

THE BANNER-LEDGER

WE CAN TAKE CARE OF YOU with everything necessary for the sustenance and comforts of life. Phone 37.

Van Pelt, Kirk and Mack

Gasoline 10c per gallon; Exchange on Pres-to-tank \$1.50; Any kind of Dry Batteries 20c; Any kind Spark Plug 50c; Atwater Kent Ignition System with automatic advance spark, latest out, put on your Ford car complete \$21.50; Old style Atwater Kent System for \$19.50; Pres-to-tank put on \$12.00. We cut the price on tires. Better see us. Ford tires per set \$40.00. See us for all kinds of repairing. Complete stock of lamp globes.

Ballinger Auto Co.

F. G. HOELSCHER HOME BURNED SUNDAY NIGHT AND LOSS IS \$5,000.00

Between one and two o'clock Sunday night fire destroyed the home of F. G. Hoelscher, ten miles south of Ballinger, the family making a narrow escape and saving only the clothing they were at tired in.

Mr. and Mrs. Hoelscher came to Ballinger Monday to buy clothing and household goods for temporary use until they can rebuild their home and prepare for housekeeping again.

Mr. Hoelscher says he has no idea how the fire started. Sunday was a warm day, and there was no fire in the house from early morning except in an oil cook stove, and this was turned out before night. Furthermore the fire originated in the second story of the house and the oil stove was on the ground floor. Mr. Hoelscher says the fire did not originate in the kitchen where the oil stove was, as he passed through that room after being aroused by the fire burning in the second story.

Miss Emma Jahannig, a teacher in the Olfen school, was boarding at the Hoelscher home and the narrow escape caused her to faint, and it was necessary to have a physician with her Monday. While she remains very nervous from the excitement her condition is not considered dangerous.

The loss on the home and contents is estimated at about \$5000 and was only insured for \$1600. Mr. Hoelscher conducts a store near his home, but this was not damaged by the fire, and he says he will rebuild his home at once.

BRUCE BUILDING COUNTRY HOME

R. W. Bruce has let the contract to Sam Taylor for a residence to be built on his farm about six miles south of Ballinger on the Paint Rock and Ballinger road.

The new country home is to cost about three thousand dollar, and Mr. Bruce will move his family there and make his home in the country as soon as the residence is ready for occupancy.

He has made no disposition of his home in town.

MAIL FOR GERMANY MUST HAVE 5c STAMP

Those who wish to write to their kinfolks and friends in Germany hereafter, and until further notice, must attach a five cent stamp to their letters. This rate holds good for all first-class mail for the first ounce and three cents per ounce for additional ounces.

This announcement was made by the local postal authorities Wednesday morning. Heretofore the domestic rate of two cents per ounce has been sufficient where mail was marked via a German steamship, but in the future no letter will be transmitted for less than five cents per ounce.

R. J. Queen of the Wingate country, was among the business visitors in Ballinger Tuesday.

MYSTERIOUS FIRE IN FURNITURE WAREHOUSE

Fire broke out in the warehouse of the Ostertag Furniture Co., about nine o'clock Friday night, and practically destroyed the contents of that house, including a \$900 hearse.

The warehouse is a sheet iron structure, a space being partitioned off at one end for the hearse, and the remainder of the building used for storing furniture. It is just across the alley from the main building of the Ostertag Furniture Co. The fire did not break out until it had burned for some time in the building, and when discovered was practically burned out.

Judging from the way the building and contents burned the fire originated in the end among a lot of crating material near the hearse, and the hearse was destroyed before the fire spread to other parts of the building. The proprietor of the Ostertag Furniture Co., L. Daugherty, says that they moved a bed from the warehouse shortly after noon Friday, but as far as he can find out no one else entered the building during the day, and the warehouse remained locked. It will never be known how the fire originated.

The warehouse was the property of I. S. Cauble, of Big Springs, and was insured for \$400, while Mr. Daugherty carried \$1000 on the hearse and the furniture stored in the house, in the Ballinger Insurance Agency. The hearse has not been in use since the Ostertag Furniture Co., retired from the undertaking business, and Mr. Daugherty had just about closed a deal in which he was selling the hearse to an undertaker in another city. He received a letter Friday morning making him an offer on it.

This is the third time the Ostertag Furniture Co., has suffered a fire, in two former fires the main building being destroyed, and in the first a family of four lost their lives. The family having rooms in the second story of the building.

May Cut Tax Penalty Until October First

AUSTIN, Feb. 9.—The house judiciary committee today reported favorably the bill to suspend tax penalties until October 1. If this bill is passed 1914 taxes can be paid any time before the first of October without the ten per cent penalty.

B. H. Jeanes came in from Ft. Worth Sunday night to visit relatives and to look after business affairs in Ballinger a few days.

O. L. Dahlgren of Hatchel, was supplying in Ballinger Tuesday.

J. F. Dean, the irrigation farmer up the river six miles, was transacting business in Ballinger Monday afternoon.

ESTABLISH FLOOR SWEEP PLANT HERE

A floor sweep factory which promises to rival any doing business in Texas will in all probability be established in Ballinger, if the present plans of the Young Men's Business League materialize. A gentleman, an expert floor sweep manufacturer, is contemplating establishing his plant in Ballinger within the very near future.

The manufacturer would make Ballinger his headquarters and distributing point. His sweep would be manufactured here from the golden sand taken from the banks of the Colorado river and Elm Creek, which have been declared to be predominating in the right material for a good floor sweep.

Owing to the fact that there is no floor sweep factory in this part of the state, an immense business, it is stated by the gentlemen contemplating the business enterprise for Ballinger, could be done in Central West Texas. Ballinger would be the most logical location for such a manufacturing plant.

The floor sweep which would be made here would be a new variety, made by a new process.

GOV. FERGUSON BUYING FINE CATTLE

If Governor James E. Ferguson is successful in securing the herd of 1,000 cows that he is advertising for in South Texas, his Bell county farm and Bosque county ranch will be sure enough stock farms. Incidentally, it will require about \$40,000 in cash to swing such a deal. Joe J. Miller of Temple, who is manager of the governor's various farm properties, is receiving numerous offers of cows in response to the advertisements therefor and has already purchased several hundred head, which have been sent to the Bosque county ranch.—Temple Mirror.

COUNTY COURT.

The February term of the County Court convened Monday of this week, there being no jury for the term but few cases were disposed of.

Quite a lot of probate orders were granted and some default judgments were taken.

Only one criminal case was tried that of State vs. Sylvester Kirby charged with disturbing the peace, after introducing the states evidence, the county attorney asked an acquittal because of the state's failure to make a prima facie case.

The third week will be civil jury week and quite a lot of cases are on the docket.

LONDON, Feb. 8.—Premier Asquith made public today the total British casualties since war was declared. According to figures announced by Asquith 104,000 English soldiers had been killed up to February 1st.

COMPRESS FIRE LOSS \$304,000

Complete Loss Compress and 7,000 Bales Most Destructive Fire in History of This Little City

LONGEST SESSION IN HISTORY OF THE U. S. CONGRESS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—President Wilson announced today that there would be an extra session of congress, if the filibuster against ship purchase bill continues.

The filibuster is still on and the deadlock remains unbroken. It is the longest continuous session of the United States congress in the history of that body.

After the insurgent democrats and republicians had made a vain effort to break the continuous session of the sensation the government ship purchase bill at 6 o'clock yesterday evening, fired legislators settled down for another all-night debate on the historic struggle.

When the end would come no one would predict. Administration leaders declared the session might last for a week without interruption. Opposition spokesmen, however, predicted that some effort would be made today to break the deadlock.

MANDAN, N. D., Feb. 10.—

That the present prosperity will be continued for three years, was the statement today by John Cloud, a wrinkled old Sioux Indian of the Standing Rock Reservation. He says that 1915, 1916 and 1917, will be wet years, followed by three dry years. Local persons are inclined to put considerable credence in the predictions of the Indian.

2 SERIOUSLY ILL WITH PHEUMONIA

Mrs. Morgan and brother James Taylor, are seriously ill with pneumonia at their home on Sixth street.

Mr. Taylor is making his home with his sister, and was taken sick with what he thought was a case of grip, two or three days ago, and about the same time his sister contracted the same illness, and both cases have developed into severe cases of pneumonia, and their condition is serious this (Wednesday) afternoon.

George Adams, of Bronte, one of the pioneer citizens of Runnels county, was looking after business affairs and greeting friends in Ballinger Tuesday.

THE LOSS

7,000 Bales Cotton at \$35.00 per Bale	\$255,000.00
Compress and Wharfs	45,000.00
14 Freight Cars at \$1,000.00	14,000.00
Damage to Residences	500.00
Total	\$304,500.00

The greatest fire in the history of Ballinger from a standpoint of dollars and cents, is gradually dying down, and where less than twenty-four hours ago there were nine thousand bales of cotton, a modern cotton compress and a busy crew of one hundred men, nothing remains but smouldering ruins and powdered ashes.

Directly no individual in Ballinger has suffered a financial loss, but the insurance companies will be called upon to pay claims aggregating in the neighborhood of three hundred thousand dollars, and in the end the people must help to reimburse the companies through an increase in rates.

Coming presumably from a brush pile burning two blocks south of the compress, a spark touched off the flames that destroyed the Ballinger compress and 7,000 bales of cotton Tuesday afternoon, causing a loss that is estimated at not less than three hundred thousand dollars.

When first discovered the fire was burning on one bale of cotton on the compress platform and within six feet of a string of fire hose attached to a fire hydrant. This fighting outfit was rapidly brought into action, but before the adjoining bales could be given a soaking and the flames checked the fire spread over the entire platform.

The fire company responded promptly, but the flames were leaping high into the air, and no efforts were made to put out the fire, but the entire attention of the company was directed to checking the spread of the fire.

By four o'clock three-fourth of the cotton was on fire and the compress practically destroyed. The fire burned all night, and a force of men were kept on duty and two streams of water under heavy pressure were continually

kept going, and the two thousand bales of cotton that had been saved from the fire was thoroughly soaked, while wagons were busy hauling the cotton away from near the burning debris.

Late Wednesday afternoon it was impossible to get an accurate detail account of the number of bays destroyed. There were in the neighborhood of nine thousand bales of cotton on the wharfs and in the yard, and it is estimated that less than two thousand bales of this cotton escaped the fire.

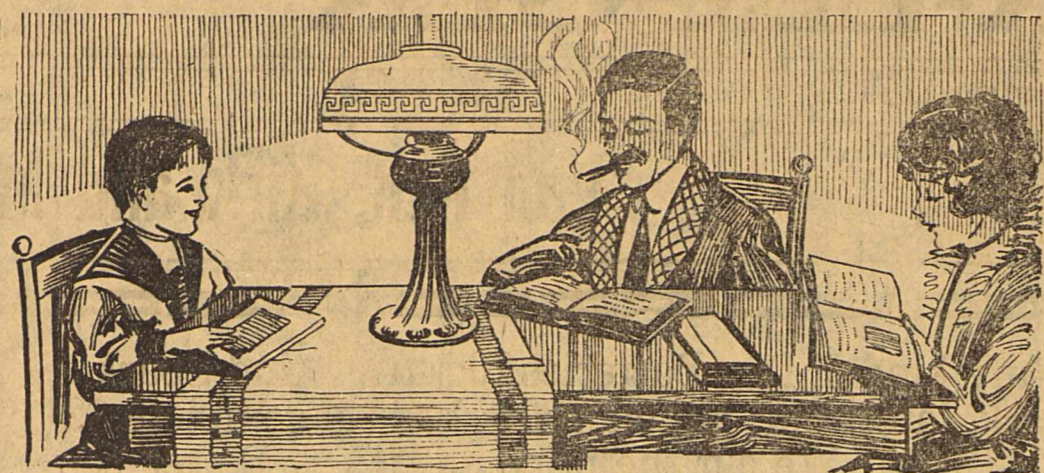
Every cotton firm represented on the local market lost cotton in the fire, but all were protected by insurance, the local agencies holding part of the business, and part of the insurance being covered by blanket policies.

Perhaps the heaviest losers will be Ray-Penn Co. This firm had about 2500 bales at the compress. Crawford-Gosho Co., a Japanese firm, represented here by W. R. Clark are heavy losers.

J. J. Yerby is also among the heavy losers, having a big lot of cotton on the platform.

C. R. Willis of Brownwood, had

(Continued on last page)



The Light of the House

When The Texas Company first introduced its illuminating oil into the Northern States and other parts of the country, the value of this high quality oil was unknown.

Today the distributing facilities of The Texas Company and its agents are carrying this light into the homes of the people of many lands, and all over the world the quality is known and the service appreciated.

It is, in fact, preeminently "the light of the home," burning with a clear, white light which is easy to read or work by. Burning just as brightly with the last drop as the first.

TEXACO ILLUMINATING OIL is one of the products manufactured in Texas which has carried the Red-Star-Green-T trade-mark in its remarkable growth; a growth made possible by unvarying QUALITY AND SERVICE policy.

This product is sold in your town with the other Texaco products which are of particular value to you. Ask for it.

The Texas Company
General Offices, Houston, Texas

No. 17



COKE COUNTY EX-SHERIFF IS FATALLY WOUNDED IN SHOOTING AT BRONTE

BRONTE, Feb. 8.—Will Hickman, ex-sheriff of this county, was shot and thought fatally wounded by Deputy Sheriff T. A. Griffith shortly after noon Sunday.

The shooting took place in the office of Judge Ed Walton where the officers were investigating a negro gambling charge, and Griffith used a .38 pistol, firing three shots. No other shots were fired, and Hickman's friends claimed that Hickman was not armed.

Hickman received a wound in the stomach and one in the arm and the third shot went wild. Hickman was hurried to San Angelo in an auto and an operation performed, and at last reports the man was still alive, but there is little hopes for his recovery.

Griffith was placed under arrest and carried to Robert Lee, where he will be held pending the outcome of Hickman's condition, and until a preliminary trial can be had.

Bad feeling has existed between Hickman and Griffith for some time, but the trouble that led up to the shooting grew out of the arrest of Hickman's cotton pickers by Griffith on a charge of

crap shooting. An investigation was being conducted, and it is reported that Hickman stated that he was going to see that the negroes got a fair trial, and the shooting occurred after he entered the office where the investigation was in progress.

The first trouble between Hickman and Griffith came up while Hickman was sheriff when Hickman arrested Griffith on 'charge of drunkenness. Last Christmas some one attempted to assassinate Griffith by shooting into his house. The bullet from the would be assassin's gun passed through the hair of Mrs. R. L. Brewer, who was visiting Mrs. Griffith at the time inflicting a slight wound on the scalp, and only missing the baby a few inches, the bullet striking some object in the room and falling on the floor. It developed in the investigation that followed that the would be assassin was riding Hickman's horse, and it began to look like the crime would be laid at the door of Hickman when Hickman proved that Ed Grimes was riding his horse on this particular occasion and Grimes was arrested and the case is now pending against him.

Gorn-Mad? Use "GETS-IT," It's Sure

Makes Corns Vanish Like Magic! A hard cap of skin makes up every corn. When you put 2 drops of "GETS-IT" on it, it shrivels up and comes right off—and there's your corn—gone by thunder! Simple as taking off your hat! That's



Don't Waste Time "Hollerin'." "GETS-IT," World's Simplest Corn-Cure, Never Fails.

why corn-millions have gone wild over "GETS-IT"—nothing like it ever known. Some folks, to this day, putter around with bandages, sticky tape, thick plasters, corn "pulling" salves, gouge corns out with knives, snip them with scissors, make them bleed and then howl because they can't get rid of sore corns. Use "GETS-IT." There's nothing to do but apply 2 drops. The work is done, "GETS-IT" does the rest. No pain, no fussing, no changing shoes, no limping. It never fails. Try it tonight for any corn, callus, wart or bunion. Be sure that you get "GETS-IT" and nothing else. "GETS-IT" is sold by druggists everywhere, 25c a bottle, or sent direct by E. Lawrence & Co., Chicago.

FORMER BALLINGER MAN IN DEMONSTRATION WORK

Pleasanton, Tex., Feb. 7.—A. S. Whitten, United States farm demonstration agent for Atascosa County, has expressed a desire to establish a school garden at the Pleasanton high school this spring. The school building is on a five-acre tract of rich soil, especially fertile and desirable for demonstration. Mr. Whitten expects to gain the confidence of the school children while imparting to them some valuable practical knowledge.

It was Mr. Whitten's first visit to Pleasanton and a favorable quality of soil and an abundance of artesian water gave rise to the idea of establishing the demonstration farm at the school.—San Antonio Express.

Mr. Whitten came to Ballinger about two years ago and made this his home for a time. He was an enthusiastic booster, and contributed a number of articles to the local and state papers. His friends here will be glad to learn that he is prospering, and still pushing velvet beans.

Try This For Neuralgia

Thousands of people keep on suffering with Neuralgia because they do not know what to do for it. Neuralgia is a pain in the nerves. What you want to do is to soothe the nerve itself. Apply Sloan's Liniment to the surface over the painful part—do not rub it in. Sloan's Liniment penetrates very quickly to the sore, irritated nerve and allays the inflammation. Get a bottle of Sloan's Liniment for 25 cents of any druggist and have it in the house—against colds, sore and swollen joints, lumbago, Sciatica and like ailments. Your money back if not satisfied, but it does give almost instant relief.

Homer Stokes of the Bethel neighborhood, was among the business visitors in Ballinger Saturday afternoon.

See us for tin and pipe work. Phone 22, DUNN & GLENN, Next door to fire station. 27-10d4w

**Fresh Fruits,
Fresh Cider,
Fresh Candies.**

Do your Confection buying from me. We sell the good things to eat.

N. Passur

JEWELL CUNNINGHAM
Dealer, In
Second Hand Goods

Repairing A Specialty.

On Corner Opposite The Princess Theatre.

KEEPING EYE ON OIL WELL DEVELOPMENTS

H. Giesecke, Paul Trimmer, Oscar Pearson and a Ledger man, drove out to the oil well 12 miles east of Ballinger Friday afternoon. This was our second visit to where this drill is at work since the work was started a short time ago.

We found the drill grinding away at a depth of nearly one hundred feet. More than fifty feet of that depth the drill has been going through rock, the first thirty feet of which was hard flint rock, and from that into a shale which is found to be not so hard, and which the engineer says is the best oil shale he ever saw. This shale when dropped in to the fire burns for several minutes showing that it is akin to what the drillers are so eager to find. The engineer in charge says that they are having their hard work now, and after passing through this rock they will make from fifty to one hundred feet per day, and with the equipment they have will soon determine the worth of the proposition.

Upon the success of this well depends the plans of many landowners and owners of oil leases in this section, and many eyes are watching the developments.

Will Gallia, one of the prominent real estate men of Rowena, was looking after business affairs in Ballinger between trains Monday.

Strength for Motherhood

MOTHERHOOD is not a time for experiment, but for proven qualities, and nothing exceeds the value of good cheer, needful exercise and SCOTT'S EMULSION.

