

WE EXTEND OUR VERY BEST WISHES TO EACH AND EVERY READER OF THIS PAPER, AND MAY THE NEW BRING HAPPINESS AND PROSPERITY TO EVERY ONE.

SPUR THE BEST MARKET.

# The Texas Spur

## AND DICKENS ITEM

HAVE YOU BOUGHT  
YOUR  
THRIFT STAMP TODAY?  
SAVE AND SUCCEED!

Volume Ten

SPUR, DICKENS COUNTY, TEXAS, JANUARY 2, 1920

Number 9

## Electric Lamps

OF THE FOLLOWING SIZES AND PRICES ARE CARRIED IN OUR STOCK AT THE PLANT AND WE WILL BE GLAD TO DELIVER ANY NUMBER THAT YOU MAY NEED. WE HANDLE ONLY THE EDISON MAZDA LAMPS AND KNOW THAT THEY WILL DELIVER THE KIND OF SERVICE YOU WANT.

15 Watt Edison Mazda Lamps, 35c.  
25 " 22 " Mazda Lamps, 35c  
40 Watt Edison Mazda Lamps, 35c.  
50 Watt Edison Mazda Lamps, 45c.  
60 Watt Edison Mazda Lamps, 45c.  
75 Watt Edison Mazda C Lamps, 75c.  
100 Watt Edison Mazda C Lamp, 1.10

SEND OR TELEPHONE YOUR ORDER TODAY, TO

## SPUR LIGHT & POWER COM'Y.

The Home of The Edison  
Mazda Lamps in  
Spur.

### G. B. JOPLING ANNOUNCES FOR RE-ELECTION FOR ASSESSOR

The Texas Spur is this week authorized to announce G. B. Jopling as a candidate for re-election to the office of tax assessor of Dickens county, subject of course to the action of the democratic primary elections in July.

In giving us the announcement Mr. Jopling only told us to state that he would appreciate very much having the office another term, and if voters again favored him with the place he would give the best possible service.

During the time Mr. Jopling has held the office, he has performed the duties of the office promptly, accurately and satisfactorily in every instance. In preparing the tax rolls his work has been neat and accurate, having been complimented by both the commissioners' court and the state comptroller's department.

On account of physical disabilities Mr. Jopling is not in a position to do every character of manual labor, but he can perform the duties of tax assessor ably and efficiently, and will appreciate any consideration shown him by voters.

### A CHRISTMAS MARRIAGE.

Roy McDaniel and Miss Maude Garrett, of Dumont, were married Christmas day at Dickens. The Texas Spur extends congratulations to Mr and Mrs. McDaniel, and may their journey over the matrimonial sea ever be as bright as the day, and their lives as merry as the season in which they were wed.

## Ginning Cotton Is Our Business

WE ARE NOW READY TO GIN AND WILL APPRECIATE A PART OF YOUR BUSINESS. WHEN YOU COME TO SPUR WITH COTTON, REMEMBER

## Farmers Gin Co.,

SPUR, TEXAS

### THE J. C. DAVIS WELL IS NOW SHOWING CONSIDERABLE GAS

At a depth of only three hundred fifty feet the J. C. Davis well five miles northeast of Spur has been smoking gas for several days. This gas is coming up through two hundred feet of water and slush. It is not strong enough to make the water flow from the hole, but rises four or five feet above the mouth of the well.

The drillers are now equipped with casing and fuel and the work is expected to progress rapidly and uninterruptedly in the future. Another driller, we are told, will arrive this week and two crews will be employed to carry on the work day and night.

During the holidays an old and experienced driller was here and after looking over the situation here, stated that in his opinion this immediate territory would develop into a big gas field at an approximate depth of eight-hundred feet.

During the past ten years the Spur country has made wonderful developments in agricultural and livestock advancement. In fact the progress made along these lines has been unprecedented, but we firmly believe that it will not compare with the advancement to be made in 1920. The work of developing our underground resources has just commenced, and it is our firm conviction that undreamed of wealth will be the result.

### OTHO L. HALE SOLD AFTON BUSINESS TO A. D. BIVINS & CO.

Otho L. Hale recently sold his Afton business including hardware and groceries to A. D. Bivins & Company who now have charge of the business. Mr. Hale will now devote his time to his grocery business in Spur.

Afton is one of the best inland business points in the country. Mr. Hale enjoyed an extensive business, and no doubt A. D. Bivins & Company will be accorded the same liberal patronage.

### DICKENS COUNTY SINGING CONVENTION AT ESPUELA 10TH

The Dickens County Singing Convention will meet with the Espuela Singing Class Saturday, January 10th and Sunday, the 11th.

Everybody, and especially singers, are invited to attend, and a large attendance is expected.

### JACK HOGAN RUN OVER BY CAR DURING THE HOLIDAYS

Little Jack Hogan, son of Mr. and Mrs. Cephus Hogan, came near losing his life during the holiday rush in Spur, by being run over by an automobile. Jack, in watching for an opportunity to cross the street, darted out just as a car passed, failing to see another car approaching. The struck him, throwing him on the street and running over his foot and arm. In falling his head struck the ground, knocking him unconscious, and for a time it was feared that his skull was cracked. Vernon Shields, of Dickens was driving the car, stopping almost as soon as the car struck the boy.

Jack was able to sit up on Christmas day and is now almost completely recovered.

### FISHER COUNTY IS ALSO DEVELOPING MINERAL RESOURCES

L. H. Gilbert, wife and daughter, Bonnie, returned the first of this week from Rotan where they have been visiting relatives and friends during the holidays. Mr. Gilbert states that in the Rotan country there are at least eight deep test wells now drilling for oil, some of the number being down a considerable depth. The Rotan country is rich in agricultural resources, and we will bet that it is also rich in underground resources. The year 1920 will be the biggest year in the history of West Texas in development progress, especially so with respect to oil and mineral development. We verily believe that this section of country, along the foot of the Cap Rock of the Great Staked Plains, will develop into the richest country in the world.

### SPUR SCHOOLS BEGIN MONDAY AFTER 2 WEEKS INTERMISSION

After a two weeks intermission for the holidays and also for the teachers institute held at Aspermont, the Spur Schools again resumed its duties Monday of this week.

Many more pupils were added to the classes, and the whole of Monday was taken up in classifying these new pupils by the teachers. This delay in entering school on the part of pupils was caused by the lack of labor for cotton picking throughout the country. The compulsory attendance law will probably be enforced after this date.

## Better Tailors Better Service

CLEANING,  
PRESSING,  
ALTERING,

Phone 18

THE SPUR TAILOR SHOP  
IRA SULLIVAN, Prop.

### W. M. LEDFORD SOLD PLACE AND BUYS TOWN PROPERTY

Last week Mrs. Kate Buchanan purchased of W. M. Ledford his twenty acre suburban home west of Spur, the consideration being four thousand dollars cash. Mrs. Buchanan will move soon and make the place her permanent home.

Mr. Ledford has purchased the Mrs. Samantha Smith residence property in the west part of Spur, and is now making additions to the house and other improvements on the property.

### THE BON TON CAFE AGAIN CHANGED HANDS WEDNESDAY

Wednesday a sale was consummated between Messrs Wright and J. C. Miller whereby the latter came into possession of the Bon Ton Cafe, formerly owned and operated for a number of years by J. W. Dunn. Mr. Miller now has charge of the business.

During the past month or two and since Mr. Dunn sold out this restaurant business, it has changed hands at least a half dozen times. Other restaurants of the town have also been changing hands frequently, all of which indicates that the restaurant business in Spur is desirable property, at least for exchange purposes.

### GREETINGS.

To our many friends in Dickens and adjoining counties, we wish to extend the heartiest greetings. We want to thank you for having helped to make the past year the reatest in our years in Spur. We have passed by many troubles in our line of business and have many yet to encounter. We have met these troubles as best possible, and will strive to handle those et to come as best we know how in the future. It will be our greatest desire to please and promote the welfare of our friends and patrons. The writer, with thirty five years in the dry goods business, wishes to state that with the selling of goods in ten different states, can frankly state that he has more real pleasure in the line in Dickens county than any section he has yet visited. Taking the rank and file of the population of this section, and but few sections of any state rank with our inhabitants.

Respectfully yours,  
LOVE DRY GOODS CO.  
C. L. Love, Prop.

J. H. Jones, of the Highway section, was among those in town Tuesday.

## SOLDIERS Cash Grocery

SPUR HARDWARE & FURNITURE COMPANY B'LDG.

DURING THE PAST FOUR MONTHS OF OUR BUSINESS IN SPUR, WE HAVE BEEN MORE THAN PLEASED WITH THE PATRONAGE WE HAVE RECEIVED. WE HAVE STRIVEN TO PLEASE YOU IN BOTH DEPENDABLE MERCHANDISE AND SERVICE. WE ARE BETTER PREPARED THAN EVER TO SERVE YOU DURING THE NEW YEAR. OUR STOCK IS NEW AND COMPLETE AND OUR PRICES ARE RIGHT.

Make Your Arrangements This Year to Pay Cash and Save Money!

NEW CAR OF SMITHS BEST FLOUR COMING. OVER HALF OF IT ALREADY SOLD. WHEN WE SELL A SACK OF THIS FLOUR WE KNOW WE HAVE MADE A PERMANENT CUSTOMER. IT IS BETTER THAN YOU CAN BUY ELSEWHERE OR YOUR MONEY BACK.

Make Our Store Your Store During The New Year!

## Soldiers Cash Grocery

H. G. PERRY, Manager  
Spur Hardware & Furniture Company Building, Spur.

### SPUR CITIZEN MARRIES YOUNG LADY IN KANSAS CITY

A few weeks ago P. L. Marshall and L. W. Moore, of Spur, went out to Kansas City to take a course in an automobile and tractor school. On the 12th day of December Mr. Moore was married to the superintendent of the school. He has now quit school

and is helping his wife in the office. He says he likes Kansas City fine and intends to make it his home.—E. J. Sweeney of the Sweeney Auto and Tractor School, Kansas City.

Miss Gussie Love, who is attending the Presbyterian College at Milford, spent the holiday season in Spur with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Love.

FARM LOANS

RANCH LOANS

## 6 Per Cent Interest

Will loan you 50 per cent of appraised value of land, plus 20 per cent of insurable value of buildings, at 6 per cent interest. Why pay that extra 2 per cent?

## C. Earyl Senning

LOANS

INSURANCE

# 1920 Opening 1920

WITH THIS THE FIRST ISSUE OF THIS PAPER FOR THE YEAR 1920, WE WISH TO CONVEY THE NEWS THAT WE ARE ON THE JOB! WE ARE WELL STOCKED WITH MERCHANDISE OF A RELIABLE KIND. WE ARE NOW BETTER ABLE TO SERVE YOUR NEEDS IN SOME LINES THAN AT ANY PERIOD OF THE FALL AND WINTER SEASON. WE RECEIVED BIG SHIPMENTS OF STAPLE GOODS ON THE 24TH OF THIS PAST MONTH, AND ARE IN A POSITION TO SAVE YOU MONEY ON SAME. YOU LIKELY REALIZE AS THE BUYER THAT GOODS ARE NOT GOING TO BE CHEAP FOR SEVERAL YEARS TO COME. THE FACTS ARE THAT THE EARLY BUYERS GET THE CREAM, AND BY THE EARLY PURCHASE OF THESE GOODS YOU GET THEM ON THE BASIS OF SIX MONTHS AGO.

