

AROUND THE SQUARE

Weather conditions at this time are not too favorable for planting a garden. First place we haven't had enough rain to sprout a seed, even if we had planted one. Also we are having too much wind. Right now you can take a riddle and knock water out of the atmosphere, but not enough to do a garden any good.

And during the past ten days it has been too hot to work, even if we were otherwise inclined. Here in February we are having real summer heat. As we write these lines the thermometer is standing at near 70 degrees, and during the night it didn't get lower than 65 degrees.

So if we planted and had plenty of rain, we would live in agony, common sense tells us that it is bound to get cold enough to kill any tender sprouts. As a matter of fact we have no rain, and as we look back a few months to water bills in the \$14 class, we know we are not going to buy any more of Mr. Heck's synthetic liquid to force our garden to grow. It can be done alright (if you don't get caught) but this ambrosia-like liquid that comes from a pipe is too expensive to pour on a garden. You would have to get at least \$3 for a fair sized tomato, and green onions would be six-bits each. Beans would be priced by the dozen okra would sell by the karat.

These and a few other problems arise every time we think of a garden. There is nothing to be made by planting a garden, if the elements are against you. Would be cheaper to import our vegetables from the South Sea Islands, and have them delivered by first class mail, than to grow them here without water.

Of course a good rain and a freeze or two might change our mind, yet we can never forget that there is a lot of real hard work attached to growing a garden. In earlier days when the other half of our family was younger and stronger, it didn't matter so much, but present indications are that we ever have another garden we may have to do the work ourselves. And brother that would be bad.

We remember growing alfalfa out West of Pecos at one time. We had good land, plenty of water and an ideal climate. They got five to seven crops each year, and thought we were succeeding in the line of agriculture, when we discovered we had to chase the rattlesnakes out of the field before we could hire a man to cut it. We never did like those "boogers" and certainly never exposed our graceful form to them. We turned in a bunch of cows and let them mow it. Those that were tough enough to whip a rattler, or were immune to their bite, grew fat and sassy—the others made us one of the best customers for a rendering plant.

So if you wish to make money in the cattle business, you will find it more profitable to sell them alive, rather than to a rendering plant.

We may be a little hard of hearing, but we can hear a rattlesnake's buzz if he is within a mile of us. We jump just as high as we can and start running or flying, and by the time we land, we are over in the next county.

If those babies had wings they would be the most dangerous things on earth, but just as long as they must crawl and jump, they are not much worse than an atom bomb. But at that we have killed many rattlers during our hectic career here on earth. The way we kill them is with heel-just—choke them to death as we make our getaway.

Once we killed one with a shot gun, but took the precaution of emptying both barrels in him at once. They never found the snake, but did find us the next day wedged in a pile of brush over in the next section, where the gun had kicked us. After that we went in for smaller arms—a .22 to be exact, and we were always afraid to shoot it.

We still have more respect for a gun than a politician does for the average voter. We simply do not relish the idea of looking at the business end of it. There are times the wife says we are afraid of everything—just a plain coward and we don't have enough nerve to tell her she is wrong.

We adopted a "cutting and shooting policy" when we were a kid. We called a fellow we figured we could whip him a liar and thief. Well, he changed our mind and our "nug." When he let us up we "cut" down the alley and "shot" home. This policy has saved us many a mauling.

COVERED WAGON DAYS
MT. PLEASANT, N. C.—Mrs. Abbie Hamilton, 63, of Muskogee, Mich., recently stopped here to visit relatives during a tour around the country in her prairie schooner. She prefers travel in the covered wagon because she says she can go places with it that would be denied to motorists.

HEADS UP!
Here comes the New Rocket OSBORNE MOTOR COMPANY Eastland, Texas

Eastland Telegram

AND WEEKLY CHRONICLE
VOLUME TWENTY-FOUR No. 182 EASTLAND, TEXAS, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1953 PRICE FIVE CENTS

Boy Scout Troop Entertained By The Lions Club

Twenty-eight Boy Scouts, members of Troop 103, a Lion Club sponsored organization, were guests of the club at the noon-day luncheon Tuesday. A few of the Scout members were absent.

Scoutmaster Johnny Collins, and leader James Reed are largely responsible for the success of this organization, although there are others who have contributed time and money.

George Harris was called upon to tell about the Boy Scout National Ranch, Philmont, located in New Mexico. The ranch contains some 90,000 acres and is ideally located for just such a purpose. It came as a gift from Mr. Phillips, an Oklahoma oil man.

Boys from many states over the union visit the ranch each year, and find it, what Indians might term a "happy hunting ground." It is so large that should a hundred groups might arrive on any given day, and they would in no way be crowded, but rather each troop would have at least a thousand acres on which to pitch camp.

There are a number of buildings on the ranch—regular headquarters, and boys may buy most anything they may wish. Individual cost for a short vacation for the Scouts, is very nominal.

Harris' speech was educational and entertaining as well.

