

Christmas in The Olden Days and at this Time.

Whatever May Have Been Its Origin And whatever Peculiarities may have Gathered About it in its Adaptation to People and Circumstances, it is to Americans today a Practically National Holiday

All the world keeps Christmas day. From the land of the midnight sun to the sunny south of perpetual summer is a far cry, but in the long distance there is no land where Christmas is not kept. Its celebration is a part of the universal history of the human race. Whatever may have been its origin and whatever peculiarities may have gathered about it in its adaptation to different people and different circumstances, it is to us Americans to-day a practically national feast.

To keep it was at one time, and in our own part of the country, it is true, a penal offense. It was thought to savor of pre-lacy and to foster unpleasant memories of political servitude, but it has grown with our growth and the broad-mindedness of the American people is seen at its best in the hearty commemoration of the nativity of the Christ from year to year.

In some parts of the country, in fact, Christmas day bids fair to supplant Thanksgiving day, and it certainly may already claim an equality of recognition with the time-honored national festival of our New England forbears. People of every creed and every nationality within our borders delight to participate in the celebration of the Christmas feast, and many a scion of old-world stock finds himself back home again as the church bells peal and the candles glimmer on the Christmas trees. It is a time of universal peace and good will. It brightens homes, softens asperities and uplifts us as it brings "the light that never was on land or sea."

The origin of the festival is said to be lost in antiquity. If, as held by many, it is a Christian feast grafted on to a pagan one, its history is age long. The actual institution of Christmas as the celebration of the nativity of Jesus Christ dates from the second century of the Christian era. St. Chrysostom says that it was observed from the beginning, according to western practice, from Thrace to the Straits of Gibraltar, and he calls it "the most venerable, the mother of all the rest."

But as to the time of the celebration there was a diversity of observance. The early Christian church naturally kept Easter as commemorative of the resurrection of Christ, which the apostles were especially chosen and instructed to proclaim, and the feast of Pentecost, which became the birthday of the church, came next in order. Then to these were added two others, the one commemorative of the baptism of Jesus Christ and the other of his birth. The first of these, the Epiphany, or Manifestation, came from the east to the

west. The second, Christmas, or the nativity, came from the west to the east. The two were officially recognized and quite widely kept in both the east and west in the fourth century. In a sermon preached by the Golden Mouthed in Antioch on December 25, A. D. 386, he speaks of the festival of Christmas as having first become known there 10 years before and on another occasion he invites his hearers to participate in its approaching observance.

But as to the reason for the selection of December 25 as Christmas day, first arrived at by the Hippolytes, there is much difference of opinion. It is held by some that the German name of the festival "Weihnacht," the Jewish festival of the purification of the temple by Judas Maccabeus, which begins on December 17, and that as the Passover and Pentecost were perpetuated in Easter and Whitsuntide, so the festival of the Purification has been preserved in Christmas-tide and the practice of burning candles on the Christmas trees has come from the old Hebrew feast.

But the purification can hardly be numbered among the greater and important festivals of the Hebrews and, as Schaff says, there is really no Old Testament feast corresponding to our Christmas. The weight of opinion as to the time of year chosen by the Christian church in the west lies in another and entirely different solution of the question and links the Christian observance to the ancient practice of the heathen world.

It must be remembered in this connection that the particular date was first fixed upon by the Roman branch of the church, and at that season of the year a series of pagan festivals occurred which were closely interwoven with the civil and social life of the Roman people. These festivals had an import which lent itself to the growth of the Christian faith, and they may have been spiritually adopted by the church in order to counteract their evil tendencies and at the same time advance the cause of the new religion.

The Saturnalia, for instance, represented the peaceful times of the golden age and abolished sharp distinctions between citizen and serf. But it was a time of wild and unholy revelry. Then the Brumalia—the feast of the shortest day, or winter solstice—was the commemoration of the birthday of the new sun about to return to the earth. It was the "dies natalis invicti solis." In the old mythology of the sun worshippers it was the birthday of Methras himself, and, in fact, the time of year when from unnumbered ages be-

fore the Christian era pagan Europe in all its tribes and peoples, had celebrated its chief festival. So here we have the double truth of the golden age and rebirth of the unconquered sun, as he breaks the power of darkness refined and enriched in the Christian teaching of "peace on earth and good will to men," as coincident with the rising of the Sun of Righteousness in the birth into the world of the son of God.

This view of Christmas accentuates the true place of the Christian religion in relation to the ancient deep-seated religious which preceded it, and at the same time reveals a beauty of development in its culmination as the completed manifestation of God to man. In the infancy of the race the winter solstice was everywhere a season of rejoicing. No matter what the peculiar form which it assumed, it expressed the world joy of the time. So the very idea of the Child God which gives Christmas its meaning may not only have been foretold by sybil and prophet, but prefigured by the infant gods of the Greek and Egyptian and Hindu and Buddhist forms of religion.

These to us imperfect and unsatisfactory conceptions of the Divine may have been the rude but honest efforts of the earlier days of the human race to group the idea of a God-man which has been made so real and so full of joy to us in the Nativity and the Epiphany of the Christ. In this sense the early church may have been wiser than she wot of. Her aim was to select the best features of the heathen feasts and embody them for their purification in Christian practices and sacred rites and to wean the converts from their old superstitions to the deeper and more real truths of the Christian faith.

