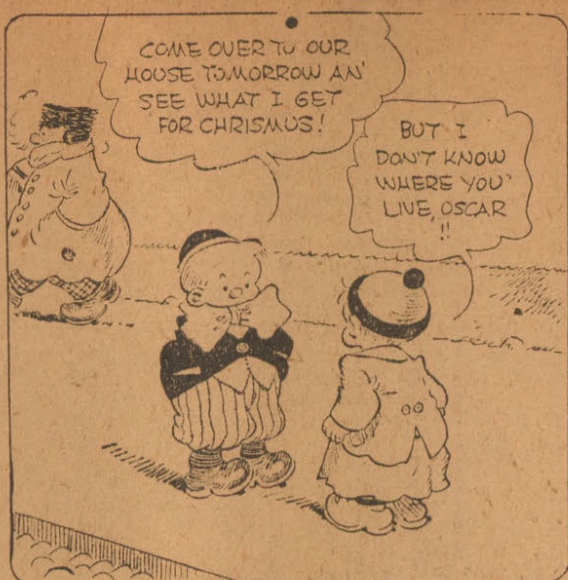
WANT to rent small farm near Ranger. P. O. Box 1048, Ranger.

CITY-COUNTY HOSPITAL RANGER, TEXAS MISS N. CHAPPELLE, Supt. Open to all Doctors in Eastland County. Visiting Hours: 2-4-7-8 P. M. PHONE 207

Just Received—A Big New Stock of California Chocolates THE FOUNTAIN Lamb Theatre Bldg. Ranger

Drink RANGER DISTILLED WATER Electrozone and Purity PHONE 157 Ranger 316 Hodges St.

FRECKLES AND HIS FRIENDS



DID YOU EVER STOP TO THINK

By E. R. Waite, Secretary Shawnee, Okla., Board of Commerce.

That love of work for the home city will come from what you put into it, rather than what you get out of it. That work for the home city is agreeable, and work that you can do. That into this work, put your best efforts and your best intelligence.

UNLAWFUL TO KILL SWANS ANYWHERE IN UNITED STATES

The 10-year close season during which swans may not be hunted anywhere in the United States expires December 7, 1925. This restriction was made under the provisions of article 3 of the treaty between the United States and Great Britain enacted for the protection of birds migrating between the United States and Canada.

Woman Sleeps Wonderful All Night

"After taking Adlerika, the pain in my side (due to gas) is gone and I now eat and sleep wonderful." (signed) Mrs. O. McGinnis. ONE spoonful Adlerika removes GAS and often brings astonishing relief to the stomach. Brings out a surprising amount of old waste matter you never thought was in your system.

CHICKS HATCH READILY NEAR QUARRY BLASTS

RIVERSIDE, Cal., Dec. 28.—When poultrymen of this vicinity asserted blasting in a nearby quarry was affecting their hatching programs, Bob Gordon, in charge of quarry activities set out to prove they were wrong. The quarryman placed an incubator within 500 yards of the quarry, and started setting eggs, three each day for 21 days.

America's birthrate is now the lowest in history. Heat of any kind is bad for the sensitivity of a crystal.

TO THE CREDITORS OF V. W. BLANCHARD, RANGER, TEXAS

Ranger, Texas, Dec. 23, 1925. This is to notify you that I have this day taken over under the provisions of the statutory assignment laws of the State of Texas all the assets of V. W. Blanchard, Ranger, Texas, and that I will liquidate same for the benefit of all his creditors who accept this assignment.

SHERIFF'S SALE

THE STATE OF TEXAS, County of Eastland. By virtue of a certain pluries execution issued out of the honorable 88th district court of Eastland county, on the 24th day of November, 1925, by W. B. Collier, clerk of said court, against Frank Vance for the sum of Seventeen Hundred Fifty-four and 69/100 (\$1,754.69) Dollars and costs of suit, in cause No. 11610 in said court, styled Ranger State bank of Ranger, versus Frank Vance and placed in my hands for service, I, R. W. Edwards, as sheriff of Eastland county, Texas, did on the 4th day of December, 1925, levy on certain real estate situated in Eastland county, described as follows, to-wit:

SHERIFF'S SALE

No. 56613-C. SHERIFF'S SALE. THE STATE OF TEXAS, County of Eastland. By virtue of a certain order of sale issued out of the honorable 68th district court of Dallas county, on the 2nd day of December, 1925, by John H. Cullom, clerk of said court, against L. B. Compton and Ruth Compton for the sum of Twenty-nine Hundred Eleven and 75/100 Dollars and costs of suit, in cause No. 56613-C in said court, styled G. G. Wright, receiver, versus L. B. Compton and wife, Ruth Compton, and placed in my hands for service, I, R. W. Edwards, as sheriff of Eastland county, Texas, did on the 14th day of December, 1925, levy on certain real estate situated in Eastland county, described as follows, to-wit:

CITATION BY PUBLICATION OF FINAL ACCOUNT

THE STATE OF TEXAS. To the Sheriff or any Constable of Eastland County, Greeting: Mrs. Cora Nicholson, administratrix of the estate of Chas. H. Heldman, deceased, having filed in our county court-at-law her final account of the condition of the estate of said Chas. H. Heldman, deceased, numbered 1791 on the probate docket of Eastland county, together with an application to be discharged from said administration.

You are hereby commanded, that by publication of this writ for twenty days in a newspaper printed in the county of Eastland, Texas, you give due notice to all persons interested in the account for final settlement of said estate, to appear and contest the same if they see proper so to do on or before the November term, 1925, of said county court, commencing and to be holden at the courthouse of said county, in the city of Eastland on the 11th day of January, A. D. 1926, when said account and application will be acted upon by said court.

Given under my hand and seal of said court, at my office in the city of Eastland this 17th day of December, A. D. 1925. ERNEST H. JONES, Clerk County Court-at-Law, Eastland, Texas.

SHERIFF'S SALE

By E. E. WOOD, Deputy. Dec. 14-21-28.

NOTICE ON ANNUAL EXHIBIT IN ESTATES

THE STATE OF TEXAS. To the Sheriff or any Constable of Eastland County, Greeting: You are hereby commanded to cause to be published once each week for a period of twenty days before the return day hereof, in a newspaper of general circulation, which has been continuously and regularly published for a period of no less than one year in said Eastland county, a copy of the following notice.

SHERIFF'S SALE

THE STATE OF TEXAS. To all persons interested in the estate of Jake L. Hamon, deceased, Mrs. George Hamon, administratrix of said estate, has filed in the county court-at-law of Eastland county, Texas, an annual exhibit of said estate for the year ending on the 30th day of Nov. 1925, which will be heard by our said county court on the 2nd Monday in January, 1926, the same being the 11th day of said month, at the courthouse of said county, in Eastland, Texas, at which time all persons interested in said estate may appear and contest the exhibit, should they desire to do so.

SHERIFF'S SALE

A true copy of this original writ I certify. R. W. EDWARDS, Sheriff Eastland County, Texas. Dec. 21-28-Jan. 4.

SHERIFF'S SALE

By virtue of a certain order of sale issued out of the honorable 68th district court of Dallas county, on the 2nd day of December, 1925, by John H. Cullom, clerk of said court, against L. B. Compton and Ruth Compton for the sum of Twenty-nine Hundred Eleven and 75/100 Dollars and costs of suit, in cause No. 56613-C in said court, styled G. G. Wright, receiver, versus L. B. Compton and wife, Ruth Compton, and placed in my hands for service, I, R. W. Edwards, as sheriff of Eastland county, Texas, did on the 14th day of December, 1925, levy on certain real estate situated in Eastland county, described as follows, to-wit:

SHERIFF'S SALE

By virtue of a certain order of sale issued out of the honorable 68th district court of Dallas county, on the 2nd day of December, 1925, by John H. Cullom, clerk of said court, against L. B. Compton and Ruth Compton for the sum of Twenty-nine Hundred Eleven and 75/100 Dollars and costs of suit, in cause No. 56613-C in said court, styled G. G. Wright, receiver, versus L. B. Compton and wife, Ruth Compton, and placed in my hands for service, I, R. W. Edwards, as sheriff of Eastland county, Texas, did on the 14th day of December, 1925, levy on certain real estate situated in Eastland county, described as follows, to-wit:

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Given under my hand and seal of said court, at my office in the city of Eastland this 14th day of December, A. D. 1925. R. W. EDWARDS,

SHERIFF'S SALE

By E. E. WOOD, Deputy. Dec. 14-21-28.