SCOTT'S EMULSION charges the blood with life-sustaining richness, suppresses nervous conditions, aids the quality and quantity of milk and insures sufficient fat.

Its **COD LIVER OIL** feeds the very life cells. Its **LIME** and **SODA** help avoid rickets and make teaching easy.

14-66 Avoid Substitutes. No Alcohol

SCOTT & BOWNE, BLOOMFIELD, N. J.

RUNNELS COUNTY HOG GROWER GOES TO MARKET

The Fort Worth Daily Live Stock Reporter, of Thursday, says:

"N. J. Wardlaw of Ballinger, a well-known farmer and stockman, was a visitor on the local market Thursday morning, bringing in a nice consignment of hogs. He has been producing swine in considerable number and declares that the business is coming along in excellent shape in this community. There have been many to urge and aid in diversification in that section of the state and the farmers have not been slow to turn from losing to winning methods. It is the general consensus of opinion that a more stable farm population will be established in Runnels county as a result of the movement."

Mr. Wardlaw is president of the Runnels County Hog Growers Association. He went to Fort Worth with the first car of hogs ever shipped from this county. He has been an enthusiastic hog grower for a number of years, and has always profited by raising hogs, but until this year interest in hog growing in this county has not justified shipping. We trust that the experience will prove profitable and that many cars will be shipped from Ballinger during the next year.

Eggs
Brown Leghorns 15, \$1.00. Cockerels \$1.00 each. Mrs. Sam McPherson, 302, Tenth Street, 2 blocks from Santa Fe depot. Phone 417. 5-tf-w

HERE TO CLOSE DEAL IN SELLING HOME

I. S. Baldwin, of Crews, was here Tuesday and closed a deal in which he sold a house and lot on Tenth Street to E. D. Stark, city mail carrier. Mr. Stark has moved into his new home and is here for keeps.

Posted.
No hunting, fishing, wood hauling or trespassing allowed in my pasture 9 miles north of town. MRS. MAUD VANCLIL. 5-2twpd

TAKES COLLECTION FOR MISSIONARY WORK

Rev. R. R. Rives preached on the benevolences of the church, or the agencies of the church, Sunday morning, after which a collection was made for the support of the various church boards. An amount totaling \$85 will be paid and forwarded to the chairmans of the various boards by the end of the Presbyterian year, March 31st.

MOTHER! IF CHILD'S TONGUE IS COATED

If cross, feverish, constipated, bilious, stomach sour, give "California Syrup of Figs."

A laxative today saves a sick child tomorrow. Children simply will not take the time from play to empty their bowels, which become clogged up with waste, liver gets sluggish; stomach sour.

Look at the tongue, mother! If coated, or your child is listless, cross, feverish, breath bad, restless, doesn't eat heartily, full of cold or has sore throat or any other children's ailment, give a teaspoon of "California Syrup of Figs," then don't worry; because it is perfectly harmless and in a few hours all this constipation poison, sour bile and fermenting waste will gently move out of the bowels, and you have a well, playful child again. A thorough "inside cleansing" is oftentimes all that is necessary. It should be the first pany.

Caution: Beware of counterfeit fig syrups. Ask your druggist for a 50 cent bottle of "California Syrup of Figs" which has full directions for babies, children of all ages and for grown-ups plainly printed on the bottle. Look carefully and see that it is made by the "California Fig Syrup Company."

Charlie Tollison, one of the old timers of Runnels county, came in from the west Monday to visit Ballinger friends a few days.

CEDAR POSTS FOR SALE
RANCHERS: Club together and buy our fence posts. Save dealers profit by buying car lots All kinds of cedar fence, telephone posts and blocking. S. A. PATTERSON, Belton, Texas. 8-tfw

100 BANKERS ARE COMING TO BALLINGER

The Sixth District Texas Bankers Association will convene in Ballinger at 9:45 a. m. on February 20th, and will remain in session one day.

The local bankers are busy arranging for the meet, and the program while short, will be one of the most attractive ones arranged for the members of this association in some time.

The bankers are due to arrive here on the afternoon of the 19th and the night following, and those from nearby towns will arrive early on the morning of the 20th in their autos. At least one hundred bankers will be here and among the number will be some of the most prominent men in the financial world in the Southwest.

It is expected that Gov. Ferguson will attend this convention, and he will occupy a place on the program. Gov. Ferguson, it will be remembered, is a Temple banker, and he has been urged to come.

Hon. Clarence Ousley, of the agricultural extension department of the A. & M. College, has accepted an invitation to attend the meeting, and will speak immediately after the noon hour on "Financing the Farmer." The farmers are invited to be present and hear this address.

The convention will be held in the Carnegie Library, and a luncheon will be tendered the visitors at the Central Hotel at noon.

Stop The Child's Colds They Often Result Seriously
Colds, Croup and Whooping Cough are children's ailments which need immediate attention. The after-effects are often most serious. Don't take the risk—you don't have to. Dr. King's New Discovery checks the Cold, soothes the Cough, allays the inflammation, kills the germs and allows nature to do her healing work. 50c at your Druggist. Buy a bottle today.

LIGHT COMPANY EXTENDING LIGHT WIRES

The Ballinger Cotton Oil Co., is extending operations out on 11th street from its intersection of Pon street. New poles are being put in and wiring will soon be completed. This is a part of town that has been heretofore lacking in efficient lighting, but will soon be abate with electric lamps. As soon as the required number of subscribers are gotten the lines will be carried farther.

We make tanks, water troughs, flues and do all kinds of pipe work. DUNN & GLENN. Next door to fire station. 27-10d4w

Jim Henderson of San Angelo, who had been looking after his cattle in the Ballinger Oil Mill pens, the past few days, left Monday at noon for home.

Effects of Great Kidney Remedy is Soon Realized

I feel it my duty to let you know what Swamp-Root did for me. I was bothered with my back for over twenty years and at times I could hardly get out of bed. I read your advertisement and decided to try Swamp-Root. Used five bottles, and it has been five years since I used it, and I have never been bothered a day since I took the last bottle of it. I am thoroughly convinced that Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root cured me and would recommend it to others suffering as I did.

My husband was troubled with kidney and bladder troubles and he took your Swamp-Root and it cured him. This was about five years ago.

Very truly yours,
MRS. MATTIE CAMFLELD,
R. F. D. No. 3 Gobleville, Mich.
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 13th day of July, 1909.
Arvin W. Myers,
Notary Public,
for Van Dureh Co., Mich.

Letter to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y.

Prove What Swamp-Root Will Do For You

Send ten cents to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., for a sample size bottle. It will convince anyone. You will also receive a booklet of valuable information, telling about the kidney and bladder. When writing, be sure and mention the Ballinger Weekly Banner-Ledger. Regular fifty-cent and one-dollar size bottles for sale at all drug stores.

ANDERSON BROS. SELLING MULES.

The Anderson Bros. of San Angelo, are here this week selling mules at the O'Kelley & Walton Wagon Yard. These gentlemen own several stock barns in this territory, the largest located at San Angelo, and they are thinking of putting one here. They advertise to take good notes in payment for their mules and think they can do a good business here. The mules they handle are all broke and good stock.

Eggs For Sale
For setting hens, I have for sale Silver Lace Wyandotte eggs, 50c per setting of 15 eggs. Write or phone 6305 rural. W. G. CHAPMAN, Route No. 1 Ballinger, Tex. 5-2tw

J. W. Lindsey, of the Spring Hill neighborhood, was transacting business in Ballinger Saturday afternoon and says he is breaking land right along for another crop and says he has always found it a good idea to harrow his land right after breaking so as to hold the moisture, not later than one day behind the plowing.

ZUDORA

A Great Mystic Story
By Harold McGrath

SYNOPSIS.

Zudora is left an orphan at an early age. Her father is killed in a gold mine. Zudora and the fortune from the mine, which grows to be worth \$3,000,000, are left in the guardianship of Frank Keene, Zudora's mother's brother. Zudora, giving promise of great beauty, reaches the age of eighteen. The uncle, who has set himself up as a Hindu mystic and is known as Hassam Ali, decides that Zudora must die before she can have a chance to come into possession of her money, so that it may be left to him, the next of kin. Hassam Ali sees an obstacle to his scheme in the person of John Storm, a young lawyer, for whom Zudora has taken a fancy, and he commands the girl to put the man out of her mind. Zudora insists that if she cannot marry Storm she will marry no one.

"Well, well," says Hassam Ali, "if you take such a stand I'll compromise. Solve my next twenty cases and you can marry him; fall in a single case and you must renounce him."

Zudora, using the knowledge gained from years of association with her uncle, unravels a baffling mystery and wins her first case—a case in which John Storm is saved from being convicted of a murder instigated by Hassam Ali himself.

Zudora and Hassam Ali visit Nabok Shan's house, where sleep overcomes every one whenever Nabok attempts to marry a princess. Storm, seeking Zudora, is made a prisoner. Zudora, following Nabok Shan, restores the princess to her original lover and saves Storm from death.

A maker of diamonds tells Hassam Ali his secret. Storm informs Zudora that his life is being attempted frequently. Storm suspects Hassam Ali. Storm is arrested for stealing the diamond maker's gems, but Zudora discovers the real thieves—a pair of mice.

The negro help employed on Storm's father's farm are fleeing because a great skeleton hand appears at night upon a hill near by. Storm is baffled in his investigation, but Zudora learns that her uncle has employed Jimmy Bolton, a half-witted man, thus to annoy Storm's parents. Zudora finds Bolton operating a big magic lantern and is attacked by Bolton. Storm opportunely appears and saves her from Bolton.

Hassam Ali asks Zudora to find a gem lost by two mysterious old men. Zudora sets a photograph of the gem and it burns in her hand. An old house is mined by Hassam Ali and the old men. Storm and Zudora are lured there and narrowly escape destruction when the house blows up.

CHAPTER VI.

The Case of the McWinter Family.

In a room in an ordinary dwelling a woman sat before a sewing machine. The low hum of it filled the room with a murmur like that of many bees.

The woman's husband, seated at a table near by, was reading and smoking, and he looked up absently each time the humming ceased temporarily. He scowled, shifted and reshifted his pipe.

"Are you crying again?" he growled, laying down the pipe. "I'm getting tired of your constant snivel-snivel."

He rose and walked over toward her threateningly. He shook a finger under her nose.

"That man has got to get out of this house or I'll know the reason why. He bothers me every time I look at him. I tell you he's got to seek another boarding house. I don't want his hangdog face around any longer."

"Hangdog?" she protested.

"That's what I said. There'll be a rampus if he doesn't like."

"You are wrong—you are wickedly wrong," said the wife. She wiped her eyes on her apron. "Just because he speaks kindly to me and pets the child you act like an insane man. I've slaved for you. I've done everything a woman could. What do you do? You sit and read all day."

"That's a lie!" the man roared. "I'm not an ordinary workman, and there's very little demand for my work."

"So I've noticed," dryly.

"I don't want any back talk. All I say is that man Smith has got to get out. I won't have him on the premises after his week is up."

The tears began to run down the woman's cheeks again. "You were a different sort of man before you took to drink."

"Your whining'd send any man to drink. But you two are always whispering, and when I show up you break apart and begin to talk of the weather. Maybe you think I'm a fool?"

"John McWinter!" she cried with passionate indignation.

"That's right; work up the injured look. But the martyr stuff doesn't go with me, Sally. I've got eyes, and I've been using them. He goes at the end of his week, and that's all there is to it. He's got the child running around after him as if he and not I was the father."

"That's because he is always kind to her and never strikes her unjustly, as you do."

"Hasn't a man got a right to correct his own offspring. I'd like to know?"

"If she gets in your way you box her ears. If she does not come in instantly when you call her you use the whip. Can you blame the child for not loving you as you expect?"

For herself she did not care; she had no illusions left, but where her child was concerned she was something of a Moness. She did not want the fairy

How to Prevent Bilious Attacks.

Coming events cast their shadows before." This is especially true of bilious attacks. Your appetite will fail, you will feel dull and languid. If you are subject to bilious attacks take three of Chamberlain's Tablets as soon as these symptoms appear and the attack may be ward off. For sale by all dealers.

tale beliefs knocked out of the little one's head before her time.

"Stop sniveling. The man's coming. I'd be just like you to play the beaten wife when he comes in. Perhaps it wouldn't be a bad idea to give you a whack once in a while. Then maybe you'd have something to snivel about."

The man who was the innocent cause of this conjugal arrangement came in, his laboring man's tunic basket under his arm. His expression was that of a man who had done his work that day faithfully and welcomed the coming of evening.

He nodded pleasantly. He saw the red eyes of the woman, squared his shoulders for a moment and passed on.

"Humph! I notice that you don't snivel while he's looking at you."

"How can you talk to me like that?"

"I'll talk to you as I please."

"You are always in the house. You are watching every move I make as if I wasn't a good woman. When I married you I loved you. You were an analytical chemist who every one said would make a mark in the world, but drink has thrown you on the reefs. And sometimes I hate you!"

He caught her by the shoulder and swung her out of the chair and raised his arm.

"Here, here, McWinter!" cried a voice from the doorway. "None of that while I am in the house. You ought to be ashamed of yourself!"

"This is my woman. I'll strike her if I want to."

"Oh, will you?"

The boarder sprang forward and caught the upraised arm, giving it no gentle wrench as he bore down upon it. That was enough for McWinter. With a snarl like a wolf he closed in. Almost instantly his back met the floor with a resounding thump.

"Don't! Don't!" pleaded the wife. "It will only make matters worse. You can't help me, Mr. Smith. Please go!"

"All right, Mrs. McWinter, but I haven't any use for a wife beater."

"You'll leave this house Saturday," said McWinter, picking himself up slowly. "Saturday night, and then you and your truck for the sidewalk. I've stood all I'm going to stand. Maybe you think I'm a fool, but I know what I know."

The beaten man slunk out of the house, cursing under his breath.

He realized that he would never get any satisfaction out of Smith in a



"I guess that'll fix you."

game of fisticuffs; the latter was too strong for him. He'd get him where he wanted him some day, and that day wasn't going to be far off either.

He did not come home until midnight. He grinned drunkenly in the mirror as he yanked off his tie and collar.

He wasn't a chemist for nothing; Smith would see. McWinter was a madman, and nobody suspected this fact.

The next morning he remained in bed with a splitting headache.

As Smith started out for his day's work he caught up the child and swung her aloft. She gurgled with happiness. Then he kissed her and set her down.

"I'm going to bring you that stick of candy tonight."

"Goody, goody! Can I eat it, mamma?"

"Yes, dear." To the man she said: "How long? How long?"

"Keep a stiff upper lip, Sally. We'll straighten out this muddle in time. It looks to me like McWinter isn't quite right in his upper story. If we could get him away from his whiskey there might be a chance. But he's an Indian when he's boozed up. They say at the laboratory that they'd be glad to give him steady work if they could trust him."

"Sometimes I've been wicked enough to wish that he was dead!"

"None of that kind of talk, little woman."

"You've been so good to us!"

"Who wouldn't be? Remember, now, mum's the word. Keep him in a good humor as much as you can, and when the time comes we'll light out and let the fool shift for himself."

McWinter crawled out of bed about 10 o'clock, ugly and tattered. When his wife spoke to him he did not answer. She sighed and returned to her sewing machine.

But for the child she knew that she must have given up the struggle long ago. She did not want any shadow to fall upon that pretty childhood.

Her own had been unhappy enough, and she was determined that the little one should not be disillusioned before her time.

Sometimes the machine stopped, and the woman gazed into the blue arch of heaven. To wish any one dead, no matter how cruel he might be, was a sin.

Clickety-clickety, clickety-clickety, sang the machine. From another part of the house came the happy laughter of the child.

McWinter left the house after drinking a cupful of strong coffee and stole along the road toward the woods, where he finally came upon a shack. It was rather peculiarly constructed.

There were no windows, and the door was abnormally thick.

The man went inside and remained there for half an hour. When he came out he appeared to be in good humor. An alienist might have been disturbed by the expression in the man's eyes. McWinter raised his fist toward town, shaking it and muttering:

"Spoon about my house, will you? Interfere in my affairs, huh? You wait, Mr. Smith. You just wait. Maybe you won't have to leave Saturday night. You'll go before."

Then he trudged back home. His wife was greatly surprised to find him in an amiable mood. It was so unlike



The Two Men Set Off on Their Hunting Trip.

him after a debauch. But she was glad enough to accept it at face value, being an honest and simple minded woman.

McWinter did odd jobs at the chemical laboratory in the village. He was an expert in certain departments, and occasionally the chief chemist risked the chance of sending for him.

It was noticeable that the derelict worked faithfully on these days, with the hope of continuous employment.

When afternoon came a telephone call arrived with it, and McWinter hurried off to the laboratory, rather pleased, too, to find himself temporarily placed over the man he hated so heartily.

The same amiability he had shown to his wife he now exhibited in a lesser degree toward Smith, who was rather astonished at the sudden turn of affairs.

"I'm sorry I lost my temper, Smith," said McWinter, rather solemnly. "But my nerves have gone to smash, and I'm imagining all sorts of things."

"Don't let that worry you," replied Smith, only too glad to bury the hatchet. "We all lose our tempers once in a while. But you ought to be a little more careful of that wife of yours."

"I know it"—humbly, all the while black murder in his heart. "We'll let bygones be bygones and go out some day for a hunt like we used to. There's nothing better than a good rabbit stew, and Sally knows how to cook it."

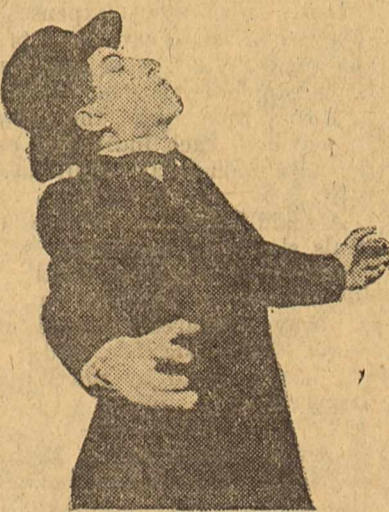
"I'd like nothing better," said the other man, believing in his heart that this new friendly attitude would aid in making one poor woman a little happier.

"I said something about you going on Saturday night. You just forget it."

"All right," said Smith.

At 5 o'clock McWinter left the laboratory and wended his way to the mysterious shack in the woods. For an hour he experimented with a peculiar sort of contrivance and from time to time gave vent to a diabolical chuckle. The man may have been a monomaniac, but that was never to be proved.

The thick door seemed to please his fancy immensely. An enormous spring



His Enemy Sinking Helplessly to the Floor.

was adroitly hidden by the hinges, such as would close the door violently and make it difficult to open without physical exertion.

The concussion was bound to shake everything in the shack. Near the ceiling was a small platform about six inches square. He propped open the door, took an empty bottle from his pocket and placed it upon this platform.

When he liberated the door the slam of it toppled the bottle from its perch, and it broke into a thousand pieces on the stone slab below.