Rotarian George I. Lane was a club guest who asked for two minutes time in which to make a speech. This was granted and d George told Lions that all he wanted was about \$35 to help put over Eastland's Livestock Show. Most likely he will get the money—always has.

Lions will have their regular meeting at the church next Tuesday, but the following week there is to be a joint session with Rotarians at the hotel.

Admiral Nunn Brother of Mrs. D. L. Kinnaird

When Chas S. Thomas of Los Angeles, took the oath of office Monday, as undersecretary of the Navy, the oath was administered by Rear Admiral Ira H. Nunn, Navy judge advocate general.

Admiral Nunn is a brother of Mrs. Don L. Kinnaird of 702 Moss, Eastland. We understand he has visited in this section of Texas, though is a native of Arkansas. A 3-column picture in Tuesday morning's Star-Telegram depicted the scene.

Stanley Webbs Appear On Olden Baptist Program

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Webb of Cisco, had the opening program at Olden Baptist Training Union Sunday evening. They sang two numbers.

Travis Reese, is Training Union Director. The Sunday School held first services in the recently completed educational building, when young people, accompanied by their superintendent, Mrs. Alfred Nelson, held their classes in the building.

North Carolina manufactures more wooden furniture than any other state.



REPORT—Immediately upon returning to Washington from an 11-day tour of Western European Capitals, Secy. of State John Foster Dulles, left, and Foreign Aid Chief Harold Stassen, right, report the results of their trip to President Eisenhower at his office in the White House.

Lanny Sledge's Steer Places In Houston Show

Lanny Sledge of Ranger was awarded 38th place for his Hereford Steer entry in the 1953 Houston Fat Stock Show.

Ralph A. Johnston, president, said that this is the largest show of livestock and poultry in Houston's history and several new records were set.

The show will run through February 15th.

SHALL WE KILL THE 91ST DISTRICT COURT?

Our State Representative, Omar Burkett, has submitted what is known as House Bill No. 269, which calls for the consolidation of the 91st District Court in Eastland and the 90th District Court in Stephens County. This, in all reality, means the killing of the 91st District Court in Eastland.

This comes under the guise of cutting expenses, which Mr. Burkett promised during his campaign last Summer, and we are not opposed to this. But we are not so sure the killing of his home county District Court would do this. In fact we have very grave doubts about it.

It is not everyone who understands the present Court set-up, but we know enough to know that the killing of this particular Court would not solve our problems. On the other hand it could prove very expensive. Texas is growing in population, and Eastland County is growing in population, and for this reason, if no other, we can't understand what would prompt any one to want to kill a Court.

Cases originating in this county can be tried more cheaply here than at any other point. Some of our so called larger courts are very expensive, and Judges of these Courts are looking forward to the day they may have a three month's vacation (at the tax payers expense.)

Eastland county tax payers have a very beautiful Court House which they have bought and paid for. Then why should it be turned over to the bats, while our people buy tires, oil and gas, to say nothing of the loss of time, to drive to some distant point to attend court? This comes nearer showing double taxation than it does a saving.

If our Court was idle there might be some excuse for a change, but it is not idle. There are several hundred criminal and civil cases on the docket right now.

Again if there is to be a "killing," why pick on the largest Court? Is it better to make 25,000 people suffer than half that number? We don't think so.

Many Eastland County citizens feel that a great blunder is being made and that this blunder should be corrected before it is too late. These Eastland County citizens and others over this county are not going to sit idly by and watch such maneuvers. No, they are going to fight and fight to a bitter end. They will supply facts and figures until the world looks level—maybe enough to convince Mr. Burkett that the issue is more serious than thought in the beginning.

E. E. Warren, 37, Dies In Ranger Hospital Today

Elmer Elwood (Buss) Warren, 37-year-old Ranger resident, died in a Ranger hospital this morning at 5 o'clock following a long illness.

Warren, employed by the Phillips Transport Co., had been a resident of Ranger for eight years prior to his death today. He was born in Oklahoma on April 12, 1915.

The Morris Funeral Home, in charge of arrangements, reported at noon today that funeral and burial rites were pending, awaiting the arrival of a brother of the deceased, Airman 1st Class Bobby Warren, USAF, who is enroute from his military station on Okinawa in the Pacific area.

The funeral services will be held at the Church of Christ, in Ranger, with Bro. Clyde Mansfield, minister, officiating. Pallbearers will be fellow employees of Mr. Warren at the Phillips Transport Co.

Mr. Warren, who made his home at 717 McCleskey St., Ranger, is survived by his wife of the home address; one son, Johnny Warren of Ranger; and two daughters, Misses Nell and Nancy Warren, also of Ranger.

Other survivors include six brothers, Airman Warren of Okinawa, Wick Warren of Fort Worth, Ell Warren of Midland, I. W. Warren of Ranger, Cecil Warren of Arizona, and Marion Warren of Kerrville; and three sisters, Mrs. R. R. Phillips and Mrs. Ed Black, both of Ranger, and Mrs. Carl Falkenberg of Peterman, Alabama.