## Better Get Wise to These Facts It's Worth While!

JUST RECEIVED LAST WEEK, TEN LADIES COATS THAT WE CAN SAVE YOU 33 1-3 PER CENT ON. BIG LINE OF STANDARD CORDUROY SUITS JUST ARRIVED, ALSO THE BEST KHAKI PANT IN DICKENS COUNTY FOR THE PRICE, \$3.00 PER PAIR. WE ARE ALSO SELLING YOU THE BEST OVERALL TO BE HAD AT THE PRICE. ALSO SWEATERS, WORK SHIRTS, AND UNDERWEAR, DRESS OR WORK GLOVES, LADIES WORK OR DRESS SHOES, AS WELL AS FOR THE MAN OR BOY. WE ARE GOING TO MAINTAIN THE NAME OF THIS STORE. WE ARE KNOWN BY THE PUBLIC AS THE "LIVE WIRES." IT TAKES THIS KIND OF PEP TO MAKE GOOD THESE DAYS, AND YOU WILL FIND THIS STORE WITH THE "NEW" WHEN IT IS TURNED OFF THE REEL.

Better Goods at Correct Prices is what we Both Want, and  
That is The Thing we Deal in

# LOVE DRY GOODS COMP'Y.

SPUR, TEXAS

"THE STORE WITH THE PEP"

SPUR, TEXAS

A. W. Jordan, of Steel Hill, was in town the first of the week. Mr. Jordan has already picked out one hundred and twenty five bales of cotton on his place and will get at least twenty five bales more. A hundred and fifty bales of cotton this year represents about thirty thousand dollars. This used to be some money, but in these days it wont carry a man very far if he enjoys many luxuries.

Cecil Bennett, who is now living in the Steel Hill community, was in the city last week trading and meeting his friends. Cecil is now preparing to farm another year, and we hope he makes a bumper crop.

W. E. Gates, of Afton, was a business visitor in Spur Tuesday.

I have bought the O. K. Wagon Yard and will be at the yard day and night to supply you with all kinds of feed, and furnish conveniences for you. Stop with new hen in Spur and I will appreciate it and give you the best service I know how.—A. G. Rush. 5 4tp

M. C. Hobson and family, of the Soldier Mound community, left last week for Olden where they will farm another year. Most people go to the oil fields to speculate, but not so with Mr. Hobson—he is going to work to get some of the surface riches.

Charlie Rich returned this week from Knox county where he has been visiting with relatives through the holiday season.

Clyde Hindman came down from Roaring Springs one day the past week to look over our oil field prospects, he having heard the report of finding gas in the J. C. Davis well. Mr. Hindman wanted to "get in" on the ground floor and we hope that he will realize thousands out of any investment that he may make here.

Here is your opportunity to more than double your money by buying three fine business lots at a bargain on eas terms, located on Burlington Ave. facing east in block just in front of Spur Inn, Nos. 11, 12 and 19. Make me an offer, have got to sell.—F. T. Rennie, Galveston, Texas. 6 4t

Mrs. L. A. Hindman left recently for Carlsbad where she will remain some time for her health and for treatment. During her absence Mr. Hindman and he boys are making their home in town at the New Western Hotel. We hope that Mrs. Hindman will soon return home completely recovered.

C. L. Glynn, who represents the Federal Land Bank of Houston, Texas, left a number of blank applications with G. L. Crawford who will be glad to assist in making same out for farmers desiring loans from said bank.—C. L. Glynn, Matador, Texas. 7tf

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Foster were in the city Wednesday of this week from their ranch home six miles west of Spur, spending several hours here on business and shopping with merchants of the city.

A. J. and A. E. Huckabee, of the plains country, were business visitors in Spur the first of this week. They report having their cotton crops just about gathered and are now preparing to make another bumper in 1920.

Al Sullivan came in Saturday from the Duck Creek country, spending a short time here attending to business matters and meeting his friends.

Mr. Brownlow recently moved to his farm near McAdoo from Oklahoma. He is now making preparations for extensive farming during the year 1920.

R. R. Wooten, of the plains country near McAdoo, was in Spur trading during the holidays. He reports everything in fine shape on the plains.

W. S. Hunter came in Saturday from the Duck Creek country. Mr. Hunter made good crops this year not only of cotton, but corn, feed and a variety of garden truck. He cleared some good money from his one year of farming operations.

TURKEYS FOR SALE. Full Bourbon Red Turkeys, \$5.00 for hens, and \$6.00 for toms.—Mrs. R. F. Rogers, Spur, Texas. 5 4tp

G. B. Davis is at home for a few days. He has been down in the San Angelo country wher he is now closing a deal for a sheep ranch. He expects to return at an early date and take charge of the ranch which includes several hundred head of sheep and a several years lease on hundreds of acres of grass land fenced for the sheep business. For some time Mr. Davis has been in the oil fieds looking for speculative money. We imagine that this sheep business will prove more remunerative—at least it will be a safer if slower investment.

W. T. Lovell came in Wednesday of this week and spent a short time time in town. He failed to call around at the Texas Spur office. However, we went out and looked him up to get our regular weekly cigar.

Mr. Ferrell, of the Espuela section of country, was in Spur the latter part of the past week trading and greeting his friends. He made good crops this year and is now preparing to do more extensive farming another year. With another one or two years as prosperous and productive as 1919 and the farmers of this country will be the richest people in the world.

W. F. Godfrey returned last week from Paducah where he was called on account of the illness of his father. His father's condition is reported much improved, we are glad to announce.

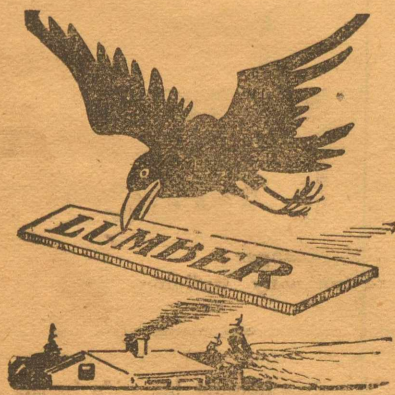
FOR SALE—Two young work mules for sale cheap. See H. A. C. Brummett, Spur, Texas. 5 2t

## The Allied Bakery

Airplane  
Quality



Submarine  
Prices



THE BILL  
for that lumber you contemplate buying will be reasonably sized one if you purchase of us. Ask the contractors and home builders in this community about the quality of lumber and fairness of our methods.

BRAZELTON LUMBER COMPANY

## THE NEW OAKLAND

LET US DEMONSTRATE TO YOU ONE OF THE LIGHTEST, NEATEST AND MOST ECONOMICAL SIX CYLINDER CARS ON THE MARKET.

OUR BATTERY DEPARTMENT WILL TAKE CARE OF YOUR BATTERY TROUBLES.

THE SAME RELIABLE WORKMANSHIP IN OUR SHOPS WILL CONTINUE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

## CITIZENS GARAGE

SPUR, TEXAS

BEST SERVICE

## Lumber

SHINGLES, WINDOWS, DOORS,  
BRICK, LIME, CEMENT, PAINTS

POSTS COAL

## P. H. Miller

Spur, Girard, Jayton, Peacock, and Swenson.

**CROTON ITEMS.**

Dear Editor, I will attempt to make another step toward the goal of literary fame by giving you the holiday happenings.

The Christmas tree on Wednesday night was attended by a large and merry crowd. A short program was rendered by the young people, and old Santa Claus came just at the right time to start the ball rolling. Several of the old timers reported it to be the best tree and most beautiful one that we have ever had on Croton.

After the Christmas tree, every one was invited to a party at Mr. Allen's home, being attended by a large crowd and enjoyed by all present.

Christmas day dawned as clear and warm as an summer day. A longing came over me for a plunge in the old swimming hole, but however at twelve o'clock I found myself at the home of Mrs. A. A. Allen, seated before one of the most sumptuous Christmas dinners that I have ever seen. The Knight of The Square Circle joins the many friends in thanking Mrs. Allen and Miss Mabel Crabtree for their dinner and hope that they will give another one next Christmas.

Mr. Alec Winkler happened to a serious accident on Christmas day. He went to crank his jitney and it kicked him, breaking his arm just above the wrist. We hear he is doing nicely and we wish him a speedy recovery.

The other night at prayer meeting considerable excitement was created by Mr. Terry's bull dog which ate up Bob Allen's overshoe and then attacked a little boy. However, the little boy was not bitten very badly. Mr. Editor, when all of this excitement happened, I unsheathed my mighty lance and strode forth to do battle with the monster bull dog. But just as I started to strike the death dealing blow, the terrifying thought came to my mind: If that dog could eat up Bob Allen's overshoe and still live, surely his life was charmed, so the lance fell from my trembling fingers and I sought higher round up among the regions of the rafters.

The Knight of the Square Circle would suggest to Mr. Terry that he teach his bull dog that overshoes are to wear on his feet and not in his stomach.

Mr. Martin Koonsman is spending Christmas with his folks and friends on Croton.

Mr. Ansel Jackson and bride, from Jones county, are spending their honeymoon and the holidays with their relatives and friends on Croton.

The young people enjoyed a party at L. G. Crabtree's Thursday night, and one at S. L. Porter's Saturday night.

Saturday night as Homer Jackson was returning home he ran over and broke off Mr. Crabtree's gate post. Some one remarked that he had been up so much lately that he must have been asleep, but I have often heard that love is blind.

Mr. Joe Offield and Miss Owena Youngblood were married Christmas day.

Aley Allen made a flying trip to Midway Wednesday. If anybody wants to know what he went for, ask Victor Crabtree.

Everybody was surprised Sunday evening when they heard that Willie Bowens and Miss Lina Lunnam were married.

Well, dear editor, I hope that Santa brought you a printer for a Christmas present, and that you will have the best of luck the coming year.—The Knight of The Square Circle.

Thank you, Knight of The Square Circle, for your good wishes. We have a printer coming, to be here on the 10th, so the world looks brighter on this New Year's day. In 1920 we are going to give you a better paper than ever before. Keep on coming with the Croton news.—Ed.

Rev. J. V. Bilberry, who is now living in Arkansas, spent the holidays in Spur visiting with relatives and his friends, and also looking after business matters. He started back home Wednesday of this week, and before leaving called in and handed us the where-withal to extend his subscription another year, and wishing us the compliments of the season. Rev. Bilberry is apparently contented in his Arkansas home, but it is our observation that when one once breathes the free ozone of the west and becomes somewhat acclimated, he will eventually return. Rev. Bilberry will find a hearty welcome awaiting him here when that western longing takes possession of him.

1920  
Bert Duncan and family left Thursday of this week for Caddo where they will live in the future. Mr. Duncan sold his farm on Croton to Mr. Youngblood. Bert Duncan is a good citizen and we regret to see him leave Dickens county, but wish him much prosperity in his new home.

1920  
W. H. Taylor was here Thursday from Duck Creek. He says he can now look every man straight in the eye, since he owns no one. We would like to know just how a man feels when he owns not a cent.

1920  
Mrs. Sanders, of Albany, spent the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. R. Bowman of several miles north of Spur.

1920  
Webster Williams, of Angleton, is here spending the holidays with his sister, Mrs. W. S. Campbell.

1920  
Carpenters Wanted by J. E. Sanders, contractor. 3tf

# Resolved...

AS WE STAND ON THE THRESHOLD OF A NEW YEAR, TO STRIVE EARNESTLY AND IN EVERY WAY THAT LIES WITHIN OUR POWER FOR BIGGER, BETTER WORK AND SERVICE, AND WITH NEW ENTHUSIASM AND UNBOUNDED FAITH IN THE FUTURE TO DO OUR FULL SHARE IN MAKING THIS YEAR OF 1920 THE BIGGEST AND BEST IN OUR HISTORY.