"I guess that'll fix you. I guess that'll show you whose house you're boarding in, you snake!"

McWinter loosened the spring so as to open the door and passed out.

The following morning the clerk in the laboratory whose business it was to account for all the deadlier conco-

tions in making his daily inventory found a bottle missing, and this bottle contained one of the deadliest fumes in existence. He was greatly perturbed.

He asked Smith, but Smith denied that he had touched the bottle. That seemed to be the end of the affair.

On Sunday Mrs. McWinter's face was brighter than it had been in weeks. Her husband seemed to be an entirely different man.

He had softened so far as to tell a comic story, and you may be sure that Smith and Mrs. McWinter laughed heartily over it.

The two men shouldered their guns, whistled for the dog and set off on their hunting trip. And only one of them returned alive.

Smith came back alone and was rather surprised to find neither McWinter nor the dog. They had separated in the woods near the shack, of which Smith apparently knew nothing.

McWinter was missing all the next day. Tuesday morning they found him in the shack strangely dead.

A very peculiar case confronted the local authorities. There was one thing quite plain to them, however, and that was McWinter had been murdered in a most cunning and diabolical manner.

Naturally the coroner's inquest drew the net about Smith's feet. He had gone out hunting with McWinter and was the last man to see him alive.

Then came the clerk, who swore that the bottle found in the shack was identical with that stolen from the laboratory where both men worked.

Smith, despite all protests, was held for the grand jury on the charge of murder in the first degree.

Other facts began to circulate. Some one had heard McWinter accuse his wife of being too friendly with Smith, and out of this calumny raised its ugly head.

Here and there men began to mutter about Judge Lynch, and Mrs. McWinter was shunned by all those who had posed as her friends.

A few days before the trial began Hassam Ali was poring over his crystal. Near by sat Zudora, reading and reflecting.

The two had been talking about Mesmer and Cagliostro, and Zudora was gathering her arguments from the book she held. The bell was heard to ring.

A few moments later a visitor was ushered in by the Hindu servant. To Hassam Ali's cold eye this client did not suggest any future profit, but Mrs. McWinter's tale caught the sympathy of Zudora.

"I will take this case, uncle," she volunteered. "It interests me. It is purely circumstantial evidence, and that



"What a Thick Door!"

is usually the most puzzling to solve. If I succeed it will add another step toward my twenty cases."

"Suit yourself," carelessly. "But remember, if it turns out to be an ordinary case it will not count."

"I accept that risk."

Zudora, in accordance with her agreement with her lover, John Storm, wrote him explaining about the case and asked him to meet her at the McWinter house the following afternoon.

When the two arrived in the village they found the suburbs in turmoil. There had been, they found, a punitive expedition against the jail that held Smith, but it had been frustrated.

"This is going to be interesting, John," said Zudora.

"I've an idea I'd like to plead for the poor devil. I never realized how many kinks there were in life until you entered this detective business."

"The unexpected is always happening. On the face of it, this man Smith looks guilty. The very fact that the woman is eager to save him has a suspicious angle. But, for all this, we may find him innocent as a child."

Meantime Hassam Ali had not been idle. He was going to lose no chance to further his schemes. To be sure, he had signified his utter lack of interest in the case, but that had been to hoodwink his niece.

So quietly and unobserved he made a secret investigation of the shack. It did not take him remarkably keen eyes long to discover what had taken place. Clever, abominably clever!

Here was a criminal who had fantastic ideas. If this infernal contrivance had served one man's purpose it might readily serve another's.

So he contrived to separate Zudora and Storm and bring the latter to the shack. He wrote frankly, signing his own name and declaring that it would not be safe for Zudora to go deeply into this case, as there was more to it than could be seen on the surface.

So Storm concluded to meet Hassam Ali at the shack and find out what he had to say. He promised himself that he would be cautious and watch every move of his enemy.

Everything was ready for him, but again Hassam Ali was overanxious. He set one of the bottles he had found in a cabinet on the little platform near the ceiling.

Welcome, Mr. Storm, welcome! He laughed and his laughter might well

have been an echo to that made by the man who had built this windowless shack.

By and by he heard hurrying footsteps. Sillyly he looked out and observed the unsuspecting attorney. Good!

But something slipped. The spring moved too soon or Hassam Ali had not pulled it back far enough. The door slammed violently.

There came a tinkle of creaking glass, and Hassam Ali struggled desperately to pull the door open. He was already too weak.

Storm heard the door. He concluded his journey at a run. It took all his strength to force the door, which immediately closed again when he was inside. He saw dimly his enemy sinking helplessly to the floor, and almost instantly it seemed that the walls of the shack had begun to revolve.

Fumes! He stumbled desperately toward the door, but could not reach it.

Doubtless the only thing that saved Hassam Ali, or Storm for that matter,



The Eager Girl Pointed to the Little Platform.

was the second opening of the door, which let in a gust of pure air and carried out a certain volume of the poison.

Fortunately for both of them Zudora and Mrs. McWinter were both starting out for the shack at the very moment the door closed upon Hassam Ali.

Mrs. McWinter dreaded to see the fatal shack again, but Zudora insisted. She must see the shack and everything in it if she was to aid Smith in the slightest degree.

After Mrs. McWinter had fully explained the conditions Zudora was quite confident that the man Smith was innocent, no matter how deeply circumstantial evidence had involved him.

She also felt instinctively that the widow was holding something back.

"There it is," announced Mrs. McWinter, with a shudder.

"Why, there are no windows in it!"

"I know it. My husband built it. For what purpose I cannot say, unless it was to experiment in."

Mrs. McWinter began to cry.

"There, there," said Zudora. "From what you have told me I don't think that husband of yours was worth tears."

"But I have not told you all."

"Well, what more is there to tell?"

"The man accused of my husband's death was never my lover. He was my brother!"

"Good heavens! Why didn't you tell that to the coroner?"

"I dared not. I dared not tell even my husband that."

"Why?"

"My brother is an escaped convict. Again it was circumstantial evidence. He suffered in another man's place. For two years he has lived quietly here, and the police have lost all track of him. He was sentenced for five years and escaped during the first year of his term. If I had taken my husband into my confidence he would have enjoyed nothing greater than exposing George."

"You can trust me with your secret. He would be totally lost if the people knew this. Well, there's the shack. What a thick door!"

Reaching it, she tried to open it. It refused to budge. She called to Mrs. McWinter, and the two of them succeeded in pressing it back.

"Hold it!" cried Zudora, reaching for a log near at hand. With this she was able to hold the door.

Then she saw Storm and Hassam Ali lying senseless on the floor. She sniffed and for a moment felt dizzy.

The fresh air, however, came in strongly, and after a few moments the two men dazedly opened their eyes.

Zudora helped them both outside, shaking them roughly. It took a quarter of an hour to bring them around to anything like normality. Whatever Storm thought of the affair he kept to himself.

Zudora, believing it wise to close the door again, was about to cast aside the log when her eye was attracted by a tuft of coarse hair caught in a splinter.

"Did your husband have a dog?" she asked the frightened woman at her side.

"Yes. But he ran away the day my husband died, and no one has seen him since."

Zudora again studied the log thoughtfully. The earth about was soft, and presently she discovered the footprints of a dog. The tuft of hair and the tracks set her thinking deeply.

"Was your man quite right?" she asked, touching her forehead.

"How do you mean?"

"I mean did he act queerly at times?"

"Why, now you come to speak of it, yes. I thought he was just erratic."

"Here's a bit of good luck," said Zudora suddenly. She pointed down the road a bit where a wagon was visibly approaching. "He'll be able to give us a lift back to the village. I want to see the authorities at once. I've an idea how your husband came to die."

"How?"

"All in good time." Zudora halted the farmer. He would gladly give them a lift. "These two men," said Zudora, indicating John and Hassam Ali, "have met with an accident. Help me get them into the wagon."

"In a jiffy, miss!"

The exhausted men were bundled into the wagon, and the farmer touched his team with his whip.

At the outskirts of the town they came upon a mob. It was very disorderly. In the midst of this mob was a pale man securely bound.

"My brother! They are going to lynch him!" cried the widow wildly.

It looked that way to Zudora too. There was one thing for her to do. Into this mob she resolutely pushed her way. The excited men stepped aside grumblingly.

"Men, even if this poor man was guilty you are acting like a pack of wolves. He is innocent. I can tell you how John McWinter came to his death. He died in a trap he had set for this very man you would hang. His own dog was the cause of his death!"

"His dog?"

"Come, come; this is no time for fairy stories. String him up, boys, before the police nose in!"

Smith was backed against a tree. "I warn you that you will be committing murder. Give me one hour, and if I cannot reasonably prove that Smith is guiltless, why, I engage to stand aside and watch you hang him."

This declaration made the more sober men pause.

"And I'll help you pull the rope!" shouted the sheriff, quick to recognize the value of a respite.

"Choose six among you to follow me," said Zudora, "or as many as you wish."

"We'll all go; Smith too!"

That settled it. The mob began to surge along the road at a dog trot. If this girl could prove what she said, why, Smith could go; if not there'd be enough trees near the shack to serve their purpose.

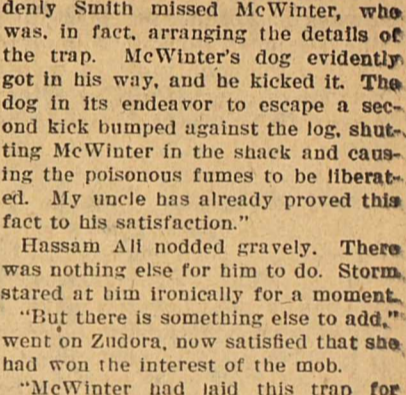
When the eager girl exhibited the bottles and explained what was in them, pointed to the little platform, and then to the door with its spring, a calm began to settle upon the blood-thirsty men.

"To hold the door open against the pressure of the spring it was necessary to prop this log against it. McWinter and Smith had gone out hunting. Suddenly Smith missed McWinter, who was, in fact, arranging the details of the trap. McWinter's dog evidently got in his way, and he kicked it. The dog in its endeavor to escape a second kick bumped against the log, shutting McWinter in the shack and causing the poisonous fumes to be liberated. My uncle has already proved this fact to his satisfaction."

Hassam Ali nodded gravely. There was nothing else for him to do. Storm stared at him ironically for a moment.

"But there is something else to add," went on Zudora, now satisfied that she had won the interest of the mob.

"McWinter had laid this trap for Smith himself. He was an insane man, and none of you ever suspicioned



"He is innocent."

this fact. He imagined all his troubles. Smith had absolutely nothing to do with them. Now hang him if you can!"

The mob quietly took itself off, vastly shamed and chastened, and Smith soothed his sobbing sister, his eyes full of gratitude.

"You're a wonderful little person, Zudora," whispered Storm.

"Am I? Take me back to town. I am tired. And there's more to do. I've got to free Smith again—from prison."

But the death of the real culprit did that, and Smith walked the earth again a free citizen.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

A heavy cold in the lungs that was expected to cure itself has been the starting point in many cases of disease that ended fatally. The sensible course is to take frequent doses of Ballard's Horehound Syrup. It checks the progress of the disorder and assists nature to restore normal conditions. Price 25c, 50c, and \$1.00 per bottle. Sold by the Walker Drug Co.

THE BANNER-LEDGER

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The man who kicks when you present him with a bill is the man who always says "charge it."

Home made grub is mighty hard to beat; let Texas feed itself.

Man's first duty is to provide for his children. We are in favor of "fixing" the school building.

The reduction in cost of autos tires is for the benefit of the few. What we would like to see would be a reduction in shoe sales.

It's hard to make a man believe that a wave of prosperity is sweeping the country when he is slow and out, but it is.

The girls still lead in the graduating class, but it is gratifying to note that the number of boys to complete their high school work is on the increase.

Local merchants are selling home-made meat. That's as it should be, but we fear the farmers that are supplying this meat will be buying it back before the year is gone at double the price. Keep plenty for home use first.

Runnels county is a leader, and always has been. Much credit is due Demonstrator McLeland for putting the county on the map in matters of diversification. Others can profit by what this county has accomplished.

Perfect harmony prevails between the commissioner's court, agricultural department of the county, educational department, and the business league, and where there is such harmony and oneness in purpose we are bound to succeed.

The chicken lover in town should not let his poultry enthusiast work to the detriment of his neighbor who wants a pretty flower yard and a little garden in the rear corner of his yard. Don't raise chickens unless you are fixed for it.

If the revolution in Mexico keeps up a while longer an army of presidents will be ready for the war. This is as it should be. When the higher ups go to war and kill off one another the common people will have no trouble settling their differences.

The police in Waco arrested a beggar for violating the vagrancy law. The beggar had \$26 in his jeans. He was fined \$25. He refused to pay the fine. Is a beggar with \$26 in his pocket a vagrant, or is a vagrant with that

much money in his pocket a beggar? that's the question that should have been determined.

And now they want to make three states out of Texas. The proposed states will be known as North Texas, with the capital at Palestine; West Texas, with the capital at Abilene; and South Texas, with the capital at Austin. We will never agree to carving Texas into Ballinger is elected as the seat of government for the new state, and a Ballinger man made governor.

Requests for quotations on maize and feterita are received daily from our East Texas neighbors, and many car loads of feed stuff have been supplied by Runnels county farmers during the last few weeks. We know the prevailing price is tempting, but the wise farmer will hold back for the safety of his own stock. This year's crop is to be made yet.

According to the report of the Carnegie charity committee, Uncle Andrew only gives away an average of about one million dollars per day. The old man is working hard to keep from dying a rich man, but his income increases, and it will be impossible for him to give away his money before he departs from this world.

A bill will be introduced in the Texas legislature requiring that all legal notices shall be published in a newspaper. At present such notices are posted on bulletin boards, telephone posts, cross roads, mile posts, etc. As a rule these are matters of importance and should be given the widest publicity possible in order that the parties interested could receive full benefit. The law should be passed and no doubt will.

MAY TELEPHONE TO CHINA.

Less than forty years ago two fanatical young experimenters heard the world's first telephone conversation over a wire stretched between the rooms of their Boston workshop. Last month the same two men, Alexander Graham Bell and Thomas A. Watson, formally opened the first transcontinental telephone line between New York and San Francisco, and hear each other much more clearly than they did that first time. The speed and power of modern engineering genius was never more strikingly shown, and the details are as remarkable as the feat itself. Imagine the human voice transmitted through 740 tons of copper and across the entire United States in about one-fifteenth of a second. Imagine talking 3,400 miles to your friend over a "phantom circuit" which is nothing at all but the abstract relation between four real wires! The new repeaters, which "boost" the conversation every thousand miles or so, have left no known limit to the land distance over which one may talk. The chief engineer, Mr. John Joseph Carty, hints every cheerfully of telephoning to China some day. Why not? The limit was fifty miles when he began, and they have added 4,700 miles to that already. But greater than these facts, and more important than prophecies, are the courage and brains and faithful patient work of the many who have labored together to draw our whole United States within the compass of a single human voice. By these things is our country united—and justified.—Leslie's Weekly.

F. F. Schmidt, of the Hatchel country, is now comfortably situated in his bachelor home and starts right by ordering the Banner-Ledger for the ensuing year

Truitt, Texas, Feb. 7. Dear Editor:—As I was busy last week hauling off my wheat I did not have time to send you in the happenings around over the neighborhood.

The W. O. W. had their regular meeting last Saturday night and the Mackinzie Grand Opera, the largest in the world gave their grand performance here at the school house Saturday night. Everything was grand the characters were fine and the music was sublime and everybody had a big time.

A walking cane was put up for the man that had a general reputation as being the ugliest man in the county, Mr. D. W. Yeager, G. Damron, J. C. Golden, Prof. S. C. Harris and J. F. White, were nominated; for a time it seemed as if there would be some question as to who would be the possessor of the coveted cane; but upon the first ballot D. W. Yeager (and unquestionably the right one) was unanimously the choice of the crowd as the other candidates were eliminated.

We are proud to state that Mr. S. P. Bates has again regained his wonted health and is about his usual farm work, which we hope that we may be able to push all the year without another attack as he has had his share. Truitt seems to still be the strategic point for the enemy to make his attack, as he came out here last week in the form of Bill Gee, of Winters, a suburb of Bradshaw, came out and hitched his team to the Pruitt house and literally carried it away, we will proceed at once to mine all the straits and bays to keep that gentleman away.

There was preaching at the school house Sunday evening by Rev. James Spear, of Winters, everyone seeming to enjoy the sermon which was masterfully rendered.

Mr. J. S. Haynes together with his father and mother will move to Oklahoma at an early date; we are sorry to see them leave.

Our popular merchant has formally announced that he is now on the carpet.

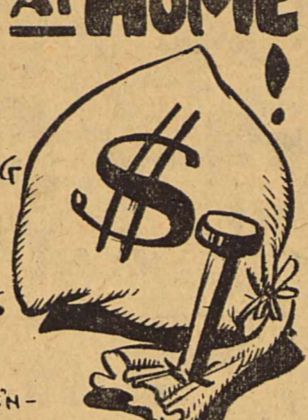
The school at this place is growing very rapidly, have something like 55 or 60, we did not think to ask Mr. Harris for the correct number.

The literary was a success here Friday night. A large crowd was in attendance, the spelling bee was fine. Mrs. R. A. Bishop and Mrs. Harris, were the two to stay on the floor the longest. D. W. Yeager is a fine racer when it comes to making the race (for a cane) but he can't spell the word. Miss Nona Golden gave us a very nice reading, entitled: "He (Mr. Fowler) Popped." The Negro burlesque by Messrs Luther Yeager and Bryan Bishop was fine; everybody is invited to come next Friday night.

Quite a lot of people around Truitt are advocating a road bond election. We hope it will carry as she lives six miles over the way and the roads are awful ruff.

NAIL YOUR MONEY DOWN AT HOME

THE MERCHANT THAT ADVERTISES IN THIS PAPER BELIEVES IN HIS GOODS AND IS WILLING TO SPEND HIS MONEY- TO TELL YOU ABOUT THEM- HE DESERVES YOUR PATRONAGE



SOUTHWESTERN WEEKLY NEWSPAPER ASS'N

JUST FOR ARGUMENT SAKE

Truitt Trinklets.

Washington, Feb. 10.—The Department of Agriculture, after investigating 438 families in ten different states in an effort to get a correct answer for the puzzling question, "How much does the average farmer make?" has reached the conclusion that the annual value of the food, fuel, oil and shelter enjoyed by the average farm family is \$505.

The investigators found that on the farm examined the average cost of maintaining each grown person was \$176 a year, divided as follows:

- Dairy products\$21
- Pork12
- Poultry and eggs12
- Fruit6
- Wood and coal13
- Groceries22
- Beef6
- Garden10
- House rent28
- Labor46

Of this sum only about 28 percent was paid out in cash. The remainder was furnished by the farm, not in the form of money, but in those things for which the money would have been exchanged. On a certain area in North Carolina included in the scope of the investigation it was found that if it had not been for such articles as tea, coffee, sugar, salt and other groceries impossible to produce at home, the farms would have been self-sustaining.