Area Greyhound Drivers Win 1952 Safety Award

Southwestern Greyhound Lines have been awarded the Marcus Dow Safety Award for the year just past, according to an announcement made today by E. F. Freeman, President of the company.

The award is made annually to the Greyhound operating company with the best safety record, based on the most miles operated per accident. In nine Southwestern and Midwestern states compiled a record of 153,902 miles per accident. All accidents, regardless of severity or blame are chargeable to a company in the annual contest.

The award was won in competition with 17 other operating companies, Freeman said. Freeman, in paying tribute to Southwestern Greyhound drivers for winning the award, urged them to continue their efforts not only in safety but in courtesy as well. "The courteous driver is invariably the safe driver," Freeman pointed out.

Snyders In Texas City For Funeral

Billy Ray Snyder, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Snyder of Texas City, and grandson of Mrs. Josie Snyder, 512 South Daugherty, succumbed to a heart attack in Houston Feb. 9th.

Mrs. D. L. Houle and her brother, Lovell Snyder, with their mother, Mrs. Josie Snyder left immediately for Texas City. Services for Mr. Snyder will be Wednesday afternoon at 3 p.m.

Area Oil Output Shows Big Gain

In answer to a petition from the LaCasa and Frankell area citizens in which they seek an election to bar future sale of beer, the commissioners court of Stephens County has ordered an election for March 7.

County Judge J. W. Morrow said that the petition was found to have 67 signers, and that the normal voting strength of the area is about 150.

Those eligible will vote at the LaCasa and Frankell boxes, a portion of Precinct 6. The polls will open at 8 o'clock and close at 7.

The voters will ballot for, or against, the sale of beer containing alcohol not exceeding four percent by weight.

It required only ten percent of the number who voted in the last presidential election to call the election, and the 67 signers was far in excess of the legal requirement. The law requires that the election must be set at least twenty days after the commissioners meet, and the date set is beyond the twenty days.

The Caddo portion of precinct 6 voted dry in 1936, the vote on March 7 to involve only a portion of voters in precinct.

Those familiar with the voters in the area calling the election are of the opinion that the vote will be dry.

Sheppard Will Aid Tideland Controversy

Appointment of Texas Attorney General John Ben Sheppard as a member of the committee on Submerged Lands of the National Association of Attorneys General was announced today by Attorney General Roy H. Beeler of Tennessee, chairman.

Other Attorneys General on the committee announced by Beeler are Edmund G. Brown of California; Fred S. LeBlanc, Louisiana; Frank G. Millard, Michigan; George C. Conway, Connecticut; and D. E. Rollins, Maryland.

Sheppard will leave Friday for Washington to attend meetings of the executive committee of the association. The committee on submerged lands will meet Sunday.

Congressional hearings on submerged land bills will begin the following week, and committee members will testify at these hearings.

Sheppard said that he hopes to assist the Texas delegation in securing a bill giving Texas fair treatment.

"The Texas delegation has always been in the forefront in Congress," he said, "and without their work the tidelands would have been lost long ago."

He termed the Texas delegation in Congress "the bulwark in the defense of Texas tidelands."

Sheppard has appointed Dow Heard and M. K. Weitzel as Special Assistants to aid Congress with technical matters dealing with the bills. Tideland states have been asked to furnish technical specialists to aid the Congressional Committee.

Eastland's 1952 Production Lags, Report Shows

Oil production in the 18-county area of the West Texas Central district, increased approximately 15 percent during 1952, setting a new record of 35,651,221 barrels—a marked gain over the 30,350,120 barrels reported for the section in 1951.

Eastland County, according to the report of the Texas Coastal Commission office at Abilene, showed a slight drop in production. The county's 1951 output was 1,345,231 barrels, compared to a lesser 1,212,920 barrels produced during 1952.

Jones County led the 18 counties in the district with a little more than 8 million barrels, roughly about a quarter of the area's total production for the year.

Five other counties, in addition to Eastland, showed a decline in oil production during 1952 compared to their respective 1951 output total.

The figures (1952 production first, 1951 total second):
Eastland, 1,212,920, 1,345,231;
Erath, 17,610, 36,675; Fisher, 4,078,991, 4,204,260; Shackelford, 2,043,488, 2,291,630; Stephens, 2,421,076, 2,737,124; Throckmorton, 5,297,287, 5,656,849.

Here are the counties reporting gains in oil production:
Brown, 662,228, 624,101; Callahan, 669,734, 519,923; Coleman, 2,970,592, 1,969,445; Comanche, 309,979, 281,157; Haskell, 2,220,810, 1,478,281; Jones, 8,132,553, 7,961,662; Nolan, 674,049, 412,066; Palo Pinto 197,180, 177,598; Parker, 149,879, 85,599; Stone-wall, 5,350,709, 1,680,180; Taylor, 1,542,136, 1,450,641.

Expectancy Of Life Showing Big Increases

The average length of life among American wage earners and their families is 68½ years, according to the 1952 experience among the industrial policyholders of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. This is a gain of slightly more than four years since 1942, and of about 22 years in the past four decades.