But in so doing she may have been the unconscious instrument of a divinely guided evolution in religious practice and belief which has ennobled and enriched the world. The symbolism of our Christmas to-day certainly lends itself in many ways to this point of view. In the greenery with which we deck our houses and churches and in the gift-laden fir trees which gladden our children's hearts, we still retain the symbols by which our heathen forefathers signified their faith in the power of returning sun to clothe the earth with green and hang new fruit on the trees. The Christmas carol may be a new birth of the hymns of the Saturnalia. The holly and mistletoe came from the Druid worship. The banquet story is time itself may be a survival, purified and refined of the original feast to the Gods and goddesses of the fabled Olympus. The "Yule" of

"Merrie England" is the old Teutonic name of the religious festival of the winter solstice, during which Celt and Roman could trace the movements of their deities as they walked abroad in the world.

The Christian religion is not merely something built over the old ethnic religions as the church of St. Maria Sopra Minerva in Rome is built over the ruins of the old heathen temple of Minerva, or as the grove sacred to Adonis was planted by the order of the Emperor Hadrian over "the cave close to the village" which is now honored as the scene of the Saviour's birth. It had a larger and a deeper meaning. Christmas tells the story of a gradual but complete unfolding of the divine idea of religion as seen the Christ Child, of its worship and its merry-making in its at once sacred and social feast.

The story is told simply but graphically by two of the four evangelists, St. Mark's gospel begins with the baptism of the Christ, so logically he had no need to tell the story of his birth and boyhood. St. John wrote near the close of the first century, and with the dominant idea of setting forth the divinity of Christ in opposition to the prevailing gnosticism of the time. But St. Matthew, whose narrative bears traces of having been gleaned from Joseph and St. Luke, who probably got his information from Mary, have given us the story with a directness and a humanness which the grotesque and often meretricious wonder-tales of the apocryphal gospels have but served to accentuate as a dark background to a touching and reverent picture.

Around the story legends naturally gathered. It was the custom in early days to decorate in this way the graves of horses and some of these legends are no doubt the offspring of the "vulgar tattle" of the apocryphal gospel stories. In some parts of the world the bees are said to sing on Christmas eve. The cattle kneel in honor of the manger-bed at Bethlehem. The sheep go in procession in commemoration of the angels' visit to the shepherds. The Indians creep through the winter woods of Canada to see the deer kneel and look up to the Great Spirit. In the German Alps the cattle are thought to have the gift of language, and the story is told of an Alpine farmer's servant who hid in the stable on Christmas eve and heard the horses talking about his own death, which followed a few days later.

There is a Bosnian legend that the sun leaps in the heavens and the stars dance around it. A great peace comes stealing down over mountain and forest. The

rotton stumps stand straight and green on the hillside. The grass is beflowered with blossoms and the birds sing on the mountain tops in thanks to God. In Poland the heavens open and Jacob's ladder is set up between earth and sky. In Austria the candles are set in the window, that the Christ Child may not stumble when he comes to bless the home. In north Germany the tables are spread and the lights left burning for the Virgin Mary and her attending angel.

The English superstition is admirably voiced by the myriad-minded Shakespeare in "Hamlet:"

Some say that every 'gainst that season comes, Wherein our Lord's birth is celebrated, The bird of dawning singeth all night long. And then they say no spirit can walk abroad. The nights are wholesome. Then no planets strike, No fairy takes, nor witch hath power to charm, So hallowed and so gracious is the time.

—By Rev. Reginald H. Starr.

The Commercial Club of Spur met Tuesday night December 20 in Lambdin & Company's store. T. B. Griffin was made Chairman for the night and Frank B. St. John was selected as Secretary protem. On motion a committee consisting of M. A. Baker, Y. L. Jones and H. J. DeFord, was appointed to confer with W. M. Blackwell and employ him as night watchman for the business houses for ten days, beginning December 21. The committee to receive funds by subscription to pay the night watchman.

A motion requesting Justice Cowan to prepare and have printed a circular giving the law concerning the use of fireworks and asking the aid of the people in carrying out the law was carried.

C. A. Jones, E. J. Cowan and J. M. Bennett were appointed by the chair, on motion, as a committee to ask the commissioners' court of Dickens county to build a calaboose in Spur.

The committee on streets and alleys reported having employed a scavenger and that they had pledged more than \$20 per month for the payment. He is to collect 50 cents each time he attends to the cleaning of a closet and to be paid for hauling trash from stores, restaurants etc.

The committee to secure a cotton buyer, made a favorable report and was discharged from further duty.

The following new members were enrolled: Sam Clemmons, book-keeper for Swenson & Sons and F. W. Jennings, book-keeper for Miller Lumber Company.

The club adjourned to meet at 8 P. M. Monday, December 27.
FRANK B. ST. JOHN,
Secretary.

The Red Front Drug Store

HAS THE LARGEST AND BEST LINE OF CHRISTMAS GOODS EVER SEEN IN THIS PART OF THE STATE.

Full of New Ideas, You Can Not Find a Better Place to Get The Right Thing and at The Right Price.

SEE OUR BEAUFUL DISPLAY!!