SHERIFF'S SALE

THE STATE OF TEXAS. County of Eastland. By virtue of an order of sale for delinquent taxes issued out of the honorable district court of 88th district court of Eastland county, on the 20th day of November, A. D. 1925, by W. B. Collier, clerk thereof, in the case of The State of Texas vs. Victory Service Station and W. W. Edrington, agent, No. 6756-M, and to me as sheriff directed and delivered, I will proceed to sell, within the hours prescribed by law for sheriff's sales, on the first Tuesday in Jan., A. D. 1926, it being the fifth day of said month, before the courthouse door of said Eastland county, in the city of Eastland, the following described land situated in Eastland county, Texas, to-wit:

SHERIFF'S SALE

The north 60 feet of lots 11 and 12 in block No. 12 in the city of Ranger, Eastland county, Texas, the same being more particularly described and plat shown in plaintiff's original petition, and being the same land described in said order of sale, and levied on as the property of Victory Service Station and W. W. Edrington, agent. (And in compliance with law I give this notice of sale by publication in the English language once a week for three consecutive

SHERIFF'S SALE

By virtue of a certain order of sale issued out of the honorable 68th district court of Dallas county, on the 2nd day of December, 1925, by John H. Cullom, clerk of said court, against L. B. Compton and Ruth Compton for the sum of Twenty-nine Hundred Eleven and 75/100 Dollars and costs of suit, in cause No. 56613-C in said court, styled G. G. Wright, receiver, versus L. B. Compton and wife, Ruth Compton, and placed in my hands for service, I, R. W. Edwards, as sheriff of Eastland county, Texas, did on the 14th day of December, 1925, levy on certain real estate situated in Eastland county, described as follows, to-wit:

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Given under my hand and seal of said court, at my office in the city of Eastland this 14th day of December, A. D. 1925. R. W. EDWARDS,

SHERIFF'S SALE

By E. E. WOOD, Deputy. Dec. 14-21-28.

SHERIFF'S SALE

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SHERIFF'S SALE

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Given under my hand and seal of said court, at my office in the city of Eastland this 14th day of December, A. D. 1925. R. W. EDWARDS,

DR. R. M. IMBRIE OSTEOPATH Suite 208 Ranger State Bank Bldg. Phone 186

DEE SANDERS HOWDY FOLKS! I'M SELLING FORDS! First Payment as Low as \$100—Balance Easy The Ideal Gift for Christmas

LIBERTY THEATRE

Today and Tomorrow

MARY PICKFORD

CONNELLY THEATRE Monday and Tuesday December 28-29 The "Covered Wagon" of 1925 JAMES CRUZE'S SUCCESSOR TO THE COVERED WAGON

Mary Pickford Wins her battles with a rival band of New York's lower East Side youngsters just as she will win your hearts in the impish, hoydenish and tomboy portrayals that won her the title The World's Sweetheart

Comedy and News 10c Admission 50c

S-I-G-N-S C. E. Adr. Co. Phone 20

GHOLSON HOTEL BARBER SHOP For Ladies and Gentlemen—A hearty welcome waits you—Service, Courtesy, Sanitation our motto. Only skilled barbers employed Basement Gholson Hotel—Ranger

LAMB THEATRE

Final Showing

Hoot Gibson in "CALGARY STAMPEDE"

Tomorrow

Pete Maloney in "WIN, LOSE OR DRAW" Comedy

10 Admission 25

THE PONY EXPRESS What American wouldn't thrill to the story of those heroic riders of the old frontier? What American would miss Cruze's most spectacular romance?