"The bulk of groceries are bought," said the investigators, "but the total quantity consumed depended to a great extent upon the quantity of animal products and vegetables raised on the farm. Where these abounded the consumption of groceries diminished. From this it would seem that an obvious way to effect an important saving in expenses is to raise more vegetables and animal products on the farm. Whether it is better to cut down expenses in this way or to increase receipts by concentrating attention on cash crops is one of the great problems in farm management, the answer to which in each individual case depends upon local conditions."

A scald, burn, or severe cut heals slowly if neglected. The family that keeps a bottle of Ballard's Snow Liniment on hand is always prepared for such accidents. Price 25c, 50c, and \$1.00 per bottle. Sold by the Walker Drug Co.

George Denton and J. H. Kenner, of the Norton country, were looking after business in Ballinger Wednesday.

J. P. Booth, manager of the Farmers Union Cotton yard, was among the number Monday who ordered the Banner-Ledger for the ensuing year.

C. W. Barrett, of the Norton country, and O. Hosten of the Crews country, were among the business visitors in Ballinger Monday afternoon.

A child that has intestinal worms is handicapped in its growth. A few doses of White's Cream Vermifuge destroys and expels the worms; the child immediately improves and thrives wonderfully. Price 25c per bottle. Sold by the Walker Drug Co.

How Much Does the Average Farmer Make

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—The Department of Agriculture, after investigating 438 families in ten different states in an effort to get a correct answer for the puzzling question, "How much does the average farmer make?" has reached the conclusion that the annual value of the food, fuel, oil and shelter enjoyed by the average farm family is \$505.

The investigators found that on the farm examined the average cost of maintaining each grown person was \$176 a year, divided as follows:

- Dairy products\$21
- Pork12
- Poultry and eggs12
- Fruit6
- Wood and coal13
- Groceries22
- Beef6
- Garden10
- House rent28
- Labor46

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JACK RABBIT MARKET GONE TO THE BAD

With rabbits bringing only 4 1-2 cents each on the New Orleans market, and the commission and freight amounting to more than that, the rabbit market is "blow-ed up."

A couple of years ago rabbits sold for as much as 35c each on the New Orleans market, and there was a demand in the eating houses at that place for rabbit hash, and the business all over the Southwest was rapidly developing and rabbit drives through the months of January and February were made profitable in more ways than the mere riddance of the pest.

The season for making drives in this section is just approaching, and plans had been made to take care of all the rabbits killed and convert them into money, but now the rabbits will be left on the field where slaughtered, and aside from the sport derived by the hunters, and the ridding the country of the pest there will be no profit.

It is claimed that the big mule ears are very plentiful this winter, due to the heavy feed crop and rich range for the rabbits throughout the last year, and where the rabbits multiply so fast it is necessary for the farmers to combine together to keep down the destruction from crops that is sure to follow.

SICK, SOUR STOMACH, INDIGESTION OR GAS

Stomachs feel fine in five minutes.

Wonder what upset your stomach—which portion of the food did the damage—do you? Well, don't bother. If your stomach is in a revolt; if sour, gassy and upset, and what you just ate has fermented into stubborn lumps; head dizziness and aches; belch gases and acids and eructate undigested food—just take a little Pape's Diapepsin and in five minutes you wonder what became of the indigestion and distress.

Millions of men and women today know that it is needless to have a bad stomach. A little Diapepsin occasionally keeps this delicate organ regulated and they eat their favorite foods without fear.

If your stomach doesn't take care of your liberal limit without rebellion; if your food is a damage instead of a help, remember the quickest, surest, most harmless relief is Pape's Diapepsin which costs only fifty-cents for a large case at drug stores. It's truly wonderful—it digests food, and sets things straight, so gently and easily that it is really astonishing. Please, for your sake, don't go on and on with a weak, disordered stomach; it's so unnecessary.

Charlie Wimberly, of the Crews country was looking after business affairs in Ballinger Monday.

L. S. Baldwin, of Crews, was looking after business affairs in Ballinger Tuesday.

The library is open every Saturday afternoon from 2:30 to 5:30 and the position of librarian is filled by the different ladies of the Shakespeare Club.



Neuralgia

There is no need to suffer the annoying, excruciating pain of neuralgia; Sloan's Liniment laid on gently will soothe the aching head like magic. Don't delay. Try it at once.

Hear What Others Say "I have been a sufferer with Neuralgia for several years and have tried different Liniments, but Sloan's Liniment is the best Liniment for Neuralgia on earth. I have tried it successfully; it has never failed."—F. H. Williams, Augusta, Ark.

SLOAN'S LINIMENT

is the best remedy for rheumatism, backache, sore throat and sprains. At all dealers, 25c. Send four cents in stamps for a TRIAL BOTTLE.

Dr. Earl S. Sloan, Inc. Philadelphia, Pa.

LIBRARY MAKES BETTER SHOWING

The librarian at the Carnegie Library states that more books have been taken out lately at that institution than ever before and the interest in things in fiction line is certainly on the upgrade. Saturday, January 30th, 55 books were released to readers and last Saturday 66 books left the shelves, making an increase of 11 over the previous week.

The new shipment of books recently purchased for the library undoubtedly has had home influence in making the increase and the fact that a larger range of books in all classes to select from too has had something to do with it, it is stated.

The library is open every Saturday afternoon from 2:30 to 5:30 and the position of librarian is filled by the different ladies of the Shakespeare Club.

MANY DISORDERS COME FROM THE LIVER

Are You Just at Odds with Yourself? Do You Regulate Living?

Are you sometimes at odds with yourself and with the world? Do you wonder what ails you? True you may be eating regularly and sleeping well. Yet something is the matter! Constipation, headache, nervousness and bilious spells indicate a sluggish liver. The tried remedy is Dr. King's New Life Pills. Only 25c at your Druggists. Bucklin's Arnicia Salve for skin eruptions.

"Just Banking"

The kind you want, plain, old-fashioned and safe; yet progressive enough, with the proper regard for the need of its depositors; the kind our fathers knew; the kind that is within the limits of time-proven methods; the kind you can depend on today, tomorrow, and may feel secure in recommending to your children.

Money left with this strong state bank does three-fold service: It strengthens your credit, helps general conditions, and places funds safely at your disposal, to be drawn at your will. Give us a chance to show you what our service really means.

We are never too busy to be courteous.

The Winters State Bank

Winters, Texas.
Capital \$50,000.00 Guaranty Fund Bank

Ballinger State Bank & Trust Co.

"The Non-Interest Bearing and Unsecured Deposits of this Bank are Protected by the State Bank Guarantee Fund."

RESOURCES \$201,442.68

Your Business and Deposits are Cordially Solicited We Promise You SERVICE and ATTENTION. "We Take Care of Our Customers" In Bounds of Safety and Conservatism.

DIRECTORS: Chas. S. Miller, President. Geo. M. Vaughn, Vice-Pres't. Morgan Jones. C. O. Harris. C. A. Orbeck, Sec'y.

ACTING OFFICERS: Chas. S. Miller, President and Cashier. Sam Baker, Assistant Cashier. C. A. Orbeck, Ass't Cashier.

Colds and Croup in Children.

Many people rely upon Chamberlain's Cough Remedy implicitly in cases of colds and croup, and it never disappoints them. Mrs. E. H. Thomas, Logansport, Ind., writes: "I have found Chamberlain's Cough Remedy to be the best medicine for colds and croup I have ever used, and never tire of recommending it to my neighbors and friends. I have always given it to my children when suffering from croup, and it has never failed to give them prompt relief." For sale by all dealers.

POWER PLANT BOILER EXPLODES AT ABILENE

ABILENE, Feb. 8.—The boiler room of the American Public Service company, owners of the local electric, water and ice plant, was totally wrecked at 11:30 Saturday night when one or two of the three 150 horse-power boilers exploded.

J. H. Shuffield, chief engineer, and J. A. Major, fireman at the plant and R. F. Price were the only occupants of the building at the time. None were hurt.

The three boilers stood in a row in the east end of the plant, facing south. The east boiler was blown out into the street, across the railroad track, with its ends facing east and west. The center boiler rolled down in the place occupied by the east boiler, while the boiler on the west side was pulled out of place several inches.

The boiler which exploded, that on the outside on the east, had several of its big plates blown off and curled up like thin tin. One end sank deep into the ground at the end of a boxcar on the railroad siding.

The boiler room was a complete wreck. The roof fell in or was blown off and the sides to the north and east were destroyed. Bricks that had formed the furnace about the boilers were scattered in every direction, principally across the street on the east. Sheetiron was blown eastwards for several yards, landing against trees and houses. So far as could be learned none of the dwellings in the vicinity were damaged.

A. V. Wainwright, general manager of the Abilene Gas & Electric Company estimated the losses at between \$20,000 and \$25,000.

J. A. Major, the fireman, had just left the boiler room about five minutes before the explosion to aid the engineer, J. H. Shuffield. The men were busy "cutting over" the pumps and lights from the steam engine to the Diesel engines. The Diesel engine runs by oil and is used at certain hours of the night, from 11 o'clock.

While they were engaged in the transfer of the power, the explosion occurred. A few minutes difference either way would have been the death of Major.

Gas was used to fire the boilers and Major declared that when he left the room the water-gauge and steam-gauge were at the regulation points. Just how the explosion was caused may never be known. One theory is that a rivet gave way.

OUCH! RUB BACKACHE STIFFNESS, LUMBAGO

Rub Pain from back with small trial bottle of old "St. Jacob's Oil."

Back hurt you? Can't straighten up without feeling sudden pains, sharp aches and twinges? Now listen! That's lumbago, sciatica or maybe from a strain, and you'll get relief the moment you rub your back with soothing, penetrating "St. Jacobs Oil." Nothing else takes out soreness, lameness and stiffness so quickly: You simply rub it on your back and out comes the pain. It is harmless and doesn't burn the skin.
Limber up! Don't suffer! Get a small trial bottle of old, honest "St. Jacobs Oil" from any drug store, and after using it just once, you'll forget that you ever had backache, lumbago or sciatica, because your back will never hurt or cause any more misery. It never disappoints and has been recommended for 60 years.

QUEEN TO BUILD BIG ROOF GARDEN

L. Cohen, proprietor of the Queen Theatre, stated that the Queen will soon commence work of building a new and up-to-date roof garden, the open air theatre to be placed on the roof of the present house. Mr. Cohen stated this morning that the contract will be some time in May, and the work pushed as rapidly as possible. The Queen is an exclusive motion picture house and makes a feature of its admission price, which always remains the same—ten cents.

Barred Rock Eggs
\$1 per setting of 15 eggs. Mrs. R. L. Wylie, Route 4, Ballinger, Texas.
w 4t pd

GIRLS! DRAW A MOIST CLOTH THROUGH HAIR

Try This! Hair gets thick, glossy wavy and beautiful at once.

Immediate?—Yes! Certain?—that's the joy of it. Your hair becomes light, wavy, fluffy, abundant and appears as soft, lustrous and beautiful as a young girl's after a Danderine hair cleanse. Just try this—moisten a cloth with a little Danderine and carefully draw it through your hair, taking one small strand at a time. This will cleanse the hair of dust, dirt or excessive oil, and in just a few moments you have doubled the beauty of your hair. A delightful surprise awaits those whose hair has been neglected or is scraggy, faded, dry, brittle or thin. Besides beautifying the hair, Danderine dissolves every particle of dandruff; cleanses, purifies and invigorates the scalp, forever stopping itching and falling hair, but what will please you most will be after a few weeks' use, when you see new hair—fine and downy at first—yes—but really new hair growing all over the scalp. If you care for pretty, soft hair, and lots of it, surely get a 25 cent bottle of Knowlton's Danderine from any drug store or toilet counter and just try it.

JUDGE GUION TO ADDRESS TEXAS LAWMAKERS

Judge Jno. I. Guion left Monday afternoon, where he will appear before the Texas legislature and address that body on the question of consolidating the University of Texas and the A. & M. College. Judge Guion as a member of the regents of the A. & M. is opposed to the consolidation of the two institutions. The bill is up before the law makers, and will no doubt be disposed of at an early date. Judge Guion, in a recent interview published in this paper, set forth his objections to the bill, and offered what he thinks the best solution of the problem. He thinks the two schools should be kept out of politics and that the funds for the maintenance of the institution divided.

Band Boys Close Contract With New Leader

The band boys succeeded in securing sufficient money to justify them closing a contract with Prof. Joe T. Ward for a six month's contract, and they believe that after the first six months they will be able to show the people of Ballinger that they can make it worth while to renew the contract and maintain a band.

The new organization of music makers start out with fifteen members, and new ones will be added and the band perfected and made ready for service throughout the spring and summer months, and for all occasions.

Prof. Ward says he never saw a finer bunch of boys as we have here and he predicts that it will not be long until his will be able to entertain the people, and give them value received for the money they have agreed to invest in the proposition.

"I am sure the boys will do their part," said Prof. Ward, "if the people will give them the necessary encouragement and show their appreciation. I must have a band, and I am sure that the material is here to make it with. I always get engagements that I must fill in the summer, and unless I can get a band here I must go elsewhere," is the way the new leader expresses it. He says he can organize a band here that will be a credit to the city when they go away from home to play.

Prof. Ward has built up some of the best bands in Texas. It was his band that took first prize at the Dallas fair last year in the amateur class.

We believe the people of Ballinger will show their appreciation of the efforts put forth by the boys and that all that will be necessary, after they have perfected their organization, will be to make their want known.

The Wilke building near the Santa Fe passenger station has been fitted up for a band hall, and the boys will meet for regular practice. Practice hours will be fixed for the new members and Prof. Ward will give the band his best attention.

METHODIST PLANNING TO PENSION MINISTERS

CHICAGO, Feb. 8.—A broad, comprehensive plan for the establishment of old age pensions, and widows' and orphans' endowments will be under consideration here during the last week in April at a national conference of Methodists clergymen. It is desired to raise a fund of \$10,000,000 to maintain these benefits.

It is held by advocates of the plan that at the end of thirty-five years' service every Methodist minister is entitled to a pension amounting to one half of the average salary paid in his conference. This would mean, in Chicago, a pension of \$665 annually inasmuch as the average salary here is \$1,330. For men who have occupied the pulpit for less than thirty-five years, a proportionate scale is proposed. The caring for widows and orphans is also considered an important function of the fund.

Pensions experts from many fields will be invited to explain various plans. Among those who will speak before the ministers will be men in charge of the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad, Pennsylvania Railroad and First National Bank, of Chicago, pension systems.

The Methodists themselves have already a comprehensive plan. Dr. Joseph B. Hingeley is chairman of the board of conference claimants which has this work in charge.

FISHERMEN BREAKING THE ICE

With the signs of spring approaching those who are tied down with the business cares of life are yielding to the temptation to spend a few hours on the banks of the river and other sparkling streams and splash the water with the reel and rod.

R. P. Conn, Dr. A. S. Love, G. W. Newman and P. L. Lane spent Monday on Concho, making stop at Fuzzy creek on returning home. Their luck consisted of one little fish. Nothing doing, they report.

Roy Reeder, II. C. Gardner, Claude Stone and Joe Stubbenan left Tuesday morning for a two day's try-out on the Colorado 29 miles below Ballinger. They went prepared for camping and will make a thorough test for early fishing.

\$100 REWARD, \$100.

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages, and that is Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure now known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials.

Address: F. J. CHENEY & CO. Toledo, Ohio.

Sold by all Druggists, 75c. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

MARRIED SUNDAY AT CENTRAL HOTEL

Mr. Howard Stephenson of Eola, and Miss Maud Willis, of Goldley, were married Sunday afternoon in the parlor of the Central Hotel, Judge Kleberg officiating.

Miss Willis and her bosom friend Miss Sadie Brown, of Joshua, arrived on the noon train and were met by Mr. and Mrs. U. L. Willis, of Lawn, brother of the bride, and Miss Leora Stephenson of Eola, sister of the groom, and after a dinner at the Central Hotel they repaired to the parlor where the ceremony was performed.

Mr. and Mrs. Stephenson left for Eldorado Monday, and will go out on a ranch near that place where they will make their home.

Gather or boll cotton ginned right at Ira L. Sim's Gin at Pony. Now installing new huller gins, ready about Jan. 25th. Also have a boiler and cleaner which helps wonderfully as to grade. wtf

We are glad to note Theo Krc of the Pony creek country able to be in the city Monday after a severe spell of illness the past few weeks.

Standard Remedy For Many Homes

Indigestion and constipation are two conditions closely related and the cause of much physical suffering.

The tendency to indulge one's appetite is general, so that most people suffer at some time or another from rebellion of the overtaxed organs of digestion and elimination. A simple, pleasantly effective remedy that will quickly relieve the congestion of poisonous waste and restore regularly, is the combination of simple laxative herbs with pepsin, sold in drug stores under the name of Dr. Caldwell's Syrup Pepsin. This is a mild, pleasant laxative- and digestant, absolutely free from opiates or narcotic drugs and has been the standard household remedy in countless homes for many years. A free trial bottle can be obtained by writing to Dr. W. B. Caldwell, 452 Washington St., Monticello, Ills.

Road Question Up; Petition is Now Ready

All petitions asking the commissioners' court to grant an election in road precinct number one, to the amount of \$60,000 have been received by the Young Men's Business League. Many names have been signed to the petitions, all the signatures being those of property owners of the road precinct and more than twice as are necessary for the calling of the election.

The directors of the Young Men's Business League will not present the petitions to the commissioners' court until Thursday afternoon or Friday morning. The court will immediately act upon the documents and probably grant an election, setting the date for the same.

Interest today centers in the mass meeting of the citizens of road precinct number one, which will be held in the rooms of the Young Men's Business League Thursday afternoon, 2 o'clock. Several hundred notices have been sent out by the secretary of the commercial organization, notifying the property owners of the important meeting. The good roads question will be thrashed out thoroughly at the meeting by men who have studied the question from every viewpoint. However, it is the intention of the board of directors of the Young Men's Business League to feel out the sentiment of the people, rural and city, on the road bond question. The commissioners' court will honor the meeting with their presence Thursday afternoon on the occasion of good roads speaking.

Expressions gathered from the rural residents of the precinct by the Young Men's Business League are generally to the effect that road bonds ought to be issued immediately if Runnels County wants to maintain her position at the head of Texas counties. One farmer thinks that one of the most important things brought about the revival in the construction of good roads was the heavy rain of last fall.

Recognized Advantages

You will find that Chamberlain's Cough Remedy has recognized advantages over most medicines in use for coughs and colds. It does not suppress a cough but loosens and relieves it. It aids expectoration and opens the secretions, which enables the system to throw off a cold. It counteracts any tendency of a cold to result in pneumonia. It contains no opium or other narcotic, and may be given to a child as confidently as to an adult.

Dee Johnson, constable of Crews was among the business visitors in Ballinger Monday.