Our new stock is full of attractions to buyers who appreciate real desirable holiday gifts of the latest designs and best quality. Come and see our stock whether you buy or not for we will appreciate your coming. We can to the old pleasure give; to the young joy; to the sweetheart happiness unbounded. So don't worry about what to give or where to get it. The Red Front Drug Store, "The store of Quality."

Fireworks

CUT GLASS

We have the latest designs of the famous P. & B. diamond cut. Price very reasonable.

TOILET SETS

The very thing to give her. We have some real nice ones.

RINGS

We have a very attractive line of solid gold band and set rings from \$1 up.

GET OUR PRICES

Dolls Dolls

ALL KINDS

From 5 cents to \$5.00 in prices

Toys Toys

IRON, TIN, WOOD, PAPER

Anything from A B C blocks to Steam Engine

Fireworks

PHONOGRAPH

We have a large stock of records which will be at the disposal of our customers at all times.

TOILET SUNDRIES

A complete line of Colgates toilet goods, brushes, paste, powder, La Blanche, Nodine, R. & G. Janice and Pazzonis face powder. Nice line of perfumes.

We have a nice line of Bibles and gift books. Also some beautiful pictures ready framed from 25c up.

We are here to stay and appreciate your patronage. We can save you money. We have only the purest drugs and chemicals and pay strict attention to prescriptions. We are at your service day and night.

WISHING YOU ALL A MERRY CHRISTMAS
WE ARE YOURS TO SERVE.

The Store of Quality

THE RED FRONT DRUG STORE

Spur, Texas

J. B. CONNER,

Dealer in Grain
And Hay

WAGON YARD IN CONNECTION. SPUR, TEXAS

F. C. GIPSON

DICKENS, TEXAS

Drugs, Medicines, Paint, Varnish,
toilet articles, syringes, soaps,
perfumery and oil.

IF YOU WANT WHAT YOU WANT WHEN YOU WANT IT, COME HERE

Spur Hardware Co.

BUILDERS HARDWARE, STOVES,
TINWARE, WAGONS, IMPLEMENTS,

Wire and Nails and Everything in
Hardware and Implement Lines.

The Elite Cafe has the finest line of fruits, candies and fine cakes for Christmas.

R. M. Dickenson, of Stamford, spent several days this week in Spur. Mr. Dickenson is connected with the Spur Grain and Coal Company at this place.

The Elite Cafe has the finest line of fruits, candies and fine cakes for Christmas.

Nat Patton, who has been attending the teachers institute this week at Dickens, came over to Spur Wednesday to see the town and note the improvements made here since his former visit. Mr. Patton is teaching the Afton school this year, and reports everything in that section moving along nicely.

The Afton country is said to be among the very best agricultural sections of this territory and more fully developed and settled than other sections.

The Elite Cafe has the finest line of fruits, candies and fine cakes for Christmas.

ESTRAYED OR STOLEN.

One black horse branded Bar R. H. on shoulder and has a flank cinch mark on one side, when last seen had chain on foot and hobbled with same chain. Liberal Reward for the delivery of horse to owner at Spur.

JON. B. PRUDEN.

Spur Drug Company for fancy perfumes and toilet soaps.

Brazelton, Pryor & Co.

LUMBER

SHINGLES, PAINT

All Kinds of Building Material

We handle only the BEST GOODS. Our prices are as low as good material can be sold. No trouble to figure your bills.

COME AND EE US.

The Elite Cafe has the finest line of fruits, candies and fine cakes for Christmas.

YOU get what you BUY at RICHARDSON LUMBER Co.

We have received a big stock of wall paper of the 1910 patterns.

CAMPBELL & CAMPBELL.

Candies, fruits, nuts, apples, oranges, etc., at Elite Cafe.

COME TO SPUR

Special Attractions To The Christmas Buyers

You can find the little toys to please the children and gifts for the old folks. All branches of business are represented and stocks are complete, car after car of every class of mercantile has reached us in the last few days and not only the grocery buyer but hardware and builders material of all classes are carried by our dealers in an abundance. You can fill any want and prices are guaranteed to be as good "Freights considered" as those in any section of Texas. We ask your presence in "Spur" and assure you that we as a unit are interested in the welfare of this section and ask your co-operation in the general upbuilding of our home town.

A COTTON AND PRODUCE MARKET

we are paying the top prices and seek the seller to bring along anything you have. you will find the man here who will gladly give you all the market can afford. In the lumber line you can find some of the best assorted stocks carried in Texas and price and grade are on par.

The Spur Commercial Club offers to the party selling the greatest amount in dollars of Dairy and Poultry Products from Monday, Dec. 20 to Sat., Jan. 1st, a Premium of \$5. Get receipts from buyers and mail to the secretary who will pay the premium.