# SPINSTERHOOD

## BEGIN HERE TODAY

Barbara Hawley, 25, self-willed and talented, breaks with her fiance, Bruce Reynolds, and gets a job on The Telegraph. In order to see life, Andrew McDermott, the managing editor, is a former friend of her father. She makes friends with Bob Jeffries, police reporter, and through him meets Jerome Ball, man about town, at a roadhouse, where a prominent man commits suicide, and Barbara covers the story. She picks up a red scarf left in the room by the unknown woman companion of the dead man.

Bruce has joined the real estate firm of Manners, Stone and Reynolds, which is promoting Vale Acres, a mammoth real estate project. Lydia Stacey, a rich widow, refuses to invest in Vale Acres when Bruce fails to respond to her blandishments. Barbara gets many letters from a girl named Violetta, which she answers in the love column. She reads of Bruce's marriage to Violetta Cranby, a box factory employe, and realizes that she has engineered Violetta's campaign to win him.

Barbara's mother is taken ill. Barbara reports the collapse of Bruce's real estate concerns after the head of it has fled with the cash. Jerome takes her riding one night during her mother's illness and tells her he is going to be married.

## NOW GO ON WITH THE STORY

CHAPTER XXXI  
Jerome chuckled as he started the car again. "Oh, well," he remarked, "you didn't find me so altogether repulsive before I told you. Or, at least, if you did, you concealed it pretty well."

Jerome leaned back against the steering wheel and watched Barbara. She said nothing.

"Well, aren't you going to congratulate me?" Barbara replied. "Yes—but isn't it a little hard on the girl?"

"Isn't what a little hard?" Jerome stared at her.

"To let her pin her faith on a man like you?" "Please take me home," answered Barbara, between clenched teeth. Jerome only chuckled again.

The roadster wheeled around the corner into her street. Barbara's hand on the car door. She looked down the street and caught her breath. Every light in the Hawley home was burning.

Before the car had stopped Barbara was out of it and up the steps. The front door slammed while Jerome still sat staring after her.

She met Mrs. Bryan and Mrs. Goodhue in the lower hall. The night nurse came down the stairs. The three women stared at her solemnly.

Mrs. Bryan advanced and put her hand on Barbara's arm. "Don't take it too hard. It won't do any good to go to pieces."

Barbara's hand flew to her mouth. She slipped to the floor.

The last rug had been swept and the last ominous vase carried out. Every window blind had been thrown high and the furniture was drawn back into its accustomed places.

"Who?" sniffed Mrs. Bryan, throwing wide the front door. "How those lilies do smell up a house. The poor child will be smelling 'em all the rest of her life."

"When do you think she'll be downstairs?" asked Mrs. Goodhue, wiping her hands on her apron. "I thought we'd go up after her when tea was ready," replied Mrs. Bryan. "She's got to eat. And she's

got to keep her job. They say her mother hadn't anything left at all. No head for business."

"She'll come through it all right. I never saw anybody with better control at a funeral," commented Mrs. Goodhue.

The other woman turned. "Control! Yes, that's just it. She got so much of it that she's like to eat her heart out. I'd rather see 'em cry and wail. 'Tain't natural to take it like she did."

"Well, 'taint because she didn't care," snapped Mrs. Goodhue. "Who said it was?"

They stopped talking. Barbara had appeared on the landing. "Thank you so much for your thoughtfulness," she said quietly. She was wearing a dress of soft green. Her hair was drawn smoothly across her white forehead. The two women stared.

Barbara smiled faintly. "You won't be shocked at my not wearing black?" she ventured. "It is the last thing mother would want."

Mrs. Bryan and Mrs. Goodhue looked at each other as if to say, "How dare you stare at her." Then they dropped their eyes.

"Of course not, dearie," replied Mrs. Bryan. "Come right down and have a cup of tea and a sandwich." Barbara descended the steps slowly.

They ushered her into the dining room and drew up three chairs. Barbara shrank almost visibly from their solicitude, but she smiled when the table tray was brought in and her plate was filled.

"I don't know what I'd have done without you two good friends," she said. "You've helped me through the hardest time of my life."

"Oh, come now, Miss Hawley," said Mrs. Goodhue, "we wanted to help. What are you going to do now? Would you like me to send my Erma over to stay with you nights for a while? You can't stay alone in this big house."