"The Best Laxative I Know Of." "I have sold Chamberlain's Tablets for several years. People who have used them will take nothing else. I can recommend them to my customers as the best laxative and cure for constipation that I know of," writes Frank Strouse, Fruitland, Iowa. For sale by all dealers.

Clarence and Stanley Harter, of the Wilmeth country were marketing oats in Ballinger Monday.

JURORS FOR MARCH TERM DISTRICT COURT

The March term of District Court will convene in Ballinger on March 8th. We are publishing herewith list of grand jurors and petit jurors drawn for the term.

It will be observed that the grand jury will convene the first week instead of the second as here tofore, and the petit jurors for the first week have also been summoned for the 8th, instead of for the second week.

The docket, as is usually the case in this county, is light, and unless the grand jury stirs up some new business there will be little for the court to do.

Grand Jury Called for First Week
R. T. Williams, E. M. Eubanks, R. W. Bruce, J. P. Maddox, F. E. Clayton, Edgar Jayroe, T. W. Murray, W. S. Syler, C. P. Prewett, J. McCaughan, A. P. Luckett, H. W. Robinson, Sr., A. J. Loika, G. Schulmann, R. P. Kirk and J. Stubberfield.

Petit Jury First Week
G. C. Brock, P. P. Ewald, W. A. Tally, C. F. Grant, C. R. Jeanes, M. T. Hensley, H. A. Mitchell, J. T. Brandon, S. L. Eason, R. L. Shaffer, R. N. Ensor, W. P. Vaughn, T. F. Bridwell, L. E. Bair, E. H. Voelkel, Diaz Wood, J. L. Miller, Wm. Stevens, E. B. Walker, Geo. Holiday, J. P. Brooks, Elmer Jones, J. W. Bigby, J. L. Lee, J. W. Shaw, Aug. Sigll, Jr., I. L. Beard, E. F. Krebs, Joe Vaneil, C. L. Harter, Edwin Day, J. W. Dale, J. H. Franklin, Ben C. McAdams, John Thurman and H. C. Moten.

Petit Jury Second Week
C. F. Awalt, Jno. F. Currie, J. M. Skaggs, J. L. McWhirter, W. P. Hawkins, J. J. Hankhaus, F. Roper, C. M. Gibson, I. A. Curry, D. Reeder, I. C. Browder, J. B. Porterfield, Lon Baldwin, W. B. Middleton, J. M. Mackey H. M. Josey, L. S. Metcalfe, F. D. Bedford, J. R. Felder, F. T. Rushing, Otto Eggemeyer, E. A. Trail, R. B. Hambricht, W. W. Poe, W. A. Francis, J. T. Ford, M. D. Oliver, H. W. Lynn, Wm. Heavenhill, H. K. Reid, A. J. Thorp, R. L. Bates, W. E. Barbee, M. C. Wilson, G. W. Briley, E. M. Bond.

HOW FRENCH PEOPLE CURE STOMACH TROUBLE

A household remedy of the French peasantry, consisting of pure vegetable oil, and said to possess wonderful merit in the treatment of stomach, liver and intestinal troubles, has been introduced in this country by George H. Mayr, who for twenty years has been one of the leading down-town druggists of Chicago and who himself was cured by its use. So quick and effective is its action that a single dose is usually enough to bring pronounced relief in the most stubborn cases, and many people who have tried it declare they never heard of anything to produce such remarkable results in so short a time. It is known as Mayr's Wonderful Remedy and can now be had at all leading drug stores. It is sold with the positive understanding that your money will be refunded without question or quibble if ONE bottle fails to give you absolute satisfaction.

A True Story of the Mexican Revolution

The Mexican-American Peace Society of Washington, are working hard to bring about peace in the Southern republic and establish in that country a constitutional form of government. In order that the American people may know the real conditions in Mexico they have prepared a "Story of the Mexican Revolution," and arrangements have been made with the Ledger to publish this story, and it will appear at an early date.

The story will make about one page and deals with questions for which Madero sacrificed his life. The first hand information secured by the Mexican-American Peace Society shows that the better element in Mexico is behind Carranza because of his honesty integrity and the fact that he stands for a government of principle and not of men, and that he is fighting for necessary reforms that the Mexican people demand.

Have it ginned at Ira L. Sim's Gin, at Pony, as he has a boiler and cleaner in connection with new huller gins now being installed. Ready about January 25th. wtf

"Texas" is The Fastest Train In The State

The opening of the through service to California, over the Santa Fe's new line, was celebrated at 8 o'clock last night by a large percent of the population of Brownwood, who gathered at the station and waited eagerly for the first two transcontinental trains to arrive. Never since the opening of the new passenger station has there been such a crowd. The station platform was crowded for more than an hour with a jolly, laughing gathering of people who had forsaken the churches to be present when the new service was officially opened.

The two new trains, No. 80, east bound; and 79, westbound, arrived simultaneously, and on time. The eastbound train was a small affair, running without a Pullman but the westbound carried the usual number of coaches, with a through Pullman enroute from New Orleans to California. Passenger Agent Osburn furnished two passengers for this Pullman when it reached Brownwood, two strangers buying tickets to San Diego, California.

The eastbound train was in charge of Conductor Ed Ennis, running from Sweetwater to Temple. At Temple it is understood that he will be relieved by Conductor Frank Campbell, who will take the regular to Sweetwater. Mr. Campbell has been operating trains on the San Angelo branch for the past twenty years or more, and is one of the most popular and efficient conductors on the road. The westbound train last night was in charge of Conductor M. H. Donnelly, who comes to this line from the main line of the Santa Fe. He is also an old Santa Fe conductor, and is well liked by the traveling public. The two through trains will meet in Brownwood each night at 8 o'clock, and spend 25 minutes here, for supper.

The new trains will operate on the fastest schedule ever doped out for a Texas railroad. The average for the three thousand miles trip is thirty-three miles per hour, including stops. From Temple to Sweetwater the trains stop only at county seat towns. The track is laid with 90-pound steel, and without a mishap the fast schedule will not be as difficult as at first imagined.

The new service will be from New Orleans to the Pacific coast, but the service is really begun at Temple. The through sleepers are brought to Temple on the regular main line trains from Houston. At Temple the extra trains will be made up and the first lap of the trip west will end at Sweetwater. The extra train crews will make headquarters in Temple. —Brownwood Bulletin.

Invigorating to the Pale and Sickly

The Old Standard general strengthening tonic, GROVE'S TASTELESS CHILL TONIC, drives out Malaria, enriches the blood, and builds up the system. A true tonic. For adults and children. See

Chickens, eggs, and produce wanted at Central Hotel. Top prices paid. wtf

ADVERTISED LETTERS.

List of letters advertised February 6, 1915:

Bryant, D. V., Brown, Mrs., B. S., Carr, Miss Carmen, Day, A. P., Fuller, E. D., Holt, F. S., Morris, F. M., Porter, Miss Mary, Thompson, J. W.

When calling for the above letters please say "Advertised" and give the date of this list. After two weeks these letters will be sent to the dead-letter-office.

JAMES J. ERWIN, P. M.

Jesse Landers, of the Maverick country, who had been under treatment in the sanitarium the past several weeks, left Saturday afternoon for Lometa to visit relatives a week or two and will go to Marlin before returning home.

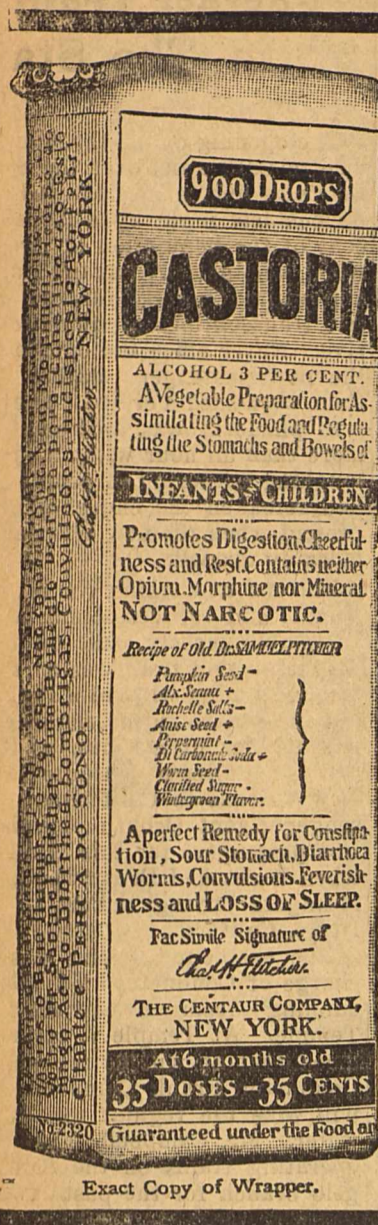
M. E. Harrell of the Hatchel country was among the business visitors in Ballinger Monday.

H. E. Chapman, of Winters, was visiting his son, Frank Chapman Saturday.

Joe Colder, of the Crews country, was looking after business affairs in Ballinger Saturday.

Mrs. Charlie Kaase, of Miles was supplying in Ballinger be-trains Monday.

F. F. Ernst and daughter of Rowena country were among the visitors in Ballinger Monday.



CASTORIA
For Infants and Children.

The Kind You Have Always Bought Bears the Signature of

Chas. H. Stittgen
In Use For Over Thirty Years

CASTORIA

THE CENTAUR COMPANY, NEW YORK CITY.

COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETS

Monday, February 1, 1915.
Meeting called to order by the chairman, J. T. Billups.

Minutes of previous meeting read and approved.

County Superintendent reported that the following terms were offered by the independent districts for transfers: Ballinger and Miles each offered to give as many months free tuition as the one transferred would have received in his home district. Winters proposed to give five months.

These proffers were on motion accepted.

Moved and carried that \$6.50 be designated as the amount to be transferred with each pupil.

By motion it was decided that transfers should be made only on the condition that the applicant is accepted in the high school department of the school to which he asks to be transferred; and notice of such acceptance from the school authorities of said shall be required by the County Superintendent before any funds shall be transferred to that school district.

The following transfers were then made: To the Winters Independent District as follows: From District No. 49, two daughters of H. A. Moore; from District No. 30 Hazel Lewis; from District No. 26 Paul Graham; from District No. 8 Miss Eoff.

To Miles Independent District was transferred, from District No. 14, Miss May Brown.

Some recommendations for legislative enactment submitted by the County Superintendent were on motion given the endorsement of the Board.

The course of study outlined by the State Superintendent was on motion adopted for use in the county, and the County Superintendent was authorized to submit questions and regulations for uniform examinations to all pupils desiring to be promoted from the seventh grade to the high school department.

Moved and carried that local trustees be requested to make quarterly reports to the County Board of Education of educational conditions in their respective districts and make such requests and suggestions as may seem needful for the advancement of the school interests in their districts.

Moved and carried that the Board highly recommend and encourage all acts tending toward the consolidation of common school districts for high school purposes, whenever such consolidation may seem practical.

The chairman was on motion requested to call a meeting of the Board in the event an application for consolidation is received.

Moved and carried to recommend to local trustees that schools be dismissed with teachers' pay continued that the teachers may attend the Mid-Texas Teachers Association at Brownwood on Friday and Saturday, March 26 and 27.

The County Superintendent was on motion authorized to ask the Commissioners' Court to supply the County Board of Education with a suitable map of the county to be used in their work.

Moved and carried to furnish a copy of the proceedings of the Board to the different newspapers of the county.

The next regular session of the Board will occur the first Monday in May.

GO TO—Ballinger Saddlery Mfg. Co., successors to T. S. Lankford for Saddles, Harness, etc. Complete line of Saddlery goods, and accessories. Shoe work and general repairing our specialty.
E. J. CATHEY, Mgr.
12-1mon d&w.

W. W. Rainwater and Dr. C. A. Watson passed through Ballinger Saturday afternoon en route to Crews from Sterling City where they had been in the doctor's auto on a short business trip. Dr. Watson went on to Crews to join his wife who is at that place visiting relatives.

WANTED—Work plowing, hauling, planting or moving. Price reasonable. Apply to G. R. West, Phone 550. 5-4tw

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Davis, of Hatchel country, were shopping in Ballinger Monday.

Hens and Toms for sale. Mrs. G. M. Milliken, phone 4605, rural. Full Blood Bourbon Red Turkeys Ballinger. w 4t pd.

SAYS SILO MAKES GOOD BREWERY

Thomas Bassett, living north of Hereford, put in pit silo last summer and filled it with 300 tons of bundle maize, kaffir, feterita and sorghum. He has been feeding it for several weeks to his hogs, cattle, sheep and horses. He says they clean it up slick and clean and are doing fine in it. This feed was packed in the silo just as it was cut and some 4000 gallons of water sprinkled over it. The heat cooked it nicely and it has the real brewery smell. Mr. Bassett says it is the cheapest way in the world to preserve feed and expects to increase his capacity this year.—Lubbock Avalanche.

The experience of silo owners in this county is very much like Mr. Bassett, and as far as we have been able to learn have proven profitable. Silos make profitable stock raising for the ensilage method of saving feed saves every sprig of feed and produces beef and pork.

'CASCARETS' RELIEVES SICK, SOUR STOMACH

Move acids, gases and clogged waste from liver and bowels.

Get a 10-cent box now.

That awful sourness, belching of acid and foul gases; that pain in the pit of the stomach, the heart burn, nervousness, nausea, bloating after eating, dizziness and sick headache, means a disordered stomach, which can not be regulated until you remove the cause. It isn't your stomach's fault. Your stomach is as good as any.

Try Cascarets; they immediately cleanse the stomach, remove the sour undigested and fermenting food and foul gases; take the excess bile from the liver and carry off the constipated waste matter and poison from the bowels. Then your stomach trouble is ended. A Cascaret tonight will straighten you out by morning—a 10-cent box from any drug store will keep your stomach sweet; liver and bowels regular for months. Don't forget the children—their little insides need a good, gentle cleansing too.

Miss Vera Mackey of the Norton country, was visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Holloway and family Saturday.

COURAGE IS COMMON IN THIS WAR

London, Jan. 29.—Every Englishman knows how to die bravely. The Irish, Scotch and English soldiers face the bayonets, the machine guns as though out on dress parade. It is the men who sicken and die in the trenches or at home after an arduous campaign that our sympathy goes out to most. There are thousands of such men behind the battle lines who went to the front without the strong constitution and good pure blood to withstand the deprivations, the hardships of the campaign in Belgium and France. It's a warning that we should pay strict attention to our stomach, liver and blood. If one is all out of sorts he should take an invigorating tonic and alterative such as Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery which cures diseases of the stomach and organs of digestion and nutrition. It eliminates from the blood disease breeding poisons. It makes the blood rich and pure, and furnishes a foundation for sound, physical health. Fifty years ago, Dr. Pierce of the Invalids' Hotel and Surgical Institute, at Buffalo, N. Y., found that certain barks and roots manufactured by using glycerine without the use of alcohol or opiates, made into a concentrated extract, which he called Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, made a stimulating tonic for the simulation of the food and eradicated stomach, helped the digestion and aspoisons from the blood. This is nature's cure for indigestion, and by correcting the stomach, and thereby feeding the blood on pure materials, the red blood corpuscles are increased and the body established in a healthy state. No one suffers from catarrh who has plenty of red blood corpuscles and a good digestion. Catarrh in all its forms is a stagnation of the blood. Introduce pure red blood into the system by taking the "Medical Discovery" and health is assured.

—Adv.

THE CASH MEAT MARKET

(The Globber old Stand)
Will deliver to any part of the city on short notice, the very choicest meats of all kinds, the best that the market affords. Will buy your Hides, Beef and Hogs and pay the top market prices. Give us a trial. See or call on Joe Turner or

FRANK CHAPMAN
Hutchings Avenue Ballinger, Texas

To Our Country Friends

The old Rock Stable is now the Leach Auto Works—a place where your car can get supplies of all kinds.

Special Attention to Hurried Calls.
LEACH AUTO WORKS
PHONE 69

NOTICE

Now is the time to make your application for land loans. I loan money on land in Runnels County at 8 percent. interest and extend Vendors Lien Notes bearing 8 per cent. interest, and charge no commission for placing your loans. For further information write or call on

H. Giesecke Ballinger, Texas.

H. L. WENDORF,

THE SADDLE AND HARNESS MAN
Everything in the leather goods line. All kinds of repairing done neatly and promptly. Shoe shop in connection.
Hutchings Ave. Ballinger, Texas

DELICATE APPETITES

need a variety to tempt them. This Store has, for many years, always lead in this respect.

Fresh vegetables, good butter, fruit and the very highest class of Groceries are always to be found in our store.

Many stores are short on the very thing you want, but we can always fill the bill.

A Trial Will Convince You

THE MILLER MERCANTILE COMPANY

708 Hutchings Avenue Ballinger Texas.
PHONE 66

Hall Hardware Co.

Hardware, Implements and Vehicles

Standard Implements, Windmills Studebaker and Schuttler Wagons

Hall Hardware Co.

SLIGHTLY DISFIGURED BUT STILL IN THE RING.

I am able to be at the gin again, and will appreciate the return of all those who have cotton to gin. I pay the highest price for seed cotton.

EDWIN DAY.

DAY GIN

NEGRO ARRESTED FOR HORSE THEFT IS RELEASED

The negro arrested at Marlin and brought here as a suspect in the horse stealing case, in which three horses were stolen in South Ballinger a short time ago, was released Sunday.

Jim Johnson and son, of San Angelo, the men who purchased the horses from the negro, came down Sunday and went to the jail, and after seeing the negro, stated that he was not the man who sold them the horses.

While the negro suited the description of the one wanted for the horse stealing, and while his stories of his past whereabouts, etc., did not tally, the men who received the horses from him could not say he was the man, and he was released.

How To Give Quinine To Children.

FEBRILINE is the trade-mark name given to an improved Quinine. It is a Tasteless Syrup, pleasant to take and does not disturb the stomach. Children take it and never know it is Quinine. Also especially adapted to adults who cannot take ordinary Quinine. Does not nauseate nor cause nervousness nor ringing in the head. Try it the next time you need Quinine for any purpose. Ask for 2-ounce original package. The name FEBRILINE is blown in bottle. 25 cents.

Willie Brown of the Tennyson country, passed through Ballinger Monday afternoon en route to points East on a short business trip.

COW FOR SALE—Fresh in milk. Ring 321. 1-wtf

Wm. Swertner, of the Miles-Rowena country, was transacting business in Ballinger Tuesday.

MAKE REDUCTION ON OUTER CASINGS

W. A. Nance, proprietor of the Ballinger Auto Co., informed us this morning that he had received notice from the big automobile supply houses of a reduction on outer casings. Mr. Nance thinks this due to price cutting by supply houses and attempt made by mail order concerns to take business away from the small local dealers.

Mr. Nance, when advised of the reduction by his companies, immediately had the change made in his advertisement now running in this paper. Other local dealers report the same lowering of prices on outer tubes, but say they think the changes are only temporary and that no lower quotations have been received here on accessories and supplies.