THE CITIZENS CLUB OF SPUR

LAMB DIN & COMPANY, Dry Goods, Clothing Boots Shoes etc.
BRAZELTON-PRYOR & COMPANY, Lumber, Lime, Cement, Brick, etc.
SPUR HARDWARE COMPANY, General Hardware Dealers.
CAYLOR-LAIRD, LUMBER COMPANY, First Class Building Materials of Every Kind.
SPENCER LUMBER COMPANY, Ask Your Inspection, We Assure you Correct Prices.
TEXAS SPUR, Send in Your Name; Let us Send The Paper.
SPUR TOWNSITE COMPANY, We Are With The People In The Upbuilding of Spur.
DICKENS COUNTY ABSTRACT COMPANY, Competent People Handle Your Business.
R. C. MORRISON DRY GOODS COMPANY, Dry Goods, Clothing, Boots, Shoes, and Groceries.
Y. L. JONES SPUR FURNITURE COMPANY, Will Open Shortly and Assure You Reasonable Prices.
H. NICHOLSON, SPUR DRUG COMPANY, Careful and Accurate Prescription Druggist.
H. J. DEFORD, REALTY BUSINESS, List Your Land For Prompt Action.
P. A. FITE, MEAT CUTTER, With Tom Davis, Solicits Your Patronage.
J. Y. JORDAN, PAINTER, SIGNS, PAPER HANGING.
BRYANT-LINK COMPANY, Dry Goods, Groceries, Hardware, Implements, Wagons, Buggies
BOWMAN LUMBER CO., Building material of all kinds.
RED FRONT DRUG STORE, Prescriptions filled at all hours.

LUZON TELEPHONE COMPANY, Connections to all Principal Points in Central West Texas.
SPUR NATIONAL BANK, Will Soon Announce Their opening Capital Stock One Hundred Thousand.
SPUR GRAIN COMPANY, Coal and Feed of all Kinds.
R. L. KING, TINNER, Tanks, Gutters, Flues and General Tinner.
H. T. BURGOON, City Property, Ranch Lands and Farms.
W. J. MABEN, General Insurance Agent, City Property and Farm Lands.
SPUR FURNITURE COMPANY, Will Open for Business this Week and can Fill Your Wants in Anything. in Wall Paper House Furnishing.
JACKSON REALTY COMPANY, City Property Farm and Ranch Lands.
ELITE CAFE AND CONFECTIONERY, Fruits Cigars, Tobacco and Candies.
CAMPBELL & CAMPBELL, Furniture, Carpets, Rugs Wall Paper and Undertakers Supplies.
BARBER & HANCOCK, Groceries.
W. A. JOHNSTON, ROOMING HOUSE, First Class Rooms Courteous Treatment.
E. J. COWAN, Fire Insurance and Notary Public.
H. K. PARKS, Livery, Feed and Sale Stable, nice rigs, good horses and courteous treatment.
W. E. KELLAR, Boot Maker, Harness, etc.
MURRAY BROS., Artisans. Builders of brick, stone, cement.
GODFREY REALTY CO., Farms, Ranches, Town Property.

J. A. LAMBDIN & CO.

Headquarters For Holiday Buyers

We are just in receipt of shipment of toys, dolls, fancy vases, and such little toys to make the children happy, also fancy water sets of glass in pitchers and glasses to match, albums, A. B. C. books etc. In fact in this line the showing is very good. In connection to this line we are now in better shape to serve your needs in dry goods, clothing, shoes, Ladies, Misses and childrens cloaks, Ladies tailor made suits, petticoats, sweaters, underwear, mufflers, neckwear, belts, novelty, jewelry, lace curtains, window shades, portiers, mens boys and childrens hats and caps, gloves, trunks, suit cases, or any other need we extend a special invitation to those of you who have failed to visit this store to come and inspect our lines, we assure you of your moneys worth in each and every case. Its time well spent to see what "Spur" merchants have on display for the wise buyer. We guarantee prices to be in line with any concern in Texas. Come in and let us get acquainted whether a buyer or not.

<p>We Sell</p> <p>Queen Quality Shoes</p> <p>FOR WOMEN</p>	<p>J. A. LAMBDIN & CO.</p> <p>STAMFORD and SPUR</p> <p>C. L. LOVE, Manager Spur Store</p>	<p>PACKARDS</p> <p>Shoes For Men</p> <p>\$3.50 & \$4.00</p>
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REDMUD ITEMS

The Redmud college is to be completed soon in the Southwestern part of Tap.

Mr. George Adam is visiting relatives at this place.

Mrs. Ross Martin visited Mrs. J. E. Sparks last Sunday.

The Redmud School will commence Jan. 1st. Mrs. Jackson Teacher.

We have had some nice rains for the past week. Everybody lookout for the Tap farmers in the coming year, 1910.

Mr. S. S. Allcorns was a visitor of Mr. P. Hinsons last Sunday.

Joe Martin seems to be glad he has found the way up to Mr. Walkers. We haven't learnt why.

Mr. Oliver and wife from Mitchell county are here visiting Mrs. Olivers sisters and other friends.

Mr. Fount Harrel found himself up to Mr. Greers last Sunday.

People have about caught up with cotton picking.

Mr. Warren Turner went to Spur to day on private business.

There is to be two expert painters painting on the new School house at this place next week.

Mrs. Ola McKay and baby who who has been visiting her mother and other relatives returned to Spur last Tuesday where she will make her future home.

Mr. and Mrs. Willis Smith vis-

ited at Mr. Mannings last Sunday and found all well.

Every body watch their turkey roost, Christmas is coming.

PENCIL PUSHER.

The finest line of fruits, candies and cakes for Christmas at the Elite Cafe.

