

# THE BANNER-LEDGER

VOLUME 35

BALLINGER, RUNNELS COUNTY, TEXAS, FRIDAY, MARCH 24, 1916.

Number 26

WHY NOT BUY--A GOOD BUGGY  
**MOON BROS.**  
 A NEW CAR JUST RECEIVED

DISTRIBUTED BY

**Van Pelt, Kirk and Mack**  
 "Tell the TRUTH Advertisers"

## Message Delayed by Cut Line

**SAN ANTONIO, March 22.**—Gen. Funston received a wireless from Gen. Pershing shortly after three o'clock this afternoon. The message was dated yesterday, and reported that the first squad of the Thirteenth Cavalry and part of the motor truck train had just arrived at Casas Grandes, and that supplies were badly needed.

Aeroplane No. 44 in communication with the Seventh Cavalry troop, sixty miles South of Cruces, reported Villa forces at Namiquipa, and a troop of American cavalry South of Namiquipa. One aeroplane was out of communication near Casas Grandes.

Major Sample notified the family of Lieut. Robert H. Willis that Willis was safe. It had been reported that Willis had been killed. Lieut. Edgar S. Gorrell is missing.

Gen. Funston received notice this afternoon that the squadron of the Fifth Cavalry left Fort Leavenworth at noon today and are being rushed to Columbus as fast as the railroads can transport them, and Gen. Funston was assured by the war department that other reinforcements would be on the way soon.

Communications with Pershing were cut yesterday and radio messages badly interrupted. Gen. Funston sent Captain Chandler and another expert out today to investigate the trouble and see if he can stop interruption of messages from Pershing and also make an effort to learn how telegraph wires were cut.

**WASHINGTON, March 22.**—A resolution is before the Senate this afternoon which, if adopted, will authorize President Wilson to issue a call for fifty thousand volunteers for service in Mexico. It is believed that the resolution will be passed and the call issued immediately.

**SAN ANTONIO, March 20.**—American troops guarding the Southern Pacific Railway bridge on the Pecos River, were fired upon by a party of prowlers, last night, who fled when the guards returned fire. These marauders are believed to be Mexicans, who are attempting retaliation for the American punitive expedition into

## Ten Million Dollar Fire Sweeps Paris, Texas

**Mexico.**  
 If this Southern Pacific bridge, the highest railroad bridge in the world, were destroyed, it would tie up further American entry into Mexico for three months. The guards on the bridge have been increased.

**WASHINGTON, March 18.**—The preparedness fight in congress reached the climax today over the Chamberlain bill which recommends 800,000 men for immediate service. The bill is expected to pass the house by a big majority.

The United States has asked Carranza for permission to use the Mexican railways for transporting supplies to the troops that are now in Mexico.

**DALLAS GETS CALL FOR 25,000 MEN.**

**Washington, March 18.**—Orders were received here from Washington today asking the Dallas recruiting station for 25,000 men men immediately, regardless of hours.

**SAN ANTONIO, March 20.**—Like spokes in a wheel American detachments are combing the Casas Grandes district, endeavoring to find Pancho Villa's bandit troops. Villa is now near Namiquipa, southeast of Casas Grandes. The campaign of pursuit is expected to be a long one by the American officers, and the problem of supplies is proving very difficult.

**WASHINGTON, March 20.**—President Wilson announced today that the United States would do nothing to embarrass Carranza and cause him trouble with his Mexican adherents, in connection with the American expedition into Mexico. Wilson stated that permission had been asked of Carranza to use the Mexican railways for the transportation of troops and supplies to Gen. Pershing, but that if Carranza refused to allow use of the railroads the United States would devise some other means.

**SAN ANTONIO, March 21.**—After sending radio messages to Pershing yesterday to "speed up" Gen. Funston received wireless messages from Gen. Pershing saying that Villa had been defeated by Carranzistas at Cruces, and the bandit leader had turned North, and that the American troops had been divided into three detachments and were circling around to trap Villa in his retreat. "I guess this looks like speeding up," said Gen. Funston, when he received the radio messages.

Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Menchew, and R. C. Sharpes of the Norton country, were among the business visitors in Ballinger Wednesday.

**By United Press**  
**PARIS, Texas, March 22.**—Capt. John Straub, one unknown white and an unidentified negro, were killed in the fire that swept this city late yesterday and last night, and possibly others are dead.

The property loss is estimated at from seven to ten million dollars, and the area covered by the fire takes in more than two thirds of this city.

Between fifteen hundred and two thousand dwellings were destroyed, and from eight to twelve thousand people are homeless. One hundred business houses were destroyed, and in an effort to stop the fire, many others were dynamited.

**DALLAS SENDS PROVISIONS.**

**By United Press**  
**DALLAS, March 22.**—Before the call for help could be sent out from Paris, this city loaded out, and started on the road three car loads of provisions, and other

help will be sent. Reports received here say that more than two-thirds of the city of Paris is in ashes, and that two-thirds or more of the citizens are homeless. It is the worst fire that has occurred in Texas in many years.

The fire started in the warehouse of the Long Transportation Co., in the Southern part of the city, about five o'clock yesterday afternoon, and soon spread to the Paris cotton compress, and with a strong wind the flames swept over two-thirds of the city, stopping when there was nothing more in the path for them to destroy.

The Merrick Hotel, a new structure, costing \$150,000, was destroyed, also the \$300,000 Gibraltar Hotel, also a new building, was destroyed. The Smiley Apartments, completed last fall at a cost of \$300,000 was burned. The Crook, Record & Co., a wholesale concern, suffered a \$400,000 loss. Burton-Peel Dry Goods Co. lost \$200,000.

## NEGRO INDICTED; TRIAL MONDAY

The grand jury reconvened Wednesday morning at eight-thirty and shortly after noon they returned an indictment against the negro Allen, charging him with attempt to assault, and the case has been set for next Monday.

Three of the regular jurors of the dozen on duty last week, were out of the county, and it was necessary to substitute three men to take their place. T. J. Gardner, W. A. Talley, and J. McGregor, were sworn in for this purpose.

The negro indicted is in jail at some other place, and will not be brought to Ballinger until his case is called. Earl Younger, the negro convicted of a similar crime is also in jail at another place, and he will be returned here and sentenced when the negro Allen is brought back for trial.

## VITAL STATISTICS FOR FEBRUARY

Estimated population, July 1, 1915, 4,343,710. Estimated number births per month 10,135. Total birth reported 4,142.

Estimated number deaths per month 4,452. Total deaths reported 2,372.

As to Cause: Tuberculosis 281, Cause ill-defined 227, Pneumonia 207, Influenza 207, Bright's disease 112, Accidental deaths 112, Organic diseases of heart 93, Cancer, all forms 82, Senility 79, Congenital debility 70, Cerebral hemorrhage 68, Diarrhoea (under 2 year) 40, Pellagra 31, Homicides 24, Suicides 15.

Deaths By ages:  
 Under 1 year 340, from 1 to 2 years 85, from 2 to 5 years 80, from 5 to 10 years 58, from 10 to 20 145, from 20 to 30 260, from 30 to 40 210, from 40 to 50 225, from 50 to 60 250, from 60 to 70 255, from 70 to 80 229, from 80 to 90 120, over 90 years 31, unknown 84, total 2372.

Dick Trail of the Paint Rock bank, passed through Ballinger Tuesday afternoon en route to Houston to visit relatives and to attend the cattle raiser's association a few days.

H. Daniels of Brownwood, was among the business visitors in Ballinger Wednesday.

## TENNYSON GETS 3 YEARS FOR SWINDLE

District court convened for the second week at one-thirty Monday afternoon. The first case called was the Sam Turner forgery case, and Turner entered a plea of guilty to the first three cases and was given two years in each case, and five other cases were dismissed.

District court disposed of two cases Tuesday morning and took a recess at eleven o'clock, convening again at one-thirty in the afternoon. The first case called was the assault to murder case against Ernest Henry, a negro. Henry took a shot at another negro in the Olfin community several months ago, after the other negro had accused Henry of stealing his sausage. A mule was wounded in the shooting.

After hearing both sides of the case the prosecuting attorney decided to reduce the charge to aggravated assault and the negro was let down light, after pleading guilty to the later charge and was given \$25 fine.

The second case called Tuesday morning was the swindling case against C. E. Tennyson. Tennyson mortgaged a bunch of cattle to the Ballinger State Bank. It developed shortly after the mortgage had been executed that Tennyson did not have any cattle, and he was soon arrested. The grand jury indicted him last week, and when the case was called Tuesday he plead guilty and the jury let him down with three years.

Up to Tuesday at noon nine prisoners had received their sentence and are ready for the transfer agent. It is expected that at least two more convictions will be had at the present term, and with the two who were convicted at the last term and are being held here, the total number for the transfer agent will be fifteen.

**Six Sentenced to Pen.**  
 After excusing the jury for the week Friday morning Judge Goodwin asked the sheriff to bring the prisoners who had been convicted into court. They were lined up and saying they had nothing to say as to why sentence should not be passed on them, the court proceeded to sentence them for the respective terms recommended by the jurors that convicted them:

John Jackson alias "Peg Leg" was sentenced for two years for bootlegging.

Felix Jackson, negro, two years for burglary.  
 Chas. Chase negro, two years

for burglary.  
 Josi A. Valasque, Mexican, two years for forgery.

Ben Scotty, alias "Whistling Rufus," negro, three years for bootlegging.

Jack Jones, negro, two years for hog theft.

Lee Drennan and Earl Younger, who were convicted at the last term of court, and who broke jail before the court could pass sentence on them, will be sentenced later. Attorneys for Drennan are preparing a motion to present to the court asking for a new hearing, while the negro Earl Younger stated that he was not ready to be sentenced. When the court gets ready to sentence him the negro will probably not be consulted as to his wishes in the matter.

## DRY ENDORSEMENT FOR BOWIE COUNTY

**TEXARKANA, March 20.**—In the prohibition election held in this county last Saturday the county voted dry by two to one. The total vote for the pros was 2,291 and for the anti's 1,153, giving the "dry" a majority of 1,138 with one small box to hear from which will increase the dry majority.

Texarkana voted dry by a majority of six the first time in its history. New Boston, the next largest box in the county give the pros a majority of 114, which was the first pro victory for this box also, while nearly all the smaller towns and farming districts went overwhelmingly for prohibition.

The county has been dry six years, and this was the third election. Four years ago the dry majority was only 237, but at that time the city of Texarkana voted a large majority "wet."

The prohibition leaders are busy today planning for a big mass meeting to be held tonight to adopt measures for stamping out bootlegging in Texarkana.

Court Stenographer Leach, of Brownwood, who had been here during this term of district court, returned home Tuesday.

## FIERCE FIGHTING IN EUROPE

**BERLIN, March 22.**—Kuropatkin continues to wage a heavy assault against Von Hindenburg, along the front Southeast of the Baltic port, Riga, and the Germans are gradually giving away to the advance of the Russians.

Reports from the Verdun front say that the Germans capture more trenches northwest of the city.

**LONDON, March 21.**—Berlin today admits the Russian victories on the Eastern frontier. Russ victories along an 800 mile front are so great that they overshadow the fierce fighting at Verdun, where the Germans are claiming an advance today.

Von Hindenburg today withdrew his forces to avoid their complete annihilation at the hands of the Russian troops under the command of General Kuropatkin, veteran leader of Russo-Japanese war fame.

**LONDON, March 20.**—Sixty-five allied aeroplanes attacked the German submarine base at Zeebrugge, Belgium, this morning. Reports received state that considerable damage was done the station by bombing. All the airships returned here today.

**PEPPER HEIGHTS HELD BY FRENCH.**  
 Paris, March 20.—German infantry attacks on Pepper Heights was again repulsed today, with heavy losses.

## SUCCESSFUL RABBIT HUNT.

W. L. Hambright of the Eagle Branch country, was in the city Monday to take out a load of brick for the Eagle Branch school house and while here ordered the Banner-Ledger, with his compliments, to Miss Hollie Teet at Dalton, Ga., and to Mrs. Laura Henderson of Rhome, Ga.

Mr. Hambright reports a very successful rabbit hunt of two days in the Eagle Branch and Oxien neighborhoods, with about 150 present and about 400 rabbits killed each day, and says two of the finest and most sumptuous dinners he every attended were served each day. He says he killed 22 rabbits the first day, which tied the best man and on the second day he killed only six, but they were awfully large ones.

## TRAINED

experience over a long period and ample resources justify individuals and corporations in committing to our charge the various responsibilities in connection with the management of financial matters, whether for an estate or for individuals or corporations.

We shall be glad to send a copy of our statement under date of last call by mail on request.

...The...

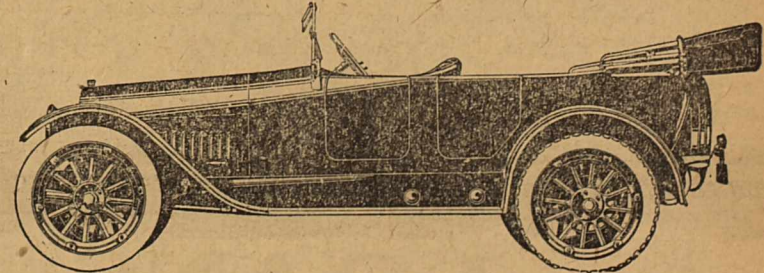
**Winters State Bank**

Winters, Texas

"First in Deposits and Service"

GUARANTY FUND BANK

**W. A. Nance** **Henry Jones**



**Bargains! Bargains!! Bargains!!! in SECOND HAND CARS**

1 Brush, will run, \$40.00 cash.

1 Overland, dandy good car, tires all good, cost \$1100, will sell for \$350; \$200 cash balance \$12.50 per month. This car is worth \$500.

1 Auburn, 5 passenger, electric starter and lights, spare rim and tire, cost \$1850; will sell at \$450; \$250 cash balance next fall. A snap for some one on an up-to-date car.

1 new Ford will sell for \$15.00 off list.

1 4 passenger Metz, cost \$650 good as new, will take \$250 \$150 cash balance \$10 per month.

**We Cut the Price on Everything for Autos**  
 Gasoline 20c. Spark Plugs Champion X 30c. Any Plug not over 50c. Dry Batteries 30c. See us—

**BALLINGER AUTO COMPANY**

Opposite Court House Lawn.

Telephone Number 505

## Reliable Laxative Relieved this Baby

Child was Badly Constipated,  
Until Mother Tried  
Simple Remedy

In spite of every care and attention to diet, children are very apt to become constipated, a condition responsible for many ills in after life unless promptly relieved.

Mrs. C. W. Wilson, of Shelbyville, Tenn., had trouble with her baby boy, Woodrow, until she heard of Dr. Caldwell's Syrup Pepsin. She writes, "I can safely say Dr. Caldwell's Syrup Pepsin is the best remedy of its kind on earth. It acts so gently and yet so surely. Little Woodrow was very badly constipated and we could find nothing that gave relief until we tried your syrup Pepsin, which gave immediate relief."

Dr. Caldwell's Syrup Pepsin is a compound of simple laxative herbs, free from opiates or narcotic drugs, mild in action, positive in effect and pleasant to the



Woodrow Wilson

taste. It has been prescribed by Dr. Caldwell for more than a quarter of a century and can now be had for fifty cents a bottle in any well-stocked drug store. A trial bottle of Dr. Caldwell's Syrup Pepsin can be obtained, free of charge, by writing to Dr. W. B. Caldwell, 454 Washington St., Monticello, Illinois.

### H. WINKLER IN BANKRUPTCY.

His many friends in Ballinger will regret to learn that H. Winkler, formerly a Ballinger merchant, has met with financial reverses again and his business is in bankruptcy at Sweetwater. Mr. Winkler went broke in Ballinger a number of years ago, but recovered his loss and has been engaged in the dry goods business in Sweetwater since moving away from Ballinger.

Uncle Jim Bartlett, of Santa Anna, spent a couple of days with his son D. E. Bartlett, the photographer, this week and returned home Tuesday. Mr. Bartlett was

**ITCHING**  
Eczema, Piles, Itch, Erysipelas, Pimples, Red Nose, and all Skin Diseases are quickly relieved by Zinlac Salve. Mailed prepaid. Trial size 50c or large family size \$1.00. Address  
**E. M. Droz Co., Box 238**  
Station B. Cleveland, O.

**F. D. COOKE, M. D.**  
Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat.  
Office over Pearce's  
Drug Store, Ballinger.

## Strictly Cash

I am here to stay and to build up a clean, up-to-date grocery trade. I pay strictly cash for my groceries and sell the same way, dealing on the smallest margin of profit possible. Everything in my store is a leader, nothing at cost to make up for it on some thing else, everything must bear its own profit.

Will sell you good Pea Berry Coffee the pound **20c** 25 pounds **\$1.65**  
Sugar **\$1.65**

All my stock Flour that cannot be beat **\$1.75** My motto:  
is strictly the sack Small Profits  
fresh. and Quick  
Sales.

Prompt and Courteous Treatment to One and All.

**H. G. ROTEN** PHONE 101  
Hutchins Avenue, Next to Hall Hardware Co.

## LOANS

After a residence of some time in Oklahoma where thousands of dollars are placed on farms at 5% and 6 per cent, I have completed arrangements for placing loans in this locality and solicit your business. Rates the lowest, cost the least and service the quickest.

**L. K. SMITH,** Temporary Address  
COLEMAN, TEXAS  
Permanent Address: Chickasha, Oklahoma



### BARREL AFTER BARREL

of our lime go to the very best builders in this community. They buy it because it is the very best lime to be had and because it pays them to use it in their operations. If it pays them it will pay you. When you have any building to do you'll find it wise to use our materials.

Wm. Cameron Lumber Co

## ANGELO PRISONER CAPTURED MONDAY

Chris Pistol was captured Monday afternoon at 12:30 o'clock. Armed with a single-barrel shotgun and a revolver, he found himself between two officers of the sheriff's department and surrendered without resistance.

The capture was made by Sheriff Hawley C. Allen and Deputy John DeSpain. The two visited Pistol's home in the Post addition shortly after 12 o'clock, and were leaving the residence in an automobile when a man was seen crossing East Baker street three blocks away. He was walking fast and carried a shotgun. The officers gave chase and the suspect broke into a run.

## PORT ARTHUR MAN FINDS GOOD HEALTH

Sufferer is Restored and Makes Remarkable Gain in Weight on Few Doses.

J. F. Stoneburner of Port Arthur, Texas, suffered from stomach ailments for a long time. He fell off in weight and took treatment without apparent benefit. He tried physician after physician until he almost lost hope.

He at last took Mayr's Wonderful Remedy, then wrote:

"I have taken all of your wonderful stomach remedy and got good results from it. I have gained in weight since starting on your remedy—twenty-one pounds so far. I was under the care of five doctors for about six months before I got your medicine. I am entirely well now."

Mayr's Wonderful Remedy gives permanent results for stomach, liver and intestinal ailments. Eat as much and whatever you like. No more distress after eating, pressure of gas in the stomach and around the heart. Get me bottle of your druggist now and try it on an absolute guarantee—if not satisfactory money will be refunded.

## COTTON KING VISITS BALLINGER

Geo. H. McFadden and son Barkley, of Philadelphia, and W. J. Neale of Waco, arrived in Ballinger over the Santa Fe, Wednesday at noon, traveling in Mr. McFadden's private car. The car was sidetracked here and the party remained over until the East bound train at four o'clock. They spent the time here inspecting the compress property and meeting friends and mixing with the cotton men.

Mr. McFadden is one of the largest, if not the largest, cotton dealers in the United States, and is owner of upwards of one hundred cotton compresses in Texas and Oklahoma. This was his first visit to Ballinger, and he was well pleased with his property here, and stated that the compress was one of the most substantial to be found anywhere, and he found it in good shape.

Mr. Neale is associated with Mr. McFadden and has charge of the Texas compresses. The party was met at the train by W. B. Ray, who has had extensive business dealings with Mr. McFadden, and R. L. Bassett, manager of the local compress, and also J. F. McMillan, of the local compress crew.

### Shoes Wanted.

at Wendorf's Busy Shoe Shop Work done by the Champion shoe finishing machine, soles sewed on in quick time. Come to see us.

H. L. WENDORF  
dtf Hutchings Ave

Messrs. Pettibone, Hull and other high officials of the Santa Fe, passed through Ballinger Tuesday on an inspecting tour of the Temple-San Angelo branch of their road. Mr. Pettibone says it is always a pleasure to stop a few moments and to look at our beautiful, clean city and the Santa Fe park and depot, especially.

W. W. Huddleston, who bought cotton here the past season, passed through Ballinger Monday en route to Winters from San Angelo.

## BANISH SCROFULA

Hood's Sarsaparilla Cleanses the Blood, Skin Troubles Vanish.

Scrofula eruptions on the face and body are both annoying and disfiguring. The complexion would be perfect if they were not present!

This disease shows itself in other ways, as bunches in the neck, inflamed eyelids, sore ears, wasting of the muscles, a form of dyspepsia, and general debility.

Ask your druggist for Hood's Sarsaparilla. This great medicine completely eradicates scrofula. It purifies and enriches the blood, removes humors, and builds up the whole system.

Scrofula is either inherited or acquired. Better be sure you are quite free from it. Get Hood's Sarsaparilla and begin taking it today.

## FRIGHTENED STEERS DASH FOR LIBERTY

It has been a long time since a bunch of steers stampeded and kicked up a cloud of dust on the streets of Ballinger and such a scene on the streets of Ballinger Friday afternoon reminded the old timers of early days.

102 steers being fed in the pens just south of the oil mill by Blocker & Russell, became frightened about four o'clock Friday afternoon and the fence was as a mere imaginary line as far as stopping the cattle counted. The steers it seemed had not forgotten the way back to the ranch and were headed in that direction in a hurry when "headed-off" in front of the Central Hotel, and after milling around for a few minutes were turned back and driven to pens by Marshal Pilcher and a number of other men who happened to be nearby on horse back. Mr. Pilcher denies that he collected \$1 per head against the steers for violating the city ordinance governing the stock law.

### Are You Bothered with Constipation.

You will have grateful relief from the first dose of Po-Do-Lax. It is a compound laxative for it not only empties the bowels but stimulates the bile and other secretions. It attacks constipation at its source and you get permanent relief. Po-Do-Lax will give your regular stool and only occasionally will you need it. An excellent liver medicine. 50c at Druggists.

J. C. Rountree of Temple, who had been visiting his cousins Mrs. E. D. Jackson and family and W. F. Jackson and family of South Ballinger, left for his home Tuesday morning.

### Watch the Fords Go By.

A. J. Lolka, J. J. and D. S. Crockett were among the number serving their county on the jury in the district court this week.

Roy Clayton and G. W. Brister, of the Benoit-Oxien country, were among the business visitors in Ballinger Monday.

## Mr. Went-And-Cut-It —Here's Mr. 'Gets-It'

The New Plan Corn Cure That's as Sure as the Rising Sun.

"Glad to meet you!" says the razor to the corn. "I'll bleed for you!" says the corn to the razor. Razors and corns love each other. Corns love to



"Why, O Why, Did I Do It? 'Gets-It' for Me After This—if I Live!" be cut, picked, gouged, shaved, plastered and jerked out—they grow faster. Mr. and Mrs. Went-and-Cut-It realize it now—they use "Gets-It" instead—it's the wonderful, simple corn-cure that never fails. Stops pain. You apply it in 2 seconds, it dries at once, the corn is doomed. Nothing to stick to the stocking or press on the corn. It means good-night to plasters, salves, diggers, razors and toe-bundling. You can wear smaller shoes. Your corns will come right off, "clean as a whistle." Never inflames healthy flesh. The world's biggest selling corn cure. "Gets-It" is sold by druggists everywhere. 25c a bottle, or sent direct by E. Lawrence & Co., Chicago, Ill.

Sold in Ballinger and recommended as the world's best corn remedy by Walker Drug Co., J. Y. Pearce and City Drug Store.