"I don't intend to," replied Barbara. "The house will be sold at once. I'm moving out tomorrow."

"Tomorrow?" The two women stared again.

Barbara smiled again, wearily. The blue veins showed plainly across her temples. "Yes, I can't hear it here alone. I want to see mother's lawyer yesterday and he will handle it for me. And I knew of a tiny apartment in town that had been vacant for several weeks. I leased it, too, yesterday."

Then, seeing the surprise on their faces, she added, "I hope you won't think me unfeeling to leave so soon. I've got to. I can't breathe in this house. It's a great empty hulk, haunted." She rose from the table and paced across the room to the window, where she stood twisting her handkerchief in her hands.

The two neighbors looked at each other anxiously.

"Who's going to stay with you tonight, Barbara?" persisted Mrs. Goodhue. "Shall I send my Erma?" Barbara turned to face them. "I'm staying alone tonight," she replied. "There's nobody that could help me. But thank you just as much."

The three women were still sitting at the tea table when the doorbell rang. Barbara started nervously. Mrs. Bryan ran to answer it.

Andrew McDermott stood in the door. "Why, come in, Mr. McDermott," cried Barbara, catching sight of him and running to meet him. "I'm glad you've come."

The man took her hand. "Thank

# The Wife Who Wasn't Wanted

By DOROTHY A. F. MARCELL  
Copyright, 1925, Warner Bros. Pictures Inc.  
"THE WIFE WHO WASN'T WANTED" with Irene Rich is a picturization of this novel.

It is Bob Manning's twenty-first birthday and a dance has been given for him at the Country Club. The hour is late and the party is breaking up. Diane Bledsoe is urging Bob to join a small company which is going to Calkin's Inn. Marjorie Patterson, who is in love with Bob, hears Diane's pleadings and is fearful lest Bob will yield to the temptress. She declines the invitation of another boy who offers to escort her home, saying she can accompany Mrs. Manning, Bob's mother.

CHAPTER IV—Continued  
"Don't argue, Billy. You know I wouldn't if I could." And Marjorie calmly walked away from the discomfited youth to pause in the doorway as Diane grew more persistent.

"Come on, Bob. Be a good sport. I'll show you the time of your life at Calkin's Inn."

Marjorie's eyes rounded. It was as if she could not believe her ears.

"Oh, Bob!" she cried. The group on the porch turned. Gazing straight at Marjorie, Diane seemed to read a challenge. Suddenly she shrugged her shoulders and gave a derisive laugh.

"So that's why you can't go, Bob? I didn't know that I was trespassing. Don't let me interfere."

A loyal henchman, Theo lifted his heavy lids and grinned. "If she has strings on you, don't let us lead you into mischief, old fellow."

Bob flushed and his temper flared as he stared back at Marjorie. But if that day he entered manhood's estate, youth has its pride.

Still Marjorie shook her head. She was no tattler tale.

"You must tell me, dear," persisted Eileen.

"Nobody has any strings on me," he declared hotly. Diane tittered. It was an aggravating titter.

"Well, then?" she inquired of the universe. Ignoring Diane and the rest, Marjorie moved towards them.

"Bob," she said with an air of proprietorship, "you can't go."

Again Diane's giggle was a belows away to Bob's temper. What right had Marjorie to dictate to him? Determination seized him.

"I will go."

"You can't go, Bob," insisted Marjorie, careless of the amusement of the group about them.

The commanding note in her voice seemed to exasperate him. Whether he was headed to Calkin's Inn or Hong Kong he would teach Marjorie that she could not boss him.

"Who'll stop me?" he blurted. "I'm going to do exactly what I please." And as the group moved towards Theo's car he calmly passed Marjorie by.

For an instant it seemed as if she would follow him, but with an effort she restrained herself.

Bob, having had his way, took little comfort in it. Even at the edge of the porch, he hesitated as if half minded to turn. However that imp of mischief, Diane was not slow in sensing what was taking place.

"Come on, Bob, if you are going," she urged reaching forth from the car to tug at his sleeve.