A large number of Spur people attended the ball and entertainment Monday night at Dickens, and among the number were Deck Powers and wife, H. K. Parks and wife, B. Griffin and Miss Pearl Blackwell, A. J. Tyler and Misses Lillian Denton and Reavis. The party went over in buggies and carriages and report a very enjoyable occasion despite the cold weather.

Lost horses is an every day occurrence in Spur, and Texas Spur is among the number who are looking for a stray horse. Our horse is three years old fifteen and a half hands high, unbranded, a bay with what is called a silver tail, a single white spot the size of a fifty cent piece on left side where back-band rubs. When he strayed away was shod all round with light shoes. We will give ninety nine years subscription to Texas Spur to one party returning this horse to us before Christmas.

W. R. Hodges made a business trip this week to Stamford. Mr. Hodges is preparing to get in a grocery business at Spur and when his house is complete will be ready for business.

Spur Drug Company, holiday goods.

J. H. Stradley, a prominent business man of Dickens, had business in Spur Monday. Mr. Stradley reports everything moving along smoothly at the county capital.

W. M. Stephens and Frank Stephens, of Haskell, arrived in Spur Monday and will be employed in the building of a residence in the city.

Miss Nell Mahone, was among those who attended the entertainment and ball Monday evening at Dickens. Messrs. Ross Edwards and Gus Catchings made the music for the dancers, and everybody enjoyed it to the full extent.

I. G. Van Leer has completed three new houses in town and which he has rented. Rent houses are in great demand and will bring in enormous returns on the investment in rents. A man with surplus money can use it in this way to good advantage at this time.

Spur Drug Company, holiday goods.

Ed and Lee Bennett of Jones county were in Spur this week on a prospecting trip. We understand that they purchased lots at Girard and will probably locate at that place.

J. B. White has been spending the last few days riding over the snow covered country hunting horses. There are more lost and strayed horses out of Spur than any other place in the country. It is reported that some are turned lose and run off by unknown parties, and together with those which leave of their own accord makes the sum total great.

C. L. Love, manager of the J. A. Lambdin business at this place, left the latter part of the week to spend Christmas with his family at Stamford.

Mr. Eby and wife were in Spur Monday from Eby Camp on the big cut six miles east on the Stamford & Northwestern railroad. Work on the cut is still in progress and it will be sometime yet before the work is finished. This is one of the biggest cuts on this line of road.

See us for Posts, Sash, Doors, Lime, Cement

AND HIGH GRADE LUMBER

Richardson Lumber Company
J. V. McCORMICK, Manager

**We have just received a car of
New Furniture
and are now ready for business**

**WOULD BE PLEASED TO HAVE YOU TO
CALL AND LOOK THROUGH OUR STOCK**

If there is anything in our line you need, will appreciate a portion of your trade. We will carry a large stock of the 1910 Patterns of Wall Paper. Also a complete

STOCK OF UNDERTAKERS' SUPPLIES.

Campbell & Campbell

**Dunn Building, East Side Burlington Ave.
SPUR, TEXAS**

Spur Drug Company, holiday goods.

J. E. Sanders, Jr., left Spur Monday to spend the holidays with homefolks at Stamford.

Uncle Buck Hardin was in Monday from his place south of Spur.

Spur Drug Company, holiday goods.

W. J. Maben left this week to spend the holidays with his family at Rotan.

Mr. Edmond and A. Johnson were among those who attended the ball and entertainment Monday night at Dickens.

Clint Daken made a business trip Monday to Stamford.

Wat Johnson returned Monday from Stamford where he spent Sunday.

Spur Drug Company, holiday goods.

Jim Rice made a trip to Stamford Monday.

Spur Drug Company, New Year presents.

C. H. Allen and family left Tuesday to spend Christmas with relatives at Flomot.

Contractor Rice went to Stamford Monday to meet his wife who will spend the holidays with him in Spur.

Spur Drug Company, holiday goods.

Monday night a Modern Woodman Camp was organized in Spur, the meeting being held at the school house.

A. R. Fouts came up Monday from Rotan and spent several hours in Spur looking after his business at this place.

**R. L. KING
TINNER**

All Kinds of Tin Work, Roofing, Guttering, Well Casing, Tanks, Etc. All Work First-Class.

**There is a Watch
Repairer in Spur.**

I have located in Spur a branch jewelry store. It is my intention to put in a first-class stock of watches and jewelry in Spur and it will be my endeavor at all times to give you the best quality in jewelry at the lowest prices. We repair watches, clocks and jewelry of all kinds. All work guaranteed. My business here will be in charge of Mr. W. C. Grubben, a first-class watch repairer.

OWEN JEWELRY COMPANY
Located in Lambdin Dry Goods Store. **R. O. OWEN, Mgr.**

Elmer Hinds left this week for Gorman where he will spend Christmas with his brother and family.

Messrs. Cook and Kennedy left this week to spend the holidays with friends and relatives in Eastern Texas.

Spur Drug Company, holiday goods.

Mr. McAlister, who has been doing contract work in Spur, left this week to spend Christmas at Dallas.

Spur Drug Company, New Year presents.

Spur Drug Company, New Year presents.

Rev. Stewart was in Spur Monday from Dickens.

Spur Drug Company, holiday goods.

Attorney P. C. Maynard, of Dickens, was in Spur Monday. Messrs. Maynard and Bouldin, of Matador, will establish a law office in Spur at an early date.