## WANTS RABBITS TO ENRICH HER LAND

There seems to be no let up in the new experiences being made and contemplated as a result of the rabbit industry, and the publicity given Ballinger in the rabbit stories is attracting attention from other states, and this week County Judge Kleberg received a letter from a lady in St. Louis inquiring about the rabbit bones, for which she proposes to utilize to a good end. Following is the letter:

"Dear Sir—Please give me the names of rabbit hunters in your county. Would not the heads of the rabbits that are going to waste be valuable for fertilizer? I have land in Texas, and if it is not too far a haul and too expensive I would be glad to make the experiment and try them. The skull is practically bone which is worth \$18 per ton on the market.

Respectfully,  
"MRS. E. J. BROWNLEE,  
"1435 N. Grand Ave. St. Louis, Mo."

## KEEP LIVER ACTIVE AND BOWELS CLEAN WITH "CASCARETS"

Best when bilious, sick, headachy, constipated, or for bad breath or sour stomach.

Be careful! Clean up inside tonight and feel fine. Take Cascarets to liven your liver and clean the bowels and stop headaches, a bad cold, biliousness, offensive breath, coated tongue, saltness, sour stomach and gases. Tonight take Cascarets and enjoy the nicest, gentlest liver and bowel cleansing you ever experienced. Wake up feeling grand—Everybody's doing it. Cascarets best laxative for children also.

## JACK RABBITS FOR RACING COURSE

An illustrated page story of the rabbit drive and the shipping of a carload of rabbits from Ballinger appearing in a recent issue of the San Antonio Express, is responsible for quite a number of inquiries coming to Ballinger. Some of the writers wanting to know if the rabbits are caught alive, how they are killed, etc., and also resulted in bringing a moving picture man to the county.

The latest letter received inquiring about the rabbit industry came to G. W. Dunlap this week, and is as follows:

"Dear Sir—I notice by the papers that you people have had a great rabbit chase. What I want to know, can you catch jack rabbits alive? We are going to have a racing course this fall and I want about thirty jack rabbits alive. What will it cost me to get them? Please let me know as soon as you can.

"Yours truly,  
"H. N. SHOLL,"  
Collegeport, Texas.

### Election Notice.

By authority invested in me, as mayor of the City of Ballinger, I hereby order an election to be held on April 4th, 1916 in the City Hall, Ballinger, Runnels County, Texas, for the election of three aldermen and a city attorney, who will serve the city the next ensuing term and J. F. Lusk is hereby appointed as presiding officer of said election.

J. W. POWELL,  
Mayor.

Mr. and Mrs. T. M. Cotton, of Midland, came in Tuesday at noon from a visit to their daughter at Talpa, and will visit relatives and friends at Ballinger and Winters before returning home. Mr. and Mrs. Cotton are pioneer citizens of Runnels county, well and favorably known to all our older citizens.

### Sign of Good Digestion.

When you see a cheerful and happy old lady you may know that she has good digestion. If your digestion is impaired or if you do not relish your meals take a dose of Chamberlain's Tablets. They strengthen the stomach, improve the digestion and cause a gentle movement of the bowels. Obtainable everywhere.

### A PRETTY FACE is the result of a healthy physical condition.

"Beauty is but skin deep" yet it greatly depends on a clear complexion, free from wrinkles and hollow cheeks.

Health always brings wealth of beauty. A healthy state of the system comes with Doctor Pierce's Favorite Prescription. It's a medicine prepared for woman's ailments—it cures those derangements and weaknesses which make woman's life miserable.

Mrs. MATTIE HALLMAN (daughter of Mr. J. C. Parks), 610 E. Richard St., Sherman, Tex., says: "I write this in the hope that it will assist some poor sufferer. I took 'Favorite Prescription' when I was just entering womanhood. Can say it relieved me of suffering and built up my system in general."

Mrs. FERRIS FARMER, of 230 West 13th Avenue, Corsicana, Texas says:

"I certainly can praise Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription for the good it did me when I was a girl just drifting into maturity. I certainly will recommend 'Favorite Prescription'."

Luther Pumphrey of Winters, came over in his auto Wednesday to bring Mr. and Mrs. J. V. Nelson and daughter, who are here to meet with the grand jury.

### Watch the Fords Go By.

J. D. Taylor of Rains County, passed through Ballinger Wednesday en route to the Crews country, to visit his two sons a few weeks.



THE Texas Wonder cures kidney and bladder troubles, dissolves gravel, cures diabetes, weak and lame backs, rheumatism and all irregularities of the kidneys and bladder in both men and women. If not sold by your druggist, will be sent by mail on receipt of \$1. One small bottle is two months' treatment and seldom fails to perfect a cure. Send for testimonials from this and other States. Dr. E. W. Hall, 2326 Olive Street, St. Louis, Mo. Sold by druggists.—Adv. e

## Don't Cheat Yourself!

We are not only a convenience but a MONEY SAVER for you.

## PIANOS MUSIC

We must satisfy you because nothing else will satisfy us.

### The Music House Reliable

**GEO. ALLEN**  
of Western Texas,  
SAN ANGELO

Established in 1890

### THE

## Royal Hotel

SIXTH STREET, east of Court House.

Ballinger, Texas

Rates \$1.00 per day and up

O. H. Dahlgruen, Prop.

## Samuel C. Harris LAWYER

Winters, Texas

Will Practice in All the Courts of Texas.

Collections and Land business attended to.

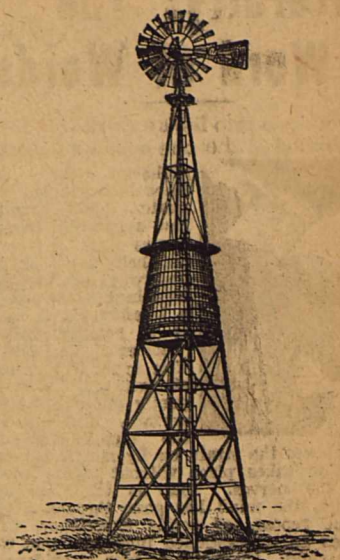
## Q. VICTOR MILLER ATTORNEY-AT-LAW

Office with Security Title Co. Will Practice in all the Courts.

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



# The Cheapest Power On Earth AERMOTOR WIND MILLS



When you are looking for perfection in air motion it will be found in the good type of Aermotor power, a mill that is built with a purpose in view, "to give the buyer" every advantage that years of experience in the building of Wind Mills has perfected.

There's hundreds of "satisfied buyers" in this country who can attest to the durability and the light running mills which have been sold in the past, and each year perfecting a better model is as near perfection as it is possible to produce.

## A Complete Stock of RUBBER HOSE

Below we list you a few prices of the good qualities of hose that we carry—every kind is of first quality in the grades represented.

**Cotton Hose**—  
an extra heavy woven cotton tube, which is lined with pure rubber, sizes 3-4 inch, ideal for lawn and garden use, priced at per foot ..... 10¢

**Black Rubber Hose**—  
The 1/2 inch sizes, real heavy grade, made of 4-ply duck and pure rubber, which will stand the strain, extra light and durable, priced at per foot ..... 10¢

**Red Rubber Hose**—  
a standard grade, a seamless tube that will stand a quantity of hard service, a 5 ply kind, 1/2 inch size, light and durable, priced at per foot ..... 12 1/2¢

**Corrigated Hose**—  
a 4-ply duck with an extra heavy covering of pure red rubber, which is designed to stand hard usage, price per foot 12 1/2¢

**Spray Nozzles**—  
made of heavy brass, which is adjustable to spray or solid stream, polished cast brass with complete cut-off, the price, each ..... 35¢

**Lawn Sprays**—  
The most practical way to water your lawn, made to throw an even spray and needs no attention, priced at ..... 35¢

**The Oiling Device** a bran new addition which is worth the investigation of every Wind Mill buyer, every part being flooded with oil at every stroke making your mill last much longer.

**The Gears**—They are of the double action kind that have a double pull, and relieves all the strains of the old kinds, making a more uniform stroke that does not give or shake your tower.

**This Latest Improved** kind of wind mill is extremely sensitive to the lightest breeze and faces the wind perfectly and is more notable than any in earning the well gained motto: "the wind mill which runs when all others stand still."

**Now on Display** one of these late models is set up ready to demonstrate all the claims set forth "as the best mill made" in our sales room. Our competent salesmen will be glad to show you. You won't be urged to buy.

The price of this mill in 8 foot size - - - **\$37.50**

### Auto-Oiled Windmill

ALL WORKING PARTS INCLOSED  
and flooded with oil from the supply in the gear case, which needs replenishing only once a year.

Put your old Aermotor wheel and vane on this self-oiled motor, and have an up-to-date outfit at small cost.

**DUPLICATE GEARS RUNNING IN OIL**

Oil Annually

**EVERY BEARING FLOODED WITH OIL**

This helmet keeps out rain keeps out dust keeps in oil

Don't waste your time climbing to oil an old mill. Replace it, on your old tower, with an Auto-Oiled Aermotor which will last you a lifetime and furnish you an abundance of water.

IT NEEDS ATTENTION ONLY ONCE A YEAR.

Write for Folder-Hanger. It tells all about Auto-Oiled Aermotors and Easy-To-Build-Up Towers.

AERMOTOR CO., 1146 S. Campbell Ave., CHICAGO

## The Kind That Have Stood The Test "MITCHELL"

Every user of this high-grade vehicle becomes a booster and is always ready to put in a good word. There's a reason "it's the quality that has interred and is maintained in this good brand" we've sold them for 12 years and its been satisfaction all the time.

**NO RATTLING**—In the construction of this good grade of vehicles every joint is so made that there is no pulling apart, examine the bed of a "Moon" after years of constant use and the joints at the corners are as good as when they come from the factory.

**THE MATERIALS**—Every piece of second growth hickory that enters a "Moon" is of the right kind, no inferior grades can enter after the thorough, rigid inspection through which it passes.

**OUR STOCK**—It's complete in surries, hacks runabouts and top buggies. Just unloaded a car—the second this season—there's a reason—it's Quality.

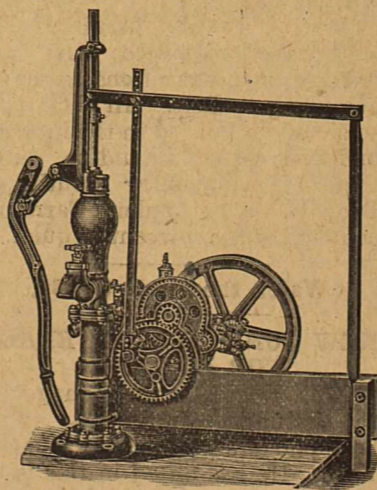
## AERMOTOR ENGINES

There is nothing that you can install on the farm that is more of a labor saver than an "Aermotor" engine, can be used for various purposes, feed grinding, water pumping, washing and etc. This small engine will do the work with such small expense that you won't miss the money.

**In Stock** we have these small, one and one-half horse power engines in stock ready for delivery,

**GALVANIZED PIPE**

A complete stock of all sizes in pipe and all fittings complete, also pumps and cylinders for all depth wells, come let us talk over your water troubles with you—you won't be urged to buy.



## Good, Reliable, Hand Use IMPLEMENTS

The small list, that is given below only touches this stock and is not by any means a complete representation.

**Lawn Mowers**—  
A good mower that has a 16-inch cut, which is ball bearing and extra light running machine which is strong and durable, a high grade knife which will eat grass, priced at ..... \$6.50

**Rakes**—  
14 cut forged steel teeth, with re-inforced back, extra clear stout ash polished handles, a good one for lawn or garden use, priced at ..... 50¢

**Garden Hoes**—  
Made of good steel, with 4-inch blade and pointed back, with strong selected handles, especially good for hoeing young garden truck, the price ..... 35¢

**Spading Forks**—  
An extra stout 4 prong style made of steel, which is set in a splendid ash handle bound with a long steel ferrule, a specially good garden fork priced at 75¢

**Shovels**—  
A polished cast steel, with seamless blade that has just the right dip, long selected polished ash handle that are properly riveted priced at ..... 75¢

**Extra Hoe Handles**—  
A big selection of second growth ash handles, which are clear and free from unperflections, priced at, each ..... 25¢

## There's a Reason Why They're Better MOON BROS.

A Wagon that has satisfaction stamped on every piece. "The Monarch of the road" which has stood the test of practically a century and have improved with every year until they now stand as a pier in good wagon making.

**The Woods** used in this good make of wagons is perfectly dried and seasoned for years before entering into the making, and only then after standing the most sever tests by experts in the selection of materials.

**The Irons** which enter into this good brand of wagon are of the best wrought kinds, there is no cast used, but the tough kinds that will stand the strain.

**Light Running**—they have a light draft from being perfectly constructed, the price 3-inch size with spring seat

**\$95.00**

(Less 5 per cent for cash)

# Van Pelt, Kirk & Mack

"TELL THE TRUTH ADVERTISERS"

## Maternity! The Word of Words

It is written into life's expectations that motherhood is the one sublime accomplishment. And if there is anything, no matter how simple, how apparently trivial it may seem, if it can aid, help, assist or in any way comfort the expectant mother, it is a blessing. And such is a remedy called "Mother's Friend." You apply it over the stomach muscles. It is gently rubbed on the surface, and makes the muscles pliant; this relieves the strain on ligaments, natural expansion takes place without undue effect upon the nerves. And as the time approaches, the mind has gone through a period of repose, of gentle expectancy, and this has an unquestioned influence upon the future child. That this is true is evidenced by the fact that three generations of mothers have used and recommended "Mother's Friend." Ask your nearest druggist for a bottle of this splendid remedy. He will get it for you. And then write to Bradford Regulator Co., 407 Lamar Bldg., Atlanta, Ga., for a most interesting book of information to prospective mothers. It is mailed free. Write today. It is a book you will enjoy.

## MILITIA WILL BE USED ON BORDER

WASHINGTON, March 23.—The war department today reported that plans were being discussed and worked out for the immediate calling out of the state militia for border patrol duty, in case Gen. Funston needed all the army on the border for regular service in Mexico.

**Guion's Single Comb Reds.**  
Yard No. 1. is headed by the first cockrell at Quincy, Ill. this season. This bird also won "colored Special" Cup among 42 competitors. Mated with him are five pullets of splendid type, and dark rich even shade of red free from shafting. Four dark yearling hens that are tested breeders eggs \$2.00 per 15.  
Yard No. 2. is headed by a Grand Large even colored male that has proved his merits. Mated with him are nine dark even colored pullets and six large even colored yearling hens. Eggs \$1.50 per 15.  
I guarantee all eggs to be absolutely fresh and eighty per cent fertile.

JNO. I. GUION, Jr.  
Phones 553 and 67. Ballinger, Texas.  
3-24-w8t-pd.

**MOEGLIN-TYREE**  
Mr. B. H. Moeglen of Edwards County, and Miss Emma Tyree, of the Valley Creek country, were united in marriage at the Court House in Ballinger Wednesday afternoon, Judge Kleberg officiating, and a few friends witnessed the ceremony.  
Mr. Moeglen is a prominent stockman of Carta Valley, and Miss Tyree is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Tyree of the Valley Creek country, and is a young lady of lovely character and a favorite in her neighborhood.

The Ledger joins many friends in best wishes and congratulations for the happy young couple. They will make their home on Mr. Moeglen's ranch in the Carta Valley.

## COMMISSIONER SMITH GETS STUDEBAKER

Commissioner J. D. Smith, who was here on business Wednesday, returned home in the afternoon driving a seven passenger Studebaker. Mrs. Smith and the little Smiths will get some of the pleasures of life, and hereafter their trips to market will not be an all day job. Bob Kirk delivered the car.

## INTERSCHOLASTIC MEET RUNNELS CO.

The Interscholastic League of Runnels County will meet at Winters, two days in succession, March 31 to April 1.

Both the declamatory and debating contests will be held Friday night, March 31, in the High School auditorium, commencing at 8 o'clock. The spelling contest will be held at 11 o'clock Saturday morning in the same auditorium.

All essays should be sent to Miss Willie Jones, Winters, not later than March 28th.

The prizes offered to winners of first places in the foregoing events are as follows: In boy's junior declamatory contest, medal by Ballinger State Bank & Trust Co., Ballinger; senior boy's declamatory contest, medal by Winters State Bank, Winters; junior girls' declamatory contest medal by Mr. Eason, editor of Winters Enterprise; senior girl's declamatory contest medal by First National Bank, Ballinger; spelling contest, medal by Farmers and Merchants State Bank, Ballinger; debate, silver loving cup, C. A. Dooze, Ballinger; essay medal, First National Bank, Winters.

The athletic contests will be held Saturday afternoon commencing at 1:30 p. m. These are open to all who have joined the Interscholastic League, paid their membership fee of \$1.00, and who conform to the rules and regulations of the league. There will be no individual prizes in the athletic contests, but the winning team will be awarded a banner. In the event of rain or inclement weather the contests will be held Friday night and Saturday, April 7-8.

For further information address Prof. L. S. Bird, director general, Wingate, Texas.

## SPRING HILL NEWS

Farmers are nearly all up with their work and waiting for rain which is needed before planting time.

Our annual rabbit hunt took place Friday, meeting at the school house and others joined in the chase at different points. Rabbits was scarce but still a large number was killed. At noon the hunters gathered on the river where a great feast was spread and all the good things that an epicurean can thank of was there and plenty for a crowd four times as large and then some.

Brother Milton of Ballinger preached to us last Sunday afternoon.

Miss Belle Spears, of Limestone county, is visiting Mrs. John Dean.

Mrs. Criswell of Ballinger, is visiting Mrs. Owen Aycock, this week.

"KNOX."

## Watch the Fords Go By.

## INSPECTION TOUR

State Rural School Inspector, L. J. Temmins of Austin, will come in today to make a tour of inspection of all the schools of the county. He will be accompanied by Prof. Wooten on his trip Friday and Saturday on this inspection.

L. P. Woods, R. H. Herring, Walt Allen, Price Maddox, Henry Vandeventer, were among the number who returned home Thursday at noon from the Cattlemen's Association at Houston.

Willie Stephens of Miles, one of the candidates for tax assessor, passed through Ballinger Wednesday afternoon en route from a trip over the north part of the county in the interest of his candidacy.

H. Giesecke and C. W. Northington were among the number who returned home Thursday at noon from the Cattlemen's Association meet at Houston.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Farmer and little son left Wednesday afternoon for Higgins, Tex. and Croddox, Okla., where they will visit and look after business.

Mr. and Mrs. John Schuhmann of Rowena, were the guests of A. J. Voelkel and family a few hours Wednesday.

**RATES FOR Classified Ads**  
IN THE WEEKLY BANNER-LEDGER  
One cent per word first insertion. Half cent per word each subsequent insertion.  
Black face type double regular rate.  
Cash must accompany copy except where party has regular open account with us.  
Call Telephone No. 27.

## WANTED

**WANTED**—Local agent for Ballinger territory to represent Illinois Bankers Life Association, of Monmouth, Illinois; Rates for \$1,000 insurance, age 15 to 21, \$7.35; Age 30, \$10.50; Age 40, \$14.00. Rates at other ages in proportion. For further information, contract etc., write M. W. Hulsey, General Agent, 304-6 Guaranty Bank Building, Dallas, Texas.

**FOR SERVICE**—Rainbow, the spotted high bred saddle and harness stallion, will make the season at Harper's stable, at Ballinger. For terms, see D. A. Cross. 25-4tw-pd.

**WANTED**—Mules and horses—mules from 14 to 16 hands high, from 4 to 8 years old, broke to harness, good flesh. Horses from 15 to 16 hands high, good colors and sound, from 5 to 8 years old. Will be in Ballinger at Street & Middleton's barn, until Tuesday 28th. C. B. White. 22-2td1tw-pd

## FOR SALE

**FOR SALE**—A complete soda fountain with lenolium, potiers, show cases, etc. Will sell or trade at a bargain. Apply to H. M. Nicholson, Ballinger. 18-6tdztw

**BARRED ROCK EGGS**—from pullet mated pen, \$1.00 per 15. This pen contains my choice Winter layers and is headed by a cockrel from C. A. Gifford, Rusk, Texas, who won first prize at the State Fair 1915. Eggs from yard 50c. R. P. CROUCH, Ballinger. 18-10-24-7-w pd.

**WHO WANTS** a fine blooded stallion, Suffolk stock, to keep on shares. Write or call on G. W. Brister, Benoit, Texas. 10-3tw-pd  
**FARM**—100 acre tract in Runnels County, 35 acres in farm 15 more tillable, balance good grass; small house, well and windmill; tank and good orchard. On main road 6 miles from good town. Must be sold in 60 days, will put a price on it to move it, small cash payment, balance long time, title good. If you want to buy a genuine bargain write at once, address Lock Box 114, Brownwood, Texas. 10-3tw

**FOR SALE**—Barred Rock eggs, \$1.00 for 15. 7 miles north of Ballinger. R. L. Wiley. 17-3w-pd

**PARTRIDGE ROCK EGGS FOR SETTING**—If you are going to raise chickens get good ones. Partridge Rocks have all the best qualities. Eggs per setting of 15 \$1.50. A. W. Sledge, Ballinger.

## LOST.

**LOST**—One pair black mules, 15 1-2 hands high, 8 and 10 years old, need roughing, barefooted. Phone 5404. Jack Beard. 14-2td 2tw-pd.

## FOUND

**FOUND**—Motorcycle on the Wingate road from Ballinger. Owner can get same by paying for this notice and calling T. G. Conway, Ballinger, Rural Phone 7504. rtwrd

## STOMACH ACTS FINE! NO INDIGESTION, GAS HEARTBURN, ACIDITY

"Pape's Diapepsin" fixes sick, sour, upset stomachs in five minutes

You don't want a slow remedy when your stomach is bad—or an uncertain one—or a harmful one—your stomach is too valuable; you mustn't injure it with drastic drugs.

Pape's Diapepsin is noted for its speed in giving relief; its harmlessness; its certain, unfailing action in regulating sick, sour, gassy stomachs. Its millions of cures in indigestion, dyspepsia, gastritis and other stomach trouble has made it famous the world over.

Keep this perfect stomach doctor in your home—keep it handy—get a large fifty-cent case from any drug store and then if anyone should eat something which doesn't agree with them, if what they eat lays like lead, ferments and sours and forms gas; causes headache, dizziness and nausea; eructations of acid and undigested food—remember as soon as Pape's Diapepsin comes in contact with the stomach all such distress vanishes. Its promptness, certainty and ease in overcoming the worst disorders is a revelation to those who try it.

## MUST FIGHT U. S. TO MAINTAIN DIGNITY

(San Angelo Standard)  
The Carranza government will eventually be forced to oppose the invasion of American troops in order to maintain its national dignity in the eyes of the Mexican people. This was the opinion expressed Monday by W. O. Belt, formerly Kingsville, Tex., railway engineer who crossed the Rio Grande at Brownsville on Wednesday and arrived in San Angelo Sunday.

The American entered Mexico in December and went 100 miles into the interior to Victoria, where he believed he could secure a position because of a reported strike of employees on a Mexican railroad. The report proved groundless and Belt was without work. He continued south to Tampico and was employed for several weeks in the oil fields, which, he states, are in operation.

Returning to Victoria, he was detained by officials, together with a number of other Americans. The United States consul was powerless to secure the release of its citizens, according to Belt, and the party remained for some time. On Tuesday Belt was allowed to start for the border and reached Brownsville safely in an automobile in company with a Mexican.

"There is an awful undercurrent of feeling against Americans in Mexico," said Belt Monday morning. "I don't speak Spanish very well, but I understand lots of it, and I could see how things were going. Despite this, we were treated all right."

There are still hundreds of Americans in Mexico who are making no preparations to leave, according to Belt. All their possessions are located in the interior and they do not intend to leave them. The country south of Brownsville is under Carranza control, and at present is quiet.