Children's Coughs—Children's Colds Both are Serious.

When one of your little ones shows symptoms of an approaching Cold, give it Dr. Bell's Pine-Tar-Honey at once. It acts quickly, and prevents the Cold growing worse. Very healing—soothes the Lungs, loosens the mucous, strengthens the system. It's guaranteed. Only 25c at your Druggist. Buy a bottle today.

Bucklen's Arnica Salve for sores.

C. N. Craft, of Miles, J. D. Smith, of Wingate and W. D. Meadows of Crews came in Monday to be at their post of duty at the regular February term of the commissioners' court.



CATARRH OF KIDNEYS AND BLADDER

Peruna Saved Me

Mrs. Powers, whose address is given below her portrait, is an ardent friend of Peruna. She says: "I am thankful to tell you that my old trouble has never bothered me any since you received my testimonial. Any one wishing to know the facts in my case, if they will write me I will be glad to answer. Your medicine has saved me, and gave me perfect health. I frequently meet friends that knew me when I was in poor health. They ask me what has made such a change in me. I always tell them that it was the nerve remedy, Peruna. I shall praise Peruna as long as I live."

Catarrh of the Internal Organs

Mrs. A. T. Powers, R. R. 7, Box 121, London, Ohio, writes: "I write to thank you for the wonderful good your Peruna has done for me. I was a sufferer from kidney and bladder trouble for twenty-two years. Two years ago I began to take Peruna, and I only took about three bottles and today I can say I am a well person."

Catarrh is liable to affect any of the internal organs. This is especially true of the bladder, which is very frequently the seat of catarrh. This is sometimes called cystitis.

Mr. James M. Powell, No. 1520 W. Walnut St., Rosedale, Kansas, writes: "About four years ago I suffered with a severe catarrh of the bladder, which caused continued irritation and pain. I was miserable and could not stand up or walk for any length of time without extreme weariness and pain. I began taking Peruna and it greatly relieved me and in eleven weeks I was completely cured, and felt like a new man."

Those who object to liquid medicine can now procure Peruna in Tablet form.

The Master Key

By John Flemming Wilson.



CHAPTER V.

The Night Rider.

THE light in the bungalow on the hill across the valley winked as some one passed beneath it and the window.

"I can see clearly enough," said Wilkerson, "that there is a girl mixed up in this affair. Tom Gallon never walked like that."

He rode slowly down the steep hill till he reached the pumping station. Bill Tubbs, the bulky, sodden faced engineer, came to the doorway.

"Is this 'The Master Key'?" demanded Wilkerson.

"Certainly is," was the response. "And—old Tom Gallon runs it?"

Wilkerson pulled out a flask, dividing Bill Tubbs' rumbling vice, and the engineer, after a long drink, wiped his mouth with the back of his oily hands.

"So you are looking for Thomas Gallon, are you? Well, he owns this mine, but it's mostly run by a young girl there in that bungalow on the hill. You see, Tom ain't up to what he used to be. The ore is getting worse every day and the old man's sick up there in his house."

"I'm going up to see him now," said Wilkerson. He rode on a few yards and surveyed the snug houses, stamp mill and all the apparatus of the growing mine and snarled: "So this is what he wanted for himself!"

The man he was seeking lay propped up in bed. To Ruth he gave everything—silks and down and all the soft things of this life. Himself he still slept on a hard cot with a straw pillow under his head—that is, he had slept. It seemed to him that sleep had forever fled, and he was now looking up into Ruth's face almost pleadingly, trying to keep his grim old lips from asking sympathy. There was reason in his mind that he should accept no tender ministrations from the lovely girl who stood beside him. His sacrifice must be complete; so when his daughter bent over him and asked him if he felt all right he mustered a smile.

"There's nothing the matter with me, Ruth," he was saying, and his glance sought that of John Dorr, who stood at the foot of the bed. The eyes of the two men met, and Dorr imperceptibly nodded his head in token that he would not tell. Not that he yet knew the secret of "The Master Key," but he recognized the fact that sooner or later he was to know.

Ruth stooped over and said: "Papa, I don't believe you do feel well. I'm going to make you some thing hot to drink. I'll bring you a toddy." And she went into the kitchen and shut the door.

When she was gone John nodded a pleasant "Good night," and also left. Then old Thomas Gallon rose and went to his worn desk and got his well thumbed diary.

"I am haunted," he wrote slowly, "always haunted. Am I to die without knowing whether Wilkerson is alive and that Ruth is safe?"

At that moment he glanced up and thought he saw the sinister face of his former partner at the window. By the strongest effort of will he managed to control himself and went on writing:

"Wilkerson still alive by night! When will he come out into the day? He shall never have the key that would unlock the secret to my little girl's happiness. I will trust John."

Fancy to yourself scenes that must have fled like swift films before the old man's eyes as he put the diary away. The desert and its mortal thirst; Wilkerson, ever drinking greedily of precious water; gold; murder; his escape with the plans, their loss in the chest when the vessel went down in a caldron of flame; the image of his dying wife; the picture of the babe he had lifted from her chill breast—Ruth, for whom he had suffered. He bowed his head on his folded arms.

Such is the bitterness that the night brings upon those who are alone.

When Ruth came in with the steaming glass of toddy she quietly set the glass down and went out on the porch to look at the light across the gulch which marked John Dorr's window. Youth was calling to youth.

It was no apparition that Gallon had seen at the window this time. It was really Wilkerson, who, after one satisfied glance, rode swiftly away.

It was midnight when he rapped at the door of the Valle Vista railroad station and called the sleepy agent.

"I want to get a telegram through right away," he said brusquely. "There is an extra dollar in your pocket if you can rush it."

The slender boy who represented the Rocky Mountain Southern railroad silently led the way in, turned up the wick of the lamp and shoved blanks and pencil across the counter.

"You look half asleep to me," Wilkerson growled as he picked up the pencil.

The boy scanned the stranger quietly and opened the drawer of his telegraph desk and faced his visitor again. Wilkerson caught the glint of the steel barrel of a revolver in that drawer.

"You must have some money in the safe," he snarled.

The boy looked at him with steady blue eyes and stated in a perfectly matter of fact tone, "I merely wanted to show you that I am awake." Their glances met. It was Wilkerson's eyes that fell.

He grasped the pencil and wrote on the yellow blank:

Valle Vista, Cal., March 11. Jean Darnell, Astor House, New York City, N. Y.: Have found Gallon at last. Address "The Master Key" mine tomorrow.

WILKERSON.

He shoved the paper across to the operator and said roughly: "Now, earn that extra dollar!" He banged two silver coins on the counter.

The operator scanned the message, took another look at his customer and shoved one of the coins back.

"The charge to New York is \$1," he said mildly.

Wilkerson scowled. "Well, rush that anyway!" He strode out of the little office and mounted his horse. The weary animal tried to turn in toward its accustomed corral, but its rider reined it sharply back into the road toward "The Master Key" mine.

"I think Gallon will recognize me," he muttered to himself.

Tom Kane, who since the beginning of the camp had been the open handed but close mouthed cook, sounded his triangle.

Immediately poured out from the quarters of the unmarried men a stream of miners. As he had done for many years, Thomas Gallon went to the window to watch this morning ceremony. He saw that the men greeted John Dorr respectfully, yet generally.

"It was a lucky day when John Dorr came," he muttered to himself. Then his eye caught the figure of a horseman riding leisurely down the street, apparently careless of the scowls from the men against whom he brushed roughly.

The old man rubbed his eyes feebly and looked again. Yes, it was true. He could never mistake that figure of that saturnine visage. God! Why had his bullet not gone through that face? He reached for his gun with somewhat of the vigor of youth; he was safe now. One shot out of that window and that figure that had haunted him for years would tumble and fall and forever disappear from his life. He could do it.

He put the gun down quietly and dropped his chin on his breast. He realized that his years of struggle had broken down the indomitable spirit of his youth and his pride. He was an old man; he could not keep Wilkerson from coming back.

Harry Wilkerson saw that face at the window, and his smile hardened. He thought he would take Gallon by surprise possibly, but before he rapped him if he felt all right he mustered a smile.

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For one instant the mine owner's face grew stern and pitiless. But he heard a step on the outside porch, and his face softened.

"My God, Harry; I did it for the girl!"

The evil soul of Wilkerson stared behind those cold eyes of his, and for the first time in his life he told the truth of his inmost heart, "And I must have my share of 'The Master Key' to buy a woman."

"What woman?"

Wilkerson leaned forward, and his lips hissed hate as he returned: "Do you remember that woman in Valle Vista five years ago—that woman you thought your little daughter too good to speak to? It was you who drove her out of camp, and now"—he smiled faintly—"she's rich and in New York, and she hates you!"

Gallon bowed his head.

"What is it you want, Harry?" he whispered huskily.

The other man pulled a paper out of his pocket and threw it on the table. "There's a contract for you to sign."

At this moment the door opened, and Ruth entered. She stared a moment at the visitor and then looked anxiously at her father, who said: "This is an old partner of mine, Ruthy—Harry Wilkerson."

Ruth shyly looked at the tall stranger and then shook hands with him. He held her gentle fingers a second too long. Her face flushed, and she retired without a backward glance.

Without paying any more attention to the old man, who had now subsided into a chair by the table, Wilkerson walked to the window and watched the slim, girlish figure of the young girl tripping down the hill. Then he swung on the old man harshly: "Well, I need a job. You need a new superintendent, don't you? I guess I'll take the place."

He stepped quickly to the window once more. This time he saw Ruth, with Tom Kane, the old cook, and another, in front of the cook house.

"Come here, Tom. Who is that talking to that girl of yours?" he said.

Gallon got up heavily from his chair and walked over to the window, and he could not repress an expression of relief. "Oh, that's the mining engineer of 'The Master Key,' John Dorr!"

With a quick swing Wilkerson was back, leaning over the table. He picked up the paper. "Sign here!" he said insolently.

Gallon made a last faint protest: "I can't do it!"

Wilkerson picked up a pen, dipped it and put it in the old man's hand. "Sign."

Just as the last letter of that signature, which had so long stood for respectability, was blotted at the foot of the paper Ruth entered.

"Your father has just made me superintendent of this mine. I'm his old partner, you know?"

Ruth looked at her father with consternation. "Why—why—I thought John—"

Thomas Gallon looked up and wiped his lips. "Yes," he said dully, "I have made my old—my old—partner superintendent of 'The Master Key.'"

"I expect we'll see a good deal of each other from now on," Wilkerson said slyly, and with those slim, white fingers of his he reached out and pinched Ruth's cheek.

Ruth did not draw back. She clinched her firm little hand and Wilkerson received a blow in the mouth that made him stagger back.

At the moment that he received that stinging blow he heard a movement to one side of him, and, with the old instinctive fear of Thomas Gallon, he flew away back with his hand on the gun at his hip. He met the glaring eyes of the old man, who had risen from his seat, and understood that until life left that decrepit frame its mastering passion—the passion which he could not hope to master—would be love for the girl whom he had just insulted.

He made a daring apology, the apology of the coward and the liar. "I beg your pardon, Ruth, but you used to sit on my knee when you were a little one."

She merely glanced at him and went out of the bungalow. She did not see her father rise to his full height and



"Still partners in 'The Master Key.'"

on the redwood door Gallon had had time to clutch the key—"The Master Key"—to the riches in San Jacinto mine—and hurriedly thrust it into a drawer in the desk and shut it from sight.

As the door swung open the two men looked at each other. Then the younger man said softly, "Pardner!"

"Pardner!" said Gallon, as if incredulous. He called to his aid all his frail physical strength to face the final catastrophe.

"Still partners," said Wilkerson, stepping on in and closing the door; "still partners in 'The Master Key!'"

Involuntarily Gallon clutched at his throat, where that golden key hung so long. Could he live to fight this thing through? The agony in his chest was unbearable. "What do you want?" he asked hoarsely.

Wilkerson flung his riding quirt on the table and pulled off his gaitlets. "Well," he drawled, "partner, I guess there are several things I want." He fixed his dark eyes on the old man "And there's one thing I'm going to have, and that's my share of 'The Master Key.'"

"Your share?" parried Gallon.

"My share," said Wilkerson, realizing that he controlled the situation. "I have returned for my just due!"

"Now, listen, partner, I am going to stand no nonsense."

"What have you been doing all these years?" the old man asked dully. "Why haven't you been here before?"

"None of your business," snarled Wilkerson. "All I've got to say is that I managed to get to New York. Now I'm back after finding out that you made a strike, the find you made when we were partners. How did you get back here?"

Gallon looked at his enemy with the simplicity of an old man telling a proved truth. "They were all my friends," he said.

"Friends?" said Wilkerson in a suddenly changed voice, and thrusting his contorted face close to Gallon's. "I don't care about your friends, but you better care about the enemy you made."

straightened his bent shoulders to say, "I killed you once for her sake, and, if you, I'll kill you again, old as I am!"

"Come on," Wilkerson said roughly, "don't get excited. Now take me down and introduce me to the boys."

Gallon sighed heavily as he obeyed and took him to where John Dorr was now starting his day's work.

"John," he said heavily, "this is Her-



"I can't do it!"

ry Wilkerson, the new superintendent of the mine. He used to be my partner. It won't interfere with your work any."

He paused for breath. "In fact, it will take a lot of extra details off your shoulders."

John looked at Wilkerson. His heart was filled with bitterness, but he simply said, "All right, Mr. Gallon," and left.

"Well," said Wilkerson. "I'll take charge right away." He picked up a telegraph blank and sat down at the desk with a new assurance. As if he had been dismissed by his superior, Thomas Gallon stepped feebly away.

When he was gone Wilkerson wrote rapidly: "Master Key Mine," via Silent Valley, March 13, 1915.

Jean Darnell, Astor House, New York City, N. Y.: I have just been appointed superintendent of this mine; tell George; letter follows.

HARRY.

He stared down at his own signature with a strange feeling that it was new—letters instead of figures! He wondered as he seemed to hear her say: "I'll never marry you until you are rich. Get the money and you shall have Jean Darnell."

The new superintendent gritted his teeth, folded up the telegram and called roughly to a boy lounging outside on the porch:

"Here, take this to the telegraph station, and be quick about it!" Then he addressed himself to an examination of the reports and time sheets and various papers that explained the working of the mine. His soft, white fingers caressed receipts that spoke of gold extracted from the earth.

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At this moment the door opened, and Ruth entered. She stared a moment at the visitor and then looked anxiously at her father, who said: "This is an old partner of mine, Ruthy—Harry Wilkerson."

Ruth shyly looked at the tall stranger and then shook hands with him. He held her gentle fingers a second too long. Her face flushed, and she retired without a backward glance.

Without paying any more attention to the old man, who had now subsided into a chair by the table, Wilkerson walked to the window and watched the slim, girlish figure of the young girl tripping down the hill. Then he swung on the old man harshly: "Well, I need a job. You need a new superintendent, don't you? I guess I'll take the place."

He stepped quickly to the window once more. This time he saw Ruth, with Tom Kane, the old cook, and another, in front of the cook house.

"Come here, Tom. Who is that talking to that girl of yours?" he said.

Gallon got up heavily from his chair and walked over to the window, and he could not repress an expression of relief. "Oh, that's the mining engineer of 'The Master Key,' John Dorr!"

With a quick swing Wilkerson was back, leaning over the table. He picked up the paper. "Sign here!" he said insolently.

Gallon made a last faint protest: "I can't do it!"

Wilkerson picked up a pen, dipped it and put it in the old man's hand. "Sign."

Just as the last letter of that signature, which had so long stood for respectability, was blotted at the foot of the paper Ruth entered.

"Your father has just made me superintendent of this mine. I'm his old partner, you know?"

Ruth looked at her father with consternation. "Why—why—I thought John—"

Thomas Gallon looked up and wiped his lips. "Yes," he said dully, "I have made my old—my old—partner superintendent of 'The Master Key.'"

"I expect we'll see a good deal of each other from now on," Wilkerson said slyly, and with those slim, white fingers of his he reached out and pinched Ruth's cheek.

Ruth did not draw back. She clinched her firm little hand and Wilkerson received a blow in the mouth that made him stagger back.

At the moment that he received that stinging blow he heard a movement to one side of him, and, with the old instinctive fear of Thomas Gallon, he flew away back with his hand on the gun at his hip. He met the glaring eyes of the old man, who had risen from his seat, and understood that until life left that decrepit frame its mastering passion—the passion which he could not hope to master—would be love for the girl whom he had just insulted.

He made a daring apology, the apology of the coward and the liar. "I beg your pardon, Ruth, but you used to sit on my knee when you were a little one."

She merely glanced at him and went out of the bungalow. She did not see her father rise to his full height and

He jerked Wilkerson to his feet.

as Gallon.

"I must get these people in hand," thought Wilkerson, "and do it quick."

He spent the afternoon in making a schedule for a sweeping reduction in wages. Then he sent for Bill Tubbs, the engineer. When he had come, gross, liquor sodden and half insolent, the superintendent laughed at him.

"Tubbs, what do you know about this mine?"

"Well," Tubbs answered, "the ore panned out pretty good for a while, but they lost the mother lode. There ain't a carload worth a dollar come out of here in three months, and that little girl up on the hill won't have nothing at all unless she takes the advice of some of our old timers and fires that young squirt of an engineer, John Dorr."

Wilkerson leaned over and his face suddenly grew white in its intensity of expression.

"I'm the superintendent of this mine. Now go!"

Tubbs looked astonished at the tone, but obeyed.

Wilkerson smiled to himself. One man, and he one of the most important in the camp, was his absolute tool and slave. He took his pen and rapidly wrote out an order:

"After this day all wages in this mine will be reduced 25 per cent."

He called one of the bookkeepers and curtly ordered him to post it on the wall of the office outside. A surprise awaited him, however, in the attitude of the miners. They paid no attention to the notice he had posted on the office wall, nor did they seem to recognize the presence of the new superintendent. He questioned Ed Mayer, the leading boss.

"Miss Ruth is running 'The Master Key!'" Mayer replied.

After the passing of Thomas Gallon things at the mine went very quietly for a few weeks. John Dorr had accepted the subordinate position under Wilkerson and was faithfully de-

voting himself in the intervals of his duties to soothing Ruth's grief. The girl had really been enormously dependent upon her father. She was only a child, but now in her loneliness she turned to John and old Tom Kane with impulsive trust and affection. She tried hard to be brave, but the days were long and the nights longer. The cook house bloomed with fresh roses every day, an excuse for her going down to talk with old Tom, and in the evening, when the shadows fell across the gulch, John and she would water the flowers together, and he would tell her of his life in college and in New York.

"I'd love to see New York!" she said a dozen times, and on each occasion John would smile at her and say, "You shall."

Neither of them realized that circumstances would shortly take them both, though separately, to New York, for there was piling up in a secret drawer in Wilkerson's desk letters written in a woman's script. Some of them in scented envelopes on embossed paper. Each one of them was signed "Jean Darnell." When the seventh letter came the superintendent reread it many times:

Astor House, New York, May 15, 1915.