A play was given by the Dickens school Monday night at the court house. The play was well rendered and enjoyed by a large audience, many of whom attended from Spur and the surrounding country. All report a nice time. After the court room was cleared and many enjoyed dancing until the wee sma' hours.

Spur Drug Company, New Year presents.

W. R. Wade returned this week from a trip to Rotan bringing back a load of his household goods with the intention of making Spur his permanent home.

Spur Drug Company, holiday goods.

Oscar Jackson returned last week from a business trip of several days to Plainview and other points on the Plains. Mr. Jackson is with the Jackson Realty Company, one of the leading firms of Spur and which does an extensive business in their line.

**W. C. BOWMAN
Lumber Company**

**LUMBER, SASH
DOORS, PAINT,**

And All Kinds Building Material.

East Side Barber Shop

TIDWELL & LEE, Props.

**We give you smooth shaves, up-to-date hair cuts
and first-class work in every respect.**

Kit Yates and family and Red Lane, of Rotan, moved this week to Girard where they will do carpenter work, having made contracts to put up several nice buildings at that place.

Spur Drug Company, holiday goods.

C. B. Cook came to Spur last week from Rotan and will be with the Spur Drug Company during the holidays.

Spur Drug Company, New Year presents.

N. V. Spear came over from Rule and assisted in the organization of a W. O. W. Camp in Spur Tuesday night.

Spur Drug Company, holiday goods.

Mr. Murray left this week to spend Christmas with homefolks at Merkel.

Spur Drug Company, New Year presents.

Judge Davis passed through Spur Monday on his way to Dickens.

NOTICE.

All parties now living in Spur are hereby notified that we have secured the services of a scavenger who will clean closets, keep streets, alleys and sidewalks clear of trash and rubbish. Everybody is expected to keep their premises clean and the scavenger is now at your service.

Respectfully,

J. M. BENNETT
Y. L. JONES
C. L. LOVE,

Street and Alley Committee.

WE ANNOUNCE

To the public that we are now putting in an exchange at Spur and that we propose to give service second to none. We have been in the telephone business in Dickens and adjoining counties since 1900, we have stayed with the people through the hard times and feel confident they will give us a fair share of their patronage in the future.

LUZON TELEPHONE CO.

B. F. Brock

**RESTAURANT
AND CAFE...**

**First-Class Meals 25 cts.
East side of Square,
Dickens, Texas.**

E. J. COWAN

**Fire Insurance
&
Notary Public**

LEGAL CONVEYANCES

**I Keep on hand a complete
supply of legal forms.**

MURRAY BROS.

ARTISANS

**BUILD ANYTHING YOU WANT
FROM BRICK, STONE OR CEMENT**

**Houses, Culverts, Chimneys, Cellars, Flues, Cesspools, Sidewalks, Cisterns
Sewers, Grain Bins, Silos, Henhouse, Barns, etc.**

WE BUILD THE BEST SIDE WALKS "WHAT IS" LET US SHOW YOU

Friday night the Spur country was visited by a light snow. No doubt the hunters of the country will avail themselves of this fine opportunity to have a chase with the hounds.

F. A. Sewell sold his shooting gallery this week and will hereafter do carpenter and contract work altogether.

WATER

When you want water hauled I will be glad to serve you. I give prompt service and will appreciate any and all favors shown me in the water supply business.

W. M. KIRKPATRICK

T. T. Bouldin P. C. Maynard
BOULDIN & MAYNARD,
ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW
Special attention given to examination of titles.
SPUR, TEXAS

B. F. EDWARDS,
VETERINARY SURGEON & DENTIST
Will be in Spur 2nd Saturday of each month. Bring your horses and have teeth worked over. Examination free. At livery stable or wagon yard. Work guaranteed

Judge Tackett of Knox City, and Miss Swan, of Dickens, were married Thursday at the latter place and came to Spur Friday. The newly married couple were chivareed here and the Judge treated the crowd to oranges, candy, etc. to the delight of all who participated in the festivities. The Texas Spur wishes Judge Tackett and wife many happy years of wedded life.

Spur Drug Company, holiday goods.

SILVER MOON

CAFE

W. D. CLAY, Prop.

**Regular Meals
Short Orders..**

FRUITS, CANDIES, CIGARS.

We keep on hand at all times fresh bread and will be glad to serve you and will appreciate your patronage. Call and see us on 5th Street, across the street from postoffice.

J. C. Asher, a prominent citizen of Clarendon, was here this week looking over his property with a view of building and making other improvements on same. Mr. Asher owns some very valuable property here and we are glad to note that he will make improvements thereon.

SPUR FARM LANDS

We Offer You a Choice From 673 Square Miles of Texas' most Productive Territory

Sold direct to the homeseeker, perfect title, no selling commission. We give full value for every dollar.

**\$12 to \$17.50
PER ACRE**

With some additions when close to town.

THE FARMERS' OPPORTUNITY.

**To Secure a
HOME.**

In The Richest Valleys And Uplands of Texas.

STATE EXPERIMENTAL FARM STATION AT SPUR.