## Watch the Fords Go By.

## NEW JUNK DEALER READY FOR BUSINESS.

C. D. Rogers is the manager of the Ballinger Junk Co., with headquarters at the Star Wagon Yard. He has an ad in this issue of The Ledger offering to pay the highest prices for all kinds of junk. Thousands of dollars are lost annually by not saving your junk. Make a little extra money by selling your bones, bottles, scrap iron, old rubber, etc.

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Jennings, of Winters, were among the visitors in Ballinger Thursday.

Mrs. Wichter and children of Lubbock, who had been visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gust Johnson and family, and also at Austin and other points in the state, left for their home Wednesday afternoon. Mr. Johnson accompanied them as far as Coleman en route home.

## AN OLD-TIME NURSE CURED Of Catarrh of the Stomach by Peruna MRS. SELENA TANNER, Athens, Ohio.

**This Cure Dates From October 3, 1899.**

Oct. 3, 1899 —"Catarrh of the stomach. Was nearly starved. After taking Peruna I have a good appetite."  
Sept. 11, 1904 —"I can assure you that I am still a friend of Peruna. My health is still good."  
April 23, 1906 —"Yes, I am still a friend of Peruna. Will be as long as I live. I keep it in the house all the time."  
Dec. 13, 1907 —"I recommend Peruna so often that they call me the Peruna doctor. Peruna recommends itself when once tried."  
Dec. 27, 1908 —"I still tell everybody I can that Peruna is the best medicine in the world."  
Aug. 15, 1909 —"Peruna saved my life years ago. I still take it when I have a cold."  
Jan. 4, 1910 —"I was threatened with pneumonia. Peruna saved me."  
May 17, 1912 —"I am glad to do anything I can for Peruna."  
May 6, 1914 —"I have always been a nurse. Peruna has helped me in my work more than all other medicines."  
Mar. 22, 1915 —"I have divided my bottle of Peruna with people many times. It always helps."

The above quotations give a vague glimpse of the correspondence we have had with Mrs. Tanner since 1899. Our files, which cover twenty-five years, include many similar correspondents.

## STATE PRESIDENTIAL SLIGHT SHOWERS SCATTER SUNSHINE PRIMARIES COMING

WASHINGTON, Mar. 22.—With primaries in Indiana, Minnesota, New Hampshire, and North Dakota, out of the way, candidates on both sides of the political fence are awaiting the voice of the people from sixteen other primary states. From now until June 6 the primaries will be frequent. Here is the latest list at political headquarters in Washington, with the number of delegates to be named: Michigan, April 3, thirty (Michigan will also name a national committeeman); Wisconsin, April 4, twenty-six; New York, April 4, eighty-eight; Illinois, April 4, fifty-eight; Iowa, April 10, twenty-six; Nebraska, April 18, sixteen; Oregon, April 18, ten; Massachusetts, April 25, thirty-six; Maryland, May 1, sixteen; California, May 9, twenty-six; Ohio, May 9, forty-eight; Pennsylvania, May 16, seventy-six; New Jersey, May 23, twenty-eight; South Dakota, June 6, ten; West Virginia, June 6, sixteen.

Miss Cora Hays of the Waltham neighborhood, was shopping in Ballinger Wednesday afternoon.

Miss Grace Perry left Wednesday afternoon for Dallas to be present at the reading of the will of her uncle, and it is said she will return to Ballinger, an heiress.

Dave Williams left Wednesday afternoon for Floydada, Texas, on a business trip of several weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. R. M. McMillan and Mr. and Mrs. C. E. McMillan, of the New Home neighborhood, were shopping in Ballinger Tuesday and R. M., renewed with the Banner-Ledger, Farm & Ranch and Holland's magazine.

Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Harding and Miss Ruth Jennings of the Norton country were shopping in Ballinger Wednesday.

Rev. H. D. Smith, of San Angelo, and Dr. Wallace of Brownwood, who had been looking after church work for the Presbyterian church at Bronte and other points in that section, passed through Ballinger Wednesday en route to their respective homes.

P. Best, the cement contractor, left Wednesday morning for Talpa to do some contract work.

## Treat Coughs and Colds At Once Dangerous Bronchial and Lung Ailments Often Follow Neglected Colds.

**Dr. King's New Discovery Instantly Relieves and Breaks Up the most Stubborn and Hard Colds.**

We catch cold because our system has become weakened and finds itself unable to throw off the cold germs. Nature in some cases will effect a cure; but generally, without aid we get worse. How much wiser to help nature fight and expel these cold germs! For

Telephonic rain reports indicate that showers fell over a large territory Wednesday night, the rainfall amounting to a light shower in some localities, to a half an inch at others, with a "good rain" reported at some places.

From Abilene to Millersview, from Brownwood to San Angelo, from Bronte to Brady, the report says there was more or less rain, with light showers reported for the places named.

Winters comes in with a report of "good rain." At Ballinger the gauge shows one-fourth of an inch to the dot. It all come slow and was sufficient to wet the top of the ground, but will be of little benefit towards bringing up crops, unless the weather makes good on his prediction for tonight and tomorrow.

No rain has fallen to amount to anything since last fall, the drouth extending over a period of about five months. Dec. 6 brought .75 of an inch fall and again on Dec. 7th a .10 of an inch fell. Jan. 12 we had .10 of an inch rainfall, and none since the above dates.

## YOUNG LADIES TO FOREIGN FIELDS

As a result of a series of services that have been in progress at the Ninth Street Baptist church throughout the past two months, Misses Gladys Sission and Miss Lillian O. Wiedemann will take up missionary work, and as soon as they can prepare themselves with the necessary training they will go to some foreign field.

The two young ladies are members of the Ninth Street Baptist church. They are graduates of the Ballinger Training School for Nurses and have the honor of making high grades in this work. They expect to go to Fort Worth this fall and will study for missionary work, and as soon as they are prepared will go as missionaries to foreign lands.

It will also be remembered that during this series of services Judge R. S. Griggs announced that he would enter the ministry, and will also prepare himself for his new calling, and as soon as all arrangements can be perfected, will enter upon his new work.

THE STORE THAT SELLS THE BEST FOR JUST A LITTLE LESS.

# Ready for Spring 1916 With the Greatest Stock We've Ever Shown

Now is the time to prepare yourself for Spring. Nowhere in Ballinger or Central West Texas will you find a more complete stock of Ladies' Ready-to-Wear Millinery, Dry Goods, Notions, Clothing, Shoes, and Furnishings than right here at Melton Dry Goods Co. Nowhere in all Texas will you find a firm more willing to serve you in the best way possible. This season especially have we given our purchases our careful attention. Our buyer having spent several weeks in the Eastern markets, having secured the cream of many well known lines and we candidly believe that we will show you a stock of merchandise equal to most towns many times the size of Ballinger. We urge you to come and see the merchandise we have to offer. If it's such that you cannot come write, wire or telephone us your wants and we will send you on approval—right at your door,—prepaid the articles you want. Certainly it will repay you to buy in Ballinger rather than send your money to a city and pay 20 to 30 per cent more. An even chance is all we ask. We welcome you to Ballinger and to Melton Dry Goods Co.

**GREATEST STOCKS EVER, HAVE BEEN ASSEMBLED HERE FOR SPRING**  
Suits of silk and silk combinations, and in all wool and beautiful silk and crepe dresses and lovely millinery. In fact a wonderful selection is here. The surety that what you buy here will be absolutely right, that will be about 50 percent of what a city store will ask for the same merchandise.



### Women's Coat Suits

Possessing an unusual amount of style and value. This is going to be a rather unusual season, several reasons will make it so. The manufacturers are making serious complaints that they can not get cloths to make up the garments and the scarcity of dyes has increased the cost of fabrics as well, making it difficult to secure fabrics of certain

colors. In view of these conditions, the suits we are offering at \$12.50, \$15.00, \$18.50, \$20.00, and \$25.00 should prove very interesting to the buying public.

### New Dresses

**SMART NEW DRESSES**  
Take note of the prices. Taffeta dresses at \$10.00, \$12.50, \$15, and \$18.50. If you knew how the price of taffeta silks is advancing you wouldn't wonder that we want to lay special emphases on these new dresses. The styles are very attractive. They come in rose, navy, green, grays and blacks. Big values \$4.95 to \$25.00.

### The Season's Newest Hats

There's a distinctive style touch to our millinery—a refined elegance that can only be imparted to a hat by an artist, a pleasing becomingness that sets off the face and gives a smart individuality to the wearer, that is so satisfactory. That's why our millinery business has grown so—why it is still growing—why it will continue to grow. Remarkable collections await your coming. The styles are different and the prices are less.

—Come we welcome you.

## These Specials Will Make a Busy Store Busier All Next Week. Read Carefully the

Prices quoted, Which Go Into Effect Monday, Morning March 27th and Last Through Saturday, April 1st

Special No. 1	Special No. 2	Special No. 3	Special No. 4	Special No. 5	Special No. 6
10 yards English Long Cloth, value \$1.50, special 99¢	25 dozen ladies' handkerchiefs, real value 10¢, special 5¢	\$1.25 ladies' fancy silk hosiery special all next week 98¢	12 yards fast color dress gingham, 100 pieces, special \$1.00	14 yards 36 inch bleached domestic, worth 10¢ special \$1.00	\$1.25 and \$1.50 women's muslin gowns, special 89¢

## These Specials Go Into Effect Monday, March 27th. and Last Through Saturday Only

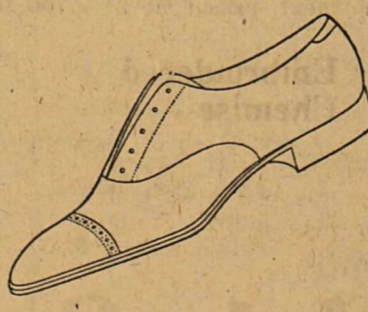
Wash Goods	Staple Goods	White Goods	Silks	Corsets
A vast collection of wash goods. In all the wanted shades. In batiste, crepes, voiles, reps, mulls, tissues and organdies. In fact a wonderful assortment is here to choose from. Ask to be shown the new wash goods. (The One Price Store)	Though prices are advancing and through keen foresight, ample financial resources and wide acquaintance with the market, we have been wonderfully successful in safe guarding the interests of our customers by purchasing liberally. (The One Price Store)	This is a year of white, and with the extraordinary demand that will surely come, we count ourselves very lucky. We have a wonderful assortment of white goods. Don't wait until the hot weather is upon you before selecting your wants, but choose early.	This is to be a big silk season. Prices are advancing too. What better time to make selections. Choosing is easiest because range of colors and qualities are at their best, it is hardly probable that prices will be as low in months. (The One Price Store)	American Lady \$1.00 to \$3.50. La Camille, front laced, \$2.50 to \$5.00. These famous corsets are sold only by us in Ballinger. Every wanted style now ready. Let us fit you in a new Spring model. (The One Price Store)

American Lady Corsets La Camille Corset	Elzee Hats Gage Hats Sunshine Suits	<b>Exclusive Lines Sold by Melton Dry Goods Co. in Ballinger</b> Onyx Hosiery Cadet Hosiery	Kayser Silk Gloves	Frankel Bros. \$15 Suits Knox Hats Duchess Trousers	Howard & Foster Shoes Wicker, and Val Duttenhofer Shoes
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## Clothing For All Mankind

EVERY SPRING STYLE—is shown in our collection of suits for men, young men and boys. New spring suits are here for every type of man. Suit after suit in our spring stock will be becoming to you. Slip on some of our conservative or English models. We are showing the best suit on earth at \$15.00, every thread wool and guaranteed. This suit must hold up or get you another free. A big range of serges and worsteds at \$10.00, \$12.50 and \$15.00. Come and see for yourself.

### Men's Oxfords



### Women's Slippers



## Shoes For Men, Women, Children

**An Investment of Over \$10,000.00**  
Fit and Price will be to your liking  
In all that's good and stylish in spring footwear for men, women and children. We mention lines of shoes sold exclusively by us in Ballinger and we positively guarantee them to be as good for the price quoted as any made in America. These are made especially for us by the best manufacturers in the country.  
For men, Howard & Foster, 20 styles at \$5.00  
The Famous Ueber for men \$3.00, \$3.50, and \$4.00  
The Dutches for women \$2.00, \$2.50, \$3.50 and \$4.00  
The Wickert for men \$4.00 and \$5.00  
Mrs. King's Don't-slip, for misses and children \$1 to \$3

A store that is owned and controlled by Ballinger people, who are for Ballinger first, last and all time to come.

**MELTON DRY GOODS CO.**  
EVERYBODY'S STORE

A store for the masses, the classes. It's your store. ONE PRICE TO ALL

PROVIDERS OF

Reliable--Authentic--Merchandise for every member of family

# AT THE GATES OF SPRING

EVERY DEPARTMENT is full of the new things of this season and are ready to welcome the busy buyers it will bring—the entire store has caught the spirit of the most glorious time of the year and is ready with its share—there is an added touch of newest and freshness that only this season can bring. Every department is, as on dress parade, radiant with the new merchandise of this season.

THIS SEASON we have gathered together a collection either taken separate or collectively, of which we feel justly proud, as a result, the store holds a greater and more varied collection than ever before, and we invite you to make us a visit.

DRY GOODS—Ladies Furnishings and Men's Furnishings, in fact a complete showing of every item for all occasions, no matter what may be your needs, you will find it in our complete stock.

THE PRICES you will find to be invariably right and consistent with the grade of merchandise offered. We aim to provide something newer, something different, something better than the old style store and always at the right price.

OUR REPUTATION is built on a firm foundation of—reliable quality, correct style, right prices, and good service, long ago we drew the line against the poorly made qualities that would not give satisfaction.

We are Pushing Ahead because the people like that way. We are doing our best and our best is getting better every day—it is better than it was a year ago; it is much better than it was five years ago, and it is better this spring than ever before, the store is growing in service as well as business—these two go together.

Sometime Van Pelt, Kirk & Mack—Why Not TODAY?

## New SILKS

This department is full of the new weaves and beautiful spring colorings, in the wanted kinds, at prices that are right.

### Crepe Waistings

Beautiful satin stripe crepe de chine, white grounds with wide colored stripes, 32 inch widths, an ideal silk for dressy waists, the price..... **\$1.75**

### Wash Waistings

Plain stripes, rainbow stripes, and novelty plaids, in the silks that wash, 36 inch widths, to realize the value, you should see these, the price..... **\$1.00**

### Taffetas

36 inch solid and two-tone shades, in a beautiful assortment for the making of costumes and separate waists, the price..... **\$1.00**

### Wash Silks

New plain weaves and Jaquard patterns in a wide variety of the new colorings, 32 inch widths, for novelty waists, the price..... **65c**

## New Wash Goods

In this section you will find all the new weaves, be it either a cheap gingham or the more expensive sheer materials.

### Grenadines

Beautiful stripe white materials for the making of summer waists, a 36 inch width, beautiful lace quality, the price..... **35c**

### Tub Silks

A mercerized fabric, for the making of wash waists and full dresses, medium sheer quality and fast colors, priced at..... **25c**

### Seed Voiles

A sheer material in white and colors, 38 inch widths, for making sheer dressy costumes, the price per yard..... **25c**

### Ginghams

Many beautiful patterns in stripes, plaids and checks, a good close weave, of even texture and fast color, priced at..... **10c**

# A Shoe Department Full of the Good Styles for 1916

This department is particular strong in selling shoes that have the style and quality, quality that wears and gives satisfaction from the time they are bought until worn out. Our women's and children's slippers have a snappy, smart appearance, which appeals at once to the careful dresser. They will wear too—the high-class materials, and the care that is exercised in making, gives a shoe of quality.

**At \$2.50**—a "baby doll" last that is made for the growing misses from good quality patent colt, with 1 inch heel and full toe, ankle straps, medium weight soles, a good grade priced at..... **\$2.50**

**At \$2.50**—made on the stage last, a perfect fitting two strap style, with rather narrow toe, 1 3/4 inch concave heel, light soles, made of good patent colt stock, priced at **\$2.50**

**At \$2.50**—a neat dressy style of fine fitting quality, cut from patent colt stock, cross two straps, full kid lined back, 1 3/4 inch leather concave heels, light soles, a beauty for..... **\$2.50**

**At \$2.50**—a plain kid, made for comfort, medium full toe and 1 1/4 inch wide flat heel, cross strap style, very flexible soles, made for tender feet and will fill every want, priced at..... **\$2.50**

**At \$2.65**—a real dressy style, made of patent stock in vamp, and dull kid back, 2 inch concave heel, cross strap, flexible soles, a special value for the price..... **\$2.65**

**At \$3.00**—an all patent colonial, with military heel and medium weight soles, medium full toe, has patent ankle strap, an English welt sole, which is very flexible, priced at..... **\$3.00**



**At \$2.50**—a novelty in the black and white combination, made on the baby doll last, with white sole and white rubber heel, ankle strap and top of vamp piped in white, a beauty at..... **\$3.25**

**At \$3.50**—cut from high grade patent kid, made on a trim fitting last, rather narrow toe, 2 inch full patent covered Louis heel, one strap diagonal button, cut steel ornament, a novelty, priced at..... **\$3.50**

**At \$3.50**—made with an extra long counter which makes this colonial hold its shape, an all patent style with leather concave heel, medium full toe, light turn soles, very flexible, priced at..... **\$3.50**

**At \$3.50**—another ultra style of unusual merit, made on a fine fitting last, with slit cross strap, leather Louis heel, turned soles, a neat medium toe, priced at..... **\$3.50**

**At \$3.50**—a 3 trap style of extra pliant patent kid, a new last with narrow toe, all leather concave heel, of 2 inch height, real turned soles, extra grade for..... **\$3.50**

**At \$4.00**—a ten strap style, cut from the finest grade patent kid, full Louis leather heel, square edge hand turned soles, full white kid back lining, a beauty at..... **\$4.00**

**At 65c**—women's tennis oxfords, made of extra smooth black canvass, full rubber soles, bound uppers, an extra good outing shoe and worth the price of..... **65c**

## Real Exceptionable Values in Muslin Underwear

Well cut, well made, substantial cambric and muslin underwear, no matter how little you pay nothing will be shown you unless the quality is there first, every garment up to the standard of high-grade hand work and made under the most sanitary conditions, we will be glad to show you. You won't be urged to buy.

### New Hosiery

a department full of extra good things, from the cheapest cotton hosiery up to the expensive silk kinds, at the right kind of prices.

#### Flat Cotton

brilliant black, made from even texture cotton, which will not crack or fade, standard sizes with long uppers, good grade for, a pair..... **12 1-2c**

#### Brilliant Lisle

a firm smooth weave of fast color, has especially spliced heel and toes, wide garter tops, an extra value at..... **25c**

#### Silk Lisle

has a crisp, firm weave, gauze weight silk lisle, high spliced heels, beautiful brilliant black, priced at..... **50c**

#### For Children

a neat soft nainsook slip-over style gown, with half sleeves, val lace trimmed arms and neck, sizes 6 to 14, priced at..... **35c**

#### Misses' Gowns

an extra quality soft nainsook, with short sleeves, embroidery trimmed neck and arms, with braiding and ribbon, priced at..... **50c**

#### Ladies' Skirts

made of good quality cambric, with a 12 inch flounce of Swiss, with rows of small tucks and 3 rows of lace insertion with edge to match, priced at..... **65c**

#### Ladies' Gowns

a slip-over style with short sleeves, made of soft nainsook, embroidery trimmed arms and neck with braiding and ribbon, priced at..... **75c**

#### Combinations

soft finished nainsook, with val medallions trimmed front, and lace trimmed arms, a good garment, priced at..... **75c**

#### Embroidered Chemise

an extra sheer, smooth quality nainsook, val trimmed neck and arms, and bottom, forming a combination suit, .. **\$1.25**

#### Underskirts

an exceptional value in a cambric skirt, with a three row flounce of high grade embroidery of good quality, a specially good garment at..... **\$1.00**

#### Nainsook Gowns

an exceptionally pretty garment of slip-over style with wide beading on short sleeves and at neck edged with val lace. A good full garment, priced at..... **\$1.00**

### New Corsets

Whether your new spring dress fits to please will be determined by your corset more than you suspect. The corsets that we sell will please you.

#### A Low Bust

an exceptionally good style which follows the dictates of modern fashion, at a low price, made of white batiste, long hip, low bust, priced at..... **\$1.00**

#### Linen Batiste

a summer weight of very flexible style, low bust, with extra length hips, satin and applique trimmed tops, 20 inch back, a splendid model, priced at..... **\$1.50**

#### Front Lace

made of the best French coutel, extra low bust, with long skirt, silk trimmed top, a specially good model, priced at..... **\$3.50**

# Van Pelt, Kirk & Mack

"Tell the Truth Advertisers"

## DRUG COMPANY

### CLERKS ORGANIZE

The first organization of this kind that was ever held in Ballinger was pulled off on the morning of March 5th in the office of the Walker Drug Co. This organization was created in order to attain higher efficiency among their employees in regard to salesmanship and better service so that the public would be benefited by it. They have these

meetings scheduled twice monthly and close their doors for two solid hours on each occasion in order to attain this efficiency. These meetings are in keeping with the big stores in the East, and this store is among three in Texas that hold these meetings. The first meeting was called, and A. R. Crews was elected President; and A. R. Jones, Secretary. They will offer prizes to their clerks for the best talks on salesmanship, advertising, window displays, etc. This institution sent one of their employees to San Antonio to attend one of the State Conventions of effi-

ciency in the retail drug store merchandising and get ideas from some of the largest men in the retail drug business. Among these men there were, Mr. Wooten, Mr. Barr and Dr. Barker of Boston; Mr. Kiesling, of Houston; Mr. Curlin, of Waxahachie; Mr. Morrison, of Waco. Each and every side of a modern retail drug store was discussed. This up-to-date store sends a representative to all state pharmaceutical meetings and one of their representatives will go to Philadelphia, this summer, as Vice-President of the National Association Boards of Pharmacy.

We are glad to know that there is another institution in the city that has fallen in line with the above institution relative to holding meetings to attain higher efficiency as you will see an account of their meeting in The Daily Ledger of yesterday.

Mr. Farnsworth, manager of the local business college, will organize an other class to run five months, provided a sufficient number will enroll to pay expenses. See him at once at the school over the Schawe Grocery store. This is your best chance to secure a practical education, but

quick action is necessary. 23-dtf-wtf.

#### Watch the Fords Go By.

Messrs. D. J. Young and C. D. Cary of Chicago, who are on an inspecting tour of their lumber business in Texas, spent a day in Ballinger with W. E. Chambers, their local representative, Tuesday. The two lumbermen left for the east in the afternoon.

Mrs. C. L. Ellison of Nolanville, who had been a guest at the home of her sister, Mrs. T. J. Stocks, Sr., the past several

days, returned home Wednesday afternoon.

#### Watch the Fords Go By.

W. R. Cusenbary of Sonora, came in a day or two ago and is the guest of his uncle Dr. R. A. Dickinson and family.

## BALLINGER JUNK CO.

C. J. RODGERS, Manager

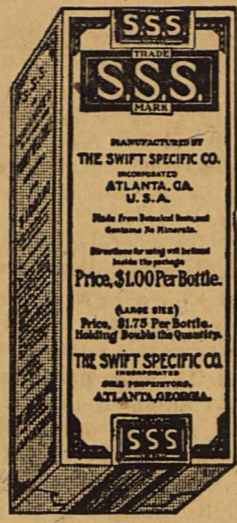
Wholesale and retail dealers in metals, bones, bottles, sacks, rubber, scrap iron, rags, old rope, etc. At Star Wagon Yard

**Five Facts You Should Know**

- (1) That disease is the result of a disordered condition.
- (2) That when we correct the disordered condition, we eliminate the disease.
- (3) That the blood is the carrier of poisons throughout the body.
- (4) That to successfully treat any disease originating in the blood, we have to treat the blood, as the cause.
- (5) That S. S. S. is the most reliable remedy for removing impurities from the blood.