IN A SPIRIT OF CO-OPERATION WE INVITE YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT AND CONFIDENCE AND WISH FOR YOU AND THOSE NEAR AND DEAR TO YOU A YEAR OF HAPPINESS AND PROSPERITY.

# The Spur National Bank

M. H. LEE, V. P & CASHIER

W. J. Clark was in town Saturday from the Midway community, reporting everything all right in that section of country.

1920  
G. A. Howsley returned Tuesday from Albany where he spent Christmas with his family.

1920  
T. G. Bass, of Dry Lake, was among the business visitors in town Monday of this week.

1920  
P. E. Hagins was in town Saturday from Gilpin.

J. B. Morrison was in Wednesday. He is hauling in the fleecy staple from his farm and ranch. He made lots of cotton this year, and when it is all sold we venture he will have some bank account.

1920  
Mrs. Durham Thomas and children returned this week from a visit to relatives and friends in Haskell and other adjoining counties.

1920  
Mrs. M. H. Lee and children are spending the holidays in Munday with relatives and friends.

E. L. Williams, of Afton, was a very pleasant caller at the Texas Spur office the first of the week. He had just recently returned from a visit to relatives and friends in the eastern part of the state.

1920  
Dr. Hale was in Spur Wednesday from Dickens, spending an hour or two here greeting friends and on business.

1920  
Dr. Blackwell, of Dickens, was in Spur Wednesday greeting friends and on business.

# ...The Franklin Car...

EVERY LITTLE WHILE A FRANKLIN CAR IN SOME SECTION OF THE COUNTRY SETS A NEW ROAD RECORD OR MAKES A CLEAN SWEEP OF AN ECONOMY OR RELIABILITY EVENT. RECENTLY FRANKLIN DRIVERS HAVE MADE NUMEROUS 24 - H O U R RUNS AND LONG DISTANCE TRIPS WHICH PROVE THAT THE FRANKLIN CAR IS UNSURPASSED AT PILING UP LARGE MILEAGE IN A DAY'S DRIVING—OVER AVERAGE HIGHWAYS OR OVER ALL DIRT ROADS. HERE ARE THE RECORDS:

865.4 miles in 24 hours—R. H. Cramer  
832.6 miles in 24 hours—Will Diddel  
808.9 miles in 24 hours—P. A. Pfohl  
746.1 miles in 24 hours—J. H. Manion  
729.5 miles in 24 hours—J. T. Peacha  
725.2 miles in 24 hours—L. W. Snotin  
693 miles in 24 hours—Mrs. R. G. Reed  
406.3 miles in 12 hours in a Brougham

Mrs. O. C. Belt.  
New York to Montreal, 9 hours 59 minutes—J. W. Banks.  
Round trip between New York and Boston, 12 hours 5 minutes.  
New York to Albany, 3 hours 30 min.  
Cincinnati to Cleveland and back in 15 hours 45 minutes.

MAKING TIME IN A FRANKLIN DOES NOT CONSIST IN SPURTS OF 60 TO 70 MILES AN HOUR OVER EVERY STRAIGHT STRETCH OF GOOD ROAD, ALTERNATING WITH LONG STRETCHES OF ANNOYING SLOWNESS OVER ROADS NOT FAVORABLE. THE SECRET OF THE FRANKLIN CAR'S ABILITY TO MAKE FASTER AVERAGE TIME OVER LONGER DISTANCES THAN ANY OTHER CAR IS SIMPLY THAT THE POWER OF THE FRANKLIN CAR IS NOT HANDICAPPED BY HEAVY WEIGHT OR RIGIDITY AND THEIR ATTENDANT DANGERS, DRIVING STRAIN AND DISCOMFORT. THE LIGHT WEIGHT AND FLEXIBLY BUILT FRANKLIN HOLDS THE RECORD ON ROADS AT ALL SPEEDS, HUGS THE TURNS, SMOOTHS OUT THE ROUGH STRETCHES AND IS PRACTICALLY NEVER HELD UP BY TIRE ACCIDENTS.

# E. L. Caraway, Dealer, Spur

BUICKS AND FRANKLINS

**DRAPER.**

Sure, we are having some fine weather.

W. D. Thacker went to Spur Saturday and brought back a load of cotton pickers.

Jim Webb, who has been staying with W. T. Lovell for the past two or three weeks, returned to Austin last week.

Mrs. H. B. Lewis and Mrs. W. T. Lovell were in Spur shopping last week.

Mr. J. A. Marchison and wife spent a busy day in Spur last week, meeting old friends and trading.

Prof. Matthews is spending the holidays with Charlie Perrin and family. Sylvester Lovell is spending the holidays with his parents.

We understand that Prof. Matthews is going to teach the Midway school. We congratulate the Midwayans, for they have a teacher second to none, and a man of sterling qualities.

We suppose Charlie Perrin can't get used to the harness, for they say he keeps "backing out" in his land trade.

Alfred Jackson went to Mexico the other day and when he came back he was driving a new jitney. Wonder where he got it?

Miss Lillie Rogers is visiting her sister, Mrs. Alfred Jackson.

J. R. Rogers was back from Mexico a few days ago and says everything is in good shape out there.

Bad colds seem to be the fashion these days, and everybody is sneezing. Cotton picking is about over, so come on, correspondents, and let's make our editor work some.

**RAMBLING BILL**

1920

**ESPEULA ITEMS.**

Brother Anderson preached here Sunday, he having changed his preaching dates from the fourth to the third Sunday in each month. Everybody is invited to attend. Come!

Miss Edna Perry, of Dumont, is visiting the Misses Holloway at present. We are informed that she will extend her visit until after the holidays.

Mrs. N. A. Hinson and family spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Carleton.

Mrs. J. C. Selman attended church here Sunday.

The baby of Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Foreman has been on the sick list for the past week. We are hoping for its recovery.

Sim Stevens and wife attended church Sunday night.

The party at Mr. and Mrs. Bill Holloway's Friday night was greatly enjoyed. We hope for another one there soon.

Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Miller and son, made a fine trip to Spur Sunday.

Mr. R. E. Thomas and family, also Miss Zora Mae Miller, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Luce of Spur.

Mr. Hubert Karr, Misses Beal Karr and Eula Shockley attended the movies at Spur Saturday night.

Ralph Karr and wife were the supper guests of Mrs. M. C. Hobson Sunday.

Messrs. Willie Smith and Clifford Cobb attended church here Sunday night.

Misses Stella Holloway, Zora Holloway, Willie Emert and Edna Perry were the dinner guests of Miss Lucile Miller Sunday.

Mr. Elby Stevens looked rather lonely Sunday. Wonder why? There were plenty girls at church.

Misses Jonnie Carleton, Beula Bilberry and Mr. Garvie Boothe and Erlon Boling all went on a kodaking spree Sunday afternoon.

Miss Mabel Thomas was the supper guest of Miss Zora Miller Sunday.

Mr. Earl Carleton attended church Sunday.

Mr. Ira Hobson and Miss Eula Shockley attended church Sunday at night.

Mrs. Selmon spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Jenkins.

Misses Marie and Alla Smith attended church here Sunday night.

Messrs. Albert Puckett and Carl Tree, and Misses Stella Holloway and Willie Emert attended church Sunday night.

A very noted speech was made Sunday night by Mr. R. E. Thomas.

Mr. R. F. Keene and family attended the afternoon Sunday school.

Mr. Coyce Alldridge, of Highway was over at Espuela Sunday.

Mr. John Earnest was at church Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. R. C. James attended the afternoon Sunday school.

Miss Lillie Mings came to church Sunday.

Mr. Wm. A. Smith and wife attended church in Spur Sunday.

Miss Lillie Hobson was at church Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Carleton attended church Sunday night.

The Espuela school will start the 5th day of January.

Wishing each and every one a joyful Christmas and a happy New Year.—ESPEULA TWINS.

H. C. Parsons, of the Watson community, called in this week and had the Texas Spur sent to his daughter, Mrs. Walker, as a Christmas present. A subscription to the home paper is a most appropriate gift, because it will be a weekly reminder of home and home people.

1920

John McMath sent us in the required amount for the Star Telegram—at the thirteenth hour to get in on the bargain day rates.

1920

D. J. Gilbert, of the Twin Wells, was a business visitor in town one day this week.

**THE TEXAS SPUR**  
PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY

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ORAN McCLURE, Publisher.

FOUR ISSUES COUNT A MONTH

Friday, January 2nd, 1920.

**DEMOCRATIC ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Texas Spur is authorized to announce the following candidates for office, subject to the Democratic Primaries to be held in July, 1920:

For District and County Clerk:

O. C. ARTHUR  
S. L. DAVIS

For County Judge:

CHAS. McLAUGHLIN  
F. N. OLIVER

For Tax Assessor:

G. B. JOPLING

**SHALL DICKENS COUNTY DISPENSE WITH COUNTY AGENT**

We understand that there is a move on foot to dispense with the work of the Dickens County Farm Agent, and that there is now being circulated a petition asking the commissioners' court to discontinue this work.

Presumably this is being done for the sake of economy in conserving the county funds, since the County Agent is paid twelve hundred dollars a year and his assistant approximately one thousand dollars.

Economy and conservation are two important factors in the conduct of public affairs, but in our opinion, to dispense with the work of our County Agents at this time will be an expense rather than an economy, and will retard progress and advancement.

While the County Agent's work has already demonstrated its worth and value many times above the cost, yet the foundation for this work is just now well grounded, and in the year just beginning and succeeding years will more fully demonstrate the wisdom and financial economy in retaining the services of an active, energetic and efficient County Agent, such as G. L. Crawford, even at double the present salary.

The proposition of economy is not a real consideration in the question as to whether or not the place of a County Agent be dispensed with. The work is educational and as necessary to the rapid progressive advancement of agricultural pursuits as are our public schools to literary advancement. If an inefficient teacher were employed in our schools, the trustees would not consider the proposal to dispense with the school, but would employ a teacher who could meet the requirements. The same applies to the place of a County Agent and his assistants. If a County Agent can not meet the demands of the position, get another one—but by no means discontinue the school of County Agent.

County Agent G. L. Crawford has done more than any other man in promoting and pushing the material advancement of general community, agricultural and livestock interests. The county is at an expense of twelve hundred dollars for his services, and he earns it. He is going early and late, every day, and during the year has made and saved the people of the county many times the amount of his salary. If a farmer's horse or cow gets sick, County Agent Crawford is ready to go treat them, and he knows his business. In stamping out black leg in the county, this alone is worth more than his year's wage. If a farmer wants to terrace, ditch or otherwise improve his farm, our agent is there to advise and show him the best plans and methods—and he is well informed on all subjects of moment to farmers and stockmen.

Following is a brief outline of the work and activities of County Agent Crawford during the year just closed:

He has visited by request 300 farmers and ranchmen; personal and telephone calls answered, 486; attended 20 meetings; distributed 900 circular letters and bulletins relating to work; visited 31 schools; treated 114 horses, over 100 hogs, more than 200 cattle, besides vaccinating several hundred calves. Furnished one-half freight rate for 124 cars of feed for farmers; helped the farmers order cooperatively four cars of oats and three cars of alfalfa hay. Has more than 150 children in the clubs; distributed 50 ewes among 25 club members—this being the first successful sheep club in the state. Placed a number of registered pigs with club members, and shipped the first car of club livestock that was ever shipped direct to market by club members. All of the baby beeves and all of the hogs except one, exhibited at the county fair, belonged to club members. Took five club members to the State Fair with no expense to them. Took county exhibit to the Waco Cotton Palace, winning fourth place. He has aided in practically eliminating black leg among cattle in Dickens county; has traveled by railroad 3,788 miles, and by automobile 5,900 miles.