Recognizing the great possibilities and wonderful future of Spur Farm Lands, the state has decided to place an Experimental Farm Station at Spur. This will be a great benefit to the settlers in this region, showing them by actual demonstrations on the lands what crops can be most profitably raised; best methods of cultivation, and assisting in all the problems of the farm. This decision was reached after a visit to the lands by Judge Ed R. Kone, Commissioner of Agriculture, and Dr. H. H. Harrington, Director of Experimental Stations, who recognize the unusual farming value

To the first comers, ready to develop, we are willing to sell one-half our holdings of 673 square miles on easy terms and reasonable prices. We reserve the other half for big increase sure to come with development. We stand shoulder to shoulder with the homeseeker.

Cotton, no boll weevil, corn, alfalfa, all feed stuffs, grains, fruits, melons, vegetables. Great hog country--no cholera ever known. The hog farmer is king, and nowhere can hogs be matured so cheaply. Quick run to Fort Worth market. Delightful, healthful climate--altitude 2,000 to 2,500 feet.

The great extent and variety of land insure the homeseeker such range of selection that the man early on the ground can find exactly what he wants.

For further information as to land and lots, with free illustrated pamphlet, see

**Chas. A. Jones, Manager for S. M. Swenson & Sons,
SPUR, DICKENS COUNTY, TEXAS**

CHRISTMAS TREE

At the Sunday school last Sunday afternoon it was decided to arrange for a Christmas tree on Friday night Dec. 24. The following committees were appointed:

To solicit funds, Mrs. Parks, Mrs. Scofield and Miss Pearl Blackwell.

To secure and erect tree: Gray Mathews, Herman Qumley, A. J. Tyler.

Program:

Miss Lilian Denton
Miss Ruth Atteberry
Wm. Jackson

Decoration:

Mrs. Bryant

Mrs. Broyles
Mrs. Parks.

The Superintendent of the Sunday school is to appoint later a committee to distribute presents.

Every body invited to bring their presents and attend.

The finest line of fruits, candies and cakes for Christmas at the Elite Cafe.

LOST.

One black horse branded T bar on left hip and one brown mule about four years old, horse and mule necked together when lost. Liberal reward if returned to owner, at Morrison Dry Goods.

W. E. CLARK.

Lucky is simply another name for a hustler. The man who waits for chances to bring him a fortune, waits in vain, ninety-nine times in every hundred while the man who hustles accumulates wealth and is termed lucky by his neighbors.—Shafter Lake Herald.

When a man labors for hire by the day, week, month or otherwise his time belongs exclusively to the man to whom he is hired. Stealing time is one of the most commonly practiced modes of theft with which the public is compelled to deal. It is not looked upon in that light and many a man who practices "soldiering on his job" as wasting time is called, would scorn the idea of pilfering 50 cents worth of sugar from anyone, but he does not dream it dishonorable to take back fifty cents worth of time for which he is receiving pay. If a man buys your time it belongs to him just as much so as does any article he may purchase.—Shafter Lake Herald.

J. B. GEORGE

**Contractor
&
Builder**

Plans and specifications
furnished on application.
Office at Richardson
Lumber Co.

The Western Hotel

BURLINGTON AVE., BLOCK 12.

First-Class accommodations and the very best service is extended guests.

MRS. MAHONE, Proprietor

SPUR, TEXAS

"The Store Ahead"

SPUR FURNITURE COMPANY

**The Home of the
SINGER SEWING MACHINE
Cash or Credit**

**For Bargains in Ranch
and Farm Lands and
CHOICE SPUR PROPERTY**

...SEE...

H. T. Burgoon,

Spur, Dickens County, Texas.

A Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

to one and to all

We wish to thank the people of Spur and Surrounding country for the most liberal patronage given us since opening up here, and the future we will be glad to serve you in dry goods and groceries

R. R. Morrison

Wm. JACKSON

OSCAR JACKSON

JACKSON REALTY CO.,

REAL ESTATE
& INSURANCE

Special attention paid to city property. Non-resident realty and insurance looked after.

Mr. Cates, who has been confined to his room and bed the past several weeks of typhoid fever, is reported doing nicely at this time, being able to sit up. We hope soon to report his complete recovery and see him on the streets of Spur again.

The Elite Cafe has the finest line of fruits, candies and fine cakes for Christmas.

EMMETT LEE

Carpenter & Contractor..

WORK GUARANTEED

Plans and Specifications Furnished

INTENSIVE FARMING.

The following is from the Dallas News:

The Wilmington N. C. Star is authority for the statement that intensive methods of farming have brought about a revolution in agriculture in North Carolina. The result has been a "tremendous increase in production per acre and in the value of farm lands." It is stated that formerly the yield of cotton, for instance, was about a third of a bale per acre, where as now, by the application of intensive methods, the same lands are producing "from two to four bales per acre." Commenting on this the San Antonio Express says: "Because of intelligent restoration of the soil, more through preparation and cultivation, more intelligent fertilization and rotation of crops, the lands which were at one time supposed to be practically worn out now produce far better than ever before, and the farmers have never been so prosperous, yet cotton constitutes but a small part of North Carolina's agriculture."

The Express then quotes from the Raleigh N. C. News and observes the following, which bears out the statement of the Wilmington contemporary:

More improvement has been made in farming in North Carolina than in any other line of effort. The farmers lead the procession. Wake has a farmer who expects to get 200 bushels of corn to one acre and another farmer who expects four bales of cotton to the acre. These are great expectations, but are not impossible. Intensive farming is the profitable farming.