S. S. S. is no experiment of today, but is a successful remedy for the blood that has been a blessing to thousands of sufferers for the last fifty years. There is nothing mysterious about S. S. S. It is an extract from native herbs, roots and bark, each known for its peculiar medicinal value. These ingredients combine and act in a beneficial and helpful way with nature. It doesn't matter whether your case of blood trouble is one of the many forms of Rheumatism, or Catarrh, Scrofula, Contagious Blood

Poison, chronic skin trouble, or any other form of blood trouble. S. S. S. will go directly to the seat of the trouble; giving the blood a thorough cleansing, driving out the impurities in a natural way, and leaving the blood pure and refreshed, ready to do its full duty in building the tissues up to a normal and healthy state. Begin today on a bottle of S. S. S. and note how soon you will begin to feel relief. We will gladly give special advice and free consultation. If you are in doubt about the nature of your case, write Medical Department, Room 73, THE SWIFT SPECIFIC COMPANY, ATLANTA, GEORGIA.



**A NEW CLUB FOR BALLINGER**

Immediately after 6:30 Tuesday evening, March 21st the sales-people of the Higginbotham, Currie, Williams Co., met on the Mezzanine balcony of the store to perfect a store organization. After all had gathered, R. T. Williams was elected president and Roy Sharp secretary. A motion was made and carried that the name of the organization be The Higginbotham Efficiency Club. In a short address Mr. Williams explained how very pleasing it was to the management and how they appreciated the attitude taken by the salespeople in their desire to be more efficient and in their interest in increasing the service to the customers. He explained how the right kind of a salesman did not work for a business, but that the entire store force was a partnership and that they were all co-workers for the better service to the customer. The customer should always come first he says as the customers of this store are to receive the greatest consideration. The far sighted merchant and the one that is sure to succeed and the one that de-

serves to succeed is the one who makes his store of the greatest benefit to the customers. He explained that service means more than waiting upon a customer, taking his money and delivering his purchase. These are only on the surface and can be done by anyone. Service means helping a customer to buy the article more suited to his particular wants and a salesperson should never in his zeal to make a sale let the least subtlety or misleading statement find a place in his sales-talk. Serve the customers best and you serve the store best. Be an expert in your particular line, study your merchandise and you can first serve your customer better, second serve the store better and last serve yourself better. Selling merchandise comes only as a secondary consideration. Every person that enters this store is a customer whether he comes to buy or not and when he leaves we want him to go away with a friendlier feeling for the store than when he entered. After this talk other members of the force were called upon to offer suggestions for the improvement of the store's ser-

vice. Loyalty and efficiency were the main topics of discussion. After the business meeting was over a lunch of olives, sandwiches, a salad course and punch was served and the meeting adjourned with all present determined to make Ballinger's Greatest Store of more benefit to the entire community.

**MOTHER! GIVE CHILD "SYRUP OF FIGS" IF TONGUE IS COATED**

If cross, feverish, sick, bilious, clean little liver and bowels.

Children love this "fruit laxative," and nothing else cleanse the tender stomach, liver and bowels so nicely.

A child simply will not stop playing to empty the bowels, and the result is, they become tightly clogged with waste, liver gets sluggish, stomach sour, then your little one becomes cross, half sick, feverish, don't eat, sleep or act naturally breath is bad, system full of cold, has sore throat, stomach-ache or diarrhoea. Listen, Mother! See if tongue is coated, then give a teaspoonful of "California Syrup of Figs," and in a few hours all the constipated waste, sour bile and undigested food passes out of the system, and you have a well, playful child again.

Millions of mothers give "California Syrup of Figs" because it is perfectly harmless; children love it, and it never fails to act on the stomach, liver and bowels.

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. Beware of counterfeits sold here. Get the genuine, made by "California Fig Syrup Company." Refuse any other kind with contempt.

**WILL SHOW BALLINGER PICTURES SATURDAY**

The animated pictures of Ballinger streets, residences and people, taken by a Hearst-Vitagraph camera man some weeks ago, will be exhibited at the Princess Theatre Saturday night. These pictures were developed by the Vitagraph Co. of America, one of the largest producing companies in the United States, and about 250 feet of good negative was secured. This film does not include the rabbit drive pictures, which will be shown in a Hearst-Vitagraph News Pictorial soon. "Mary Page" No. 2, will also be shown at the Princess with the Ballinger pictures and a regular program of four reels.

**The Quinine That Does Not Affect the Head** Because of its tonic and laxative effect, LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE is better than ordinary quinine and does not cause nervousness nor ringing in head. Remember the full name and look for the signature of E. W. GROVE, 25c.

R. L. Huddleston of the New Home neighborhood was transacting business in Ballinger Tuesday and invited us out to a rabbit drive in his neighborhood for Wednesday at which time they expect a splendid occasion.

R. B. Ingle of the Spring Hill neighborhood, J. M. Greenhill, Nick Stallworth, and Charlie Ransbarger of the Pony Creek country, were transacting business in Ballinger Wednesday.

W. W. Rainwater of Crews, passed through Ballinger Tuesday en route to San Angelo on a short business trip.

**SOME FACTS ABOUT THE 15c ROAD TAX**

(By A. E. Burges, Secretary Y. M. B. L.)

The commissioners' court is constantly being besieged by parties in various parts of the county who ask for new roads or better roads, but the court is compelled to turn down practically all these requests from the simple lack of funds. The \$12,000 per year that is now available for road building and maintenance will not go very far. If the 15-cent tax carries, there will be raised \$15,000 per year in addition, or a total of \$38,000, and the state will not get one cent of it.

Money raised by a special road tax will every cent be put on the roads and none of it will even be diverted to building bridges.

According to Runnels county law, every dollar that is raised by such special taxes for roads is spent in the precinct where it is raised. The roads that the precinct around Ballinger may get, for instance, will every cent be raised in Ballinger precinct, and the smaller towns of the county will not be called upon to pay tribute to the county seat.

Runnels county does not need anything betted than well kept dirt roads and this special tax when added to the money already being received for this purpose will be fully sufficient to build and maintain such roads.

To summarize: the road funds are at present woefully inadequate but the passing of the 15-cent special tax would make the funds fully sufficient. Money raised by such a road tax will every dollar be spent on roads and that, too, in the precinct where it was raised and the state would not get any greater taxes from Runnels county. Could any plan of taxation for road building have more advantages or be more absolutely devoid of disadvantages?

**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. It relieves Pain and Heals at the same time. 25c. Soc. \$1.00

**OKLAHOMA DELEGATES TO GO UNINSTRUCTED**

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla., March 22.—Even the most astute politicians in the state admitted that the result of the Republican state convention, which opened here today, could best be expressed at present by a big question mark. There was no "native son" element in evidence, and what sentiment previously had been expressed was about equally divided between Roosevelt, Hughes and Borah. An uninstructed delegation appeared to be the most probable outcome.

**MORTUARY.**

**Mrs. Beckman of Yoakum**  
The sad message was received in Ballinger Sunday by A. C. Hoemann, cashier of the F. & M. bank, stating that Mrs. Dr. Beckman died at their home in Yoakum Saturday night. Dr. Beckman and family lived at Rowena and the doctor and son were in the drug business at Rowena and the family will be kindly remembered by our people.

**Little Rose Lee Delemater.**

Little Rose Lee Delemater, the nine year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Delemater died at 1 o'clock Thursday night and the remains were tenderly laid to rest in the Ballinger cemetery at 4:30 o'clock p. m. Friday. Rev. T. C. Jester, conducting the funeral services. The Ledger joins many friends in condolence and sympathy for the bereaved parents left to mourn the death of their loved one.

**RHEUMATISM ARRESTED**

Many people suffer the tortures of lame muscles and stiffened joints because of impurities in the blood, and each succeeding attack seems more acute until rheumatism has invaded the whole system. To arrest rheumatism it is quite as important to improve your general health as to purify your blood, and the cod liver oil in Scott's Emulsion is nature's great blood-maker, while its medicinal nourishment strengthens the organs to expel the impurities and rebuild your strength. Scott's Emulsion is helping thousands every day who could not find other relief. Refuse the alcoholic substitutes.

**Nut Cake**

is simply delicious when made with  
**KC BAKING POWDER**  
Pure—Healthful—Economical  
The highest grade of baking powder possible to buy and your money refunded if it fails to satisfy. Ask your dealer.  
Jaques Mfg. Co., Chicago



**ELECTRIC CURRENT TO COME FROM ANGELO**

Nearly \$80,000 will be spent by the San Angelo Water, Light & Power Co., in erecting the high-powered transmission line between San Angelo and Ballinger. In addition to this list another large expenditure will be incurred in erecting a smaller wire between Ballinger and Winters, approximately \$15,000 or \$20,000 being the outlay for the last step which will connect San Angelo almost with the southern boundary of Taylor County. R. J. Irvine, general manager, of the power company, stated today that all details incidental to the actual construction of the transmission line are now being worked out and work will start within the very near future. The cost of stringing the high voltage wires alone will be \$1,400 per mile or \$49,000 to connect Ballinger with the San Angelo plant. Sub-stations and other materials will swell the total outlay of money to nearly double that figure.

The wires will follow the Santa Fe railroad into Ballinger and will take the opposite side of the track from the highway. From Ballinger to Winters the line will follow the Abilene & Southern railroad almost the entire distance between the two towns.

At Miles and Winters sub-stations will be built. The San Angelo Water, Light & Power Co. has already taken charge of the Ballinger plant.—San Angelo Standard.

**CLEAN-UP WEEK GREAT SUCCESS**

The people of Ballinger have responded much better than was expected to the appeal to clean up their premises. When Mayor Powell volunteered to furnish two wagons and teams for two days he thought that they would be sufficient to gather up and haul away the trash which was placed outside the yards for them, but the wagons have now been at work four days. This is a most gratifying result. As has been mentioned before in these columns, the negroes in the flat have fallen right in line with this movement and deserve considerable credit themselves.

It is to be assumed that a great part of those who have taken part in clean-up week will go further and join the city beautiful contest, for it is only by organized effort that the best results can be obtained. Certainly those who intend to beautify their grounds voluntarily should join this contest for they have everything to gain and nothing to lose by doing so.

No money prizes will be offered. The committee of ladies decided in beginning their work that the \$25 in prizes which the Business League proposed to give could be spent to greater effect in other ways. But it will be a source of much pride and satisfaction to the winners, whoever they may be, to know that they have attained the honor of having the most attractive yards in the town. The contestants will be divided in to classes so as not to give undue advantage to anyone. All entries must be in before April first.

**Inigorating 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. 50c

I. L. Baker, of Hillsboro, came in Monday to attend district court as a witness and to visit Ballinger friends a few days.

Watch the Fords Go By.

**WEDDING ANNIVERSARY**

At their beautiful and substantial home near Benoit, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Connor celebrated their Golden wedding Saturday, it being the fiftieth anniversary of their marriage, in the state of Indiana, Mar. 18, 1866. Mrs. Connor, was Miss Rebecca Winters, sister of John Winters, a prominent real estate man of Ft. Worth, and at one time a valued and highly esteemed citizen of this county. Among the reminiscences told by Mr. Connor, he said they lived near a ferry on the Ohio river that was controlled and operated by President Abe Lincoln.

Those present from the neighborhood were: Mr. and Mrs. Moncrief, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Vanderverter, Mrs. H. Vanderverter and daughter, Mr. Melton Clayton, Mrs. Bob Roberts and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Hill, Mrs. Mary Gilbert, Mr. Henry Connor and family, and from Ballinger were Mr. and Mrs. Jewell Cunningham, Tom Thomason, Bud Smith and D. C. Underwood, and splendid old time music on the violin, guitar and cello was rendered by Messrs. Cunningham and Tom Thomason and Underwood.

A most sumptuous dinner was served and a most enjoyable occasion reported by all present.

Mr. and Mrs. Connor moved from Indiana to Hopkins county, Texas in 1872 and from there to Runnels county in 1882, which place they have made home up to the present good hour, now surrounded by a family of happy children, and a home with all the modern conveniences and comforts and in their old days are still held in high esteem by a host of friends all over this county.

"Just fifty years ago today In the good old Hoosier state, Henry Connor acted wise And got himself a mate.

The Winters in the North Are sometimes very cold, But Henry got one warm And at just sixteen years old.

Mrs. Mattie Dickinson and son Kyle Reid, came in Monday from their ranch north of Wingate to look after business affairs in the city.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Crews and little daughter, of Crews, were among the visitors in Ballinger Wednesday.

W. W. Farmer was in the city Wednesday from his irrigated farm down the river, and we are sorry to learn that Mrs. Farmer has been quite ill since they came in from Higgins, a few weeks ago.

Sid Hale and Herbert Yeager left Tuesday afternoon for Fort Worth where they go as delegates from the First Baptist church of our city to the Baptist missionary conference, which meets in that city Wednesday.

**Fence Against the Filthy Flies**

Let us help you do it. We carry a big stock of screen doors and windows. All sizes and at prices you can pay. Screen your house and cheat the doctor out of a patient.

Ballinger Lumber Co.

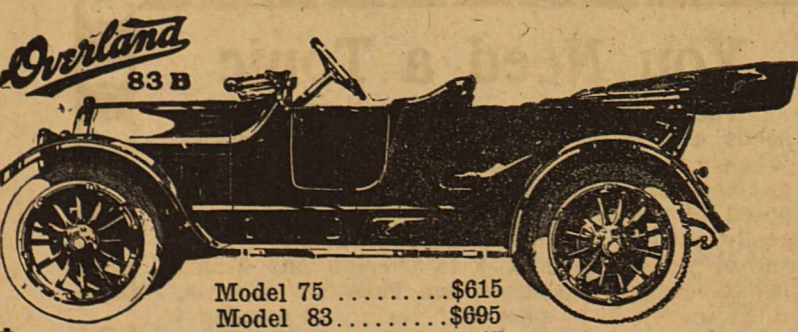
**Slipping Away**

Your earning period decreases with the setting of every sun.

Are you setting aside a portion of your earnings every day to carry you through the time when earnings will not be so easy.

We endeavor to make our customers business profitable to them.

**Farmers & Merchants State Bank**  
"The Bank that HELPS YOU Do Things"



Model 75 .....\$615  
Model 83 .....\$695  
Six Cylinder .....\$1145  
F. O. B. Toledo.

**THINKER OR TINKER "WHICH"?**

When you decide to purchase an automobile do your Thinking before hand and if you buy an OVERLAND you'll have no Tinkering to do.

Our agents do not cut prices—The Overland is the best for the money—you are getting full value for every dollar you spend. In addition you get the Overland service—anywhere you go.

**AGENTS WHO CUT PRICES**

on some cars must have a cause for they probably wish to get rid of a bad bargain. Remember that when one offers you a car for less than list price there must be something wrong—some good reason why they want to sell it.

The OVERLAND is the Car You Will Eventually Buy as many thousands will attest. They are—without a doubt the greatest value on the market today.

Ask for a Demonstration and Catalogue.

ALLEN OVERLAND COMPANY distributors for West Texas.

**O'KELLY & WALTON, LOCAL DEALERS**  
Phone 33



STANDING GUARD  
OVER THE  
WHOLE FAMILY

YOU CAN  
RELY ON  
**Rexall**  
Orderlies

**Rexall Orderlies**

The laxative tablet  
with the pleasant taste

Protects every member of the  
family from Constipation—  
the enemy of good health

We have the exclusive selling rights  
for this great laxative

The Rexall Store

We have the exclusive selling rights for this great laxative.  
Trial size, 10 cents.  
WALKER DRUG CO.  
THE REXALL STORE

## 2 NEGROES REMOVED FROM BALLINGER JAIL FOR SAFETY

District court convened for the second week Monday at one-thirty. The first work was the reconvening of the grand jury, Judge Goodwin instructed that the grand jurors be summoned to appear Wednesday. It is supposed that the object in calling the grand jury back is for the purpose of passing on the charges filed in justice court against a negro who attempted to assault a young lady at Winters Saturday night. As a result of an attempt being made

to assault a young lady at Winters Saturday night, two negroes were removed from the Ballinger jail Sunday afternoon and supposedly carried to San Angelo for safe keeping. While there were no visible indications that Ballinger would be the scene of a lynching, Sheriff Perkins acted upon the theory that it was better to be safe than sorry, and securing an automobile to make the trip the negroes were spirited away. A negro by the name of Allen entered the home of J. V. Nelson at Winters Saturday night and secreted himself under the bed of Mr. Nelson's fifteen year old daughter, and after the young lady retired the negro attacked her. The negro entered the young lady's

room while the family were down town, Mr. Nelson being at a lodge meeting and Mrs. Nelson and the children at the picture show. He cut the window screen, making a hole large enough to get his hand through the hook that held the window secure was unfastened and the window opened.

The young lady had turned out the light and had been in bed only a few minutes when she was frightened by the negro pulling the cover back. Screaming she attracted her father and other members of the family and the negro left the room through the window he had left open, and which had not been noticed by the young lady, without accomplishing his purpose. When she discovered some one trying to get in her bed the young lady asked who it was, and the negro made a reply that could not be understood by Miss Nelson, and she began fighting him off and screaming. The room being dark the matter of identifying the party would have been difficult, but just a suspicion led to a confession from the negro, and he was arrested by the Winters officers and brought to Ballinger, where he made a sworn statement, after being warned, detailing how he entered the house and what is motive was. The negro stated that he was only fourteen years old, but he weighs 140 pounds. According to the story related to the officers and made under oath the negro says he knew the family were away from home and he entered the house for the purpose of stealing, but the family returned before he could carry out his plans to rob, and he decided to crawl under the bed and commit the other heinous crime. After it had been decided not to keep Allen in the local jail, it was thought best that Earl Younger, a negro who has been convicted for a similar crime, and who escaped from jail six months ago, before sentence had been passed on him, also be carried to some other jail. Younger attacked a young lady school teacher in the northwest part of the county, and came near being lynched when captured and for safety was carried to San Angelo where he was kept until the feeling over the trouble died down.

### Rheumatic Pain Stopped.

The drawing of muscles, the soreness, stiffness and agonizing pain of rheumatism quickly yield to Sloan's Liniment. It stimulates circulation to the painful part. Just apply as directed to the sore spots. In a short time the pain gives way to a tingling sensation of comfort and warmth. Here's proof—"I have had wonderful relief since I used your Liniment on my knee. To think one application gave me relief. Sorry I haven't space to tell you the history. Thanking you for what your remedy has done for me."—James S. Ferguson, Philadelphia, Penn. Sloan's Liniment kills pain. See at Drug-gists.

1915 INCREASE 4 MILLION BALE  
Washington, March 20.—A census of the 1915 cotton crop shows the total production for the United States that year was 11,059,430, as compared with 16,000,000 bales for the previous year, 1914.

## Statement of Condition of ...THE... FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BALLINGER

March 7th 1916

Resource.	
Loans and discounts	\$330,223.22
U. S. Bonds	101,500.00
Banking house, F. & F.	25,000.00
Stock Federal Reserve Bank	3,800.00
Bills of Exchange (Cotton)	50,129.61
Cash and Exchange	167,262.00
	\$677,914.83
Liabilities.	
Capital Stock	\$100,000.00
Surplus and Undivided Profits	50,294.09
Circulation	97,800.00
Deposits	429,820.74
	\$677,914.83

We invite attention to the above statement and on its merits solicit the deposits and financial patronage of the good people in our territory.



**Safe and Efficient Service**—are the principles which rule the management of this bank. We make investments or loans only after exhaustive examination as to their safety. We strive to render efficient aid to our customers in all matters pertaining to finance. And the growing number of our depositors leads us to believe we succeed.

The Ballinger State Bank & Trust Co.  
Ballinger, Texas

## BIG AUTO HOUSE DELIVERS 2 CARS

R. E. McWilliams, of the Talpa country, was here Friday and purchased from the Higginbotham Currie, Williams Co., a Baby Grand Chevrolet car, and returned home in the modern way of traveling.

Jas. E. Brewer also purchased from the Higginbotham, Currie, Williams Co., a new car Friday. Mr. Brewer gets the new Hudson Super Six, seven passenger. This is among the high price cars and runs right along in class with the Apperson, another one of the better cars carried by the Higginbotham, Currie, Williams Co.

This auto agency have a shipment of new cars en route and hope to receive them by the time they have room in their garage. They have a full page ad in the Banner-Ledger this week, detailing the advantages offered in the cars they are selling, and K. E. Lindrose, is a new man in the auto department and will take pleasure in prescribing the proper remedy when you get the fever.

With five cars to select from the Higginbotham people find it easy to supply your wants in the auto line. They handle the Apperson, Hudson, Case, Buick, Chevrolet and Saxon.

OVERLAND AGENCY SELLS THREE 83's

Walton & O'Kelly, local dealers for the Overland Agency report the sale of three cars this week to different parties. All the cars sold were five passenger Models 83, the \$770 cars, which seem to be a popular car for general family use. The new Overland owners are Mrs. D. C. Simpson, Otto Voglesang and Jno. W. Bigby.

### McGREGOR FAMILY GETS STUDEBAKER

R. P. Kirk delivered to J. McGregor Monday a new seven passenger Studebaker car. As a seven passenger the Studebaker seems to be a popular car, especially when the cost is considered.

### FORDS ROLLING IN; FORD ROLLING OUT.

R. L. Harwell received a carload of Fords Friday, which is getting to be a common occurrence for this auto dealer. The increase in demand for the higher price cars does not seem to trouble the Ford market, and our Uncle Henry continues to roll them out at the full capacity of his plant. On account of the crowded condition of his present quarters Mr. Harwell is on the lookout for more room for his garage business.

### JNO. A. WEEKS BUYS APPERSON SIX

Higginbotham, Currie, Williams Co., sold to Jno. A. Weeks late Saturday afternoon a seven-passenger Apperson Six, Mr. Weeks has been driving an Overland, but sold his Overland and takes what is the last word in auto building.

### THOSE SUDDEN TWINGES

Bring Suffering to Many a Ballinger Reader.

Pain is nature's signal of distress. A warning not to be ignored. Those sharp twinges in the back—

Those sudden, stab-like pains when stooping. Are frequent signs of kidney trouble.

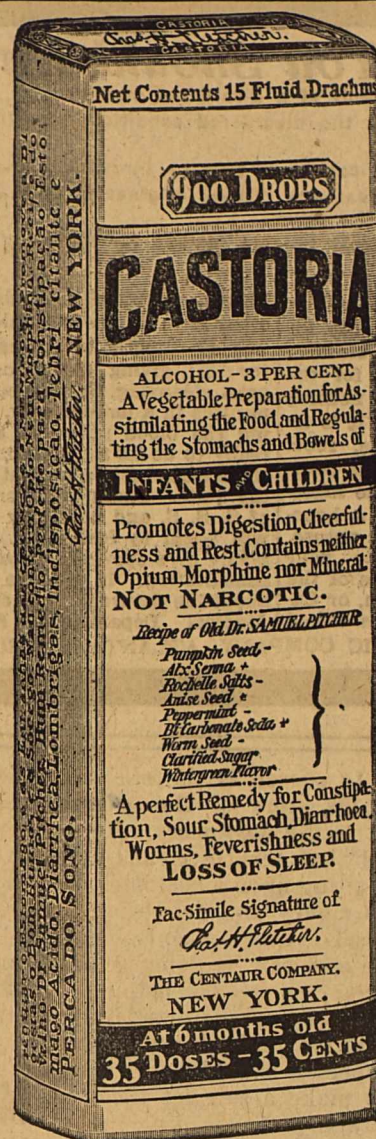
To remove kidney pains you must assist the kidneys. Use a tested and proven kidney remedy.

None more highly endorsed than Doan's Kidney Pills. Endorsed abroad—endorsed at home.

Read Ballinger testimony. G. W. Newman, preacher, 906 7th Ave., Ballinger says: "My kidneys were out of order. I suffered from dull, throbbing pains across my loins. I often had such sharp twinges in my back, I could hardly straighten. The kidney secretions passed irregularly and annoyed me greatly. Doan's Kidney Pills, which I procured from J. Y. Pearce's Drug Store, put my back in good shape and rid me of kidney complaint."