Dear Harry—From what you say and from what I learn from George, I think that I would be willing to put up the money to buy control of your "Master Key" mine, but you must be sure about this. I know that old Gallon made money out of it, but I'm also sure that he was concealing something, as you think. Make the mine worth while and—well, I remember my days in that camp—I'd like my revenge. George Everett will handle the stock end of it very quietly when you say the word. Don't let your ugly temper get away from you and look out for Dorr.

JEAN DARNELL.

"Now," thought Wilkerson exultantly, "I can put the screws on Dorr. I'll fire him."

At this moment the man he was thinking so bitterly of appeared, and Wilkerson, while his courage was still fresh, said insolently: "I see you are spending a good deal of time out of your office. The mine can't afford such extravagance. I guess we'll have to have a new mining engineer. I've sent for one, so you better pack."

For the moment John did not speak. They confronted each other for a moment; then Dorr turned on his heel and walked off. As he did so he brushed into old Tom Kane.

"The miners won't stand any more of Wilkerson, and they are going to strike tonight, when the day shift comes off," Tom croaked. "Lots of them are packing their guns now to get out. D—n him; he has ruined little Ruth's property!"

John looked out of the window and realized that the various groups of miners, tired, sullen, as if waiting for something, made an ugly picture.

"I'm afraid it's on to them, Tom."

be said, a little huskily. "I have been discharged, and I am leaving myself tonight."

He was perfectly amazed at the effect of his words. Dropping the coffee-pot with a crash on the top of the range, Tom Kane dashed out of the door and into the nearest group of miners, gesticulating and laughing hysterically. He said two words and then rushed back, his bright eyes gle

Anderson Bros. Mule Company

of San Angelo, Texas,
Will have some good young, broke mules for sale at O'Kelley and Walton Yard, Friday, February 12
—COME AND SEE US—

NORTON NOTES

The farmers of this community are very busy now preparing their land for next year's crop. The largest oat crop that this county has known for years is being planted.

The people of the old Norton neighborhood and also some of the Norton people enjoyed an excellent program rendered by the pupils of that school Saturday night. After the program was over boxes, containing all kinds of good things to eat, were sold. A good sum was cleared which will be used for school purposes.

Mr. Brooks, the Ford auto man, is one of our most frequent visitors now, while making his round of visits he incidentally sells Ford automobiles. Several new cars were purchased last week.

Mrs. M. L. Patterson and daughter, Miss Vera, of Ballinger spent Saturday in Norton.

Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Taylor were called to Ballinger Saturday to James R. Taylor, who is seriously ill.

Supt. W. W. Wooten and the country demonstration agent, Geo. McLelland were in our little city Friday visiting the school.

BUSINESS PROPOSITION

When in the market for good Oklahoma flour, meal and other kinds of feed, also fresh garden seed, Oklahoma seed corn. I am in touch with one of the largest mills in Oklahoma, with a 15 hundred barrel capacity. I book ahead and will give my customers all benefits in close prices.

ROARK'S FEED STORE,
11-2d St. Itw.

Notice to Everybody

I have secured Mrs. Radican as a sub-agent for the Watkins Remedies in Ballinger. She will keep her stock of goods at her father's store, (the Ostertag Furniture Co.) Help her and yourself by calling there and getting you a supply of the best goods to be had for your home and your stock remedies, flavoring, spices and toilet articles.

D. B. HORN,
Salesman

WILL HICKMAN DIES FROM GUN WOUNDS

SAN ANGELO, Feb. 10.—Will Hickman, ex-sheriff of Coke county, died at a local sanitarium at 8 o'clock Tuesday morning from gunshot wounds inflicted on him by Deputy Sheriff T. A. Griffith, in the office of E. G. Walton, notary public, at Bronte, on last Sunday.

He was a man of fine character and had many friends. The body was shipped over the Orient Tuesday night for interment in the Bronte cemetery.

JUDGE FOR YOURSELF

Which is Better—Try an Experiment or Profit by a Ballinger Citizen's Experience.

Something new is an experiment. Must be proved to be as represented.

The statement of a manufacturer is not convincing proof of merit. But the endorsement of friends is.

Now supposing you had a bad back,

A lame, weak, or aching one,

Would you experiment on it?

You will read of many so-called cures.

Endorsed by strangers from far-away places.

It's different when the endorsement comes from home.

Easy to prove local testimony.

Read this Ballinger case:

Mrs. J. C. Orange, 505 Thirteenth St., Ballinger, says:

"I was troubled by my back for some time. I was so stiff and lame that I could hardly walk. This would go away after I moved about awhile, but was sure to come back the next day. The kidney secretions caused annoyance. After using half a box of Doan's Kidney Pills the lameness left. I am glad to tell others how much I was benefited."

Price 50c, at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mrs. Mrs. Orange had.

Foster-Milburn Co., Props., Buffalo, N. Y.

TALK ABOUT LUCK

All your rabbits feet, Swastika and old horse shoes are not to be compared with our 1915 Christmas Club, --it's growing. Your money works while you sleep. Join it.

THE FARMERS AND MERCHANTS STATE BANK

FATHERS AND MOTHERS' BANK

The Bank that HELPS YOU Do Things!



Roadster \$479.00
Touring Cars \$529.00
F. O. B. Ballinger

When the Ford needs repairing, bring it to the Ford home, and talk to our expert Ford mechanics

Harwell Motor Co. Ballinger Texas

L. B. STUBBS BUYS MANY TURKEYS

The largest single sale of turkeys ever made in Ballinger was made here Tuesday when Lem Criswell, of the Leaday country sold to L. B. Stubbs four hundred head of fine turkeys.

Mr. Criswell chartered all the wagons his neighbors had and loaded the turkeys on the wagons and brought them to Ballinger. He at first figured on driving the turkeys to market, but on account of the distance he figured that the loss in shrinkage and otherwise would be too great, and they were hauled here.

The turkeys were loaded on a car, making near a carload and shipped immediately to Fort Worth, where they netted Mr. Criswell 12 1-2 cents per pound, or an average of \$1.50 per head and a total of \$600.

Mr. Criswell's turkey hatching for the year just closed amounted to near one thousand little turks. He succeeded in raising over six hundred. Besides the big sale made here Tuesday, he has sold several small shipments, and is retaining 150 head to raise from this year.

He is perfectly satisfied with his turkey crop, so much so that he will increase his crop and raise turkeys on a much larger scale this year.

These turkeys were raised practically on the open range, and the expense up to the time of preparing them for market was light.

FARMER SELLS \$1000 WORTH OF WHEAT

O. Hastin of the Crews country, was here Wednesday delivering his last load of wheat to the local mill.

After reserving sufficient wheat for his own use Mr. Hastin sold his last year's crop to Geo. Vaughn of the Miss. Milling Co., for \$1.45 per bushel, and the crop netted him near \$1,000.

Mr. Hastin has 90 acres in wheat this year, and the prospects are very promising for another good crop. He says his experience in growing small grain in this country is in favor of the wheat crop. He has been growing wheat and oats here for ten years and the wheat has paid him better than oats.

What do you think of a single handed farmer selling \$1,000 worth of wheat, besides making his own bread? What he has done other farmers can do. Look at the price, \$1.45. This beats coming to wt on and paying \$2.25 for a sack of flour, and that's what you must do today, if you get the best flour, and Runnels county wheat will make good flour.

Whenever You Need a General Tonic Take Grove's

The Old Standard Grove's Tasteless Chill Tonic is equally valuable as a General Tonic because it contains the well known tonic properties of QUININE and IRON. It acts on the Liver, Drives out Malaria, Enriches the Blood and Builds up the Whole System. 50 cents.

Corns Bunions Ingrowing Nails
W. M. CARTER
Chiropraxist
Ballinger, Texas

If you are down and out visit my bath room at the City Barber Shop.

Overdraft Practice Must Be Discontinued By All Banks

Pursuant to a letter of instructions from the Comptroller of the Currency at Washington and the Commissioner of Banking of the State of Texas, and desiring to meet the demands of these Department, the banks of Ballinger have passed a resolution to eliminate overdrafts.

The following is a copy of a letter received:
To The Board of Directors:
In accordance with the above all the banks of Ballinger both National and State will be under the necessity of discontinuing the allowing of overdrafts hereafter.

Publicity is being given this matter in order that all Bank Depositors may be advised at once and that no misunderstanding of the position of the Banks themselves may prevail and also that the depositors may assist the Banks in meeting these requirements.

In refusing the payment of any check the Banks will do so without reflection upon the drawer's credit but under direct instructions from the departments.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK
THE FARMERS & MERCHANTS STATE BANK
BALLINGER STATE BANK & TRUST CO.

To The Board of Directors:
In accordance with the above all the banks of Ballinger both National and State will be under the necessity of discontinuing the allowing of overdrafts hereafter.

USE "TIZ" IF FEET ACHE, BURN, PUFF UP

Can't beat "TIZ" for sore, tired, sweaty, calloused feet or corns



"Sure! I use 'TIZ' every time for any foot trouble."

You can be happy-footed just like me. Use "Tiz" and never suffer with tender, raw, burning, blistered, swollen, tired, smelly feet. "Tiz" and only "Tiz" takes the pain and soreness out of corns, callouses and bunions.

As soon as you put your feet in a "Tiz" bath, you just feel the happiness soaking away good your poor, old feet feel. They want to dance for joy. "Tiz" is grand. "Tiz" instantly draws out all the poisonous excretions which puff up your feet and cause sore, inflamed, aching, sweaty, smelly feet.

Get a 25 cent box of "TIZ" at any drug store or department store. Get instant foot relief. Laugh at foot sufferers who complain. Because your feet are never, never going to bother or make you limp any more.

HEAVY COTTON YEAR IS JUST CLOSING

The government report of the cotton ginning in this and the other Texas counties, which is not complete, but which shows the amount of cotton to be far in excess of the 1913 crop, shows Runnels county to be among the counties at the top, with a total ginning of 52,492 against 15,960 for the year before.

	1913	1915
Bell	65,929	67,246
Brown	22,232	14,712
Callahan	17,024	10,326
Coleman	50,240	24,113
Concho	18,461	5,568
Dallas	62,133	56,229
Eastland	21,657	27,361
Ellis	129,899	119,850
Fisher	35,516	13,720
Haskell	41,875	15,432
Hill	94,999	68,885
Jones	53,187	20,690
Lamar	56,336	70,838
McLennan	87,854	96,331
Mitchell	28,749	11,975
Nolan	19,198	7,251
Runnels	52,492	15,960
Scurry	25,717	9,931
Taylor	42,231	14,159
Tom Green	9,469	3,588
Williamson	102,380	102,586

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children

In Use For Over 30 Years

Always bears the Signature of *Dr. H. H. Mitchell*

Have You?
Got your Free chance on the Saddle, Bridle, and Spurs at H. L. Wendorf's, the Busy Shop? d&w tf

COULD SCARCELY WALK ABOUT

And For Three Summers Mrs. Vincent Was Unable to Attend to Any of Her Housework.

Pleasant Hill, N. C.—"I suffered for three summers," writes Mrs. Walter Vincent, of this town, "and the third and last time, was my worst.

I had dreadful nervous headaches and prostration, and was scarcely able to walk about. Could not do any of my housework.

I also had dreadful pains in my back and sides and when one of those weak, sinking spells would come on me, I would have to give up and lie down, until it wore off.

I was certainly in a dreadful state of health, when I finally decided to try Cardui, the woman's tonic, and I firmly

believe I would have died if I hadn't taken it.

After I began taking Cardui, I was greatly helped, and all three bottles relieved me entirely.

I fattened up, and grew so much stronger in three months, I felt like another person altogether."

Cardui is purely vegetable and gentle-acting. Its ingredients have a mild, tonic effect, on the womanly constitution.

Cardui makes for increased strength, improves the appetite, tones up the nervous system, and helps to make pale, sallow cheeks, fresh and rosy.

Cardui has helped more than a million weak women, during the past 50 years. It will surely do for you, what it has done for them. Try Cardui today.

Write for: Chattanooga Medicine Co., Ladies' Advisory Dept., Chattanooga, Tenn., for Special Instructions on your case and 64-page book, "Home Treatment for Women," sent in plain wrapper. J-4

Notice to Teachers.

During the months of February and March I shall be in the County Superintendent's office on every Monday and the first Saturday in each month. The reason for my absence on the other Saturdays is that a series of local rallies or local institutes, is scheduled to be held at this time, and these programs will embrace Friday night, Saturday, and Saturday night. Should you wish to have your vouchers cashed, any bank in the county will gladly take care of that matter for you; or you may mail them to me and I will make such disposition of them as you may direct. If my services be needed otherwise, drop me a card, and I shall be at your service. W. W. WOOTEN.

J. L. Atwell, of Miles, had business in Ballinger a few hours Monday afternoon.

Citation.

To the Sheriff or any Constable of Runnels County—Greeting:
You are hereby commanded to summon B. F. Silman, the unknown heirs of M. A. Silman deceased, the unknown heirs of Ophelia Linn, deceased; the unknown heirs of Lottie Barron, deceased and the unknown heirs of B. F. Silman, deceased; by making publication of this citation once in each week for eight successive weeks previous to the return day hereof, in some newspaper published in your county, if there be a newspaper published therein, but if not, then in any newspaper in the 35th Judicial District; but if there be no newspaper published in said Judicial District, then in a newspaper published in the nearest District to said 35th Judicial District, to appear at the regular term of the District Court of Runnels County, to be holden at the court house thereof, in Ballinger, on the 2nd Monday in March A. D. 1915, the same being the 8th day of March A. D., 1915 then and there to answer a petition filed in said Court on the 21st day of December A. D., 1914, in a suit numbered on the docket of said court No. 1665, wherein M. Barbee is plaintiff, and B. F. Silman, the unknown heirs of M. A. Silman, deceased; the unknown heirs of Ophelia Linn, deceased; the unknown heirs of Lottie Barron, deceased and the unknown heirs of B. F. Silman, deceased are defendants, and said petition as follows:

Wherefore plaintiff prays that defendants and each of them be cited by publication as required by law to answer hereto at next regular term of this court, and that on final hearing plaintiff have judgment for the title and possession of said above described land and premises and that writ of restitution issue, for his damages and costs of suit, and for such other and further relief as he may be in law and equity entitled to.

This action is brought as well to try title as for damages.

Herein fail not, but have before said court, at its aforesaid next regular term, this writ with your return thereon, showing how you have executed the same.

Given under my hand and the seal of said court, at office in Ballinger this 21st day of December A. D. 1914.

MARY PHILIPS, Clerk
District Court, Runnels County, By Louise Orgain, Deputy.
A true Copy of the original.
J. D. PERKINS, Sheriff of Runnels County, Texas
Dec. 25-Stw.

Beginning at the intersection of Willingham avenue and Seventh St.: thence north 30, east with Willingham avenue, to its intersection with Sixth street; thence N. 60 W, with Sixth Street to its intersection with South Ballinger Ave.; thence S 30 W, with South Ballinger Avenue to its intersection with seventh street; thence S. 60 E, with 7th street to place of beginning: That on the day and year last aforesaid defendants unlawfully entered upon said premises and ejected plaintiff therefrom, and unlawfully withholds from plaintiff the possession thereof, to his damage two thousand dollars.

(2nd.) Plaintiff further says that he has a good and perfect title to said land and premises by virtue of the five years statute of limitation, in this, that he and those under whom he claims and holds, has had peaceful and adverse possession by actual enclosure of the lands hereinafter described, cultivating, using and enjoying the same for the period of ten years more than five years before the commencement of this suit and before the entry of defendants thereon, and claiming the same under deeds duly registered during said period of five years.

(3rd.) Plaintiff further says that he has a good and perfect title to said land and premises by virtue of the ten years statute of limitation, in this, that he and those under he claims and holds, has had peaceful and adverse possession by an actual enclosure of the lands hereinafter described, cultivating, using and enjoying the same for the period of ten years before the commencement of this suit and for the period of ten years before the entry of defendants thereon or assertion of any claim thereto by the defendants.

Wherefore plaintiff prays that defendants and each of them be cited by publication as required by law to answer hereto at next regular term of this court, and that on final hearing plaintiff have judgment for the title and possession of said above described land and premises and that writ of restitution issue, for his damages and costs of suit, and for such other and further relief as he may be in law and equity entitled to.

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J. D. PERKINS, Sheriff of Runnels County, Texas
Dec. 25-Stw.

MITCHELL MOORE

East of City Wagon Yard
Blacksmith and Horseshoeing
A Specialty.

All kinds of wood and iron work and rubber tiring etc. Carriage and automobile painting and first class work guaranteed. Give us a trial.

Sealey Ave. Ballinger

CHICHESTER'S PILLS
 THE DIAMOND BRAND
 Largest Ask your Druggist for
 Chichester's Diamond Brand
 Pills in Red and Gold Metallic
 Boxes, sealed with Blue Ribbon.
 Take no other. Buy of your
 Druggist. Ask for CHICHESTER'S
 DIAMOND BRAND PILLS, for 25
 years known as Best, Safest, Always Reliable
 SOLD BY DRUGGISTS EVERYWHERE

SELL SCOTTON.

C. C. Caughron, one of the farmers on the C. H. Willingham

place 2 1-2 miles south of Ballinger closed out 33 bales of this sea son cotton to Peter Ewald of Rowena at 7:30 cents all round. This was the highest bid offered for the cotton and Mr. Coughron accepted it. He is well pleased with his experience on the Willingham farm in Runnels county and says he is here to stay and will at once begin to try and make another bumper crop all round for 1915.

M. D. Chastain Grain Company

Pay the highest Market Price for
MAIZE, OATS and COTTON SEED

For Reliable Abstract Work

See

SECURITY TITLE CO.

"Blue Back Abstracts" and Conveyancing.

Dr. Fred Tinkle's Antiseptic Healing Oil for Man and Beast.

It is an external remedy for wire cuts, wounds of any nature, eczema and all skin troubles. You can get it at the undesignated drug stores, use it and if not satisfied, bring the empty bottle back and get your money. If it pleases you, tell your friends.

Walker Drug Co., Ballinger Tex.; Owens Drug Store, Winters, Tex.; City Drug Store, Miles, Tex.; Palace Drug Store, Rowena, Tex.; Middleton Drug Store, Bradshaw, R. L. Sides, Hatchel, Texas; J. D. Miller, Norton, Texas; Rainwater Bros., Crews.

M. C. SMITH.
 Attorney-at-Law
 Office up-stairs in C. A. Doose Building.
 Examining Land Titles a Specialty.

A. K. Doss J. H. Baugh
DOSS & BAUGH
 Lawyers.
 Office over Ballinger Loan Co. Ballinger, Texas.

HARRIS & HARRIS
 Attorneys-at-Law
 Corporation
 Collections and Land Litigation
 Specialties
 Office over Ballinger State Bank and Trust Co.