Very favorable mortality conditions prevailed among the insured, with the death rate last year on a level with the all-time low recorded in 1950. The 1952 showing was made despite a record-breaking polio epidemic and the sultry summer which caused an unusually large number of deaths from heat exhaustion.

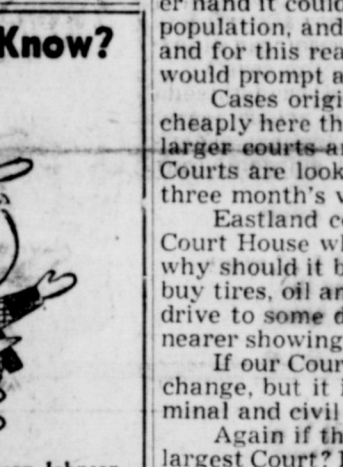
Notable in the year's record was the remarkable decline in the mortality from tuberculosis. The death rate dropped 25 percent last year to a new low of 13.5 per 100,000 insured, and mortality from the disease is now only one half that of four years ago. The reduction since 1911 has amounted to 94 percent.

"The prospects for further improvement are very bright, as an increasing proportion of cases are treated while they are still in discovered and brought under their minimal stage, and as methods for treating the disease are improved," the statisticians report.

A new low in the insurance experience was established for deaths from the disorders of pregnancy and childbirth; and the death rates from pneumonia and influenza and from the principal communicable diseases of childhood were equal to the earlier all-time lows for these causes of death.

The year was unusual, the statisticians point out, in that the death rate declined for each of the major chronic diseases of middle and later life, with mortality from diseases of the heart, arteries, and kidneys showing a decrease of nearly two percent. For cancer and allied conditions the death rate declined from 123.5 per 100,000 in 1951 to 122.5 in 1952. The improvement for diabetes was more marked—from 15.2 to 14.0 per 100,000.

The accident death rate showed an increase of 9 percent—attributable to an increase in motor vehicle fatalities, and to a rise in "other accidents," the category to which most deaths from mishaps in the armed forces are assigned. Home accidents and occupational accidents of civilians both showed lower rates for 1952 than for 1951. So did suicide and homicide.



Did You Know?

A few of the ingenious would be gardeners in our fair city have found a way to beat the drought and cheat the lawnmower next summer. Springtime inspires the proverbial planters into activity and what with no water for shrubs—a good way to work off the steam is to lay that back yard in concrete blocks or brick and edge it with a few droughtproof plants.

If the hedge is dead, you can spend most of the summer building a wall around the yard, a good wind break for March; Rock, Brick, Haydite or wooden slats, let a few Petunias volunteer and you'll be more patient while waiting for the rain next year.

The general idea is, it won't be too long before the Civic League and Garden Club will be asking you to clean up anyway and this kind of springfever can also be a McGraw-Hill publication, reports.

Sets in use in these countries total 2.4 million, a 50 per cent increase over 1951 figures. Since an audience of 10 to 15 people to a set is average the viewing audience is estimated at 24,450,000, the magazine says.

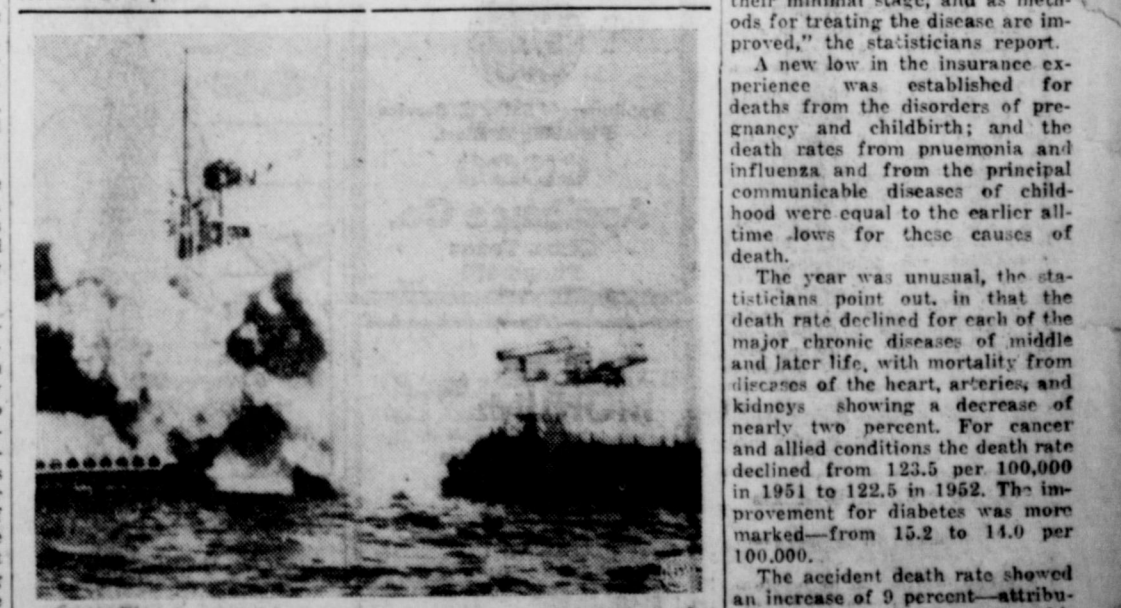
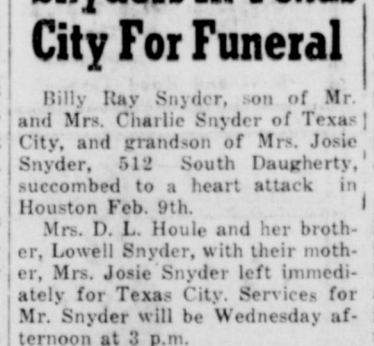
Cuba has complete television coverage, with two competitive networks and 100,000 sets in use. It ranks fourth highest in number of sets in use; the top three countries are the U.S., with 18,500,000, Great Britain with 1,655,446, and Canada with 150,000.