Then the San Antonio contemporary quotes another North Carolina paper to the effect that "Another North Carolina paper

reports that a farmer in Union county who raises two bales to the acre went to Wake county to see about the greater success of another farmer. On his return he reported that W. A. Simpkins four miles southwest of Raleigh, will raise eight bales of cotton on two acres, and on fifty acres more will get 100 bales. The farmer explained that Mr. Simpkins selected the seeds from the finest stalks on his 'brag patch' with which to plant the following season. The Union county farmer got ten bales from four acres this year, notwithstanding a drouth which injured his crop, and says he has set his pegs for four bales to the acre next year." The Express adds:

Here is something for Texas cotton growers to think over. It is not because the Texas cotton land is inferior to any other in the world that the productiveness is dwarfed by comparison with the results noted in one of the older states. It is not the fault of the land but of the methods.

Mrs. W. J. Maben, of Rotan, came up this week with her father, Rev. Owen, and will spend the holidays with Bud Morrison and family of several miles southwest of Spur.

Since his arrival Rev. Owen has been quite sick, and being aged considerable uneasiness is felt by friends and relatives.

L. H. Edwards Restaurant

The best meal in town for 30 cents, Short orders at all hours Lunches put up for travelers

...CALL & SEE us...

1 Block West of Postoffice
SPUR TEXAS

Spur Grain Co.

GRAIN, HAY
AND COAL...

Highest Prices Paid For Hides.

H. K. PARKS

Up-to-Date Livery
and Feed Stable...

SPUR,

TEXAS

A Woman Hung

her arms around her Husbands neck begging him to get some of those bargains in Glass ware and New and Second-hand furniture and goods at.

Clingan & Douthit

5TH STREET, SPUR, TEXAS

J. W. Davenport, F. A. Sewell
H. C. Power, R. L. Smithers an,
Mr. Scott made a trip to the town
Spur. - Post City Post.

For wall paper of the latest designs see
CAMPBELL & CAMPBELL.

Fresh fruits and nuts of 112 kinds at Elite Cafe.

GOOD LUCK TO YOU

IF YOU BUY FROM

Bryant-Link Company

We carry a complete line of Dry Goods, Groceries, Hardware, etc.

HAVE JUST RECEIVED A FULL LINE OF CALICOS, GINGHAMS, DOMESTICS, ETC.

**We Sell
The Keen Kutter Line**

JUST RECEIVED A FRESH CAR OF THE BUTTES EXCELLANCE FLOUR.

We carry a full stock of the celebrated Schwab Clothing.

YOURS FOR TRADE,

BRYANT-LINK COMPANY

Barber & Hancock

**STAPLE & FANCY
GROCERIES**

Your Patronage is Solicited
and will be appreciated.

SPUR, - - - TEXAS

Are You Going to Build?

There are a number of things to consider when you go to build a house. The first thing to consider is the place to get lumber, and your selection of a place to purchase material should always be from the very best and most reliable lumber men, a firm that will give you what you need and want. The next consideration is the price, and in price and quality of material we can not be beat anywhere by any firm. we have a large stock of lumber and building material of all kinds and will be glad to supply you in our line and will at all times give the very best service, the very best material and the very best prices.

CAYLOR-LEARD LBR. CO.

SIMMONS & WILLIAMS

DRAY AND BAGGAGE

Meet all trains and give prompt service. Safe moving and heavy hauling a specialty.

The finest line of fruits, candies and cakes for Christmas at the Elite Cafe.

W. J. Maben is spending the holidays with Bud Morrison and family of near Spur.

G. W. Robertson, of Como, was in Spur this week looking over the town and while here called in and had the Texas Spur sent to his address.

P. H. Bessier, of Fredrick, Oklahoma, was in Spur this week with a view of locating here. He had the Texas Spur sent to his address and we hope within a short time to convince him that he will make no mistake in locating at Spur.

The finest line of fruits, candies and cakes for Christmas at the Elite Cafe.

J. W. Hilton, teacher of the Croton school, and Miss Ethel Loyd, of Afton, will be married Sunday evening. The many friends of the parties congratulate and wish them a long and happy wedded life.

J. M. Bennett spent Sunday in Stamford with his family.

Miss Jesse Blackwell was among those who attended the entertainment and ball Monday night at Dickens.

J. P. Williams left Thursday for Rule where he will spend the holidays.

G. Romney, of Montana, spent several days this week in Spur. Mr. Romney is a traveling advertising man and had a card printed for Spur business men.

Judge W. L. Morris, M. R. Price and G. A. Housley, of Albany, were visitors Sunday to J. P. and family of Spur.

For Bargains in Town Property, Farms and Ranches

CALL ON THE

W. F. Godfrey Realty Co.

SPUR, DICKENS COUNTY, TEXAS.

Wall Paper

A Complete Stock of Wall Paper is now on the road to Spur. Will be located until January 1st in Barber & Hancock grocery store.

Scofield Paint & Wall Paper Co.

F. A. SEWELL

Cabinet Maker and
Carpenter, Contractor

HIGH GRADE WORK A SPECIALTY

All work guaranteed satisfactory. A liberal share of patronage solicited. Call on or write me at Spur, Texas.