Price 50c at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mr. Newman had. Foster-Milburn Co., Props., Buffalo, N. Y.

C. C. Cidwell, constable of Miles had official business in Ballinger Tuesday.



Exact Copy of Wrapper.

## CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.

Mothers Know That  
Genuine Castoria

Always  
Bears the  
Signature

of  
*Chas. H. Fletcher*  
In  
Use  
For Over  
Thirty Years

## CASTORIA

THE CENTAUR COMPANY, NEW YORK CITY.

### ROWENA HOME DESTROYED WEDNESDAY NIGHT

The family of P. Ewald, of Rowena, had a close call Wednesday night when their home was destroyed by fire. It is not known how the fire originated and the house was enveloped in flames when Mr. Ewald was awakened by the light and calling to his wife he grabbed two children and dashed from the building in their night clothes. Before Mr. Ewald could return to the room to get clothing the house had fallen in.

Mr. Ewald recently purchased the home at a cost of about \$400. He only carried \$1000 insurance, so it is reported, and aside from the narrow escape from being burned to death the financial loss is heavy.

### Avoid Spring Colds.

Sudden changes, high winds, shifting seasons cause colds and grippe and these spring colds are likely to turn into a chronic summer cough. In such cases take a treatment of Dr. King's New Discovery, a pleasant Laxative Tar Syrup. It soothes the cough, checks the cold and helps break up an attack of grippe. It's already prepared, no mixing or fusing. Just ask your druggist for a bottle of Dr. King's New Discovery. Tested and tried for over 40 years.

### HOME BURNS WHEN OIL STOVES EXPLODES

The home of Tom Lively, one mile east of Ballinger, was destroyed by fire about seven o'clock Friday evening. It is supposed that the fire started from an oil stove as Mr. Lively and other members of the family were in the front part of the house when

they heard a muffled sound like a blast from a stove, and in almost less time than it takes to tell the story the flames swept through the house. While the family were at home and in the house at the time the flames spread so rapidly they did not have time to save anything from the building except a few pieces of furniture from the front room.

The house was insured for \$600 and the contents for \$200 in the Elmer Sheppard & Co., agency.

**To Drive Out Malaria And Build Up The System**  
Take the Old Standard GROVE'S TASTELESS CHILL TONIC. You know what you are taking, as the formula is printed on every label, showing it is Quinine and Iron in a tasteless form. The Quinine drives out malaria, the Iron builds up the system. 50 cents

### SOUTH BALLINGER NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. N. J. Wardlow visited their daughter-in-law, Mrs. Lewis Wardlow, who is very ill at the London Hotel in San Angelo, this week.

Prof. Seerest, who is teaching the Talpa school visited home Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Hall from down the river, visited Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Brown.

The farmers are up with their work until it rains.

Prospects are good so far for a bumper fruit crop in South Ballinger.

Mrs. E. E. Dillingham, who has been quite sick the past week is much better.

The Literary Society will meet Saturday night at the South Ballinger school house.

"ELBERTA PEACH."

Watch the Fords Go By.

## You Need a Tonic

There are times in every woman's life when she needs a tonic to help her over the hard places. When that time comes to you, you know what tonic to take—Cardui, the woman's tonic. Cardui is composed of purely vegetable ingredients, which act gently, yet surely, on the weakened womanly organs, and helps build them back to strength and health. It has benefited thousands and thousands of weak, ailing women in its past half century of wonderful success, and it will do the same for you. You can't make a mistake in taking

## CARDUI The Woman's Tonic

Miss Amelia Wilson, R. F. D. No. 4, Alma, Ark., says: "I think Cardui is the greatest medicine on earth, for women. Before I began to take Cardui, I was so weak and nervous, and had such awful dizzy spells and a poor appetite. Now I feel as well and as strong as I ever did, and can eat most anything." Begin taking Cardui today. Sold by all dealers.

Has Helped Thousands.





JOE MITCHELL  
CHAPPLE

# GRAFT

Each Episode Suggested by a Prominent Author  
 Serialization by HUGH WEIR and JOE BRANDT  
 Produced by the Universal Film Manufacturing Company  
 (Copyright, 1915, by the Universal Film Manufacturing Company.)

**SYNOPSIS.**

Dudley Larnigan, district attorney, because of his fight on the vice and liquor trusts, is killed by an agent of a secret society, the committee of fifteen. The fight is continued by his son, Bruce, who is elected district attorney, and by another son, Tom. Bruce is in love with Dorothy Maxwell, whose father is head of the insurance trust.

**NINTH EPISODE**

**The Insurance Swindlers**

Suggested by  
 JOE MITCHELL CHAPPLE, Author  
 of "Heart Throbs."

**A**CCIDENTS at the Great Eastern lumber mills were so frequent an occurrence that when Big Jim Blake was felled under a heavy, collapsing timber and picked up for dead the affair did not cause more than a passing ripple in the affairs of the great establishment. The management of the Great Eastern has a habit of smothering the news of accidents—when their employees were the victims. It was in the little white cottage on Elm street, near the factory yard, that the tragedy struck home. The sadly smiling woman, with the two chubby children clinging to her skirts, who greeted the gruff workman sent ahead with the news of the accident, jabbed for a moment at her eyes with a corner of her apron and prepared to receive the motionless body in the automobile ambulance.

"Jim!" she cried. "Jim, my Jim!"

The tired eyes in the white face slowly opened.

"Thank God, Martha, for the insurance! It will come in handy for us now!"

She smiled bravely back at him. The insurance! How like the big, unselfish nature of Jim to think of the insurance and protection for her and the kiddies first! And so at 10 o'clock the next morning, when it became apparent that Jim Blake was doomed to a long siege in bed, if indeed he were to recover with his life, she put on her best Sunday bonnet and shawl and haltingly asked her way to the big brown stone building which housed the



Tom Changes Clothes With the Negro Bell Boy.

Accident and Life Insurance company. It was a big building and the offices of the insurance company within were very glittering and very pretentious, but a black lettered sign coldly announced that the company had just passed into the hands of a receiver.

Mrs. Blake started back with a gasp—the kind of dry sob which comes to a woman only under the most poignant distress. The insurance company a failure! And all the little savings of three years swept away! But this was not the worst. How was the Blake family to exist during the long weeks ahead? How were Jim's doctor bills to be paid?

A strong, cheery voice spoke at Mrs. Blake's shoulder. "Is there anything I can do for you, madam?"

The little woman whirled to look into a frankly smiling pair of blue-gray eyes set in a tanned, resolute face, and Tom Larnigan, for the speaker was he, removed his hat and offered his arm.

"Let us go some place where I can talk to you," he said quietly. "I have an idea that your story is only one of many which I have heard today. You see, I am government special officer investigating just such frauds as I strongly suspect the company is attempting to perpetrate now on an innocent public." He threw back the lapel of his coat and showed the little silver star of government authority. Mrs. Blake unhesitatingly followed his

directions. Almost before she realized it she was sobbing out her story.

"You must let me take the place of the insurance company," he insisted. "How much did your policy call for?"

She hesitated. "Twenty-five dollars a week for three months in case of disability from accident."

"Here is \$100. I will see you before that is exhausted, and we will see what we can do for your husband." He rose. "Keep up your courage, Mrs. Blake. I am sure that I can help you."

"How can I ever thank you?"

"Don't try." Tom smiled again as she turned away, but as her wan little figure vanished the smile faded from his face. He had work to do—grim work. The company was one of the strongest branches of the so called insurance trust and, as such, deemed itself above the law, immune from legal investigation. Tom turned finally away, his hands deep in his pockets, his face wrinkled in somber thought. He did not notice the skulking figure in the doorway of the building which glided unostentatiously after him. The fifteen kept their audacious antagonist under surveillance night and day.

Reaching his rooms, Tom saw in a newspaper a challenge from the very concern that was the object of his investigations. "The Accident and Life Insurance Company Invites Any Investigation of Its Books and Records From Any Accredited Source."

He knew that Roger Maxwell, father of Dorothy, the fiancée of his brother, Bruce, was the guiding spirit of the concern. Was Roger Maxwell implicated in a plot to defraud the public? Tom shuddered and threw the paper from him. He would take the insurance men at their word, and if there was crooked work, heaven help them!

Had Tom Larnigan been present at a gathering of the remaining leaders of the fifteen in their private office that afternoon he might have been a shade less resolute in his sudden determination. Stanford Stone, as usual, was in the presiding chair, and it was his curly grim voice which stated the purpose of the session.

"Larnigan is on the trail of the insurance trust, gentlemen. Unless we get him first he is certain to deal us another disastrous blow. I suggest that we leave Tom Larnigan's fate in the hands of four picked gun men whom I have selected for their discretion and marksmanship. Larnigan cannot escape them. They have orders to follow him to the death. If our man escapes, Brother Maxwell, the crisis must be met by you in this instance as the most interested party."

Roger Maxwell staggered as he rose from his chair, and his face was haggard when he passed through the door. Behind him Stanford Stone smiled cynically at his retreating figure.

As Tom Larnigan left his hotel in a taxicab to visit Ben Travers he noticed that two men were following him. Once out of sight, Tom spoke to the chauffeur.

"I want you to change places with me for an hour," he said coolly, showing a twenty dollar bill. "It's a joke on some friends."

For a moment the man stared, and then he winked. Three minutes later Tom, in the overcoat and cap of the chauffeur, drove slowly up to the entrance of the hotel where Ben Travers had his rooms, descended from his seat and entered the building.

The two gun men fell back with curses when they found the driver inside the taxicab. Travers welcomed Tom warmly and announced that he had bought the Daily Independent to fight graft. Tom then changed clothes with a negro bellboy and walked out to the taxicab with a trunk on his shoulders, while the two gun men, three feet away, smoked serenely, unconscious that their victim was at their elbows. For a moment Tom debated whether or not to enter the taxicab himself, but instead walked around the corner of the hotel and successfully eluded his pursuers. He at once proceeded to the Accident and Life Insurance company's offices and pushed his way into Roger Maxwell's room.

"I have come to see your books," said Tom curtly, showing his star. "I would like to start my investigation at once."

For a moment Maxwell continued his wild stare, and then he gathered himself together with an effort. "Certainly," he stammered, pressing a button, which called a secretary. "Show this man to the vaults, Jones." He ordered as the call was obeyed. Tom bowed and followed his conductor outside. Hardly had the door closed when Maxwell picked up his telephone. "Is that you, Stone?" he whispered hoarsely when his connection was established.

"Young Larnigan is here to see the books. He has escaped our trap. What shall I do?"

"Where is he now?"

"On his way to the vault."  
 "Let him get inside, then, and close the door!" was the curt answer.  
 "Close the door?" echoed Maxwell dully.

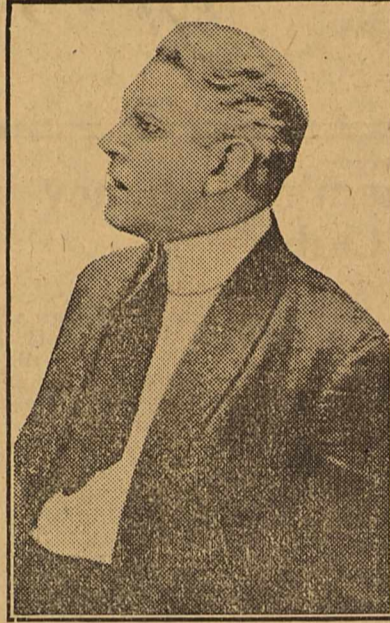
"Certainly. It is equipped with a time lock, of course. You can say it was an accident. It will be hours before it can be opened again."  
 Roger Maxwell hung back the receiver and paced the floor, with his face bathed in cold perspiration. It would be deliberate murder! Maxwell approached the vault, glanced stealthily over his shoulder and then lurched toward the heavy door. There was a clang of metal and then a hoarse cry of dismay from the clerk at the nearby desk, who sprang forward just in time to catch Maxwell's reeling form.

"For God's sake, what have you done, Mr. Maxwell? Tom Larnigan is inside!"

"It was an accident," stammered Maxwell. "Get help at once. Don't stand there staring!"

Hours later when three experts from the safe concern opened the vault they found the body of Tom Larnigan stretched on the floor. A physician, who had been hastily summoned, knelt over the form and shook his head solemnly. "Dead," he said.

Meantime, the evening newspapers on the streets were shrieking the latest sensational developments in the Larnigan case, and the story of the "accident" in the offices of the insurance company, which had resulted so disastrously. Bruce Larnigan, con-



"Go away!" he moaned.

lessing from the injuries, which for a time had threatened an untimely death, crumpled the paper convulsively. "The scoundrels!" he hissed. "The murderous scoundrels!" There was no doubt in his mind as to the cause of the tragedy and its purpose. "But I'll have them yet! I'll hound each one to his grave or prison if it needs the remainder of my life to do it!"

Had any one been fated to look on Roger Maxwell at that moment the spectacle presented by the usually spruce, dignified looking insurance president would have been a shock. Maxwell, huddled over his desk, was seeking, as a last resort to ease his conscience of its burden, by telling the truth to a dead man, whose lips could never open against him in real life. Summoning a messenger the president directed the boy to carry the envelope to the Larnigan home. It was not until then that Roger Maxwell prepared to leave his office.

At the Larnigan cottage the occupants were clustered in the living room, listening with bated breath for the rumble in the street which should announce the arrival of the black wagon with the body of the son and brother. But hour succeeded hour without the expected sound. Bruce was on the point of persuading his mother to retire when a hurried step sounded outside, the front door was flung open, and Bruce was facing his brother Tom.

Tom grinned at the other's stare and flung his arms over his mother's shoulders. "It takes a hard knock to kill a Larnigan," he chuckled. "Suspended animation, old man. I looked dead enough, but the doctor suspected the true facts and managed to bring me around in his office." A half hour later Tom was summoned to the door by a peal of the bell. A messenger boy extended a long envelope. It was the confession of Roger Maxwell—the confession that had never been meant for living eyes. Tom caught his hat from the rack and let himself softly out of the front door. He was determined if possible to keep the confession from Bruce—Bruce who would give his life to avoid giving Dorothy Maxwell pain.

Roger Maxwell, in his library at midnight, started to his feet with a cry that was almost a shriek. Tom Larnigan stood before him. "Go away!" he moaned. "Go away!" Slowly, accusingly, Tom extended the sheets of Maxwell's confession. Maxwell rumped to the floor. Tom darted to his side just as Dorothy entered the room. "I fear your father is very ill," he said gently. "Better call a doctor."

"But—but—how?" Dorothy stammered.

"I will explain all later," said Tom evasively.

The early morning newspapers carried the news of the apoplectic seizure of Roger Maxwell and announced that his life was despaired of. Bruce hurried to the Maxwell home. Dorothy met him with a sad shake of her pretty blond head as he sought to take her in his arms.

"Not now," she said, motioning him away.

Without a word Bruce turned and made his way back to the street. How was it all to end?

[Episode No. 10 next week.]

**GUARD TO PREVENT  
 A JAIL DELIVERY**

On account of the condition of the local jail, and in order that another jail delivery might be prevented, a guard has been employed and remains on duty throughout the night. The jail yard is also lighted at night, and every precaution is being taken to prevent the escape of the prisoners, a number of whom have been sentenced and are awaiting the transfer agent to come and carry them to the pen.

It will be remembered that two jail deliveries occurred during the last year, and the county desires to prevent a recurrence of this, and have let the contract for the remodeling of the interior of the jail, making it more sanitary and at the same time increasing the room. The new improvements will be made as soon as the prisoners now on hand are disposed of.

Eight of the prisoners in jail have been convicted and six of them sentenced to the pen. There are several more in jail charged with felonies, and County Judge Kleberg used good judgment in providing a guard for the present at least. It is cheap insurance.

**Husband and Wife Both  
 Saved from Suffering**

I wish to tell you the good results myself and husband received from Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root. About eleven years ago I had a severe attack of La Grippe and was confined to my bed about eight weeks under the doctor's care. He pronounced my case kidney trouble and rheumatism and not receiving the results from the doctor's treatment I should have received, I decided to try Swamp-Root. After taking several bottles of Swamp-Root I was able to get up and attend to my work. About a year later my husband was affected with a severe attack of kidney trouble and doctored for some time with the doctors and received no benefit. Knowing of the good I had received, he decided to try Swamp-Root. His condition was such that he was confined to his bed and words cannot tell how he suffered, but after taking Swamp-Root he was relieved so he could go on with his work without pain. I wish to heartily recommend Swamp-Root to all persons afflicted with kidney and bladder troubles and you may publish this letter if you wish.

Yours truly,  
 MRS. A. E. BRIGGS,  
 Eldred, Pa.  
 Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 25th day of May, 1912.  
 Ira McCarthy, Notary Public.

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 kidneys 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.

**CATTLE RAISERS' ASSOCIATION**

The following gentlemen left from this point Sunday afternoon to attend the Cattle Raisers' association which convenes in Houston Tuesday morning: Mr. and Mrs. Lon Mapes, of Pony creek; H. H. Thomson, G. G. Odum, Jno. F. Currie, E. L. Rasbury, R. H. Herring, Walt Allen, H. Giesecke, C. W. Northington, J. P. Maddox, Louie DeMouille, L. P. Woods, H. C. Fletcher, Henry Vanderventer, Alfred Luckett of Miles; W. O. Schultz of Eden and Mr. and Mrs. B. D. Cusenbary and daughter of Sonora. Mr. Cusenbary and family had been visiting Dr. R. A. Dickinson and family a day or two before going on to Houston.

**How to Prevent Croup.**

When the child is subject to attacks of croup, see to it that he eats a light evening meal, as an overloaded stomach may bring on an attack, also watch for the first symptom—hoarseness, and give Chamberlain's Cough Remedy as soon as the child becomes hoarse. Obtainable Everywhere.

W. H. Cane, of the Hatchel country, was transacting business in Ballinger Monday and renewed with the Banner-Ledger and Dallas News for a year.

**RHEUMATISM  
 STIFF JOINTS  
 SPRAINS**

**KILLS PAIN**

**Does Pain Interfere?**  
 There is a remedy  
**Sloan's  
 Liniment**

Read this unsolicited grateful testimony—  
 Not long ago my left knee became lame and sore. It pained me many restless nights. So serious did it become that I was forced to consider giving up my work when I latched to think of Sloan's Liniment. Let me say—less than one bottle fixed me up.  
 Chas. C. Campbell, Florence, Tex.

**GRAND JURY PERKINS VISITS  
 COMPLETES DRY TERRITORY  
 ITS WORK**

After holding only four and one-half days the grand jury for the March term of court completed its work Friday afternoon and adjourned. The largest number of bills in several years were turned into the court, 34 indictments being reported, all of which are felonies, except eight.

County Attorney Shepherd had compiled quiet a lot of evidence and had it ready for the grand jury when it convened, and this assisted that body in rapidly disposing of the felony cases, and the misdemeanor work was light due to the splendid work done by the officers in handling these cases as fast as they were brought to their attention and not allowing them to burden the grand jury.

The report of the grand jury is one of the briefest in many years, and is as follows:

"To the Hon. John W. Goodwin, Judge 35th Judicial District.

"We your grand jury for the March term of court, beg to submit the following: We have been in session six days and have examined 103 witnesses and have investigated all violation of the law that has been brought to our attention, that we considered worth investigation.

We have found 34 true bills, 8 misdemeanors, and 26 for felony.

"We visited the jail and found fifteen prisoners in same; we found the jail in a sanitary condition.

"Our attention has been called to the facts that some of our merchants violate the law by selling tobacco and cigarettes to boys under sixteen years of age.

"We examined the court house and grounds, and find same to be well kept, for which we wish to commend our janitor.

"We wish to thank our county attorney for the material assistance he has rendered us, and for the amount of ready evidence he had in hand. We also wish to express our thanks to the district attorney, district judge, and others for their aid and courtesies.

"EDGAR JAYROE,  
 Foreman grand jury."

Mr. and Mrs. Godfrey Massey, of Concho, passed through Ballinger Monday en route to Houston to attend the meeting of the cattle raisers' association.

Sheriff Perkins has just returned from a trip to the eastern border of the state, making the trip to Titus county after a prisoner. Mr. Perkins says the farmers in this county who are growing restless because it won't rain need not go east to find a wet spot. "It's dry all the way," says Mr. Perkins, "and the farmers are just waiting for it to rain so they can plant corn."

Mr. Perkins reports that in some places the farmers had planted corn and failed to get a stand, while in other places he was told that the corn had failed to sprout. He also says the grain crop is sick and at the point of death all the way across the state. He states that the grain crop through the grain belt is in no better shape than it is in Runnels county, is yellow, dried up and unless rain falls mighty quick will be a thing of the past.

Mr. Perkins went to Mount Pleasant where he received at the hands of the Titus county sheriff Sam Turner, who was wanted here for forgery on eight different charges. Turner was working at an oil mill in Texarkana when arrested. Mr. Perkins had been on his trail and learning that he was in Titus county wired the sheriff to get him.

**A Good Family Cough Syrup.**

Can be made by mixing Pine-Tar Acetate, Sugar, Hyoscyamus, Sassafras, Peppermint, Ipecac, Rhubarb, Mandrake, Capsicum, Muriae Ammonia, Honey and Glycerine. It is pleasant, healing and soothing, raises the phlegm, and gives almost instant relief. For convenience of those who prefer not to fuss, it is supplied ready made in 25c bottles under name of Dr. Bell's Pine-Tar-Honey. Can be had at your druggist. Insist on getting Dr. Bell's Pine-Tar-Honey and see that the formula is one the package.

W. B. Wood received the sad news Tuesday from his wife at Joaquin, stating that her father died at that place Monday night. The many friends of the family sympathize with them in this hour of bereavement.

Mrs. J. L. Heath, of San Angelo was among the visitors in Ballinger Tuesday.

**FOR BRONCHITIS, WHOOPING COUGH,  
 CROUP, COUGHS AND COLDS**

Make the Best Remedy at Home—128 Teaspoonful for 50 cents.

If everything was sold in as liberal and fair a manner as the below named druggists are selling Schiffmann's New Concentrated Expectorant, absolutely no cause for complaint or dissatisfaction could possibly arise from anyone. These druggists say—"Buy a bottle of this remedy and try it for Bronchitis, Whooping Cough, Severe Cough, Croup or any Bronchial Affection, and we will return your money, just the same as we do with Schiffmann's famous Asthmador, if it does not give satisfaction, or if not found the best remedy ever used for any of these complaints." Why not take advantage of this guarantee and try this medicine, and get your money back, rather than buying another purely on the exaggerated claims of its manufacturer or on the strength of testimonials from others and run the chance of getting something worthless and also wasting your money?

In buying this remedy, besides securing an absolute guarantee of its efficiency from these druggists, you also get about eight times as much medicine as you would in buying most any of the old-fashioned, ready-made kinds, which average from 20 to 32 teaspoonful, because 50c worth makes a whole pint (128 teaspoonful) when mixed at home with simply one pint of sugar and one-half pint of water. This remedy positively does not contain chloroform, opium, morphine or any other narcotic. It is pleasant to take and children are fond of it. You will be the sole judge, and under this positive guarantee absolutely no risk is run in buying this remedy. Druggists everywhere are authorized to sell it under the same guarantee as Schiffmann's famous Asthmador of "Money Back" if not perfectly satisfactory. R. J. Schiffmann, Proprietor, Saint Paul, Minn. Guaranteed here by J. Y. Pearce.

**WHAT WE ARE DOING  
WILL YOU HELP?**

We are trying to give the patrons of this store greater service. No just filling your order and delivering it, but we want to help you select the utmost in value for your money. Our Efficiency Club is going to make it a point to see that you get better service here than elsewhere. Give us a trial.