Mexico, with five stations on the air, has only 40,000 sets in use. A heavy import duty on finished sets has been partially circumvented by shipping chassis to assembly plants in that country.

Although beset with foreign exchange problems, Brazil nevertheless is showing great interest in tv. An electronics industry already has taken root in the Sao Paulo area and tv sets may soon be manufactured there. Brazil has 45,000 sets in use, three transmitters on the air, nine planned and four under construction. The city of Rio de Janeiro may soon become operator of the hemisphere's first educational tv station, according to the magazine. Brazilians are enthusiastic about television and projection receivers are seen frequently in public places, parks and even vacant lots.

The West Texas forecast: Mostly cloudy and continued cold in the Panhandle and South Plains. Cold-er elsewhere. Wednesday, Thursday, partly cloudy and not quite so cold.

HEADS UP!
Here comes the New Rocket OSBORNE MOTOR COMPANY Eastland, Texas



ON SHORT NOTICE—The Navy has announced that the submarine USS Carbonero, here launching a "Loon" during a 1949 guided missile operation in the Pacific, and three other specially-equipped ships, the submarine Tusk and the heavy cruisers Boston and Canberra could be summoned on short notice to bombard the Korean Communists with guided missiles "should the war situation require their use."

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FOR SALE: Fresh infertile eggs, 1401 S. Byrens St., W. A. Rodgers.

FOR SALE: Few lots in Burkett Addition, Eastland. See Henry Collins, Carbon.

FOR SALE: Baby chicks, Hatches each Monday of highest quality chicks, \$5 per and up. Nine breeds. Write for Price List. Star Hatchery, Baird, Tex.

FOR SALE: Five and one-third acres, good five room house, within mile of Desdemona. C. W. Keith, 1204 Price, Henderson, Texas.

FOR SALE: Laying pullets at market price. Pleasant Place Mo-

LOST

LOST: Eye glasses, downtown Eastland, in case bearing name Dr. Jolly, Ranger. Leave at Telegram office.

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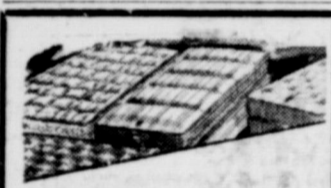
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FOR RENT: 3 room furnished apartment, private bath. 609 W. Plummer.

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FOR RENT: A most pleasant and desirably located and liveable 5-room apartment. Entire lower floor, 1111 S. Seaman, 2 bed rooms, sleeping porch, large living room, and modern kitchen, all attractively furnished. Will rent with or without utilities paid. Phone 293.

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FOR RENT: Furnished small house, close in. 209 W. Patterson.

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FOR RENT: Furnished two-bedroom apartment in duplex. 612 Plummer.

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Social Calendar

Feb. 8-14 "Twirp Week" at Eastland High School.

February 10 Lions Club 12 noon First Methodist church.

Taylor Study Spring Recital, 7:30 p.m. First Methodist Church.

Home Makers Class monthly covered dish dinner 7 p.m. Mrs. Don Daniels, hostess, Winona Davis co-hostess.

Feb. 10—Zeta Pi Chapter, Bill Leslie home, 306 North Ammerman, 7:30 p.m.

Feb. 10, Lakeside Country Club's Stag Night 8 p.m. Club room.

Feb. 11, Civic League and Garden Club 3 p.m. Woman's Club.

Feb. 11th, Civic League and Garden Club, 3 p.m. Woman's Club.

Feb. 11, Ladies Bible Class 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Hall of the Church of Christ.

Feb. 12—Alpha Delphian Club 3 p.m. Woman's Club.

February—Rotary Club, 12 noon Connellee Hotel.

Feb. 12—Rebekah's 42 party, 7:30 p.m. IOOF Hall.

Feb. 14—Beta Sigma Dinner-Dance, honoring Valentine Girls, Connellee Hotel Roof Garden.

End of football season of Eastland high school.