Do you think that this work should be dispensed with?

1920—  
Mrs. Jim Sample returned last week from Temple where she had been to attend the funeral of her sister's child who died after a brief illness.

**A New Year's Greeting  
From Otho L. Hale...**

WE WISH TO EXPRESS OUR APPRECIATION TO THE PUBLIC FOR THE VERY LIBERAL PATRONAGE GIVEN US DURING OUR SHORT STAY IN SPUR.

IT IS BY YOUR HELP AND PATRONAGE THAT WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO MAKE OUR BUSINESS WHAT IT IS TODAY.

AND WE ARE RESOLVED TO MAKE, BY YOUR HELP, 1920 OUR BANNER YEAR AND WILL PUT FORTH OUR EVERY EFFORT TO SELL YOU GROCERIES AT THE VERY LOWEST PRICE CONSISTENT WITH LEGITIMATE BUSINESS, AND WILL GIVE YOU THE VERY BEST SERVICE WE POSSIBLY CAN.

WE WISH ONE AND ALL A VERY PROSPEROUS AND HAPPY 1920.

**OTHO L. HALE**  
Phone 28  
Spur

Prof. N. C. Purcell, of the Dry Lake school, was in Spur Saturday and while here was a very pleasant caller at the Texas Spur office. Prof. Purcell is one of the many teachers who are preparing to engage in other lines of business another year on account of inconsistent salary attached to the business of teaching. The country is now facing a very serious problem with respect to schools. It may sound peculiar for one to champion the cause of "higher prices" during these already strenuous times of high prices, but the fact is that if the teachers are not paid more money we will soon have no schools. The teachers must have increased wages to meet the higher cost of living. The most humble laborer is paid from five to ten dollars a day at this time, yet the pay of teachers remains the same as in pre-war times. Here is the proposition, either the prices for all character of work must be increased in accord with the inflated prices and values of the day or the high cost of living must be reduced.

1920—  
G. W. Dodson, of north of Dickens, was among the number in town the past week. Mr. Dodson is one of the number of farmers who is holding his cotton for higher prices, and we believe he will win out by the first of March. The great trouble is that but few farmers are in a position to hold cotton—Mr. Dodson being one of the few. If every farmer produced his own meat, bread, milk, butter, chickens and eggs at home, he would be in a position to market his cotton in January or July, at just such times as he needed a few surplus dollars and the manufacturers needed his cotton. We hope the day will soon come when every farmer in the great Spur country will be in such a position. This would be a fine New Year's resolution for every farmer, to "grow in 1920 everything required to live on at the home farm."

1920—  
We hear that quite a number of voters are urging County Attorney B. G. Worswick to make his announcement for County Judge. For thirty odd years B. G. Worswick has superintended and directed the affairs of Dickens county. No man in the county is more familiar with public and official affairs of he county than B. G. Worswick, and not a man in the county is better qualified for the office than he. He knows the business of the county and courts, and appreciates the needs and deficiencies. Get in the race, Judge. We'll guarantee you at least one vote.

1920—  
**\$10 REWARD FOR LOST GRIP.**  
Lost on road between Dickens and Spur, a yellow, imitation leather hand bag, containing ladies and childrens wearing apparel; also silver mesh-bag with one 5-franc piece and several dollars in silver; a ladies leather purse and various toilet articles. Will pay \$10 reward for its return to me at Spur.—D. J. Harkey.

**A CONVENIENCE.**



"So you think the Santa Claus myth is a good thing?"  
"Yes, it's a great convenience to have some imaginary person to take the responsibility when the children are disappointed Christmas morning."

**A Christmas "Suppose."**

We would not change the children's Christmas. But suppose all the grown-up people were to say to one another: "This year, instead of my giving you a present and your giving me a present, let us club together and give our present to some poor child who will not have any Christmas. There are hundreds of them somewhere. Or, if we do not know of such a child, let us give our present to a hospital for children, a home for crippled children, for incurables, for the aged, the blind, the feeble-minded." This to be, of course, in addition to what we usually give to charities at this season. Why could we not try this as an experiment, and see what the result would be?—Christian Register.

**Touched His Heart, Not Purse.**

A very ragged individual invaded the office of a millionaire one Christmas eve and started describing his woes and sorrows in so graphic a manner that the millionaire was more affected than he had ever been before in his life.

At last, with tears in his eyes, he rang the bell for his servant, and when the latter arrived, said to him in a broken voice: "John, put this poor fellow out at once. He's breaking my heart."

**Their Annual Resolve.**

Probably the girls are saying the same thing this year that they have said every year in the past: "Well, I'm going to start making presents right away for next Christmas."

Ed Hulse, of Cat Fish, was in the city the latter part of the past week. Ed Hulse is one of the most independent farmers in the country—because he grows very nearly everything to live on at home. He is one farmer who pays very little attention to cotton, he not having a single stalk of cotton on his farm this year—yet he has plenty, and always has cash to pay for what he has to buy.

1920—  
T. G. Harkey, wife and daughter, Miss Thelma, moved back last week to their old home a mile west of Spur. A year or two ago Uncle Tom Harkey left here for New Mexico with the intention of taking up land and living it out. However, he couldn't forget old Dickens county, and eventually this hankering for old scenes became so insistent that he returned his land to the government and headed for home. We welcome them back to the best country in the world.

1920—  
Joe Grace, who is now traveling salesman for a bridge manufacturing concern, spent the holidays in Spur with his parents, Dr. and Mrs. J. H. Grace. In conversation with Mr. Grace he stated that the wave of prosperity extended throughout the country, and that every line of business was enjoying full capacity business. In his work Mr. Grace covers an extensive territory and is in a position to accurately gauge the financial and business pulse of the country.

1920—  
Mrs. Ted Brannen, of Oklahoma City, spent the holidays in Spur with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Adams. Mr. Brannen has a good position in Oklahoma City with a street car company. The many friends of Mr. and Mrs. Brannen in Spur wish them much prosperity and happiness in their new home.

1920—  
Miss Minnie Lee Springer and George Springer, both of whom are attending college at Stillwater, Oklahoma, spent the holidays in Spur with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Springer. They will return this week to resume their studies.

**NOTICE.**

Wood cutting, hunting, trapping, and trespassing in any manner upon the ranch of Frank Corn is prohibited under penalty of law.—I. R. Powell.

1920—  
W. D. Blair, of two miles east of town, was in the city Tuesday.

Recently the friends of Frank Goff make up a purse of something near a hundred and fifty dollars and presented to him as the result of his recent loss and injuries sustained in a wreck of his dray wagon coming in collision with an automobile. This gift purse was made up by only friends who know and appreciate Frank Goff as a real man, and was given in a spirit of being of use to a friend who has met misfortunes. This was an exhibition of real Christianity. Frank Goff is neither a pauper nor a beggar, and could have lived on without this consideration on the part of his friends. However, he accepted the gift in the spirit in which it was given and the world was made brighter and each one happier thereby.

1920—  
A. C. Hyatt passed through Spur last week from Albany, going to Ralls to sell his property and wind up other affairs. A. C. Hyatt formerly edited the Dickens Item, and for a time helped us on the Texas Spur. However, he has drifted out in the hope of securing more of this world's goods, first going to Sipe Springs and getting hold of the paper at that place. The oil boom failed to develop in time for him to benefit thereby. He is now at Albany with Editor McCarty working on the Albany News and operating the moving picture machine at night. He is making good money, but like us, he earns it by the sweat of his brow. We hope some day that Hyatt will hit it rich.

1920—  
E. R. Rorie, who is now and has been the past several years ranching up near Turkey, spent the holidays in Spur greeting his many friends here. In the early days of Spur Mr. Rorie was one of the Spur Ranch boys. He is now working on the Lewis ranch and runned a hundred or two head of cattle of his own on the range. While the past years have been hard on cowmen, Mr. Rorie has lost but few of his cattle and is now doing well and prospering. We, with his many other friends of the town and country, were glad to meet Mr. Rorie again, and to know he is doing well.

1920—  
R. L. Carleton, of the Espuela community, was a pleasant caller last week at the Texas Spur office, informing us that he would be a candidate for the office of tax assessor in the coming election. Soon the candidates will be circulating among the voters. A number of other probable candidates have been mentioned to us, and it is very probable that there will be more candidates in the 1920 campaign than was ever before known in the county.

1920—  
Witt and Fayette Springer have accepted the agency for the Delco Light System in Dickens, Kent and other adjoining counties. They will soon have one or more of the machines here for display and will show the business throughout the county. This is an age of machinery, and he Delco and similar machines are great savers of labor in both town and country work.

1920—  
Tom Dodson was in town one day this week from his farm home north of Dickens. A number of Tom's friends have been soliciting him to get into politics. He is considering the proposition and may decide later to make his announcement. Tom Dodson is a fine man in every particular, and is qualified to fill any position he may ask for.

1920—  
J. A. Murchison came in Sunday with his son, Walter, who underwent an operation Monday at the Standifer-Harp Hospital. Walter was suffering of appendicitis, and before the operation could be performed the appendix burst, leaving him in a very critical condition. However, at this time we are very glad to note that he is reported doing as nicely as could be expected under the circumstances.

1920—  
During the holidays Dr. Standifer, while out on his place west of Spur, was severely injured by a horse running over him. He was out helping to hold a bunch of horses in a fence corner when one of the ponies ran over him, striking on the head, knocking the doctor unconscious for a time. However, he did not remain "knocked out" very long and is now able to look after hospital duties, we are glad to state.

1920—  
C. A. Love and family left Spur this week for the Ozark Mountains in northwest Arkansas where they will make their home in the future. They made the trip through the country in an automobile. During the past several years C. A. Love has been with the Love Dry Goods Company.

1920—  
W. F. Cathey dropped in Monday and showed his subscription up three dollars worth for a Christmas gift—and we appreciated it and intend to have a big Christmas.

1920—  
Homer Garrett recently bought a cotton crop north of Spur and is now engaged in pulling the golden staple.

**The Spur Hotel**

GEO. F. FAIR, Proprietor.  
On\* Block West of Theatre.

ROOMS AND BOARD FARMERS SOLICITED

# HOGS!

I HAVE A CAR OF MIXED HOGS, BARROWS, SOWS, SHOATS—HEALTHY, PASSED BY GOVERNMENT INSPECTOR.

## 17c Per Pound

MAKE GOOD KILLERS THIS WINTER, OR FINE TO CARRY OVER. I EXPECT TO MOVE ALL NOT SOLD TO ANOTHER TOWN JANUARY 8. SEE THEM AT

### The Farmers Wagon Yard W. A. CRADDOCK

#### HEMSTITCHING and PICOTING

I have a special machine for this work, installed in my home.  
MRS. P. A. RAMSEY

—1920—

J. L. Puckett, while in town during the holidays, enlivened the season for us by handing us the coin with which to extend his subscription up another year.

—1920—

Miss Justine Rich returned this week to Simmons College at Abilene after spending the holidays in Spur with her aunt, Mrs. P. H. Miller.

—1920—

J. E. Sparks recently bought the C. W. Avery farm several miles west of Spur, the consideration being thirty five dollars per acre.

—1920—

LOST—A \$5.00 bill between the City Cafe and Meat Market. Finder please return to the City Cafe, Spur, and oblige. 1p

—1920—

Judge Powell and wife, of Dickens, were in Spur one day during the holidays visiting with friends and shopping.