Q. VICTOR MILLER
 ATTORNEY-AT-LAW
 Office with Security Title Co. Will Practice in all the Courts.

The Country Trade
 Receives our very best attention and we ask you to visit us when in town, and we guarantee to give you a good shave, a neat hair cut and courteous treatment.
City Barber Shop
 H. O. Rhodes, Proprietor.

Do Your Building Now!
 It Will Never Cost You Less.
 Are you going to build a store, a house, a barn, a fence, or anything at any time in the near future? Take our advice and do it now. Lumber and other expenses will never be lower than they are now. See us about your lumber, lath, shingles, casings, cement, lime and anything else you need.
We Carry Them All In Stock.
BALLINGER LUMBER CO.

G. P. Shepherd
 County Attorney, Runnels Co.
 Civil Practice Solicited
 Ballinger, Texas.

FIRE INSURANCE
THE BEST COMPANIES
 Prompt Service
 Your Business Solicited.
 Miss Maggie Sharp upstairs in old Fidelity Credit Co's office.
 Phone 215
SEE ME
M. KLEBERG JR.
 Attorney-at-Law.
 Office at Courthouse.

YOU'VE GOT TO EAT IF YOU STAY HERE.
 Then why not eat the best at the same price.
 A short lunch or long lunch, you pay for what you eat and eat what you want.
Laxson's Restaurant

INDEPENDENCE WILL DRIVE AMERICANS FROM PHILIPPINES

In a letter to Judge A. K. Doss Judge Sydney Smith, who is well known to quite a number of Runnels county people, and whose people reside at Miles, writes interestingly of the Philippines, and Philippines politics. The letter was written from Lingayen, Pangasinan, P. I., where Judge Smith is practicing law. Following is an excerpt from the letter: "The Islands themselves are, so far as I know, one of the richest spots in the world of equal area. The people themselves are, so far as I know, the most inefficient and incapable in the world of equal numbers. I will not attempt to give you a detailed account of the geographical divisions of the Islands nor the Tribal divisions of the people. That you may find in almost any respectable encyclopaedia.

For the purposes of answering your letter I will take up political conditions. When McKinley sent the first Commission to the Philippines in 1900 they were given instructions to do every thing that should be done with a view to the ultimate independence of the Islands. Following up that policy established by Mr. McKinley in his private instructions to the first Commission the congress in 1902 passed what is known as the Philippine Bill. This bill is entitled, "An Act to Establish a Temporary Civil Government in the Philippines." The government has operated under that bill to this date. Mind you, all temporary. As a result of that provisional policy capital has absolutely refused to come to the Islands. There never was very much money invested here and now the activity of what is here has been much restricted and hampered by provisional legislation.

Following up the temporary policy established by the Republicans the Democrats came into office upon a pledge to give the Islands their independence as soon as a stable government might be set up. With that end in view the so called Jones Bill was introduced in Congress and at this present time has already passed the House of Representatives and been sent to the Senate. That bill takes away almost every vestige of an real American Administration leaving but the mere shell of American sovereignty in the Islands. Along with the advent of our party into power came a Filipino majority in both houses of the local legislature. This has resulted in much ill-considered, half-baked, temporary, anti-American legislation. Salaries of American Civil Service employees have been reduced, many have been discharged from the service until now efficiency in government service is at the low water mark. Men who formerly did conscientious service now only look forward to pay-day.

The finances of the government are in a deplorable condition. The legislature is now in session. At the beginning of the session the Governor-General delivered a very wise and sensible message recommending expedient and well considered legislation. More than two-thirds of the session is now gone, absolutely nothing has been done to relieve the situation, except that the business interests that have heretofore been carrying the burden of the government taxes have been taxed a little heavier.

The subject of independence is being talked on every side. Many congressmen seem to favor absolute independence for the Islands. Political and financial conditions are uncertain. It may be that the Administration at Washington will grant the independence of the Islands. If so, every American will leave here before the day set for the withdrawal of the American army. The most sanguine have absolutely no confidence in the ability of the Filipinos to maintain an independent government. As a matter of fact the majority of well-to-do Filipinos themselves when approached properly will tell you frankly that the country is not ready for independence. But the politicians are never satisfied.

In order to get out of the country if the Jones Bill passes the Senate. You may think it strange but I myself have boxes already prepared to ship my law library on very short notice. Of course, I would have to leave my business behind but I am prepared to leave any time.

One of the most prominent American Judges in the Islands told me not more than two weeks ago, that he had all of his property turned into cash and that in the bank, so that if he was discharged from the service he would leave no interests behind nor have anything to detain him."

Sudan Seed

Proclaimed by A. & M. College and some of the seed houses as among the very best in the state.

Nearly 100 percent cream-hulled.

Free from Johnson Grass or weed seed.

Many planters and seed houses are advertising this seed at \$1.00 per pound.

I have what you want, at home at from 50c to 35c per pound.

Every farmer should plant Sudan for pasturage and hay.

But—Be sure it is pure.

W. W. FOWLER, M. D.

CAR COLLIDES WITH FOUR IN HACK

A newly purchased Ford driven by R. H. Bryan collided with a hack driven by Louis Byers Saturday on Eighth street near Higginbotham - Currie - Williams Co.'s store. Neither vehicles were exceeding the normal speed but in some manner Mr. Bryan lost control of his car and rammed the hack near the middle, breaking the back seat of the hack and demolishing the right headlight on the Ford. In the hack were two other passengers besides Mr. Byers, E. F. Elder and Patrick Straley. Mr. Straley jumped out of the conveyance at the time of the accident and hitting on hands, was not injured. The other gentlemen remained in the hack and outside of a slight scare were unharmed.

Mr. Bryan it seems had driven his car Saturday morning and was confident of his ability to handle the steering wheel but for some reason lost control before the accident. A slight damage was done both the auto and the hack.

A TEXAS WONDER

The Texas Wonder cures kidney and bladder troubles, dissolves gravel, cures diabetes, weak and lame backs, rheumatism, and bladder in both men and women. Regulates bladder troubles in children. If not sold by your druggist, will be sent by mail on receipt of \$1.00. One small bottle is two month's treatment, and seldom fails to perfect a cure. Texas testimonials with each bottle. Dr. E. W. Hall, 2926 Olive Street, St. Louis, Mo Sold by druggists.

John Pappas, of Fort Worth, was prospecting in this section day afternoon for his home and says he will wind up his business and return to Ballinger to open up a candy factory in the near future.

Piles Cured in 6 to 14 Days
 Your druggist will refund money if PZO OINTMENT fails to cure any case of Itching, Blind, Bleeding or Protruding Piles in 6 to 14 days. The first application gives Ease and Rest. 50c.

FEEL BILIOUS? CALOMEL SICKENS! CLEAN LIVER AND BOWELS MY WAY

Don't lose a day's work! If Constipated, Sluggish, Headachy, take a spoonful of "Dodson's Liver Tone."

Listen to me! Take no more sickening, salivating calomel when bilious or constipated. Don't lose a day's work!

Calomel is mercury or quicksilver which causes necrosis of the bones. Calomel, when it comes into contact with sour bile crashes into it, breaking it up. This is when you feel that awful nausea and cramping. If you are sluggish and "all knocked out," if your liver is torpid and bowels constipated or you have headache, dizziness, coated tongue, if breath is bad or stomach sour just take a spoonful of harmless Dodson's Liver Tone.

Here's my guarantee—Go to any drug store and get a 50-cent bottle of Dodson's Liver Tone. Take a spoonful tonight and if it

doesn't straighten you right up, and make you feel fine and vigorous by morning I want you to go back to the store and get your money. Dodson's Liver Tone is destroying the sale of calomel because it is a real liver medicine; entirely vegetable, therefore it can not salivate or make you sick.

I guarantee that one spoonful of Dodson's Liver Tone will put your sluggish liver to work and clean your bowels of that sour bile and constipated waste which is clogging your system and making you feel miserable. I guarantee that a bottle of Dodson's Liver Tone will keep your entire family feeling fine for months. Give it to your children. It is harmless; doesn't gripe and they like its pleasant taste.

GEO. W. RIDDLE IN RACE FOR SENATE

DALLAS, Feb. 4.—Geo. W. Riddle made his formal announcement here today for the United States senate, and will be in the lineup for Senator Culberson's place in 1916.

Chickens, eggs, and produce wanted at Central Hotel. Top prices paid.

SPRING HILL NEWS

Health remains very good in our community. The farmers are busy as bees making ready for a new crop. There is a very large acreage sown in small grain, and according to government reports about five million more acres of cotton ground than the 1914 crop is put in small grain.

There is more hogs from the river coming this way, extending clear on through our community. They are so thick in every hog pasture you can't count them and nearly every one has a pasture; some on alfalfa at that, and on the next page of our text book is about a good garden and poultry crop and that is as far as we got this time.

We cordially invite all strangers to come out to Sunday School that meets at 3 p. m. every Sunday afternoon. There will be preaching next Sunday morning at 11 a. m.; every body invited to this service. Bro. Elloit of Ballinger will preach.

Mrs. Clifton has returned from visiting her parents at Coleman.

Henry Ayeock has returned to Ft. Worth after visiting home folks for some days.

Mrs. Walker of South Ballinger was visiting her daughter, Mrs. W. S. Davis, last Saturday.

Our school is progressing very nicely under our esteemed teacher, Miss Corrine Eskridge.

The frosty mornings are holding the buds back on fruit trees. We hope for a good crop this year.

Go to Winters Saddle and Harness Shop for any thing in leather goods, also shoe work and general repairing.
 O. W. JOLLY, Mgr.

EGG SHIPPING BY CAR LOAD BECOMING COMMON OCCURENCE

The fourth carload of eggs to leave this county since January first were shipped from here today (Saturday) when E. A. Jeanes & Co., started a carload of Runnels county eggs on the road.

This car of eggs was made up by the Jeanes Company from its house here and at Winters, and they were consigned to New York where they will no doubt bring a fancy price.

BREAKS A GOLD IN FEW HOURS--TRY IT

First Dose of Pape's Cold Compound relieves all gripe misery.

Don't stay stuffed-up! Quit blowing and snuffing! A dose of "Pape's Cold Compound" taken every two hours until three doses are taken will end gripe misery and break up a severe cold either in the head, chest, body or limbs.

It promptly opens clogged-up nostrils and air passages; stops nasty discharge or nose running; relieves sick headache, dullness, feverishness, sore throat, sneezing, soreness and stiffness.

"Pape's Cold Compound" is the quickest, surest relief known and costs only 25 cents at drug stores. It acts without assistance, tastes nice, and causes no inconvenience. Don't accept a substitute.

C. A. Ritchie returned home Friday at noon from Williamson county where he had been to attend the funeral of his father.

When the bowels become irregular you the uncomfortable and the longer this condition exists the worse you feel. You can get rid of this misery quickly by using Herbine. Take a dose on going to bed and see how fine you feel next day. Price 50c. Sold by the Walker Drug Co.

War or No War

We are still in a position to make you farm loans and take up and extend your vendors lien notes in the future just as we have heretofore done in the past.

No informal red tape proceedings. When you get your loans through us, we handle them right off the reel.

For further particulars call on, phone or write

C. A. Doose & Co.

Ballinger, Texas.

Effective February 1
Reduction No. 3
On Goodyear Tires

Making Total Reductions 45% In Two Years
To Give Always the Most for the Money

We are glad again—for the third time in two years—to announce a big reduction on Goodyear tires, effective February 1st.

Goodyear policy on price is to give the utmost in a tire at the lowest possible profit.

For a long, long time most tires have sold much above Goodyear prices.

The Best We Know

Goodyear Fortified Tires offer the best we know. They are built to give you the lowest cost per mile.

Most tires will always sell higher because of smaller output.

This policy has made Goodyears the largest-selling tire in the world.

Ask your Goodyear dealer for our new price on the size you buy.

Only Fair Basis

We consider profit margin on a tire the only fair price basis.

THE GOODYEAR TIRE & RUBBER CO., Akron, Ohio

GOOD YEAR
AKRON, OHIO
Fortified Tires

Rim-Cuts—by our No-Rim-Cut feature
Blowouts—by our "On-Air" cure
Loose Treads—by many rubber rivets
Insecurity—by 120 braided piano wires
Punctures and Skidding—by our double-thick All-Weather tread.

**Uncle Sam
Will Defend
U. S. Travel**

WASHINGTON, Feb 8.—Informal discussion by President Wilson with his advisers, of the German notification of the dangers to which neutral ships may be subjected in the newly prescribed war zones, around Great Britain and Ireland, and the use by the British liner Lusitania of the American flag, foreshadowed today a diplomatic correspondence between the United States and both Great Britain and Germany.

ernment, because of its neutrality, cannot discuss the rules which the belligerents may adopt toward each other.

Ira L. Sims Gin at Pony is equipped to do it properly.

**Compress Fire
Loss \$304,000**

(Continued from First Page.)

600 bales at the press. This was burned, or part of it.

It was three-thirty Tuesday afternoon when a little blaze flickering up from the corner of a bale of cotton about six feet from the edge of the wharf on the south side of the compress attracted the attention of one of the workmen.

The workmen gave the alarm and rushed for the fire hose that was within ten feet of the burning bale, and the water was turned on, and in the language of the workmen "if we had the water we could have put the fire out."

The fire started near the center of the lot of cotton and rapidly spread in every direction.

A moderate wind was blowing from the south and the fire leaped across from the starting point to the north side of the compress wharf in a few minutes and despite the south wind the flames crawled from bale to bale against the wind and more than three-fourths of the entire yard was under flames within less than twenty minutes after the first bale caught.

The attention of the fireman were directed to wetting the cotton along the ally way cut thru by the workmen, and when the flames reached the ally the fire was checked.

Will Rebuild Compress At Once. Lynn Howlett, engineer for the Texas Compress Co., with headquarters at Brownwood, arrived in Ballinger Tuesday night at twelve-thirty o'clock.

General Superintendent King, of Waco, arrived here at noon Wednesday and announced that the press would be replaced with modern press as soon as the work could be put through.

It will require some time to remove the rubbish and rebuild the platform, and install the new press; and the new press will not be ready for operation in time to handle the remainder of the present season's produce and this will be shipped to Brownwood and other places for working up into small bales.

The wharfs that burned were partly new, this being the first season since they were built.

Local Company Eager to Build Press. W. C. Penn says that in case the Texas Compress Co., was slow in rebuilding the press that local people would organize a company and build a press at once.

Residence District Threatened. When the flames were leaping high into the air and the South wind was carrying the sparks over the residences for a distance of five or six blocks the situation was critical in the extreme.

Successful Run Up To Date. The local press had experienced a very successful run for the present season.

**Try This For
Your Cold.**

Coughs and Colds unless checked often lead to, serious results.

Colds are caused by germs infecting and irritating the sensitive lining of the Nose, Throat, Lungs and Bronchial Tubes.

This is just how Dr. King's New Discovery acts. It is Antiseptic—Kills the cold germs.

Excellent for Children and Delicate Women. It is Mild, Pleasant and effective.

H. E. BUCKLEN & CO.
639 North Broad St. Phila., Pa.

Elliott. This is known as the Cal Kirk old home, and is the property of L. E. Bair.

The home of Mrs. L. H. Bacon on Broadway, more than six blocks from the compress, caught fire, and considerable of the roof on the north side of the house was burned away before the fire was extinguished.

Practically the entire town turned out to lend a helping hand in fighting the fire.

Girls who graduate from our institution are not only carefully looked after while in school, but the place where we secure them a position, through our employment department is carefully investigated.

Young women, select the road that leads to your independence. Don't be always dependent on others.

Fletcher Roper, of the Oak creek country, and Joe Vineyard, of the Crews country, were among the business visitors in Ballinger Tuesday.

J. M. Mackey and W. D. Lollar of the Marie country, were transacting business in Ballinger Tuesday.

press was built here about ten years ago, and with the exception of one season has handled the cotton for Ballinger and all counties to the west.

WHAT SHALL IT BE?

Which Will You Do, Win Your Independence or Marry a Two Bit Man?

You are at the cross roads of life. There are two paths open to you. One leads to your independence, the other to dependency.

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**A PHYSICIAN'S DIAGNOSIS OF
KIDNEY TROUBLE.**

A Seemingly Common Disease which Becomes Fatal through Neglect and which May Be Readily Cured by Prompt Attention.

More than two-thirds of the annual death rate, physicians claim, is directly traceable to kidney disorders.

Interested by this remarkable assertion and desiring to acquire a better understanding of the origin of the disease, a prominent physician was recently interviewed as to the symptoms of such troubles.

"To what do you attribute the great destructiveness of kidney disease?" was asked.

"The hold which the disease gains in the body before the victim becomes aware of his true condition, and the rapidity with which it eats its way into the vital organs."

"There is no doubt of it. The trouble is that victims of this disease mistake the symptoms for some trifling ailment in the stomach or bowels; therefore they do nothing to arrest the course of the disease until it is well advanced."

"What is the origin of kidney trouble?"

"Headache, dizzy spells, sluggish brain, restless nights, pale or sallow skin, bad breath, lack of appetite, heart burn, sour belching, backache or tenderness over the kidneys, nervous weakness, dark rings around the eyes, tired feeling, too much or too little urine, and sediment in urine."

ITS EFFECT ON THE HEART.

"In what way is the heart affected from kidney trouble?"

"In all cases the heart is disturbed, though in many instances the palpitation does not become alarming until the disease has advanced to a serious point."

HOW TO CURE IT.

"What is the proper course of treatment for kidney disease?"

"First, to get rid of uric acid and other poisons in the system. This can be done by stimulating the bladder and bowels so that they will act more freely."

"Prickly Ash Bitters is a remedy that answers these requirements completely. It is not only a system tonic and regulator, but its healing and restorative influence will build up the weakened kidneys and urge them to a better performance of their duties."

Get the genuine with the figure "B" in red on front label.


John Stuart and son, of the Millersview country, were shopping in Ballinger Tuesday.

Gas in the stomach or bowels is a disagreeable symptom of a torpid liver. To get rid of it quickly take Herbine.

Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Jones and little daughter of Coneho county were shopping in Ballinger Saturday.

Cures Old Sores, Other Remedies Won't Cure. The worst cases, no matter how long standing, are cured by the wonderful, old reliable Dr. Porter's Antiseptic Healing Oil.

**THE WORLD IS LOOKING FOR
YOUNG MEN
WITH THE
BANK-BOOK
HABIT**



**THE BOYS WHO
PUT THEIR MONEY
IN THE BANK CAN
COMMAND HIGHER
SALARIES AND MORE
RESPECT BECAUSE THEY
DESERVE IT.**

Every employer is anxious about the men whom he employs. He will grow to like them and take an interest in them.

...THE...
**FIRST NATIONAL BANK
OF BALLINGER**

WE ARE GROWING.

That is sufficient proof to us that we are filling a place of usefulness in the Winter country.

Responsibility \$300,000.00

WINTERS BANKING COMPANY
(Unincorporated)

D. M. Hillyard, Cashier.