Still he hesitated. Then, his jaw set. Climbing in beside Diane, they sped away amidst a chorus of merriment for which he had little heart.

And sadly hurt, Marjorie gazed after the departing car. Suddenly, her lips trembled and a sob escaped the pretty little party dress, which she had donned with such joyous anticipation, to savor as the leaves

you," he said. "I felt it wouldn't be an intrusion."

Barbara shook her head. "There's never been a time when I needed my friends more," she said. They entered the living room.

"It was very soon to come," said McDermott, "but I thought you might be glad to have someone. I needn't tell you how sorry the Telegraph people all are, Barbara."

She smiled bravely. "No, you needn't," she said. "I do want to talk to you, though, about your plans for the future. Perhaps my friendship for your father, combined with my interest in you, will prevent it from being impertinence." He was smiling his whimsical smile. Barbara smiled back.

"You see, Miss Hawley. I know that you are in great danger of some sort of nervous crash unless you stop

short and get a new start. And the Telegraph can't afford to lose you, ever for a short illness. You see my motives are partly selfish—like most motives." Barbara listened gravely.

"What have you planned for the future?" continued McDermott.

Barbara told him of the new apartment. He nodded. "That's a good idea. This house is no place for you now."

Barbara glanced around the room. "It's the only home I have," she said. "But I couldn't bear it without mother. And I couldn't afford to keep it up either. I'm rather hard pressed financially just now."

McDermott leaned back in his chair. "That's another thing. You are earning more than we're paying you. But we can't stretch the budget any further this year. I wish to heaven we could. I don't believe in paying a cent less than my work-

ers earn. But a budget is a budget, you know, and the powers that be are implacable."

"Now I've a plan that will help you on that score, but will help me, infinitely more. There you see I don't pretend altruism falsely."

"This, in brief, is my idea. I think I've never told you, Miss Hawley, that my wife is in a sanitarium—hopelessly insane. Perhaps you do not know, either, that I have an 18-year-old daughter who is in a boarding school in Chicago."

"Francis has finished her course at school and will soon be on my hands. I have not a woman relative to place her with. Neither do I want to put her in the care of an ordinary hired chaperon. I've seen too many young girls so disposed of."

"Now, of course, I'm not asking you to be a mother to her, or anything like that. But I am suggesting that you take her into your new apartment with you on a fifty-fifty basis. You'll find her pleasant company and I shall be tremendously relieved to have her with you. She is going to study dramatics this next year and I want her to be here in her home city. What do you say?"

McDermott looked at Barbara with the calm air of a man whose suggestions had always been taken as commands by the world at large.

Barbara considered a moment. Then she smiled up at him. "It's a go," she said. "Even if I didn't want to, I'd do it for you, Mr. McDermott. You've been so kind to me. But I really think it is a good plan, anyway. You mustn't expect me to be a regular dragon duenna, however. I'm not constituted for one. But I will keep my eye on your little girl and let her be as happy as possible. I think it will do me good to have her, too."

McDermott smiled. He took her hand and rose to go. "Thank you," he said. "You've solved my problem for me, and I hope it will solve yours, too, to some extent."

As he was leaving he said, "Don't try to come to work tomorrow, Miss Hawley. You'll need the day to see to the moving."

When he was gone Barbara went out to the kitchen. Mrs. Goodhue and Mrs. Bryan had washed the dishes and departed, leaving the table set for Barbara's breakfast. She found a great slab of fruit cake concealed in the refrigerator, reposing beside Mrs. Goodhue's printed calling card.

Barbara observed the evidences of their kindness with tears in her eyes. She locked the kitchen door and snapped out the lights. Then she

room, with its old-fashioned walnut bed, its dull blue rugs and its gay English prints. She stopped to touch the bedstead caressingly and to pat the little brass fire tongs.

Then she turned out the lights and went into her mother's room. It had been stripped of everything but furniture. Even the toilet articles had been taken from the dresser, leaving its marble top quite bare. Here, too, she snapped out the lights.

Barbara sat down on the floor at the foot of the bed and leaned her head against it.

(To Be Continued)

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