**HIGGINBOTHAM-  
CURRIE-WILLIAMS CO.**

**Ballinger's Greatest Store  
The Home of Real Values**

**TO OUR CUSTOMERS  
BUY NOW**

Do you know that under the present condition the greatest advice we can give you is buy NOW. Great confusion exists in the wholesale markets. Prices are advancing daily and there is no telling where they will go. The old prices are still in force here so BUY NOW.

**These Appealing Spring Fashions are Sure to Please**

**Authentic Spring Styles**

The wonderful variety of styles this season will give every woman a chance to exercise individuality in the selecting of her spring attire. Our varied selection will make choosing here a pleasure to the discriminating shopper.

**Smart Coat Suits**

This is indeed a season of suits. Each express brings to this department many new styles. You will find it profitable to make this section a visit every time you have an opportunity.

**SILK SUITS.** Some very attractive silk suits and serge and silk combinations in all the best colors, navy, black, gray materials in faille, taffetas and other wanted materials. The most practical suit for early spring wear. Priced \$20, \$22.50, \$25 and \$30.

**SILK DRESSES.** Here you will find a remarkable collection of all the new style tendencies in women's and misses' dresses of silk and silk combinations for street and afternoon wear. Taffeta and crepe de chine, charmeus and Georgette combinations. Prices are reasonable \$12.50 and up.



**Beautiful Spring Millinery**

The millinery on display in our millinery section are the styles selected with great care and consideration. This principle gives us the distinction of showing styles of individuality and unusualness. Your original idea we will gladly duplicate.

**Chic Veils**

A great selection of all that is new in veils and veiling awaits early choosers. Just that needed touch that means so much to the well dressed woman.

**Juvenile and Children's Wear**

**WASH SUITS**—A special feature of our ready-to-wear section is the large and complete assortment of children's wear. Wash suits for the boys and little tots in play styles, and the dressier designs. Prices from 50¢ up.

**KIMONOS**—we are especially well prepared to take care of your house dress and kimono wants. All materials, sizes up to 52. Prices range 75¢ to \$10.

**Higginbotham's Efficiency Club**

We wish you could have met with us Tuesday evening and have heard the suggestions and ideas put forth for the better Service of this store to its Customers. We wish you could have been there to help us in our efforts to increase our personal efficiency. It would have done you good to have heard the expressions and opinions as to why the customer comes first in our store and how each one is going to put forth every effort to serve your interests better. We would appreciate any suggestion to help us.

—THE SALESPEOPLE

**Wonderful Silk Hose Values**



We are fortunate in being in position to offer such a wonderful collection of all the new styles in women's silk hosiery.

- Gordon Hose** in the new black boot effect with with black and white stripe top .....\$1.00
- Clocked Hose**, white, black navy and gray hose with white and black clock, from Gordon and other famous makers \$1.00
- Solid Colors**, a large collection of pure silk hose in navy, bronze pearl, rose, Copenhagen and lavender ..... \$1.00
- Drop Stitched.** This is proving to be one of the season's best sellers, navy and gray.....\$1.00
- Hose of Luxite** a synthetic or man spun silk, the silk worms only rival, has the lustre of fine silk .....50¢



**Toilet Articles and Accessories**

**New Spring Suits for Boys**

Such a large stock of boy's suits awaits you that you are sure to find just the suit to please the boy and they are priced so reasonably.

**TWO PAIRS PANTS**

We are making a special run on boys' two trousered suits. Palm Beach, mixed, and fancy worsted and Cashmeres

PRICED \$5.00



**BOYS' HATS AND CAPS**

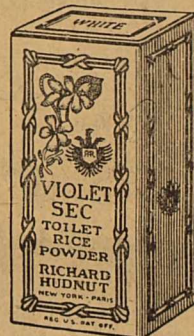
Here you will find all the new style caps for the boy and little fancy hats for little brother. Checks, stripes, solids, all colors, price

Priced 50 Cents

**Large Stock Sport Shirts and Blouses**

Everything for the boys will be found in our large and well selected stock.

Our toilet goods section is ready with every thing for the preservation of your health and complexion. Help Nature keep your skin in shape.



- Palm Olive Soap**, nature's best remedy for the cuticle, special 3 for ..... 25¢
- Jergeus' Glycerine** it has the real fragrance of violets, 3 for ..... 25¢
- Woodbury's Facial Powder**, a real help to the complexion price ..... 25¢
- Willow of Boston presents Imogene and violet adorable talcum powder. Borated and perfumed to meet the requirements of the most discriminating 25¢

**REFRIGERATOR TIME IS SURELY HERE**



Everything seems to point to a long hot summer. These warm days are only a forerunner of the hot days to come. Have you prepared for them with a Refrigerator? Buy one here and

**Pay For It as You Use It**

Ice Boxes and Refrigerators \$10 and up.

**Crystal White Refrigerator**

A solid steel white enameled refrigerator with glass shelves. Heat proof walls filled with mineral wool. The most practical, sanitary and economical refrigerator manufactured. Price \$35.

Complete line of Herrick Refrigerators from \$16 to \$35.

**We Have Some Special Values in Summer and Porch Furniture**

**Congoleum Rugs**

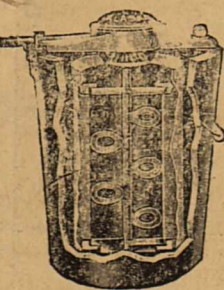
Have you seen the new floor coverings of Congoleum? Sanitary practical and economical. By the yard 50¢.

- 1 1/2 x 3 ..... 50¢
  - 3 x 3 ..... 75¢
  - 3 x 4 1/2 ..... \$1.25
  - 10 1/2 x 12 ..... \$8.50
  - 7 x 12 ..... \$7.50
  - 6 x 12 ..... \$6.50
- The Price is Sure to Advance—Buy Now.

**ALASKA FREEZERS**

The coldest and quickest freezer on the market.

- 2 qt. size \$2.25
- 4 qt. size \$3.50
- 6 qt. size \$4.00



**Nowork Freezers**

Freezes delicious cream and ices without work. 2 qt. size regular \$2.50, special \$1.95

**Grocery Department**

IMPROVED

Sherer Grocery Counters Installed. We want you to see our new grocery counters—every article has a neat clean sanitary bin. You can see just what you are buying, and it comes to you absolutely clean and pure.



# The Strange Case of MARY PAGE

The Great McClure Mystery Story, Written by **FREDERICK LEWIS** In Collaboration With **JOHN T. M'INTYRE**, Author of the Ashton Kirk Detective Stories. *Read the Story and See the Essanay Moving Pictures*

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## SYNOPSIS.

Mary Page, actress, is accused of the murder of James Pollock and is defended by her lover, Philip Langdon. Pollock was intoxicated. Snide, a crook and tool of Pollock, was on the fire escape watching for Langdon.

## THE DRAMA OF THE LAW

**W**ITH the entrance of the judge the turmoil of the vast crowd that filled the courtroom almost to suffocation subsided into a tense whisper of expectancy. The atmosphere was vibrant with it—tense as a violin string which snapped and brought the throng surging wildly to its feet when some one shrilled:

"Here she comes!"

At the back of the room men and women fought in a frenzy for foothold upon the seats of chairs, drowning the thunder of the judge's gavel with their clamorous hysteria, while those nearer the front were flung bodily against the steady wall of police beyond which stood Mary Page, framed by the grim shadow of the prisoner's door.

Mary was waiting, breathless, terrified, for "some one" to come. The judge looked at his warch and then at



Mary Stretched Out One Slim Hand.

the door, and another whispering wave of sound too intangible to be called words swept over the room. Almost before it died, however, Philip Langdon, the brilliant young lawyer who was defending Mary Page from the charge of murder and who in his battle for her life was also battling for his own happiness, came in.

At sight of him Mary rose to her feet with a little childlike sob of relief and stretched out one slim hand with a quivering smile that was more poignant than tears and more pitiful than an outburst of grief.

"Poor little thing!" said some one and was instantly hushed by a burly policeman whose own eyes were suspiciously damp as Langdon, with a smile as brave as Mary's own, took her hand and bent over her with a whispered word of hope and greeting.

The judge rapped for order, and Langdon put back his shoulders with the gesture of one ready for the battle. Another day in the great trial of Mary Page had begun!

It was a trial which was engrossing the whole country. The victories and defeats of the great war and the fluctuations of Wall street were unceremoniously thrust into inside pages of the daily papers that the whole front sheet might be devoted to photograph after photograph and story after story of the lovely young actress, who was either a tragic victim of the law or a murderers.

Column after column had already been printed about this young girl, who on the very edge of triumph as a star had been sucked into the maelstrom of law beneath the shadow of the gallows. The story of her youth amid poverty and suffering, of her first stage success and her wonderful ability, had been told over and over, while woven through it, like a shimmering thread of gold, was the story, half hinted, half boldly detailed, of the love of Philip Langdon for Mary, whom he was now defending in the face of overwhelming evidence and inexplicable mystery.

There were stories, too—more guarded—of James Pollock, who had been found dead with Mary's unconscious form on the floor beside him—stories that hinted of a dissolute life and of other girls whom he had led to trag-

edy; stories of his wealth, his strange ambitions and his life of gilded ease, but at best in the eyes of the world he was only a lay figure—a bit of dead flesh upon which hung the vibrant living tragedy of Mary herself.

The formal routine of the opening of court was hurriedly gone through. The district attorney and Langdon held a subdued and secret colloquy with the judge, and then the first witness of the day was called.

"Mary Page!"

At the sound of her name Mary rose unsteadily to her feet, her eyes turned appealingly to Langdon, one trembling hand crushing back the little cry that rose involuntarily to her lips. But HER agitation was no more than an echo of the excitement that swept through the crowded room. Somewhere a woman caught her breath in a stifled sob, and at the back the spectators clambered upon their chairs, crowding forward in spite of angry whispers of "Sit down!" and the sharp rap of the judge's gavel augmented by the official, "Order in the court!"

To Langdon alone the calling of Mary came as no surprise, and he was at her side in a moment, whispering reassurance and urging her to answer as simply and clearly as possible the questions she was asked. His calm gave her back some measure of her own serenity, and her voice was low but clear as she took the oath and, stepping up into the witness stand, looked down upon that sea of faces. For a moment they swam before her eyes, and with a catch in her throat she remembered the last time she had looked down upon crowded faces; looked down across the footlights upon thousands of smiling lips and friendly eyes above a snow-storm of applauding white gloves. How long ago it seemed, and yet how short a time! And now the faces that stared up at her were avid with curiosity, some hostile, some sympathetic, but all pallid with the voracity of the sensation seeker.

Then her eyes, traveling beyond them, met the tear dimmed ones of her mother leaning forward yearningly from the witness bench, and because of the suffering on that face Mary smiled. Her first answers to the questions of the District Attorney were spoken with quiet dignity.

"Miss Page, isn't it true that James Pollock wished to marry you?"

"Yes." The answer was lower now, and a hot flush crept for a moment into Mary's pale cheeks.

"And you found his attentions unwelcome?"

Something in the tone brought her head up sharply.

"I had told Mr. Pollock that I could not marry him," she said firmly, and with a hauteur that wrung a little whisper of admiration from the spectators.

Abruptly the prosecutor changed his train of questioning.

"Now, Miss Page," he said harshly, "please tell the court exactly what happened just previous to the time when the revolver-shot was heard and Mr. Langdon found you unconscious beside the murdered man. Begin with the moment you left the banquet."

With a shiver of aversion Mary closed her eyes for a second; then, gripping the edge of the witness-stand, she began speaking slowly and with an obvious effort.

"When the boy brought me the message—I was glad to go. They were drinking and were very noisy at the banquet—and I was tired. The boy showed me the door of the suite, and I went in."

She paused and covered her eyes as if to shut out something terrible that she saw.

"Mr. Pollock was in the room," she said at last. "He—he had been drinking—he wasn't himself—he could hardly stand. He—he said he wanted to talk to me alone for five minutes—and he wouldn't let me out, though I was afraid and begged him to."

"Did you try to get out? Was there a struggle between you and Mr. Pollock?"

She shook her head. "Not then," she said, with a little sob. "But—I was very angry—I told him he had tricked me—and I wouldn't listen to him. We quarreled over his being drunk, and—he tried to make me take a drink of the whiskey myself."

A shudder of repugnance swept over her, and her eyes grew wide and staring, and she swayed for a moment like a flower in a storm; then, with a tremendous effort, as one called back from the borderland to consciousness, she added hoarsely:

"I remember striking at him—and knocking the glass out of his hand. I heard it break—and then—I must have fainted!"

"Miss Page," came still another question, "if you had refused James Pollock—if you feared him—why did you grant him an interview late at night in a private room at the hotel?"

"Grant him an interview!" her voice rose in startled protest. "I didn't. That was why I was so angry—I had

expected to find Mr. Langdon in that room!"

"Oh! You had made arrangements then to meet Mr. Langdon there?" Again the satiric note crept into the harsh voice, and a crimson tide rushed to Mary's pale cheeks.

"The boy told me," she said with dignity, "that Mr. Langdon was waiting to speak to me. I thought he had come to take me home."

"The boy—what boy?" The question leapt sharply now.

"Why, the bellboy who brought the message," she said in surprise, and, turning, pointed toward the group of witnesses where the small bellhop cowered, half covering his face with his shaking hands.

For the moment at least every eye was upon him, and some of the hostility vanished from those watching faces as a wave of surprised comment slipped from lip to lip. For after all, if Mary Page had indeed gone into that room expecting Langdon and not Pollock, it robbed the murder of the infamy of cool deliberation.

Mary herself was both surprised and confused by the sudden turn of events and, dismissed from the witness-box, returned to her own seat bewildered at the seeming importance attached to what had heretofore appeared so small a detail.

But it was anything but small in the eyes of the District Attorney and Langdon, and there was a gleam of triumph in the latter's eyes as the whimpering boy from the hotel took the oath. Before he went into the witness-box, however, the judge leaned forward and frowned down at him.

"Do you understand, Joe," he said harshly, "that what you have just taken is an oath? And that the law can put you into prison for perjury if you do not tell the exact truth after taking that oath?"

"Y—yes, sir," stammered the boy "I'll tell the truth, s'help me Gawd!" Light laughter ran through the room, but the court attendant immediately called for order.

"Tell us exactly what message you carried to Miss Page in the banquet room," said the District Attorney, when quiet reigned. "It was Miss Page you took the message to, wasn't it?"

"Yes, sir, it was her. And the gent in the gray suit he says, 'Tell Miss Page Mr. Langdon wants to see her here at once.'"

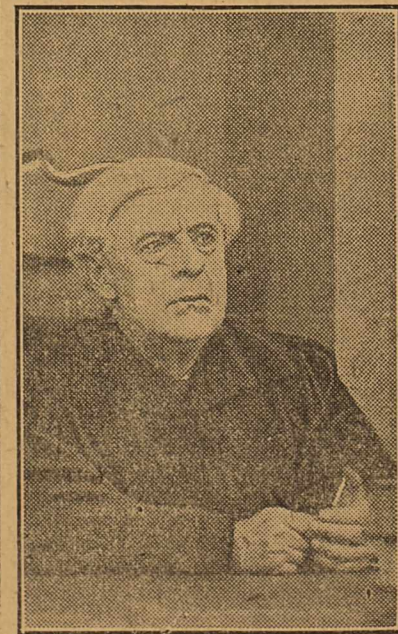
"And you delivered the message just that way to Miss Page?"

"Yes, sir."

"Why didn't you testify to this at the Coroner's inquest?" It was the judge this time, stern and implacable, and the boy in the witness-box cringed and burst into tears.

"They—they—n—never asked me wot the message was I was takin' to her, I—I didn't think it mattered."

With an exclamation of exasperation the prosecutor sat down, turning the small witness over to Langdon, into whose tired face fresh hope had now come. His voice, as he spoke to the boy, was gentle and friendly, and the snuffling lad wiping his eyes with the back



"Do you understand, Joe, that what you have just taken is an oath?"

of his hand answered him eagerly. He seemed glad to find someone who didn't frighten him.

"Joe," said Langdon, his voice full of kindness, "that night wasn't the first time you had seen Mr. Pollock, was it?"

"No, sir," said the boy in his shrill young voice. "Everybody knew James Pollock at the Republic. He came there a lot—him and Mr. Slade."

"And he was pretty generous in his tips, wasn't he?" The question was quiet, and the District Attorney, who had made a move to interrupt, sank back without speaking as the boy answered:

"Oh, so-so! He could afford to be." "And so, on the night when he asked you to take that message to Miss Page, he gave you a good big tip, didn't he?"

"Yes," said the boy, beginning to whimper again. "But I didn't do it for that. I didn't think there was any harm in the message. He says to me, says he, 'It's just a joke I'm playin' on her, Joe,' he says. 'I want to fool her.' And he gimme five dollars—and laugh-ed—and told me to beat it—and I did."

"That is all, I think," said Langdon with satisfaction, and the boy crept back to the witness-stand, striving in vain for some of the jaunty assurance that had marked him in the earlier hours of the day. He had thought he would be a little hero after his testimony and that he would enjoy the fleeting publicity; but he was ashamed of the laugh he had made.

The prosecutor himself was almost equally discomfited, for it had been his plan to build up stone by stone a towering temple of evidence to prove that Mary Page had in cold blood plotted and carried out the murder of James Pollock, and now the boy's testimony had in a minute undermined the whole structure. It forced him to play his trump card at what he feared was the



"Have you ever seen this revolver before, Miss Page?"

wrong moment, but except for a harassed frown he showed little signs of his disappointment as he again called Mary to the witness-stand.

She came more willingly this time; it seemed somehow less of an ordeal for she sensed that things had gone in her favor for a moment, and she did not even flinch when, with a flourish, the District Attorney took up the revolver (lying with the other exhibits of the case before the jury) and, thrusting it toward her, asked sharply:

"Have you ever seen this revolver before, Miss Page?"

"Yes. It belonged to Mr. Pollock."

"Was it in his possession on the night when he was murdered?"

"No." Her voice broke now and fell. "It was in my possession then."

"And you had it at the Hotel Republic."

"Yes."

"And was it your habit," the prosecutor's voice was satirically mocking, "was it your habit, Miss Page, to attend banquets with a revolver in your handbag?"

Mary flushed angrily.

"The revolver was lying on my dressing-table at the theater," she said, "and I put it into my bag, intending to give it to Mr. Langdon. but—I forgot it."

"It was an unfortunate loss of memory for Mr. Pollock," said the attorney dryly, with a glance at the jury. Then he abruptly waived the witness away, as though it would be a waste of time to question her further. Langdon halted her.

"Will you explain to the court," he cried, "how that revolver came into your possession, Miss Page?"

Gaining courage at his tone, and the smile that accompanied his words, Mary turned toward the jury and in that beautiful modulated voice that had held so many audiences spellbound, she told rapidly, but in detail, the story of Pollock's visit to her dressing-room on the afternoon of that fatal day. She faltered a little over the recital of his abrupt proposal and, woman-like, put in the world-old apology for his brutality by the simple statement:

"He was drunk, you know."

Then, vividly, her slender hands gesturing and her voice rising with poignant memories and pride of Langdon, she told of the latter's entry in response to her screams and of his battle with Pollock. Tensely silent, but with every nerve alert, the crowd listened as she described how Pollock had pulled the revolver out of his pocket only to drop it.

"He tried to pick it up again," she said, unconsciously visualizing for them the picture of the struggling men. "but I crawled close and snatched it up before he could reach it."

She paused, and when she would have taken up the thread of her story again, Langdon's hand stopped her.

"That is all, thank you, Miss Page," he said, and the District Attorney, surprised on his face, but with a new gleam in his eyes, got quickly to his feet.

"I crave the court's permission to ask the witness one more question," he said, and as the judge waved assent he asked slowly, knowing the sensation his question would create:

"Miss Page, was there anyone else in the room at the time this struggle was going on?"

"Not—not exactly in the room," said Mary, after an instant's hesitation. "There were people outside the door and—and my maid, who had been out ran in during the excitement."

"Is your maid Janet or Jeannette Beauchamp?"

"Yes." Mary's voice was uneasy now.

and her eyes met the frightened ones of the maid, who had risen with the apparent intention of leaving the room. But before she had reached the door the prosecutor had waved Mary from the stand and the clerk called loudly: "Janet Beauchamp!"

There was a startled cry of "Oh, mon Dieu!" and the Frenchwoman paused, wringing her hands, the center of attention. She made a half movement as if determined to escape anyway and defy the law, but the sight of the police that guarded the exits and the stern repetition of her name brought her reluctantly back. She murmured a little prayer and crossed herself as she took the oath, but the cool friendliness of the prosecutor's voice reassured her.

"Janet, how long have you been in the employ of Miss Page?"

"Two—no, three years 'zis season."

"And was it usual for you to leave the dressing-room when your mistress was getting ready for the street?"

"No, monsieur—sir!"

"But you had been told to leave her on this particular day?"

"Told to leave!" Janet's voice rose in Gallic excitement. "Mais non! I had but gone to ze petite milliner, for ze new floweries for ze blue gown."

"Who told you to go?"

"Monsieur Daniels, he come in, and he and mademoiselle, they talk, and he say pourquoi could I not go to get ze new floweries—ze orchids, since ze shops would not be close for one half hour yet. And Miss Page she say, certaintment that I should go then, for she could finish to dress by herself for once."

"How long were you out?"

"Oh, je ne sais pas—I mean, I do not know. Maybe fifteen, maybe twenty minutes. I come back quick parceque there are two kinds of orchid at ze shop, and I want mademoiselle to see zem both."

"And isn't it true," shouted the District Attorney, suddenly leaning forward and fairly hurling his words at the witness, "isn't it true that when you came in you saw Miss Page threaten Mr. Pollock with this revolver?"

He caught up the weapon as he spoke and thrust it under her eyes. The maid, with a quivering little scream of horror, shrank back amid a murmur of sympathy from the crowd. She could not speak.

"Isn't it true?" persisted the prosecutor harshly. "Answer my question—or tell us just what you did see when you came into the theater upon your return from the errand."

Bursting into a storm of tears, Janet flung out her arms in a wild gesture.

"It is true," she sobbed. "Mees Page, my mademoiselle, she was standing—and she had ze revolver—pointed at Mr. Pollock—and he—he—ran out of ze room."

At the words, Mary, whose hands had been twitching nervously throughout the maid's testimony, rose to her feet with a little gasping cry as if she would speak; but before the words came she swung suddenly about and crumpled into a little heap on the floor.

In an instant the whole room was on its feet, surging forward toward the dock, and the sobs of the maid were echoed by more than one woman among the spectators, where sympathy for the time ran high, though the pendulum swayed back when someone said shrilly with a derisive laugh:

"She's a good actress, is Mary Page!"

But the judge's gavel quelled the excitement and the dire threat back of



"Was there any one else in the room?"

his curt words that unless there was order in the court he would clear the room, was like oil upon the troubled waters of the sea of onlookers, and they sat in hushed silence as Mrs. Page and Langdon knelt beside the unconscious form of the slim young prisoner, bathing her temples and chafing her wrists until the momentary respite of nullity forsook her and she opened her eyes to the suffering of reality.

At the sight of the fear on both Langdon's and her mother's face, however, she struggled bravely to regain her self-control and when the clerk called the next witness she was again in her chair. Very white and wan, but erect, her pallid lips set firmly to hold back the threatening tides of emotion and weariness that were sweeping over her.