Feb. 14th, Senior "Sweetheart Banquet" First Baptist Church, 7 p.m.

Feb. 15—Valentine party for seniors 4 p.m. First Christian Church annex, sponsored annually by CWF.

Feb. 16th, Las Leales Club 7:30 p.m. Woman's Club.

Feb. 17th West Ward P-TA, West Ward Cafeteria 3-15 p.m.

Feb. 18th, Ladies Bible Class, 9:30 a.m. Fellowship hall of Church of Christ.

Feb. 18th, Music Study Club 3:30 p.m. Woman's Club.

Feb. 19th Past Matrons Association 7:30 p.m. in home of Mrs. Lena Kincaid, East Highway 80.

Feb. 19th, Thursday Afternoon Club 3 p.m. Woman's Club.

Feb. 20th, Lakeside Country Club's family night (covered dish supper) 7 p.m.

Feb. 21st, Civic League and Garden Club's Mid Winter Festival "The Big Dam Dance" American Legion Hall 8 p.m.

Feb. 25th, Ladies Bible Class 9:30 a.m. Fellowship hall Church of Christ.

Feb. 26th, Alpha Delphian Club 3:30 p.m. Woman's Club.

Feb. 26th, Lakeside Country Club's Bingo Night 8 p.m.

THIS MUSKOGEE, OKLAHOMA NAVY MAN IS A VETERAN OF 25 YEARS OF NAVAL SERVICE AND THE WINNER OF THE SILVER STAR MEDAL, BRONZE STAR AND THE ARMY DISTINGUISHED UNIT EMBLEM.

JOHN BOHREER U.S. NAVY
CHIEF ELECTRICIAN'S MATE

DIVING ON A 1042 PATROL, THE SUB S-41 WAS NEARLY FLOODED AS WATER CUSHED IN THRU AN EXHAUST VALVE. BRAVING DEATH BOHREER ENTERED A FLOODING GAS-FILLED COMPARTMENT TO SHUT THE VALVE AND SAVE BOTH SHIP AND CREW.

HE RECEIVED THE BRONZE STAR FOR HIS OUTSTANDING SERVICE ON THE SUB BATFISH WHEN IT WON FAME AS A SUE-KILLER, SINKING 3 JAPANESE SUBMARINES ON 1 PATROL.

W. G. G. G. G.

Readers Meet In Grissom Home

The Readers Luncheon Club met in the home of Mrs. Clyde Grissom Tuesday 11th, 1 p.m.

Following the luncheon the members retired to the living room for demitasse and club business followed by an afternoon of discussion and reviews of books, current publications and travel.

Miss Betty Pickens is at home this week getting even with all the others in town who have had the flu. We hope you will soon have it whipped Betty and get back into circulation.

Interest High In '53 Poultry Improvement

The 1953 Texas Chicken-of-Tomorrow program will be the largest yet conducted if early interest and inquiries are converted into entries, says F. Z. Beamblossom, poultry marketing specialist for the Agricultural Extension Service at College Station, and chairman of the state committee which handles the program.

The state chairman urges poultry breeders and hatcherymen as well as prospective junior participants to get their entries to him early. This, he adds, will enable

the state committee, to make more accurate plans and conduct a program of greatest value to the participants. No entries in either the senior or junior divisions will be accepted after March 1. There is no entry fee in the junior division but all chicks must be wing banded,

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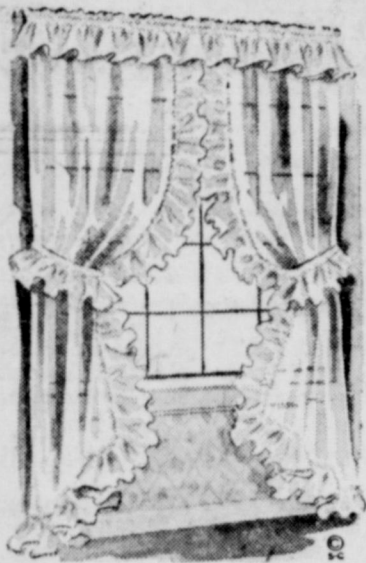
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Church... Society ... Clubs

Christian Women District Council Meet In Eastland

The Eastland Women of the First Christian Church Council were hosts to the District Council, Monday the 9th, at 2:30 p.m. at the church annex.

The formal meeting was opened with a hymn and Mrs. J. S. Stockard of Cisco led in prayer.

The host president, Mrs. J. W. Watson welcomed the guests and presented Mrs. Eldress Gattis for violin solo, Mrs. Christene Beskow accompanist.

Mrs. L. E. Huckabay gave the devotional.

Mrs. Watson introduced Mrs. E. Freyschlag who gave a delightful and interesting review of the book, "More Than Money" by the author, Jesse Clayton Adams.

The business session for the council was opened by Mrs. B. S. Dudley of Ranger who presided in the absence of the District President, Mrs. Jim Flourner.