—1920—

C. W. Avery and family, of west of Spur, spent the Christmas holidays with relatives and friends in Haskell.

—1920—

J. E. Arthur, a leading citizen of the Dickens country, was a business visitor in Spur Tuesday of this week.

—1920—

Mrs. C. M. Speck and children, of Rochester, spent the holidays in Spur with Mr. and Mrs. L. N. Stevens.

—1920—

Tom McArthur was in town Tuesday. He looked as if he had fully recovered from "Christmas."

—1920—

Bennett Monteith, of Ranger, spent the holiday season in Spur visiting with his friends.

—1920—

Why take a chance on your cotton burning? Insure it with C. Earyl Senning. 7 2t

—1920—

Robt. T. Dopson, of Dry Lake, was among the business visitors in Spur Wednesday.

—1920—

J. N. Zumwalt was in the city Wednesday from the Highway community.

—1920—

Messrs. Bert and Chalk Brown, of the 24 Ranch, had business Monday in Spur.

—1920—

The little child of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Lisenby has been very sick the past week.

—1920—

Grundy Crego, of Croton, was one of the many Christmas shoppers in Spur.

—1920—

A. T. Bural, of Duck Creek, was in the city Thursday of this week.

—1920—

L. S. Scott was in one day to take Christmas.

—1920—

#### Woman Arabian Captain.

Santa Barbara, Cal.—Mrs. Anna L. Fisher of Santa Barbara has been made a captain in the Arabian army and has been assigned to duty as a cavalry officer with the sanitary corps, according to a letter received here recently from Damascus. The appointment is the recognition of her efforts in the organization of the work of the American Red Cross in Damascus. To facilitate her work it was decided to give her a regular commission in the Arab army. The formalities in connection with this includes the signing of more than fifty official documents in Arabic, English and French.

#### Plague Kills Mexicans.

El Paso, Tex.—Hundreds of Mexican federal soldiers have died of hemorrhagic malaria in the Tampico oil district recently, according to Excelsior of Mexico City. The Mexican secretary of war has ordered the dispatch of two additional military sanitation brigades to Tampico to try to control the disease.

## INCREASE IN EXPORTS

Department of Commerce Gives Out Statistics.

Meat, Breadstuffs and Dairy Products Sent Abroad in Large Amounts.

Washington.—Breadstuffs exported from the United States during October were valued at \$67,704,073, a decrease of about \$4,000,000 as compared with October, 1918. For the last ten months breadstuffs exports were \$793,814,020, as against \$641,855,409 for the same period in 1918.

The monthly report of the department of commerce also showed October cotton exports totaled 352,231 bales, valued at \$60,732,867, as against 383,995 bales, worth \$66,027,704, for October, 1918. In the last ten months cotton exports aggregated 4,755,593 bales, at \$775,413,702, compared with 3,173,859 bales at \$513,405,022 for the corresponding period of 1918.

Meat and dairy products exported in October amounted to \$69,494,243, against \$63,040,618 a year ago. While for the first ten months of this year they totaled \$1,035,773,252, a heavy increase over the total of \$782,353,845 during the same period last year.

Cottontseed oil exported during the month amounted to 11,747,514 pounds at \$2,653,479, and mineral oils reached a total of 271,767,987 gallons, worth \$34,705,895.

Wheat was the heaviest grain export for the month, totaling 13,636,675 bushels, at \$33,010,872, and bacon the most valuable meat export, with 56,462,312 pounds, worth \$18,293,501.

## GAY TOWN OF VERNON DYING

To Be Merged With City of Los Angeles as Result of Prohibition Law.

Los Angeles, Cal.—The city of Vernon, a little independent town entirely surrounded by the southeast section of Los Angeles, is about to give up its municipal ghost, and be merged into the corporation of Los Angeles. The decision of Vernon to become a memory followed the enactment of federal prohibition. Until that arrived, Vernon was a "wet spot," entirely surrounded by arid Los Angeles.

It is a manufacturing town, but its claim to fame has rested on its entertainment facilities. Before the country went dry, Vernon had a group of restaurants and cafes that were famous all over the country. The motion picture people, the artists and Bohemians, and the writers of the West, all turned there for gaiety.

With the passing of liquor, city revenues of Vernon, derived from license fees and from fines against the hilarious patrons, have dwindled to nothing; it can't pay salaries, hence it cannot retain officials.

## CUTS HIS THROAT WITH SHOE

Edge of Sole Is the Weapon Used by Brooklyn Blind Man to Kill Self.

Brooklyn, N. Y.—Using the sharp edge of a new pair of shoes, which he had never worn, to cut his throat, Patrick Fay, forty-five, an inmate of the Home for the Blind, 516 Gates avenue, ended his life. Fay had been an inmate for a year and had been a favorite in the home. He was a skillful pianist, and an hour before he ended his life was playing the piano in the reception room at the home.

Another inmate heard groans coming from Fay's room and notified the superintendent. Fay was found dead in his bed with the new pair of shoes, soaked with blood, beside him on the floor.

## TRACT ADDED TO NATIONAL FORESTS

1,116,000 Acres in Thunder Mountain Region of Idaho Set Apart.

HAS LONG BEEN A MENACE

Recurring Forest Fires Have Endangered Adjoining Portions of National Forests—Great Tract Is Difficult of Access.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Washington, D. C.—In accord with almost unanimous sentiment in Idaho and in response to considerations vitally affecting adjoining national forests, congress has set apart 1,116,000 acres of land in Idaho known as Thunder Mountain region, as national forest lands. This great tract, difficult of access and having not over 1 per cent of its area suitable for agriculture, has for years been the scene of destructive fires and devastation due to overgrazing. It is now to be added to the Payette national forest which adjoins it on the south and west, and the Idaho national forest which adjoins it on the north and west. The area lies approximately 100 miles northeast of Boise. Because uncontrolled, it has been a recurring menace to the adjoining national forests by reason of fires that have gained great headway in its vast unpatrolled regions.

#### Swept by Forest Fires.

What has taken place in the Thunder Mountain region, according to officials of the forest service, United States department of agriculture, is typical of what would have taken place in most of the national forests had these areas not been protected. Three hundred thousand acres, or approximately one-third of the area, has been swept by forest fires in the past twelve years, destroying approximately 700,000,000 feet of timber. The mining resources, after being superficially exploited by miners with scant equipment, have remained practically undeveloped. Much of the wild life has been ruthlessly exterminated, and the grazing lands have been destroyed by nomadic herds. The number of sheep which have been grazing without restriction or regulation during the past year total nearly 300,000, whereas a fair estimate of the "carrying capacity" of the entire country has been placed at 75,000 to 10,000 head of sheep.

There are no towns or villages in the whole region. The log buildings of the first settlement on Monumental creek still stand—vacant, specter-like reminders of the boom days of many years ago. Hundreds of claims which were located during the rush of 1901 have been abandoned. Some high-grade ores have been found, and the general belief is that the region contains an abundance of low-grade ore, but its commercial use has not been possible because of inadequate transportation facilities. Control of the area as National Forest land, once opposed because it was feared that it might retard mine development, is now seen to be a practical step toward proper use of the mining resources, as well as conservative utilization of grazing facilities.

#### Travel Is Difficult.

At present the roads, trails, and bridges are in a sad state of disrepair, making travel over them on foot or by horseback impossible. One of the important undertakings of the forest service, now that the tract has been added to adjoining national forests, will be to supply the area with improved lines of travel.

A large and important watershed is included in this area, which is estimated to supply at least 1,000 second-feet of water to the Columbia river at low-water periods. It is roughly estimated that more than 100,000 horsepower could be generated from waters rising in the area. The region includes no natural wonders, large lakes or features of special scenic interest. Deer and trout are plentiful, and there are said to be a few wild sheep and goats.

## COLLECTIVE BARGAINING URGED ON METHODISTS

New York.—Collective bargaining "as an instrument for the attainment of industrial justice," is recommended in a report by the executive committee of the Methodist Federation for Social Service, which requests ministers and members of the church "steadfastly to insist on its application and constantly to promote in the Christian spirit discussion of the methods by which it might be applied."

## Feed, Coal, Ice.

SEE US FOR ALL KINDS OF FEED AND COAL. WE DELIVER ALL FEED AND ICE FREE OF CHARGE. COAL DELIVERIES WILL BE CHARGED FOR IN ADDITION TO PRICES WE QUOTE, OR WE WILL MAKE YOU DELIVERED PRICE.

### SPUR GRAIN & COAL CO.,

M. E. MANNING, Proprietor.

Phone 51

N. Q. Brannen came up from Breckenridge and spent Christmas with his family and friends in Spur, returning the first of the week. He is operating a service car line to railroad points out of Breckenridge, having two or three cars working. This service car business is a paying business in the oil fields and we hope N. Q. will get rich in this business if he can get hold of an oil well to produce wealth.

Oscar Henry, of the Duck Creek country dropped in Monday at the Tex. as Spur office and had us mark his sub said that this year is getting even with scripton up a year ahead of time. He the world again once more, but has not yet finished gathering his crops With good crops another year the people in general of the Spur country will be on easy street.

Mrs. J. J. Cloul's brother spent the holidays with her. He is a deep well drier in the oil and gas fields. While here he looked over the prospects here and stated that in his opinion the J. C. Davis well would develop into a big "gasser".

Frank Forbis, who is ranching it near Turkey, spent the holidays in Spur with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Forbis. Before returning he handed us a check to send him the news of this section, and which we will do with pleasure.

Rev. McCarroll went down to Jayton during the holidays to perform a double ring marriage ceremony at the home of Dar Ratliff whose daughter was married a gentleman of that section.

While in he city during the holidays W. H. Birdwell reports having been forced to slide the radiator of a car in order to avoid the probability of being run over.

Misses Carol and Adalaide Senning, who are attending St. Mary's College in Dallas, were at home spending the holidays with their mother, Mrs. Kate Senning.

LOST—2 blummer chains, one between Spur and Will Walker's, and one between the cotton platform and the depot in Spur. Finder return to Will Walker. 9-1t

A. L. King, of south of Spur, called in last week and shoved up his subscription and also had the paper sent to his sister, Miss Hattie King, at Dallas.

E. B. Shaw, of Croton, was among the recent business visitors in Spur, spending on a short time here on business.

STRAYED—2 red pigs, sow and boar, unmarked, 9 or 10 weeks old. Notify M. C. Reynolds at the Farmers Gin, Spur, Texas. 9-4tp

SEWING WANTED—Plain and fancy sewing of all kinds. See Mrs. Myrtle Hale at the Walter Smith residence, Spur, Texas. 9-2tp

Robt. T. Rich, of Vinson, Oklahoma, spent several days the past week in Spur with his sister, Mrs. P. H. Miller.

Ed McArthur, of west of Spur, was here during the holidays.

Hudman House, wife and child, of Anson, spent Christmas with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Ousley, at their home near Spur. Hudman returned Sunday, while Mrs. House and child remained for a more extended visit.

Mrs. Newt Harkey, who has been in the Lubbock sanitarium, was returned home last week and is now reported doing nicely. Mrs. W. L. Hyatt was with Mrs. Harkey during the time, and returned with her to Spur.

J. I. Greer came in Tuesday from the Lone Oak Farm and Ranch. He said that he had five of his boys at home with him this Christmas for the first time in twelve years—and that he now had every one of them picking cotton for him.

Sheriff oBb Goodall, of Kent county, was in Spur Saturday greeting his friends and also on official business. Bob reports that politics in Kent county has not yet opened up, but there is prospects of a number of candidates to come out soon after the first of the year.