The drumming in her ears and the little waves of nausea that are the aftermath of a fainting fit made events blurred to her for a little time, and it

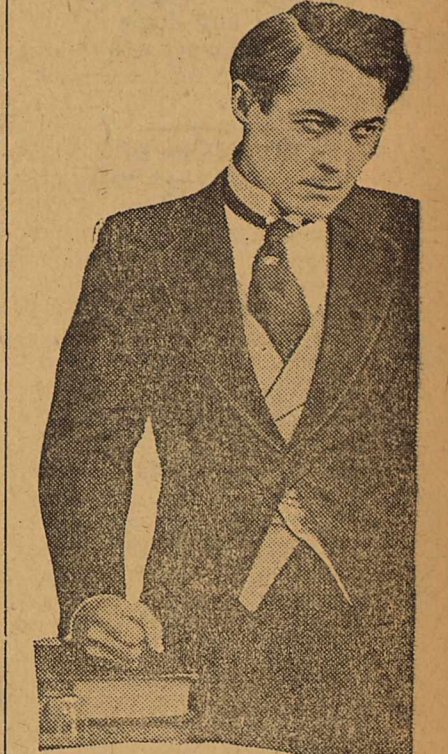
was with a start of surprise that she recognized in the new witness her erstwhile leading man.

The mere sight of his graceful figure and his boyish face; that handsome juvenile expression that was his stock in trade brought a flood of memories surging over her, and the shocked pity in his eyes made her realize keenly the difference that lay between Mary Page the prisoner—and Mary Page the star.

His testimony was to a great extent a repetition of what had gone before. He had been at the banquet; had seen the boy bring the message to Miss Page and had bidden her good night when she left. A few minutes later the sound of the shot had taken him down the hall with the others and into the room where Pollock and Mary lay—the one dead—the other unconscious.

"It was I who first urged that some one call the police," he said in his well-trained, youthful voice. "I would have gone myself but I wanted to be sure first whether I could be of service to Miss Page."

"Was that the reason you refused to leave the room when ordered to do so



Langdon's Lips Grew Grave Again at the Next Question.

by Detective Farley?" The prosecutor's voice was dry.

"I resented his tone, sir," answered the young actor. "And besides," flushing, "I was her leading man and I felt that it—it was my place to be with her rather than that a lot of strangers should hang about."

An involuntary smile crossed Langdon's lips, but they grew grave again at the next question.

"After your ejection by Detective Farley and Mr. Langdon did you leave the hotel?"

"No, sir. I waited in the hallway in case I was wanted."

"Did you re-enter the room?"

"Yes, sir—not immediately, but when I heard a confusion of voices following the re-entry of the house detective and Mr. Langdon."

"Could you hear what was said?"

The actor flushed and hesitated, and then answered slowly:

"Yes, sir—in part."

"Will you please repeat what part you heard?"

"I heard Mr. Langdon say, 'But good God, there's only one door, she must be some place in here,' and the detective said, 'Well, she's not—you can see that.' Then Mr. Langdon said, 'There's the window—perhaps 'she's out there—I'll see.' And his voice sounded queer and excited as if he were frightened, and the detective said, 'No, nothing doing on that, sir—just remember, Mr. Langdon, that as yet I've no way of knowing whether that shot was fired before or after you entered this room!'"

"Did Mr. Langdon reply?"

"Yes, he said, 'You d— fool, what do you mean?' But just then the police came up and ran in, and I went on in with them, and the detective shouted, 'Some of you go down that fire-escape and hunt for a girl in an evening gown without either cloak or hat—and one of you keep your eye on this man Langdon—he was either in this room or at the door when James Pollock was murdered!'"

[Next instalment, "My Time Will Come!"]

## The Strange Case of Mary Page

The Great McClure Mystery Story, Written by **FREDERICK LEWIS**, in Collaboration With **JOHN T. M'INTYRE**, Author of the Ashton Kirk Detective Stories

Read the Story and See the Essanay Moving Pictures

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THE BANNER-LEDGER

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY BY THE BALLINGER PRINTING COMPANY. The Banner-Ledger and the Rannels County Ledger were consolidated January 23, 1913.

Pershing is pushing.

It's hard to make an ignorant man understand that you are his friend. Look at Mexico.

Dry weather does not seem to have any effect on the auto business. Yet the salesman say that some are waiting.

We are betting on Pershing and giving big odds. Americans are fighting for love of home. The Mexicans don't know what they are fighting for.

Fort Worth stock market reports the largest hog receipts Wednesday for any single day in seven years. Ballinger was represented with a car of hogs—four leggers too.

MAKING BUSINESS FRIENDS

When you send your dollar off to some mail order house or distant store, you get what you pay for and no more. The fluffy haired girl who handles it cares nothing for you. The merchant whom you helped to enrich never hears of you. The transaction has no aftermath, except possibly the effect to return an unsatisfied purchase.

When you buy goods at home you make business ties. The proprietor and his clerks want to keep your trade and will return your favors in any way that they can. A consistent policy of home buying creates a circle of loyal business friends. If you are in trade for yourself in your home town, this is absolutely necessary to success. And it is exceedingly helpful to anyone else.

Success comes largely by favor. Many people wonder how some fellows get along so easily.

greater strides are not made along educational lines than we have been making for the past ten years it will require three generations for all our people to be able to read and write.

Taking Texas as a whole the Ballinger schools are far ahead of the average city schools of equal size, and the man who criticises no doubt is ignorant of the facts in the case, and speaks unthoughtedly.

WHY DO PEOPLE GO AWAY FROM HOME TO DRESS UP?

We regret to note that the trade at home principle is not being practiced by some of our people, who for special reasons should be loyal to their home town.

The writer has just had the pleasure of "sizing up" some of the displays of pretty things to wear in Ballinger at this particular season, and while we do not pose as a judge on what women should wear and what women should not wear, we must say that Ballinger merchants are prepared to compete with merchants in any city west of Dallas and Fort Worth.

There are on display in the ready-to-wear departments of Ballinger stores dresses and hats that are good enough for our wife, and what's good enough for her is good enough for any man's wife, or any lady that expects to become any other man's wife.

It is a well known fact among the people throughout the territory surrounding Ballinger that Ballinger merchants carry unusually large and well selected stocks of ladies' and gentlemen's clothing, and those who have made comparison in prices speak in favor of the home prices every time.

Ballinger merchants are heavy tax payers. They are called on each year to "dip up" to help support the city and county government, and contribute liberally to the school fund and for every other worthy proposition that is presented to them. People place themselves in a disloyal attitude

county are free from or burdened with.

Again it is the mission of The Ledger to give the news, and with every desire for publishing only news free from the taint of yellow journalism, the occasion arises from time to time when we must chronicle items that are not as chaste and free from scandal as our critics might have if they were on the job.

Despite the ugly court records we must contend that the county is for above the average from a moral standpoint, and at this particular time is only a victim of circumstances.

Out of the twelve or fifteen prisoners to go from here to the pen as a result of the court, with two exceptions the victims are transient—drifters, going from place to place, and it is due to the alertness of our officers, and the determination on the part of our citizens to set a standard for future degenerates that the work was carried on on such wholesale plans at this time. Our officers are to be commended for the splendid work done in freeing the county of these criminals.

In the handling of the cases it developed that a number of them were ex-convicts, and a majority of them "jail birds" who have been before the bar of justice on various charges before. They were not our people—citizens of this county, and their presence in this county was due to the prosperous condition that has prevailed here throughout the past two years.

Crime will not thrive in this county, and the prompt justice meted out to those responsible for the first epidemic will no doubt have a lasting influence and lighten our court dockets for the future.

Again, let us say to those who are so eager to guard the fair name of the county, that it is often better to give the news—publish the facts than it is to leave the people to guess, gossip and exaggerate.

The Ledger will do its part to

good road to drive them over? If you had a \$500 car wouldn't you be willing to pay six bits a year for a good smooth road to run it over? If you wouldn't you are too foolish to eat fish? Nothing is more inspiring than a good firm, smooth road. This is the only kind of a road that leads to heaven.

This is the road that leads up higher. The other kind lead to the lower regions.

Bad Roads Are Demoralizing.

There is as much difference between good roads and bad roads as there is between day and night—between a real white man and a sorry nigger.

I'll pay 15 cents for a good highway to sail over one year and during the sailing I will accumulate enough to pay my little 15 cents the second year and so on I'm opposed to bonds. Bonds draw interest. A 15 cent tax for good roads draws good citizens to the section where the roads are built, but no interest. If I wanted to keep my farm I would want a good road along by one or two sides of it. If I wanted to sell it I could get 15 cents more for it I am sure. I am an enthusiast over good roads, good schools, good churches and a good citizenship—that is what it takes to make a good community, a good state and nation. Good roads cause smiles to sprout where frowns used to grow. They promote mirth and merriment—contentment and happiness.

The country people will endorse and appreciate the move on the part of the towns to give them good roads to town and church and school since it has been made clear that each district will get its prorata of the funds. The way our roads have already been raised and improved is a real inspiration, and the way Rannels county is coming in on the wavecrest is another inspiration and so one inspiration follows another. Boy, lets build roads.

"UNCLE JOHNNY."

Watch the Fords Go By.

A Distinctive Reason

What is the chief reason for the superiority of Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder?

There are several good reasons, but there is one which distinguishes Dr. Price's from other baking powders.

This reason, which every woman should know, is that Dr. Price's Baking Powder is made from cream of tartar, which comes from grapes. This means a healthful fruit origin. It means natural food as distinguished from mineral substitutes used in other baking powders.

There is no alum nor phosphate in

DR. PRICE'S CREAM BAKING POWDER

MADE FROM CREAM OF TARTAR DERIVED FROM GRAPES

CRITICISING WILSON SMACKS OF TREASON

Judge Thomas L. Blanton filled his engagement here Thursday night, speaking at the court house, after making several speeches at public schools while en route to Ballinger from Abilene. Judge Blanton is one of the most aggressive campaigners that ever made the race for any office, and he stated that he never passed up a school house without stopping and talking to the children, not for any votes that it might bring him, but that he might be of some help to the children in giving them briefly an idea of governmental affairs.

Judge Blanton visited the city schools Friday morning and for this reason did not meet many of

overhauling of the pension monstrosity, for the Burnett Emigration Bill, in favor of organized labor, against the garden seed graft, the mileage graft, the pork barrel graft, and an economical expenditure of the people money.

"I favor a rural credit system, a permanent solution of the cotton problem, finding a remedy for boll weevil, blackleg, tuberculosis, and the eradication of tick.

"I am for prohibition both in theory and practice, having never yet taken my first drink. Honest men of integrity differ with me on this question, but with Congressman Smith there is no issue, as he is for National Prohibition, having voted last year for Senator Sheppard's National Resolution. I lacked only a few votes of carrying Rannels county last year, and if you good people of Ballinger will help me this time, I promise you the best there is

Preparedness

Is the liveliest national issue of the day. The meaning of the word "PREPAREDNESS" is the state of being ready for any emergency which may arise. Are you prepared for the fire demon or cyclone?

If not, call The Ballinger Insurance Agency for full information as to how to prepare against these evils

Ballinger Insurance Agency

T. J. GARDNER, Manager

Office with Bennett Abstract Co. Telephone No. 317

Usually there is no magic or secret about it. They have been trying all their lives to make friends. If they have anything to sell, whether a line of merchandise or personal services, a host of their neighbors around them are glad to turn things their way. Buying goods in one's home town is the simplest and easiest way to create helpful business relations. And it costs nothing

OTHER TEXAS SCHOOLS ARE SUFFERING.

Some are quick to criticize the school board for the short term of the Ballinger schools, and are pointing to other schools as an example of what the Ballinger schools should be.

They overlook the fact that there are many schools in Texas older than the Ballinger schools that are suffering just as much from short funds due to the fact that the scholastic census has increased faster than the revenue.

The Brownwood public schools have been kept up by private subscription, and payment of tuition in addition to the regular revenue for the past two or three years. The same is true of other schools we could name near Ballinger.

Texas as a whole is in bad shape from an educational standpoint, and if all the children of school age were in school the condition would become alarming. We have in Texas a half million children of school age who do not attend school. The census enumerators of one year ago reported that 42 per cent of our children of school age were not enrolled in any kind of school. The average annual attendance of those who do enter school is 56 days, and the state as a whole ranks 42nd with other states in this respect.

Seven per cent of the white and twenty-five per cent of the colored population of ten years of age and over in Texas is unable to read or write, and if

when they take their pocketbook and go away from home to spend their money with merchants who do not contribute one cent to such causes in this city or county.

The farmer who sells his produce to the local merchant and get everything in the way of favors that the local merchants has to offer, and who knows that the local merchant is his neighbor and will help him in time of trouble shows a disloyalty that is disgusting when he spends his money with mail order houses without even giving the local merchant a chance to quote him a price on the things he wants to buy.

There were several hundred catalogues distributed through the local post office this week, and several thousand distributed thru the post offices of this county. People will admire the pretty pictures and make up their orders from same and send their money to a man they never saw and never will see for some article that they could buy as cheap at home, and almost in every instance get a better quality. Why will they do it?

Community co-operation and the trade at home principle should be instilled into the younger generation for the future good of the country. It should be taught in the schools, provided you can get TEACHERS who will PRACTICE the principle.

OUR COURT RECORDS.

Fearing that Ballinger's fair name might become besmirched with bad court records, some have seen fit to criticize The Ledger for publishing daily the court proceedings for the present term of district court.

There are times when suppressing what is good news might be for the best interest of the town and the people in general, but court proceedings are made public when the cases are docketed, and every tax paper and low-abiding citizen is entitled to know what the court records of his

wards, keeping the records straight, and in its small way help to mould opinion that will be for moral up-lift and create sentiment that will make the atmosphere of this county anything but congenial for the man with criminal character.

Rank Foolishness

You occasionally see it stated that colds do not result from cold weather. That is rank foolishness. Were it true colds would be as prevalent in midsummer as in midwinter. A microbe that causes colds flourishes in damp, cold weather. To get rid of a cold take Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It is effectual and is highly recommended by people who have used it for many years as occasion required, and know its real value. Obtainable everywhere.

Letters from the People

Bad roads vex the spirit of man, to say nothing of the poor horse and the wear and tear of the conveyance. I hate a bad road thoroughly. I hate to be caught out on a cold rainy night on a bad road. A real bad road and a real balky team are about the aggravatingest thing in this world. A man that is tormented with bad roads and balky teams in this world will never make a good citizen in the world to come. He's soured and disqualified. Many a good horse has gotten many a bad beating on account of bad roads.

I can haul my crop to market every fall \$20.00 cheaper on good roads than I can on bad roads. I have figured it out. Now, if you had \$100.00 would you not be willing to give 15 cents of it to have a good road to travel over for a whole year? A man that wouldn't do that hasn't as much sense as a sandhill crane.

If I had a horse and buggy worth \$200.00 don't you think I would pay a 30 cent tax for a

CLEANSSES YOUR HAIR MAKES IT BEAUTIFUL THICK, GLOSSY, WAVY

Try this! All dandruff disappears and hair stops coming out.

Surely try a "Danderine Hair Cleanse" if you wish to immediately double the beauty of your hair. Just moisten a cloth with Danderine, and draw it carefully through your hair, taking one small strand at a time; this will cleanse the hair of dust, dirt or any excessive oil—in a few minutes you will be amazed. Your hair will be wavy, fluffy and abundant and possess an incomparable softness, lustre and luxuriance.

Besides beautifying the hair, one application of Danderine dissolves every particle of dandruff; invigorates the scalp, stopping itching and falling hair.

Danderine is to the hair what fresh showers of rain and sunshine are to vegetation. It goes right to the roots, invigorates and strengthens them. Its exhilarating, stimulating and life-producing properties cause the hair to grow long, strong and beautiful.

You can surely have pretty, soft, lustrous hair, and lots of it, if you will just get a 25-cent bottle of Knowlton's Danderine from any drug store or toilet counter and try it as directed.

R. W. Smith of Brownwood, who had been looking after his farm interests in the Valley Creek country, left for his home Saturday afternoon. Mr. Smith says he has 540 acres on his farm broken and in good shape for planting and out of this amount has 250 acres planted in oats, though the ground is still dry, and oats will not come up until it rains.

the business men or people in town, but stated that he would return here before the campaign closed and spend a day or more in placing before the people some of the principles for which he stood in his race for congress.

Traveling in a jitney Judge Blanton is perhaps making one of the most thorough canvass ever made for a congressional office. He says that a representative should know his district and meet the people and know their needs if he expects to represent them in congress, and he said that he would be elected by a large majority. "I only lost Rannels county by a small vote last campaign," said Judge Blanton, "and I expect to not only carry the county this time, but I will carry the Ballinger box. I am meeting with the greatest encouragement, and as fast as the people learn something of my platform they assure me of their support."

Judge Blanton spoke at length Thursday night and said in part: "A representative should know his district and people they should know him. Small communities are entitled to consideration, and should not be ignored. If elected, I shall devote spare time to visiting my district, studying its needs, shall represent all classes alike, and give my time, brain and energy to their service."

"I am for a tariff for revenue only, but with schedules watched so as to safeguard the great cattle, sheep and mohair industries of the southwest.

"National banks should be subjected to the usury penalty prescribed by each state, but permitted a reasonable minimum charge.

"President Wilson merits the confidence of a peace-loving people. He has guided our ship of State around every hidden rock. In the present crisis to criticize him just now smacks of treason to one's country. I am for defensive preparedness, manufacturing our own munitions, maintaining a merchant marine, an honest

\* POLITICAL ANNOUNCEMENTS. \* All Copy for Political Announcements must be accompanied by Cash.

Subject to the action of the Democratic Primary, July 25th:

- For District Judge of the 35th Judicial District: J. O. WOODWARD, JOHN W. GOODWIN. Representative 111th District: WALACE E. HAWKINS. For County Clerk: W. C. MCCARVER, C. C. COCKRELL, H. G. SECRET. A. L. SPANN. For Tax Assessor: C. C. SCHUCHARD, T. H. CURRY, JOE TURNER, WILLIE STEPHENS, L. R. LITTLE. For County Attorney: C. P. SHEPHERD. For County Treasurer: W. L. BROWN. For Tax Collector: W. T. PADGETT, M. D. CHASTAIN, JOHN BALLEW. For Sheriff: J. D. PERKINS, E. F. (Earl) EDWARDS. For County Judge: O. L. PARISH, C. H. WILLINGHAM, W. D. JENNINGS. For District Clerk: (Miss) MARY PHILLIPS. For County Superintendent of Schools: W. W. WOOTEN, E. L. HAGAN. For Commissioner Prec. No. 1: E. C. MOOR, R. P. KIRK. For Commissioner Prec. No. 3: J. D. SMITH. For Commissioner Prec. No. 4: C. N. CRAFT, J. W. JONES

# Hall Hardware Co.

Ballinger, Texas

Headquarters For

## STANDARD IMPLEMENTS

Just received another car load of the famous "crop-makers," Standard Disc Plows, Standard Disc Harrows, with seeders. A complete tin shop in connection, send us your orders for cisterns, tanks, troughs, gutter work and everything in this line. Prompt attention to orders, quick service and full values. We solicit your orders, and will appreciate your business

# Hall Hardware Co.

## 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.

## New Cornice Brake Installed. CONTRACTORS

Get your cornice, gutters, ridgeroll, or any kind of special tinwork from us. Save trouble and time and get it at home.

### We Repair Windmills

Repairing pumps, windmills, tanks, troughs, etc, is done by men who know. Call us for your trouble.

## Dunn and Glenn

Telephone No. 22 Ballinger, Texas

## For Reliable Abstract Work See SECURITY TITLE CO.

"Blue Back Abstracts" and Conveyancing.

## 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

## RUNNELS CO., PECAN NURSERY

S. B. Howard, Mgr. 107 N. 12th Street

OUR TREES ARE NOW READY FOR DELIVERY. THEY SHOULD BE SET OUT DURING PRESENT MONTH. WE HAVE A FINE LOT OF BUDDED AND GRAFTED TREES ON THREE YEAR OLD ROOTS.

S. B. HOWARD, Ballinger, Tex.

## 343 CHILDREN TO REMAIN IN SCHOOL

Superintendent Fleming reported Tuesday at noon that the faculty of the schools would meet after the close of the schools for the day, and determine among themselves who of their would remain on the job for the additional six week to be taught to make up the regular term and give the pupils who remain in school the privilege of completing the course of study outlined for the term.

Mr. Fleming reported that out of 648 letters sent out to the patrons of the schools, 343 had expressed a desire to keep their children in school and pay tuition as outlined in the letter, 239 had answered "no," and 102 had not responded to the letters.

It is now the plan of the superintendent to take care of all those who have agreed to remain in school until the close of the term at the Central and High school buildings, and the South and West Ward schools will close on April 7th, and the pupils from those schools who will remain in school will be transferred to the Central school.

Superintendent Fleming stated that all grades would be taught on full day terms, and those who have been attending only a half day will be enrolled for the full day.

Of course the 239 who have answered "no" and the 102 who have not answered at all will suffer as result of being taken from the school before the term work is completed, but it is an unfortunate circumstance for which no one can be held responsible, and the patrons of the schools can not expect the teachers to teach without pay. It is to be regretted that the work could not continue on for the full term without a break. The school board is looking ahead and we believe that we can say now that the next term will be for the full nine months without a hitch.

## CHICHESTER'S PILLS

THE DIAMOND BRAND. Ladies! 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.

## PLACES UNFORTUNATE MAN IN ASYLUM

Deputy Sheriff DeMouville returned at noon Friday from Austin, where he went to place Dr. Zachery in the asylum. Mr. DeMouville had no trouble with the unfortunate man, and it is believed that Dr. Zachery will be restored to health after a few months treatment.

## BALLINGER MARBLE & GRANITE WORKS

We are opening a marble yard in Ballinger and will have a car of marble here and be ready to deliver goods at an early date. In the mean time we are ready to quote you prices and take your orders. Until we can get a permanent location and get our stock here please leave your name at W. B. Wood & Son grocery store and we will call on you. WELLHAUSEN & CORNELIUS. 17-wt.

## NEW POISON RECIPES FOR PESTS.

The Business League has on hand a considerable number of sheets giving new poison recipes now being sent out by the U. S. Government for the destruction of jack rabbits, pocket gophers, prairie dogs, and rats. Call for one. They are free.

## 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.

B. J. Clayton of the Benoit country, T. J. Parish of the Concho country, M. E. Harrell of the Hatchel country, August and H. B. Halfmann and A. A. Kahlig, of the Olfin-Rowena country, were among the business visitors in Ballinger Monday.

S. W. Bridwell, of the Winters country, passed through Ballinger Tuesday en route to Hunt and Fannin counties for a visit of two weeks with relatives. Mr. Bridwell has been a resident of this county for nine years and he is not worrying about the little drouth that prevails at present.

## OFFERS CONSOLATION TO NEW COMERS

Editor Ledger:—Knowing how gloomy I felt the first year I farmed in Runnels County, I wish to offer a word of consolation to new comers. In the spring of my first experience farming here it didn't rain enough to wet a gnat until the 6th of June. The wind blew and the skies were dry and brassy. The gravel beat me in the face and I thought sure my family would suffer for necessities.

But let me tell you something, gentlemen. It never gets so dry in Runnels county but that it gets wet and very wet again. I made fine feed crops on . . . my first year from the rain in June and subsequent rains.

That year the ground never was wet more than 16 inches deep, by actual measurement.

I made that crop on a surface season and there was no underground season to start with as there is now.

The earth is full of water. All we need is some copious showers to bring up the crops. Go right ahead and plant in the dust. Some of the best cotton I have ever raised was dry planted. But be sure the furrow is dry—absolutely dry. There is always three times as much moisture as we think. If we stay with the soil of Runnels county in dry weather it will stick to us in west. I farmed an eighth of a century on the heavy black waxy land, \$100 land, in Central Texas, but the heaviest yields I ever produced was in Runnels county. One year I made 134 bales of cotton with half the labor and expense that would have been required down among the niggers and chiggers.

Listen here, men: Last year I made a concrete and final test on a block of Runnels County land consisting of 80 acres.

Every lick of labor was hired done and one fourth the crop was taken out for the use of the land which was over \$5.00 per acre, and after all expenses were deducted except the seeding, the net proceeds amounted to \$766.26. It is not necessary that these figures should be verified. Those who know "Uncle" know that they are absolutely correct and this pays 10 per cent interest on \$50 land while the land can be bought for \$30.00.