At conclusion of business the

announcement of the next meeting was an invitation from the Cisco Council to meet in their church June 8th, at 2:30 p.m. The election of officers will be held in Cisco. The host president invited the guests to a social hour and Mrs. N. L. Smitham was the gracious hostess at the silver service. The table held an arrangement of red carnations on background of white linen cloth. The Valentine spirit was in evidence with the whitecake squares, candy hearts and nuts with coffee.

Out of town guests were: Cisco, Mmes. H. H. Davis, James Haynie, J. S. Benedict, W. R. Huettis, A. L. Clark, J. S. Stockard, J. S. Mobley, W. J. Armstrong, Willie Rue Logan, G. W. Troxwell, Sam Kinnell, Rex W. Moore, Ray Fonnville, Fleming Waters and Miss Alice Bacon.

Ranger: Mmes. Dick Jones, B. S. Dudley, Lottie Davenport, R. A. Jones, E. M. Glazner, O. R. Erwin, E. T. Matthews, and L. W. Wallace.

Eastland: Mmes. E. E. Freyschlag, Eugene Day, J. E. Freeze, Lon Horn, R. I. Malone, N. T. Johnson, Jerry McCullough, R. L. Todd, J. R. Gilbreath, E. E. Wood, Joe Tom, E. K. Anderson, L. E. Huckabay, Nell Day, Bernard Hanna, Jim Beard, N. L. Smitham, Curtis Young, Christene Beskow, T. L. Cooper, Eldress Gattis, Otto Marshall, Sallie Day and Mrs. J. W. Watson.

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The Peacock Path

By Edwin Ruff

THE STORY: Jim Orth, private detective, guised as a friend of Sally Cravath, is attempting to solve the murder of Ames Warburton, partner of Marney Cravath, the stockbroker. Jim already has discovered that Cravath is quite fond of Eve Wheeler, a widow, who is one of the guests. That same evening Manila, the Filipino houseboy, appears very excited and calls Cravath from his quarters. Cravath summons his sister partner, Jack Dumont, saying "there seems to be trouble."

XIV

MARNEY CRAVATH disposed of Manila summarily. "Manila, you stay here and serve dinner! I heard a controlled, but protesting, hiss.

A tall burly figure waited at the bottom of the steps.

"All right, Williamson," Cravath snapped. "Lead on!"

Williamson, the chauffeur, seemed to want to explain himself. "I was having a look around, sir," he began, "like you says to, and I..."

Cravath pushed him roughly. "Later, man!"

Without another word Williamson turned and broke into a run, his torch blazing full-on now. Cravath was hard at his heels. I came next. Dumont, who until now had appeared stunned, panted in the rear.

But suddenly Dumont sprinted past me; past Cravath.

"What is it?" he puffed at Williamson's elbow, but I lost the rest of it as Cravath stumbled and swore.

Cravath righted himself. And I heard Williamson, flinging it over his shoulder, "I don't know, sir. Couldn't say."

Dumont dropped back then, between Cravath and myself, a short muffled ejaculation escaping him.

After that we just ran, behind Williamson's flickering swaying light.

I found myself racing down that accursed path before I knew it. Down a straight narrow tree-bordered strip where once, I under-

stood, gaily-colored peacocks had preened and strutted.

An instant later I was conscious of Williamson, slowing his steps. And I could just make out the fence posts, stubby white spectres in the enveloping gloom.

Williamson stopped altogether. The three of us behind him stopped too, a bumping excited little huddle of men, falling over each other, swearing, apologizing briefly, and straightening up. Williamson's flashlight bored a tunnel of radiance through the damp and sticky dark.

We saw it, indistinctly but horribly. A big misshapen bundle, beaten by the rain, draped limply and pitifully over the sagging chains that guarded the end of the Peacock Path.

"Dolly," Dumont's stricken cry came back to us through the monotonous patter of raindrops.

CRAVATH grabbed my arm and we moved slowly forward. Dolly Dumont, lying across that cold wet iron, was an even more grotesque and awful spectacle than the broken body of Ames Warburton.

Her head, hanging so low that it almost touched the ground, faced the cliff. Evidently she had been moving in that direction when someone, or something, strung her over the chains. Cravath snatched the light from Williamson, played it upon her sagged figure. The beam showed a crimson patch at the back of her head.

Jack Dumont lifted dazed eyes. "Who could have done this thing?" And when Cravath shook his head helplessly, he kept repeating that phrase, as if it were a kind of litany.

The big chauffeur put a hand on Dumont's arm, drew him gently aside. Cravath bent over the body. The next second a low exclamation broke from him. "Orth! She's not dead. At least, not yet."

I did as he had done, put the back of my hand down close to her lips. I felt breath, faint but warm. We had manifestly been deceived by her dreadfully lifeless look.

"What?" The news snapped Dumont out of his stupor. His voice rose in a clear ringing shout. "Are you sure, Marney?"

"Absolutely sure," Cravath cut in. "But she's in bad shape. We've got to get her inside at once. Orth and I can manage that. Go to the house, Jack, and phone Dr. Dreeves at Port Linton. If you can't get him, get somebody else. In a hurry, Williamson, you help us lift her. Then bring a car up to the house. We may have to take her to the hospital."