M. S. Faver was in Spur Monday of this week from his farm home east of Afton, doing his Christmas shopping and looking after other business matters. He had us to mark his subscription up one year for which he has our sincere thanks.

Judge A. J. McClain, wife and son, Porter, were in town since Christmas. The Judge reports the Christmas trees and other entertainments enjoyable to the people of that section during the holidays.

Mrs. Bert Duncan recently sold out her crop, s now advertising horses and mules and other things for sale preparatory to moving down in the oil belt where Mr. Duncan now has employment and is making good money.

Clay Smart left the first of the week for Mineral Wells, making the trip through the country in a truck in order to bring back his household effects—it being very uncertain these days when shipping anything by railway.

J. P. Middleton, of a few miles west of Dickens, had business in Spur Tuesday of this week. He reports everybody over the Christmas merry-making and now setting down to business for another year.

Miss Nina Grace, who is attending C. I. A. at Denton, is spending the holiday intermission with her parents, Dr. and Mrs. J. H. Grace at their home in Spur.

Willie Hagins, who is now making his home in Oklahoma, was here during the holiday season visiting with relatives and friends.

Mrs. J. C. McNeill was a recent visitor and shopper in the city from her home on the Alamo Sock Farm west of Spur.

J. A. Kerley, of eight or nine miles east of Spur, was among the business visitors here this week.

J. P. Goen was in Spur recently from his ranch home northwest of Dickens.

## Farm and Ranch Loans

5, 7 and 10 Years.

LOANS CAN BE PAID OFF ANY YEAR. NOTES TAKEN UP & EXTENDED.

E. J. COWAN, Cowan Bldg. Spur, Texas.

## H. F. SHEPPARD, Drayman.

Heavy and light hauling.

All work guaranteed

## SANTA BANNED BY PURITAN FATHERS

No Christmas Festivities or Gifts for Children in Massachusetts in Early Days

## DAY JUST LIKE ANY OTHER

Condition Somewhat Better for Youngsters in New Amsterdam—Holiday Observance Toyless in the Colonies in Seventeenth Century

In the early days of this country's history Christmas festivities were not generally observed and poor old "Santa Claus," and all he represents, had a hard time of it.

In Massachusetts the observation of Christmas was utterly denounced as an evil, ungodly and pernicious custom, and any child daring to think of as much as a plum pudding on that day would make herself liable to reproof by the authorities. All along the stern and rock-bound coast, Geraldine Ames writes in the Churchman, the only Christmas trees in the days of the Puritan domination were those that nature had planted there and had adorned with fleecy snow. The fires burned brightly on the open hearths, but as far as the children knew Christmas was just like any other day in the calendar. Even after the Puritan reaction against the forms and customs of the old church had spent itself to some extent the children of the seventeenth century still expected no gifts in honor of the birth of Christ.

In New Amsterdam the outlook was a little better for the children. The Hollanders had brought with them their St. Nicholas, and his birthday was celebrated joyously by young and old just before Christmas, but Christmas was also observed. Of course, they had not many real toys as we know them today, but in the shoes that the little Hollanders set by the fireplace in the shining kitchen, which was also the living room, were homemade gifts. Many of these were of a useful character, such as hand-knit caps and mittens, but now and then a skillful Hollander would carve a model of a boat such as that which had brought them to New Amsterdam, or a miniature chest of drawers, and one can fancy the recipients showing these with pride to the wondering little Indian boys and girls when they came to be on terms of sufficient amity with them for such conferences.

In Virginia, where the church of England was strong and its adherents steadfastly observed the holidays as in the home country, there was always more of the Christmas spirit and abundant cheer and merrymaking than elsewhere at this season. Here the Yule log held its place and here were the games and the feasting that made it indeed the merry season of the year. Later when New Amsterdam became New York and the English came into power the character of the Christmas holiday was changed somewhat, although the Dutch influence continued dominant for many years.

Throughout the colonies in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries toys were an almost unknown factor, but wherever Christmas observations were not frowned upon by religion, feasting and good cheer were abundant, and bond and free, rich and poor, old and young, shared in the games, abundant food and genial atmosphere. In the eighteenth century toys began to make their appearance in the colonies. Some of them were brought from over seas and had the enchanting quality of novelty. Little girls who had helped to mother their younger brothers and sisters were delighted with dolls that were all their own, to fondle and cuddle. A toy was a thing to be cherished in those days. Some of the gifts were of real intrinsic value, for the shipping and trading were growing to be important factors in the colonies, and men brought treasures of all kinds from the far East to the seaports, whence they were distributed to other parts of the colonies. The war for independence interrupted this and the children shared in the self-sacrifices and deprivations that were undergone by all the families living in the colonies at that time. When soldiers were starving at Valley Forge there was little thought in their homes of Christmas merrymakings and little out of which to provide it.

After the war there were still lean years, but by the opening of the nineteenth century peace and plenty smiled upon the land and Santa Claus found it safe to resume his visits and make his distributions.

### Christmas Joys.

We get most of the enjoyment of Christmas out of the dreams that come before and after. Oh, to dream of it before it comes, to enjoy it while it is here, and to appreciate it when it has gone!

## ASIA BIRTHPLACE OF ST. NICHOLAS

Contrary to General Belief in This Country, He Was Not of German Origin

## BORN IN SIXTH CENTURY

Worshiped by Italian Sea Traders as Their Special Protector—Played Double Role in This Country in Early Days.

Just why so many Americans think of the good Saint Nicholas as a German saint, and on second guess accredited him with Dutch ancestry, is not known. But it is undoubtedly the general belief in our country that the saint, whose birthday, December 6, is celebrated in some countries as the "gift festival" of the year, was of Teutonic extraction.

The Christmas saint really was born in Asia Minor, in Panthera, in the province of Lycia, some time in the sixth century. St. Nicholas of Bari, he is oftenest called by Europeans, but only the bones of St. Nicholas reposing for eight centuries in the crypt of a handsome cathedral at Bari, Italy, have given him that title. He never lived in Bari. Italian sea traders, who worshiped him as their especial protector, stole his body from its resting place in Myra in the twelfth century and brought it to the Italian seaport. Since that time the celebration held there in the saint's honor is unique.

The Eastern world knew and loved him first, but it is from Western Europe that we learn of many of the quaint customs connected with the celebration of his birth. In Lycia he lived to a good old age, filling his days even in childhood by doing good deeds and giving lavishly to the poor of the fortune he inherited. It was Christlike to give, so, as a steward of God, his wealth belonged to God's children, Nicholas believed. Finally he was made bishop of Myra, where he went to live after a pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

It was not strange that after such a life of charity he should become a saint of the common people, even as St. George was a saint of knighthood. He was invoked by the laborer toiling for his daily bread, by mariners, by merchants. He was protector of the weak against the strong, the poor against the rich, the captive, the prisoner, the slave. He was especial guardian of maidens, schoolboys, the orphan poor. Throughout all Catholic Europe children are taught to reverence him, and to believe if they are docile and attentive to their duties he will fill the cap or stocking with dainties; if they are naughty or idle, he certainly has a rod in pickle to bring along for them.

Saint Nicholas has found his way to America in double role of benefactor and bugaboo. Among the Pennsylvania Dutch parents still admonish children: "Be good, Pelznickel will get you"—Pelznickel being a species of unkind Santa Claus and closely related to the "Old Nick." In some sections Kris Kringle appears in combined role of Santa Claus and Christchild. He has other names—Samiclaus, Clawes Niglo, Nikolo.

Although strangely little is known of St. Nicholas in America, a few churches scattered over the country bear his name. No saint of the calendar has as many churches, altars and chapels erected in his honor. Most towns in England boast churches bearing St. Nicholas' name. There are more than a hundred in Belgium and thousands scattered over Europe. But wherever he is worshiped and his birthday observed it is always in remembrance of the fact that he is a follower and disciple of the Christ, whose coming was the greatest gift of all.

### Stockings for Christmas Only.

The Christmas stocking as generally known is one taken from the bureau supply for daily wear. In certain parts of the country, however, the Christmas stocking is never in use except to be "hung from the chimney with care." The New England stocking of this kind is usually long in the leg and knitted from woolen yarn. There are stockings on Cape Cod which have been used by four generations of children. Once emptied of their treasure on Christmas morning they are rolled up and marked and laid away for the next year's festivities.

### The Question of Importance.

Millionaire—Tell me, child, that young man who wants to marry you this Christmas, has he got any money?  
Miss Innocence—Money, father? Why, he has just given me a cluster diamond ring studded with pearls.  
Millionaire—Yes, I know. Has he any money left?  
72

## YULETIDE BUSY TIME FOR CUPID

Some Christmas Love Superstitions, Customs and Practices in the Old World

## PURSES FOR POOR BRIDES

Money Collected and Presented in a Way So as Not to Offend Girls—Flowers Used in Proposals by Shy Young Natives of Alps.

Good St. Thomas, serve me right  
And send me my true love tonight,  
That I may gaze upon his face,  
Then him in my fond arms embrace.

After placing a piece of holly under her pillow, many a girl, in the north of England especially, repeats these lines to herself before retiring to rest on Christmas eve, according to a writer in London Tit-Bits.

Cupid plays an important part in many of the superstitions and customs that are still extant at this season.

Another queer custom in the north, although it is not now so prevalent as it was, is that of gathering maidens' purses. The money for these purses is collected some weeks before Christmas from the inhabitants of the mining towns, and they are given as marriage portions to the poorest among those girls who are soon to be married. On Christmas eve a full purse is quietly thrown in at the girl's window, so that her feelings shall not be wounded by an ostentatious distribution.

A Christmas practice among superstitious girls who wish to dream about their future lovers is that of abstaining from food or drink or speech during the whole of Christmas eve. Then, after all the family have retired, they make a cake of flour, salt and water, called a "dumb cake." This they eat just before retiring to bed, in the belief that their somewhat indigestible supper will cause them to dream of their future husbands.

In the Alps there exist several charming Yuletide customs of proposing marriage by the language of flowers. If a girl accepts a bouquet of edelweiss from a man during the period from Christmas day to New Year's eve the action denotes that she accepts him as her future husband.

Another Christmas custom in Switzerland is for the young man to place a flower pot containing a single rose, and a note on the window sill of the girl's room when she is absent from home. He then waits for a reply. If the maid accepts the flower before New Year's eve, then the young man boldly enters the house to "ask papa." If, on the other hand, the rose is not touched, but is allowed to fade away, the proposal is rejected without a single word of love having been exchanged between the couple. This is a useful custom for bashful bachelors!

In Sardinia Christmas wooing is far more complicated. If a Sardinian father has a marriageable daughter, the would-be suitor applies to him for permission to speak to her by means of a species of telephone that has been in use for the purpose for centuries of Christmases.

It is a long string with a wooden knob at each end. The girl drops one knob out of her window and, the shutters being closed, places the other knob to her ear. Down below her would-be lover pours words of undying devotion into his knob!

On every New Year's day in Roumania a fair of marriageable girls is held. The girls are all drawn up in one line and the men in another, with the parents of both behind them. If a young man likes the look of any particular girl he steps out of his line, goes up to her and enters into conversation. If he is favorably received by the girl, his parents and her parents compare notes as to the marriage settlement and similar practical matters.

Many quaint superstitions are associated with the festive season in various parts of Britain. In Hertfordshire the wearing of new shoes on Christmas day is considered to be very unlucky; while in other parts it is thought to be inviting ill luck to allow any new leather in the house during the whole of Christmas week. Some folk say that "a green Christmas makes a fat churchyard," but in Devonshire they say that a green Christmas makes a prosperous year.