If there are skeptics, I refer without permission but with pleasure to Hon. H. Giesecke, my friend, of Ballinger, who collected the rent and B. V. Simpson, a neighbor and Christian gentleman who had entire charge of the crop from planting to marketing. UNCLE JOHNNIE.

State of Ohio, City of Toledo, Lucas County, ss

Frank J. Cheney makes oath that he is senior partner of the firm of F. J. Cheney & Co., doing business in the City of Toledo, County and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of One Hundred Dollars for each and every case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by the use of HALL'S CATARRH CURE. FRANK J. CHENEY.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D. 1886. (Seal) A. W. GLEASON, Notary Public.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally and acts directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Send for testimonials, free. F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. Sold by all Druggists, 75c. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

## LIGHT AND POWER MAN LEASES HOME HERE.

M. F. Treadwell, manager of the Ballinger Light and Power Co., has leased the W. A. Gustavus Sr., home and will move his family here at once. Mr. Gustavus has broke up house-keeping and will make his home with his son, Nez Gustavus.

GO TO—Ballinger Saddlery Mfg. Co., successors to T. S. Lank ford for Saddles, Harness, etc Complete line of Saddlery goods and accessories. Shoe work and general repairing our specialty. E. J. CATHEY, Mgr.

## NEW TIME TABLE.

Effective last Sunday, March 12th the Abilene and Southern changed its time table as follows: Train No. 16, leaves Ballinger 6:30 a. m. No. 20 leaves Ballinger at 1:34 p. m. No. 19 reaches Ballinger at 12:05 p. m. and No. 15 reaches Ballinger at 6:55 p. m.

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

I guarantee "Dodson's Liver Tone" will give you the best Liver and Bowel cleansing you ever had.

Stop using calomel! It makes you sick. Don't lose a day's work if you feel lazy, sluggish, bilious or constipated, listen to me!

Calomel is mercury or quick-silver 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 "all knocked out," if your liver is torpid and bowels constipated, or if you have headache, dizziness coated tongue, if breath is bad, or stomach sour just try 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 real liver medicine; entirely vegetable, therefore it cannot 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 the children. It is harmless; doesn't gripe and they like its pleasant taste.

## JONAS-WARREN

At the home of the brides' father, J. E. Warren down the river seven miles, Rev. G. W. Newman spoke the beautiful words that united in marriage Mr. John Jonas and Miss Trilby T. Warren Sunday afternoon, March 19th.

They are two of Runnels county's favorite young people and have a host of friends that joins The Ledger in congratulations and best wishes for a long, happy and prosperous married life.

Mrs. Henry, of Coleman, was the guest of her friend Mrs. Elmer Simpson and family and returned home Saturday.

We are glad to learn that R. A. Nicholson, who was operated upon at Temple a week ago, is doing very nicely and hopes to be able to return home the latter part of this week.

## CASTORIA

For Infants and Children In Use For Over 30 Years

Always bears the Signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher*

J. P. Martindale, the news dealer and confectioner, has accepted the agency for a line of Celebrated pianos and will have an ad in the Ledger in a few days calling your attention to the same.

Mrs. J. P. Brooks and three children, of Miles, came in Monday afternoon to visit her parents Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Stocks a few days.

Victor Mica, of the Olfin country, was transacting business in Ballinger Monday and renewed with the Banner-Ledger for the ensuing year.

## When to Take Chamberlain's Tablets.

When you feel dull and stupid after eating.  
When constipated or bilious.  
When you have a sick headache.  
When you have a sour stomach.  
When you belch after eating.  
When you have indigestion.  
When nervous or despondent.  
When you have no relish for your meals.  
When your liver is torpid.  
Obtainable everywhere

## Union Wagon Yard

I take this method to let the public know I have bought the Union Wagon Yard and will appreciate your patronage and best of service promised.

W. B. Harriss 10th Street, Ballinger

## Effective January 10th, 1916 To all Patrons of The Leach Auto Works

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# THE GIRL AND THE GAME

## A STORY OF MOUNTAIN RAILROAD LIFE

By FRANK H. SPEARMAN

AUTHOR OF "WHISPERING SMITH," "THE MOUNTAIN DIVIDE," "STRATEGY OF GREAT RAILROADS," ETC.

NOVELIZED FROM THE MOVING PICTURE PLAY OF THE SAME NAME. PRODUCED BY THE SIGNAL FILM CORPORATION.

SYNOPSIS.

Little Helen Holmes, daughter of General Holmes, railroad man, is rescued from imminent danger on a scenic railroad by George Storm, a newsboy. Crowned to young womanhood, Helen saves Storm, now a fireman, her father, and his friends, Amos Rhinelander, financier, and Robert Seagrue, promoter, from a threatened collision. Safebreakers employed by Seagrue steal General Holmes' survey plans of the cut-off line for the Tidewater, fatally wound the general and escape. Her father's estate badly involved by his death, Helen goes to work on the Tidewater. Helen recovers the survey plans from Seagrue, and though they are taken from her, finds an accidentally made proof of the survey blueprint. Storm is employed by Rhinelander, Spike, befriended by Helen, in turn saves her and the right-of-way contracts when Seagrue kidnaps her. Helen and Storm win for Rhinelander a race against Seagrue for right-of-way. Helen, Storm and Rhinelander rescue Spike from Seagrue's men. Spike steals records to protect Rhinelander and Storm and Helen saves Spike from death in the burning of the courthouse.

### ELEVENTH INSTALLMENT

#### Salting of the Superstition Mine.

Outwitted in his effort to obtain possession of the coveted right-of-way record and defeated once more in his plans through the failure of Spike to betray those who had befriended him, Seagrue's wrath concentrated on Spike as being chiefly responsible for his discomfiture.

But standing in the room which had just been the scene of his last defeat, Seagrue felt that he could at least enjoy revenge. Helen, Storm and Rhinelander were still facing him, with Spike near, and the sheriff was just leaving the room when Seagrue called to him. As he did so, he drew from his pocket a worn pamphlet and handed it ostentatiously to the sheriff. "There's something of interest to you!"

"What do you mean?" returned the official jocularly. He glanced at the pamphlet, saw set forth on the cover a reward of five hundred dollars offered for the apprehension of Spike and laughed: "We see these things every day," said he, handing it back to Seagrue. "If I were to chase up all of the pointers I get like that, my salary wouldn't buy gasoline."

"You don't have to burn any gasoline to get this money," retorted Seagrue. "Your man is right here."

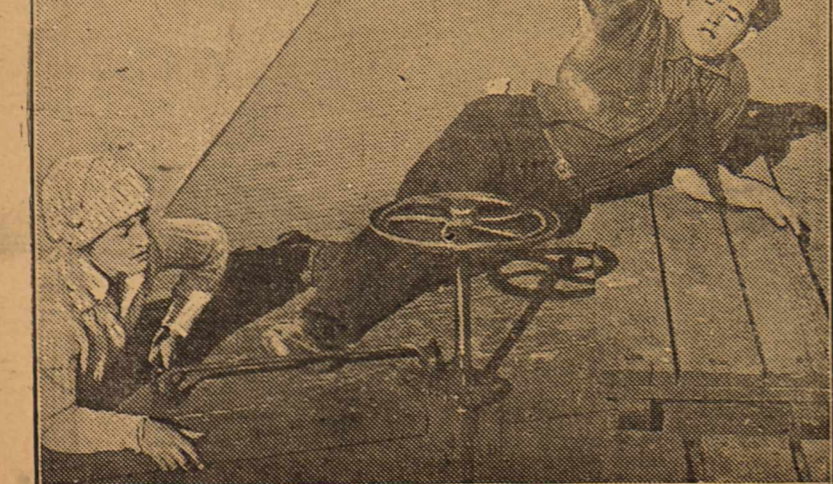
"Where?" demanded the sheriff skeptically.

Seagrue pointed to Spike. "That is the man," he said coldly.

Spike decided the game was up. He made a bolt for the door. The sheriff stopped him.

The moment was an unpleasant one. Helen was furious. "Of all the mean things you've ever done," she said to Seagrue, "this is about the meanest. I should think you would want to go and hide yourself," she exclaimed with cutting emphasis, "from the sight of all living men."

Stung, Seagrue retorted in like: "That sounds fine from your lips, Miss Helen Holmes! It's a new role for you to become the champion of prison birds like this fellow." He nodded in solently towards Spike. "Especially," he added, "since this very man"—he pointed a finger relentlessly at Spike—"this very man," he almost thundered, "was implicated in the death of your own father!" He meant, with his retort, to beat poor Helen to the ground. He almost did so.



The Fight on Top of the Train Was Vicious.

pointed to the last spot at which they had got high-grade quartz.

The expert stooped and took up a handful of rock from the ground. Answering Seagrue, in reply to a hopeful question, he shook his head. "I doubt very much," said he, after the two had canvassed the matter from all sides, "if it is possible to recover the vein."

At the entrance to the shaft Seagrue dismissed his own two men and turned to the expert. They talked together a few moments. The mining man saw what was in Seagrue's mind and was not surprised a moment later to hear him say, without further beating about the bush: "If I can get a bidder for the mine, I'll pay five thousand dollars for a good report on it."

Each understood the other as they left the scene together. And summoning his men, Bill and Lug, and getting into his motor car with the expert, Seagrue drove away toward Las Vegas. The machine was stopped a little distance from Rhinelander's camp and Seagrue on a scratch pad wrote a note to Amos Rhinelander. Giving this to Lug, he directed him to deliver it. He then told Bill to drive back to town.

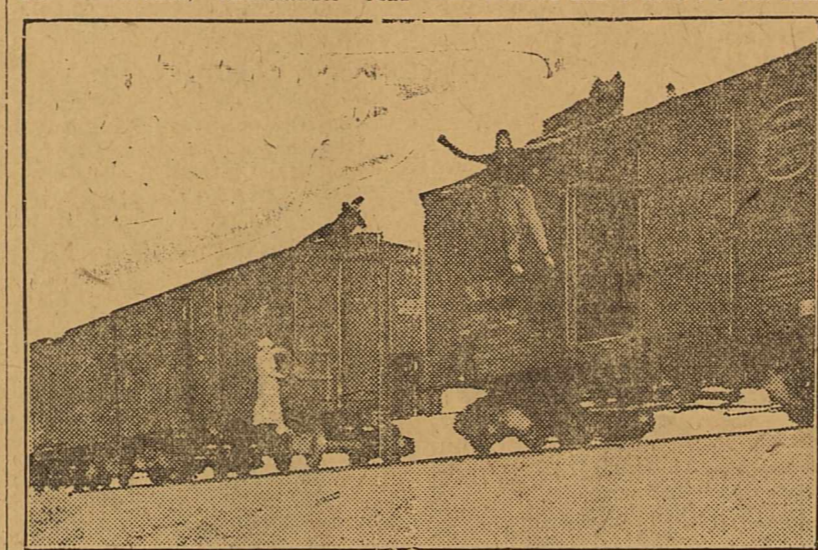
Helen, cut to pieces over the disclosure of Spike's complicity in the death of her father, returned with Rhinelander and Storm to the construction camp. Storm offered such consolation as he could, but this was very little. And it was almost a relief to him when Rhinelander directed him to see about getting the men to work.

Rhinelander himself was watching the progress of the construction a little while later when Lug handed him Seagrue's note.

Dear Rhinelander: Without a cutoff we cannot operate the Superstition mine profitably. This would make a good investment for your company and I am giving you the first chance to bid for it.

Yours, SEAGRUE.

Rhinelander, somewhat puzzled, read the note over two or three times. He dismissed Lug with the verbal message to Seagrue that he would look into it, and calling Storm and Helen to conference, Rhinelander read



Jumped With a Cry of Alarm From the Top of the Car.

them the note and its contents were put under discussion.

"Do you suppose," asked Rhinelander, "that he means what he says?" "It might be," ventured Helen, reflectively. "Certainly we know he is about defeated in his construction race. And if he's beaten on the railroad proposition, why shouldn't he want to get rid of his mining property?"

"The Superstition mine," observed Rhinelander, "has always been a good producer."

At the mine matters were being pushed rapidly forward for the selling campaign. Driving back with Bill and Lug, Seagrue had summoned the foreman, bidden him dismiss the men and dispatched his own two worthies to the surface for bags of ore. In the meantime he and his foreman began to get the rock ready. Bill and Lug returned presently from the bag pile, each of them bearing a sack of ore. Lug was sent for more, while the others deposited the rich quartz in readiness for Rhinelander's examination.

At the assay office in Las Vegas, Rhinelander, accompanied by Storm and Helen, was looking for the expert. Rhinelander held a brief conference with him, telling him what was wanted and asking whether he could accompany him on a trip to the Superstition mine. The expert raised some objection, professing other work on hand, but was finally induced to yield and Storm was sent to procure a motor car in which the party embarked on its return. The orders were to drive straight to the Superstition mine. Seagrue was almost ready for visitors. After an hour's hard work with his men, who had been distributing the sacks and rolling the rich ore in among the worthless rock, he directed them to get ready for a blasting. The foreman took a single charge and put Bill and Lug to work on it.

Seagrue left the tunnel, the foreman remaining under his orders to hurry the shot. The moment Bill was ready, Lug got the dynamite, set the fuse and completed the preparations. Outside, Seagrue, to his delight, saw Rhinelander and his party driving up. Greetings were exchanged, somewhat stiffly, after the recent encounter of the parties, but without dissension in the presence of the expert, and all started together for the tunnel.

With Rhinelander asking questions every few steps, the expert explained as they walked down the tunnel, the character of the formation and recited something of the history of the mine, with which he admitted he was familiar. It all sounded encouraging. By the time the group had reached the end of the main tunnel Bill and Lug had disappeared from sight. The foreman

called in a couple of men and when Seagrue asked Rhinelander if he would like to have it fired, and upon Rhinelander's assent, the party got into safety and the shot was discharged.

Coming out of their retreat, the different members of the group picked up specimens of the shattered ore and examined it.

"Certainly, Helen," said Rhinelander in an undertone, "this looks good." The expert was at hand with a handful of quartz. "That stuff," he said, showing it to the prospective buyer with an air of certainty, "will average two hundred dollars to the ton."

Helen and Storm consulted together, Seagrue watching. In a moment he asked them and Rhinelander to follow him outside. Leaving the shaft, he took the three to the bag pile.

"These sacks," said he to Rhinelander, "contain high-grade ore, ready for shipment to the smelter. They are to be included in whatever deal I make with a buyer for the mine."

Rhinelander, Storm and Helen continued to discuss the purchase apart. They counted the number of bags. Rhinelander made an effort to roughly reckon the value of them, Seagrue and the expert talking together the while some little distance away. A further conference with Seagrue disclosed that the price he wanted for the mine was one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. After the usual bargaining, Rhinelander proposed to take the property, including the ore ready for the wagons, at one hundred and ten thousand dollars—twenty-five thousand dollars to be paid down. Seagrue accepted, Rhinelander made out his check and the transaction was complete, Rhinelander only requesting that the foreman keep the men at work until he should have a chance to get started. This was assented to and Storm was placed temporarily in charge of the mine.

While the negotiations had been taking shape, a freight train had pulled in a few miles distant at Valley station, where the crew set out an empty box car for loading. A teamster from the mine was summoned by the agent who handed him a note for the mine

foreman. When the teamster reached the mine, the new purchasers were taking possession. He handed the message to the foreman. The foreman read: Have empty box car here for high-grade ore. Send it down right away and local will pick the car up this P. M. He turned to Rhinelander, showing him the message and pointing to the sacks ready for shipment. Rhinelander was willing to ship the ore ready for the wagons at once. "All right," he said, nodding to the foreman. "Send what you have to the smelter right away."

Storm was given authority to put this part of the job through as quickly as possible. While the details were being talked over between Rhinelander and his assistant, neither of them noticed that they were overheard by Seagrue's tools, Bill and Lug, who now decided that there might be a chance to break into the mining business at their own proper risk and for their own private account. When Seagrue called them from the discussion of their ambitious project, he gave orders to Bill to drive back to Las Vegas. Reaching the station he took the train for the city.

With their boss out of the way, his two worthies thought the moment opportune for their own plans and taking the machine they started back for the mine.

Wagons—conveyed by two guards carrying sawed-off shotguns—had been loaded at the mine with the valuable quartz ore. They had reached Valley and while the teamsters were loading the sacks into the box car the two guards found a shady spot under the car door. The wagon had been under surveillance for some time by the Seagrue crooks, Bill and Lug, who were secreted a mile away in the bed of a wash. The two waited patiently until the wagon had been unloaded and started back to the mine. Then scouting their way cautiously down the siding, the thieves, creeping under the farther side of the box car, surprised the guards, disarmed and bound them. Having done this without loss of time, they went to work loading the last of the quartz into the car.

But the guards, though taken unawares, proved no fools. One of them, working quickly and quietly with his hands got his hands partly loose; in the next moment he had freed his feet. Without betraying himself, he rolled close to his companion—a fat man—bade him turn to him back to back and was releasing him when a shout from Bill warned him he had been seen.

There was no time for hesitation. Springing to his feet the free guard fished down the road, Bill opening fire on him as he fled. Bill and Lug, dragging the fat guard down hill, hid him in a ravine near the side track. The two then hiding in turn, watched the train as it stopped at the station below. The agent came out of the office after a few minutes. When the conductor asked about the car the agent and he walked together over to it. They saw it would not be ready to start for some time. The predicament in which the thieves now found themselves was an awkward one. They knew full well that Storm, the minute the escaped guard reached the mine, would be after them with men as fast as horses could travel.

But Bill, the craftier of the pair, thought that by working quick they still might make it. Between the siding and the main line were two cables used by the teamsters to switch cars with and they gave him an idea. Pointing to the cables on the ground, he outlined his suggestion to Lug: "There's one way to work it, Lug, and just one—"

Lug, like another Watson, stared at his companion until he should hear more. "We must drop this car into the train," explained Bill. "Throw the ore out on the right of way as we run along and pick it up afterwards with the machine. See?"

Together they crossed over to where the train stood, pulled a pin in the middle of the swing and attached the longer of the cables securely between the two sections of the train thus cut in two. The second cable was attached to the hind end car of the first cut, and fastened to the partly loaded box car on the side track. The plotters then rested.

The conductor, deciding there was no use waiting longer for the box car, was making ready to go without it. The head-end brakeman signaled the cab and the train pulled out. As the slack was taken up the box car answered first to the strain on the shorter cable and with a jerk started down the siding. Approaching the switch, as its momentum increased, it sprung the connecting rods and swung in on the main line contact, as Bill had intended, between the two sections of the train.

When the engineer shut off to coast down the grade the three sections came together and the train, except for the absence of air in the hind end of the train line pipe, was complete.

The escaped guard, running every step of the way to sound the alarm, had by this time arrived exhausted at the mine. At the foot of the aerial railway he found Storm with Helen watching the ore come down. Grasping the situation from the disconnected words the man was able to utter, Storm dashed into the chemist's office close at hand and seized a Winchester rifle. Helen sprang to a team and empty wagon, waiting for a load, and climbing up to the seat seized the reins at the moment Storm, rifle in hand, ran out of the office to join her. She lashed the horses forward and headed with a very different load from what they had expected, for Valley. Bill and his confederate in the box car, elated by their huge success, looked out of the side door for observers and seeing none, began to dump the sacks of precious quartz one after another out on the right of way.

But it was a day of surprises for everybody. The agent at Valley—who had asked to be sent out to the desert on account of his rheumatism—was peacefully lighting his pipe, after the one great event of the day—the departure of the local freight—when he heard somewhere out of doors an unwonted rumble. It grew and still it grew and the next moment a team, helter skelter on the run dashed down the road from the Superstition mine toward the depot. In a moment he was dumfounded to recognize in the man behind the threatening rifle as he drew close, his old acquaintance in the Oceanside yards, George Storm, the ex-engineer.

Could George Storm have turned bandit? Was he running amuck? Would he take the life of an old and unoffending friend without provocation? These and similar queries raced through his head when Storm, addressing him with a shout by an old-time familiar nickname, asked where the box car of ore was, that had stood on the siding.

The agent now saw everything double but look as he would he could see no car. Not until now had he given the presence of the box car a thought. He knew the train had not taken it because it was not ready. He knew the conductor had started without it—but where was it? The car of ore had disappeared completely.

Storm was talking fast and the situation was made clearer to the startled agent when he learned the wagon guards had been held up. To Helen, who thought in tremendous ellipses and reached the end of situations before others had charted their beginnings, there was only one possible solution to the mystery and to solve it they must chase the freight train. She so declared and Storm approved.

That day mere chance, which had so often contributed to the discomfiture of Storm and Helen, came to their aid. The freight train stopped at Arden for water. This embarrassed Lug and Bill, who, perspiring at every pore, were catching handfuls of quartz as fast as they could along the track. What was of more moment, the engineer's stop for water enabled Helen and Storm with their team to gain on the train.

Helen rose in her seat. "Drive close, George," she cried. "I can make the train from here and give the alarm."



Bill Sullenly Gave In.

"Don't attempt it." Before he could make a successful effort to stop her she jumped from the teamster's seat to the side ladder of the nearest box car.

The watchful thieves, whose attention had already been drawn to the pursuing wagon, decided it was time to make a getaway. Bill started out of the car, but a shot from Storm, who saw the move and recognized the criminal, was warning enough to Bill. He hastily dodged inside and led the way to the little square door at the end of the car. Out of this, followed by Lug, he crawled to make the top of the train.

Storm, determining to be in at the finish, saw only one way of compassing his resolve. He took from the box seat the driver's rope and as the team dashed alongside the train, Storm swung the rope in a loop over the nearest brakewheel, secured his rifle and swinging over from the wagon made his way, hand over hand to the train before it had quite pulled away from the running horses.

Helen was springing along toward the head end of the train. Gaining it she made explanation to the crew and with them started back.

Bill and Lug gained the top of a car just as Helen and the engine crew came back. The bandits whipped out their guns, held the party up and drove them back. The conductor and brakeman coming forward were treated in the same manner. But there were too many now for the two men to watch and while they were forcing the engine crew with Helen back to the cab, the train crew fell on Bill and Lug. The fight on the top of the train was vicious. Bill managed to break away from his captors, but both men in the scrimmage had lost their guns and with Lug after him Bill ran forward. The engine crew, seeing the move, put on all speed to hold the men if possible to the deck.

Helen had started back to help when she saw the desperadoes coming her way. Dropping in between two cars she cut off the head end and it pulled rapidly from the train. With hope of escape in that direction defeated Bill and Lug turned on their pursuers. The encounter was short and terribly sharp. Lug was captured but Bill with superhuman strength managed to get away from his assailants and springing forward jumped with a cry of defiance from the top of the car into a barrow pit below.

Helen on the head end of the rear section saw his escape. As fast as she could climb down she dropped off a side ladder and started after Bill; the engineer, seeing the issue of the fight behind, now slowed down. Helen, followed by the train crew, led the chase for Bill. He turned on her with an ugly oath, but for all his threats she sprang into him like a wild cat and he found it impossible to get successfully away from her. She was on his heels every minute, delaying his flight, while with oaths and blows he endeavored to be rid of her. By the time he had finally overpowered her the train crew was on his back. And at their heels came Storm with his Winchester.

Exhausted by the struggle against too many odds, Bill sullenly gave in. The conductor stopped the brakeman from mauling him further and with their prisoner in front and Storm as guard, the party started back for the train. Helen waited to see the discomfited thieves placed safely in custody within the caboose and boarding herself with Storm's assistance, laughingly, as was her wont, received her congratulations of her companions in her success. The engineer already had his orders as to what to do and when the last of the party climbed aboard, the train was started slowly back to find the team and the fat fellow who had been tumbled into the ravine. It was feared he had been hurt, but on being released he asked for nothing more than a fresh chew of tobacco. When Lug and Bill were led and thrown into the wagon to be taken back to the mine, he had his revenge by sitting on the two malefactors alternately.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)