Dumont, all trace of dazedness vanished, was off even before he finished speaking. Then Cravath and I made a "chair" of our hands. Big Williamson lifted Dolly as if she were a baby, eased her into it, putting a slack arm around each of our necks. She was a dead weight, of course, and her head rolled lolling, drunkenly, between Cravath's shoulder and mine. But when we started back along the Peacock Path, she suddenly gave a little moan. It was a weak pathetic sound, but one of the most welcome I have ever heard.

WE made the house slowly but without too much difficulty, went in by a side door. There Dumont met us.

"How is she, Marney?" He clipped it out anxiously.

Cravath's reply came in puffs. "I've a hunch she'll be all right."

We carried Dolly up to the rooms occupied by the Dumonts. She moaned again as we laid her on the bed.

"Get Ring, Jack," Cravath said. "She'll know what to do before the doctor gets here."

Dumont disappeared, but returned almost immediately with the grim-lipped housekeeper. When Mrs. Ring took over, she took over. She asked no questions. Only a momentary flicker of surprise and shock crossed her sharp face. Then she issued orders.

(To Be Continued)

Luncheon Is Planned For TEL Class

Members of the T.E.L. Sunday School Class of the First Baptist Church are planning a covered dish luncheon for February 12th, 11:30 a.m. in the home of Mrs. W. B. Reeves, 103 East Williams St.

For the Valentine season of Friendship they are planning an attendance of the full class membership.

Coffee Honoring Mrs. Ralph Davis

Monday, Feb. 10, at ten o'clock in the morning friends of Mrs. Ralph Davis gave a Sweetheart Coffee and presented her with a lovely gift to say farewell before she moves to Colorado City. The coffee was in the home of Mrs. Dan Wright, 307 South Dixie and the others giving the party honors were: Mmes. Dilly Wood, W. W. Linkenhoger, Jack Lusk, K. P. Kilbourn, F. A. Phillebaum, Marlin Cagle, L. F. Fowler and J. H. Lee.

Mrs. Wood and Mrs. Phillebaum greeted the guests at the door and after registration Mrs. Wright invited them to the coffee table with dainty lace cover with Ivy artistically arranged to enhance the Valentine appointments of napkins, decorated cookies and colorful candies.

The gift for the honoree was displayed, eight additional pieces of her pattern of pottery. A toy animal was selected for Mrs. Davis' tiny daughter.

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COUNTRY PARSON
Plus Cartoon

Mrs. Ina Bean WSCS Leader

The WSCS met in regular session at the First Methodist church Monday 9th 2:30 p.m. The president Mrs. Rosalie Leslie opened the meeting for the business meeting and presented Mrs. Ina Bean for the report of the Conference Journal.

At the conclusion of the program it was announced that Mrs. Vernon Deffebach of Ranger will be the guest speaker for Monday 16th, 2:30 p.m. in the church parlors. Mrs. Deffebach is District President of the WSCS and will be presented by Mrs. O. O. Mickle whose chairmanship is "Status of Men." Mrs. Frank Sparks will sing for the special program.

All church women are invited to attend.

Those present were Mmes. Ina Bean, Roy Stokes, W. F. Davenport, W. P. Leslie, Frank Crowell, Ora P. Jones, John A. Caton, Margaret Welch, Cecil Collings, A. A. Cushman, B. O. Harrell, Chas. Van Geem, J. A. Doyle, T. E. Fagg, Milton Gaines, R. L. Watson, L. C. Harlow, J. H. Horton and L. C. Brown.

Mrs. June Jones has returned to Eastland for an indefinite visit with her son who lives in Ranger, J. W. Jones and her brother Mr. John Bransford, Eastland Route 1. Mrs. Jones is living in San Diego, California and remarked that though California is beautiful with flowers and has plenty of water, Eastland County still looks good to her. She is combining business with pleasure while here.

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Those who came to drink the cup of friendship and say farewell were: Mmes. Austin Varner, Milton Nash, W. A. Teatsoth, D. B. Cox, H. T. Proffett, Beulah Spfers, B. H. Courtney, Allen D. Dabney and Miss Zelma Gregg.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Perkins and small daughters, Sally and Mary, spent Sunday with Mrs. Perkins' mother, Mrs. M. Smoot in Colorado City.

Beta Sigma Phi Exemplars Meet

XI Alpha Zeta Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi met Monday evening in the home of Mrs. Bert Farrow.

Frances Walters President opened the meeting and after a short business meeting the program was conducted by Virginia Collings, the subject matter was "Ingenuity with needle and brush."

Plans were discussed for the coming Valentine Dance for the two chapters and Beta Sigma Phi when the Queen selecta from each chapter will be honored. Members may have guests to enjoy the coronation of the Queens. Virginia Collings will be the Exemplar Queen.

Mattie Barrow, chairman of the nominating committee read the new slate of officers to be voted at next regular meeting.

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