Superstitious people assert that one should be careful about the choice of the holly for the decorations. Part should be smooth and part prickly. Then, providing both kinds are carried into the house at the same time, all will be well. But should the prickly variety be taken in first, then the husband will rule the household during the coming year; if the smooth is brought in first the wife will be "top dog."

1920  
The value of your property has increased, has your insurance?—C. Earyl Senning.

# Why Brunswick Tires Win Preference

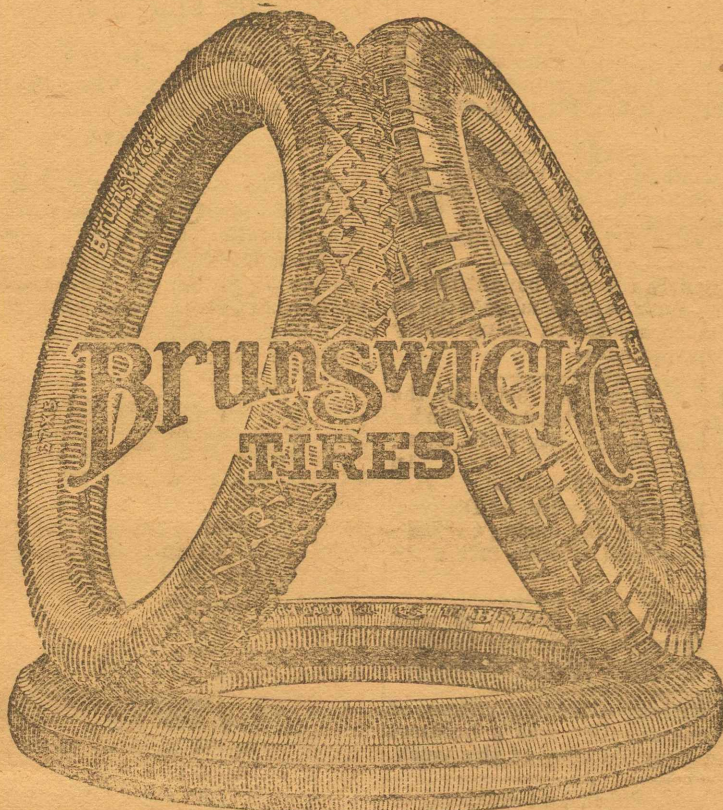
There are two main reasons — one, the name itself, which certifies superfine value — the other, that time tells the same story.

Thus reputation and performance unite in giving you all you expect — and more.

Yet Brunswicks cost no more than like-type tires. Many motorists would pay more readily, but the Brunswick idea is to GIVE the utmost, rather than to GET the utmost. And this has been true since 1845. You can appreciate what Brunswick Standards mean by trying ONE Brunswick Tire. It will be a revelation. You'll agree that you could not buy a better, regardless of price.

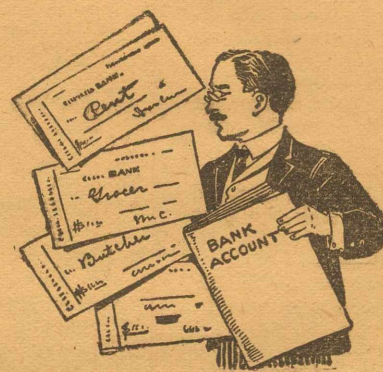
And, like other motorists, you'll decide to have ALL Brunswicks. Then you'll know supreme satisfaction from your tires — longer life, minimum trouble, lower cost.

THE BRUNSWICK-BALKE-COLLENDER CO.  
Dallas Headquarters: 611 Main St.



There's a Brunswick Tire for Every Car  
Cord—Fabric—Solid Truck

## Highway Garage



### WHEN YOU PAY BY CHECKS.

You get a Receipt in Every Case through the Endorsement of the party to whom the check is made. It is a pretty good thing to have, and saves any question as to whether an account is paid or not. This is only one of the advantages of a bank account; there are many others. If you have no checking account, we would like to have you open one with us. Wont you drop in and talk the matter over.

THE CITY NATIONAL BANK  
SPUR, TEXAS

## SPUR BLACKSMITH SHOP

I now have charge of the Spur Blacksmith Shop and am in position to give you first class service. Will appreciate your business

MAT BINGHAM, Proprietor

# Wood Cutting Prohibited On Spur Lands!

Notice is Hereby Given That Any Person Who Cuts Wood of Any Kind Whatever From Any of Our Lands Any Where Now or Hereafter will Be Prosecuted to the Fullest Extent of the Law Without Favor or Consideration

**I**N Some localities in past years, the lands have been shamefully cut over, regardless of our rights, and those of purchasers of land not occupied. Many otherwise honest men, have come to think that what others have done, without a penalty resulting, they can also do, and there is an increasing disposition to appropriate wood wherever it may be found, no matter to whom it belongs. This must be stopped. We must protect the people who have already bought Spur Lands, and those who will hereafter buy them, from this wood cutting.

Some people pretend to think there is no objection to it. This is, therefore, public notice that no one has our permission to cut, saw, grub, break down or gather wood of any kind whatever from our lands anywhere, and that prosecution will certainly follow trespassers hereafter without favor.

## S. M. Swenson And Sons

CLIFFORD B. JONES, Manager

SPUR, DICKENS COUNTY, TEXAS.

L. C. Arrington, of a few miles to the west of Dickens, was in Spur Monday. He came in for the purpose of shipping some of his cotton to Galveston or Houston but found that an embargo had been instituted against the shipment out of Spur. This was the first we knew of such procedure on the part of railroads—but since the government has been operating the roads there has been little dependance and less service in them. We have had shipments of paper out of Dallas for thirty days before its arrival in Spur.

1920—  
O. I. Taylor, of the Duck Creek section, was in town one day this week. He reports everything now in the finest shape, farmers winding up crop gathering and preparing for another good crop in 1920. The goods crops and high prices this past year have put farmers on their feet, many of whom are already clear of debt and will have cash to carry their through another year.

1920—  
W. H. Taylor was in the other day, paid his subscription up ahead of time and said that he was now getting even with the whole world once more and would have some money left. Will Taylor is a rustler any way, and we have never entertained any fears of his not being gable to "get by."

1920—  
We are requested to announce that the W. O. W. lodge will meet Saturday night, January 3rd, at the hall in Spur for the purpose of initiating a number of new members, and doing other lodge work. All members are urged to attend.

1920—  
Saturday night, December 20th, a piano recital and Christmas pageant was given by the pupils of Miss Flora Mae Scudder at the Christian church. A large number were present and enjoyed the occasion.

1920—  
Johnson Hunter was in town Saturday circulating among his friends and looking after business matters. Johnson made bumper crops this year and has pockets full of money.

1920—  
Mrs. C. D. Copeland is expected to return home the latter part of this week from Marquet where she spent the holidays with her parents and other relatives and friends.

1920—  
J. J. Albin, of the Highway community, was in town one day this week, reporting everything all o. k. in that section.

1920—  
Mrs. L. H. Perry and son, James Hill, left Sunday for Carlsbad, New Mexico, to spend two weeks with relatives.

J. H. Meadors, a leading merchant and business man of Dickens, was in Spur last week transacting business affairs, and while here was a very pleasant caller at the Texas Spur office. Mr. Meadors reports that business in Dickens the past year has been the greatest in its history. In fact merchants have been unable to get goods in quantities desired by purchasers.

1920—  
T. B. Sullenberger returned Tuesday from Duke, Oklahoma, where he spent the holidays with his family. His family will return soon to the Spur country and again take up their residence with us. We are very glad to have them back and wish them a very prosperous 1920.

1920—  
Paul Douglass and wife, of Goree, spent several days of this week here visiting relatives and friends. Paul is enjoying prosperity in his new home and talks as if he never intends to come back to the Spur country.

1920—  
Messrs. Barker, two young gentlemen of Floydada, and two young ladies and two gentlemen of Plainview, are the house guests of Misses Robbie and Donalita Standifer.

1920—  
Mrs. Fields, of Oklahoma, is here spending the holidays with her brother, Dr. and Mrs. Standifer, and also her son, Boney Fields of the Pursley ranch.

1920—  
Alec Winkler, of Croton, was in the city the first of the week, carrying his arm in a sling as the result of cranking a Ford. Two bones in the wrist were broken.

1920—  
Mrs. J. O. Yopp, who has been spending several weeks with her daughter in Wichita Falls, returned last week to her home.

1920—  
Mrs. Ted Brannen left Wednesday for her home in Oklahoma City after spending the holidays in Spur with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Adams.

1920—  
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Stearns were in from their ranch home spending Christmas with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Stafford.

1920—  
Mrs. Jim Sample's sister is here spending the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. Sample.

1920—  
The little child of Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Godfrey has been quite sick the past week.

1920—  
J. A. Marsh and family removed recently to Spur after sojourning a while in the city of Crosbyton. They all come back and find a welcome.

### ANCIENT CHRISTMAS TOYS

Dolls That Delighted Children of Rome and Greece in Early Days Recently Excavated.

Rag dolls are as old as the hills and so are dolls with movable arms and legs, toy dogs, rocking horses and a host of other things that bring delight to the children on Christmas morning.

Recent excavations in the ruins of ancient Rome, Greece and Egypt have placed the British museum in possession of an interesting assortment of these relics of early Christian days, some of which may possibly have been given to the children of the followers of Christ at a time when the observation of Christmas day was an innovation.

In the nursery of a newly excavated house at Behnesa, Egypt, a fairly well preserved rag doll was found with arms and legs still intact and painted face. The doll is by no means a beauty and does not compare with the Christmas dolls of today, but nevertheless it must have brought joy to a little girl's heart nearly 2,000 years ago.

The jointed dolls of long ago were made to sit down, stand up and move their arms, but they didn't close their eyes or squeak "mamma." Among the toy dogs, horses and donkeys are some made of stone and baked clay and others carved out of wood.

#### Remember Old Friends.

"What? A holiday greetings card with old Bill's name scribbled across it? . . . Good old Bill! Why, it's 11 years almost since we saw each other, and here he's not forgotten me even yet! . . . Huh, Mary, you needn't be so all-fired proud of that scarf Aunt Susie sent you. This may be only a colored postcard, but, by George, it's from Bill! . . . Well, well—this sure is Christmas!"

#### The First Christmas Card.

The Christmas card cannot claim to have been established so long as other of our Christmas customs. The first Christmas card came into the world in 1846, when Sir Henry Cole, an Englishman, sent Yuletide greetings to his friends.

1920—  
A. A. Allen, of Croton, was among the many here during the holiday season. He reports everything fine on Croton.

J. J. Hail has been in a very critical condition the past week, suffering of influenza followed by pneumonia. All members of the family in different parts of the country have been notified and are now at his bed-side. At this time, however, we are very glad to report that Mr. Hail's condition is reported very much improved and hope for his recovery is greatly revived.

1920—  
Mrs. Aline Flynn, of Dallas, is in Spur spending the holiday season with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. F. Williams. Mrs. Flynn informed us that she and her husband would hereafter make their home in Kansas City, Mr. Flynn being one of the league ball players and "sold" to another manager in that section.

1920—  
Jim H. Smith called in during the Christmas season, paid up for his subscription in advance and also had the Abilene Daily Reporter included in his reading matter for the New Year. Here is hoping, Jim, that the New Year will bring you prosperity and plenty.

1920—  
W. W. Franklin was in town Tuesday from the north part of the county. He recently bought a cotton crop on the W. J. Clark place, and is now employed in picking out the good ones. This cotton business is a sure enough paying proposition this year.

1920—  
FOR SALE—Four and 3-4 sections of land in quarters, halves and sections, three to five miles northeast of Spur. Terms. See McGee & Cates.

1920—  
C. C. Haile was down Saturday from Afton, spending the day here on business and meeting his many friends of the town and country.

1920—  
Chas. Whitener is still suffering of an injured hand. Some time ago he got his hand caught in a concrete mixer with the result that his hand came near being mashed into a pulp.

H. E. Evans, of the Twin Wells section of country, had business in town Tuesday of this week. Mr. Evans has been farming the past year, and although encountering sickness and other disadvantages, he "made good" and will have surplus funds to carry him through another year. Indeed this is a great people and a great country.

1920—  
H. C. Allen, of Dry Lake, was in town Saturday wearing his usual smile and enjoying the merry Christmas season.

**B. G. WORSWICK**  
Attorney-at-Law  
Practice in District and Higher courts is solicited.  
Co. Attorney's Office, Dickens.

**W. D. WILSON**  
Lawyer  
General Practice  
Spur Nat'l Bldg. Spur, Texas

**J. H. GRACE**  
Physician & Surgeon  
Calls Attended Day or Night, in the City or Country.  
Office at Red Front Drug Store  
Office Phone, 2. Residence, 47.

**T. E. STANDIFER**  
Physician & Surgeon  
Calls answered night or day.

**J. E. MORRIS**  
Physician & Surgeon  
Diseases of Women and Children a Specialty.  
Office at Red Front Drug Store.

## French Ruby Cafe

NOW OPEN UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

Meals Served FROM 11 a. m. to 2 p. m.

SHORT ORDERS AT ALL HOURS!

Hoover & Stevens, Proprietors

# The Spur Hardware & Furniture Co'y.

## Mr. Farmer, Read This

WE ARE ALL FULLY CONFIDENT OF THE GREATEST CROP THIS YEAR WE HAVE EVER MADE IN THE SPUR COUNTRY. IN ORDER TO TAKE CARE OF YOUR NEW CROP PROPERLY YOU MUST HAVE THE VERY BEST FARMING TOOLS. WE HAVE THE OLD RELIABLE P. & O. LINE, TOGETHER WITH THE INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER COMPANY'S COMPLETE LINE.

*There is Nothing Which Will Compare With These Two Lines of Farm Implements!*

SEE US NOW ABOUT YOUR CULTIVATORS, SULKEY PLOWS, PLANTERS, ETC. BESIDES THESE WE HAVE A COMPLETE LINE

*Shelf Hardware, Furniture, Windmills, Stoves, Etc. Come and See Us!*

**YOURS FOR A BIG, PROSPEROUS YEAR IN 1920!**

**Spur Hardware & Furniture Company**  
SPUR, TEXAS

### MISSIONARY SOCIETY MEETING.

Womens Missionary Society met Monday, December 29th, with Mrs. Fite. We had a very interesting social service program, after which the following officers were elected for the year: Mrs. Lula Manning President; Mrs. J. B. Richbourg Vice-President; Mrs. M. H. Lee Superintendent of the Young Peoples Work; Mrs. J. O. Haynes Superintendent of Junior Work; Mrs. C. Fite Superintendent of Social Service Work; Mrs. W. O. McCrary Superintendent of Study and Publicity; Recording Secretary, Mrs. J. J. Smelser; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. J. E. Shields; Treasurer, Mrs. J. R. Laine; Assistant Treasurer, Mrs. K. C. Cade; Miss Etta Fite Superintendent of Supplies; Mrs. G. B. Jopling Agent for Missionary Voice.

The society will meet Monday, January 5th, 1920, with Mrs. Laine for missionary study and to make pledge for 1920.

Sunday night, January 11th, will be public installation of officers of the Missionary Society at the Methodist church.—Mrs. J. J. Smelser, Sec.

### MARRIED.

Thursday morning Ira Sullivan and Miss Velma Addington were married, departing on the afternoon train for Dallas and other points to spend their honeymoon.

The Texas Spur wishes them a long, happy and prosperous married life.

Mr. B. Wright and Mrs. Haskell were married Thursday and are now receiving the congratulations of their friends.

—1920—

### FARM FOR SALE.

160 acre farm, 60 acres in cultivation, 2-room house and other improvements. Good price and terms will be made on this place if sold soon. Call at Texas Spur office for further information. 1tp

—1920—

### RAWLEIGH BUSINESS FOR SALE.

Wagon and stock of goods. Will sell at bargain. Want to quit business on account of my health.—E. Lawley, Dickens, Texas. 9-3tp

—1920—

### NOTICE.

Good Overland Car for sale cheap.—L. A. Hindman. 9tf

—1920—

On account of the increased price of all materials, the price of bread hereafter will be 15c for 15 oz. loaf. Buns and light rolls at 25c per dozen.—Allied Bakery. 9tf

—1920—

Mrs. J. C. McNeill was in the city last week from the Alamo Stock Farm, shopping and visiting with friends.

—1920—

Miss Jennie Shields left this week for DeLeon where she will spend some time with relatives.

—1920—

Those who want dirt for gardens, phone Swenson Gin. 9-2tp

### CHRISTMAS ACTS AS TONIC

Happy and Exhilarating Mental Spirit Has Good Effect on People, Declare Medical Observers.

Close observers in the ranks of the medical profession have noted one very interesting fact concerning the Christmas season—that it generally has a good tonic effect upon their patients. In explanation of this the London Lancet says that since Christmas has come to be regarded as a time for good cheer, a universal feeling of contentment and happiness is engendered at this time of joyousness, routine is for a while relieved, a certain freshness is given to the daily round, differences of opinion are sunk, and a charitable spirit prevails. Is it, by the way, hoping for too much that the season of good fellowship should leave some lasting effect upon the manners and methods of all?

It may not be easy to trace exactly why this sense of exhilaration and well-being comes with the advent of Christmas, for the psychological factors concerned are not simple. But the main point is that the mental state does everybody good, and the annual festivity is just as excellent an institution as the prescription of the physician which gives tone and vigor to the struggle in life's race. There is no need nowadays, thanks to the good sense of the people and the counsels of their medical advisers, to moralize about the evils of a stupid indulgence in food, alcohol and tobacco on a festive occasion such as the present. Practically everybody realizes the great physiological advantages of being wise on a merry occasion and the disadvantages of being a fool.

Many more persons than formerly feel where use ends and abuse begins, and they act sensibly accordingly; and so far from it being a crime to make the season festive by enjoying, on a little extended scale perhaps, the creature comforts of life, some decided good is done to both the mental and physical health of the individual.

The festive season may, therefore, be welcomed which brings cheer to thousands, which induces the generous and charitable to brace the mental and physical functions of the community at large, giving it the opportunity of relinquishing its business and its worries for a time, to start again refreshed and ready for "the trivial round, the common task." The prescription "A Merry Christmas" is sound so long as the "signature" of good sense is observed.

—1920—

Tom Owen was in from his farm and ranch the latter part of last week.

### ESPECIALLY AFTER CHRISTMAS.



Miss Romantique—You men—before marriage you pay compliments, but after—

Mr. Wise—We pay the bills.

### Christmas.

It is a blessed thing to believe in Christmas and all that it means. It is a blessed thing to be able to hear the song of the heavenly visitors. It has never sounded sweeter; never more necessary, never more full of hope and promise.

### The Bubble Burst.

Young Tom was spending Christmas in the country and had been invited to the beautiful home of a sweet young thing named Agnes.

"What a charming place!" he said enthusiastically, to Agnes' proud parents. "Does it go as far as those woods over there?"

"It does," remarked the somewhat unsympathetic father.

"Ah," said Tom, still cheerily; "and to that old stone wall over there, sir?"

"It does," came the gruff answer; "and it goes as far as the river on the south, and to the main road on the north."

"Beautiful!" put in Tom.

"Yes," went on the old man, "but it doesn't go with Agnes!"

Then Tom faded peacefully from view.

—1920—

### TAKE NOTICE.

Please do not ask us to charge feed and coal, as we pay cash for what we buy.—Farmers Wagon Yard. 50tf

—1920—

Miss Robbie Weir is carrying her arm in a sling, the result of cranking a Ford.

—1920—

Jim McArthur was here one day the past week.

### LORE OF THE YULE LOG

Should Be Lighted From Portion of Last Year's Which Should Be Preserved for Good Luck.

The Yule-log, a probable variant of the bonfire—so characteristic of sun festivals—has some interesting folklore of its own.

In medieval England, its duration coincided with the Christmas revels. As long as it burned, the tenant had a right to feed at the lord's expense. The log was often cut from an ash-tree—the sacred tree of our Saxon forefathers. There is a gypsy legend that our Lord was born in a field and brought up by an ash-fire.

The log should, properly, be lighted with a portion of last year's log, a piece of which is always supposed to be preserved for luck. At the same time that the Christmas fire was lit, the Christmas candle had to be lighted. (A portion of last year's taper has also to be kept.) It was unlucky to snuff the Christmas candle, which burned for 12 days—the period of festivity. At St. John's college, Oxford, can still be seen the ancient stone socket with the Agnus Dei stamp, in which the Christmas candle was placed on the eighth table.

On the Isle of Man, the folk formerly carried long tapers to church on Christmas eve.

### AND BEFORE CHRISTMAS, TOO.



"Jeanette, you are the light of my life. You're my sun, my stars, my all, you're my—"

"Yes, George. I know all that; but you're broke."

John Selmon and wife, of the Spur Ranch headquarters, were recent visitors and shoppers in the city.

—1920—

Jim Walker and Frank Goodson were in town this week.

I can make your farm or ranch loans, give you prompt inspections, and pay you your money at the time of inspection. If you want money—C. Eayrl Senning. 7 2t

—1920—

J. P. Goen was in Spur recently from his ranch home northwest of Dickens.

### THE STATE OF TEXAS

To the Sheriff or Any Constable of the County of Dickens, GREETING:—

You are hereby commanded to cause to be published for at least twenty days a copy of the following notice, in a newspaper of general circulation which has been continuously and regularly published for a period of not less than one year in the county of Dickens, Texas.

### THE STATE OF TEXAS

County of Dickens

In County Court, January Term, 1920 To All to Whom These Presents May Come, GREETING.

Know ye, that J. E. Brannen, administrator of the estate of Joseph Brannen and Mary E. Brannen, deceased, having on the 15th day of December A. D. 1919, filed in the county court of Dickens County, Texas, application to sell the following described land belonging to said estate, lying and being situated in the County of Hill, in the State of Texas, to wit:

135 acres of land, being a part of the E. W. Williams Survey, Abstract 949, being the former home stead of the said Joseph Brannen.

Now, therefore, These are to notify all persons interested in said estate to be and personally appear at the next regular term of Honorable County Court, to be held thereof at the court house of said county, in Dickens, on the third Monday in Jan., A. D. 1920, same being the 19th day of said month, then and there show cause why such sale should not be made should they choose to do so.

Herein fail not, but of this writ make due return, showing how you excused the same.

Witness my hand and seal of office at Dickens, Texas, this 16th day of December, A. D. 1919.

M. Gay Clerk, County Court, Dickens County, Texas.

By S. L. DAVIS, Deputy.

—1920—

### NOTICE.

A meeting of the shareholders of the Spur National Bank, Spur, Texas, will be held in the Directors Room of the Spur National Bank, Spur, Texas, on the 2nd Tuesday in January, 1920, being the 13th day of said month, between the hours of 10 a. m. and 4 p. m., for the purpose of electing a Board of Directors for the ensuing year and for the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the said meeting.

M. H. LEE,  
Vice President & Cashier.

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