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TRI-CITY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA FORMED FROM THE ORCHESTRAS OF TOYAH, BARSTOW AND PECOS

September 26, 1920, eight school children from the Toyah public schools, Toyah, Texas, gathered together under the leadership of Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Harp, ranch people near Toyah, and formed themselves into a small orchestra in which jazz noises were barred, and good music enjoyed.

It is very doubtful if these eight young enthusiasts ever dreamed of the organization they started there in the Toyah school, for in three years it has culminated in the Tri-City Symphony Orchestra, mustering over 80 instruments.

Just a few months after its organization, the Toyah orchestra, having grown to about twenty pieces, gave its first public recital, playing for the district school meet. This music—selections from the old masters and modern composers, without a hint of jazz or so-called popular music—fell on the ears of a people starved for the sound of beautiful harmony and surfeited with trashy stuff, and the organization was flooded with new members.

In its second year, the Toyah orchestra was welded into a compact, well-balanced organization, and many people from Barstow began to make weekly trips to Toyah for instruction and rehearsal. Several recitals were given this year, and it was acclaimed far and wide. Requests for recitals from towns hundreds of miles away began to pour in, and radio broadcasting stations asked for a radio recital. The latter part of 1922, the membership reached fifty, and many more clamoring for admission.

The directors, Mr. and Mrs. Harp, realizing the disadvantage of Barstow students traveling to Toyah for instruction, consented to divide their time between these two towns. And so, on January 16, 1923, the second orchestra was formed with twenty members. Endorsed and supported by the Barstow school trustees and Parent-Teacher Association, two attractive studios, with pianos, were put at the disposal of the Harps.

With this musical atmosphere all about them, it is no wonder that Pecos absorbed part of it, and early in the summer of 1923, Pecos would-be-musicians requested that the Harps devote some time to them. And, on October 4th, this fall, the third orchestra was organized in Pecos with a membership of twelve. By the 24th of December, 1923, there were thirty in the Pecos orchestra.

Thus, we see, three distinct and separate organizations have sprung from the eight Toyahans—the pioneers of the big, Tri-City Symphony Orchestra.

For a month or more, there has been talk of a consolidation of the three orchestras, and the 24th of December this was effected—The Tri-City Symphony Orchestra, mustering over 80 members, composed of the towns of Toyah, Barstow and Pecos—all within easy motoring distance of each other.

Following is the list of officers: Director, E. L. Harp; Assistant Director, Mrs. E. L. Harp; President, A. O. Harris, Toyah; Vice President, R. B. Thurston, Barstow; Secretary, Treasurer, A. G. Taggart, Pecos; Librarian, J. G. Crawford, Pecos. These officers with the following compose the Executive Committee: L. Harkness, Toyah; Putnam Barstow, Barstow; Richard Lynn, Pecos.

This is the history of the Tri-City Symphony Orchestra to date. The little beginning has risen to great heights. May it continue to live and grow as it has in the past.

REEVES COUNTY MERCHANTILE BURGLARIZED

The early part of the week thieves broke into the store of the Reeves County Mercantile Company at Toyah, broke open the safe, and secured some \$350.00 in cash.

All tools used in breaking the combinations to the vault and safe were the property of the store. Although Deputy Sheriff Bob Middleton worked a whole day on the case no clue was obtained.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Patterson left Thursday for their home in Roswell, N. M., after a Christmas visit with Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Vaughan.

INCOME TAX RETURNS DUE JANUARY FIRST

Assured by the Bureau of Internal Revenue of prompt service in furnishing the necessary forms, taxpayers need experience no delay in the filing of their income tax returns for the year 1923. The filing period is from January first to March 15, 1924. On January 2—the 1st being a holiday—forms for filing individual, corporation, partnership, personal service corporation, information, fiduciary, and other returns required by the revenue act will be available at the office of Collector of Internal Revenue, Austin, Texas, and the following branch offices: Waco, Houston, San Antonio, and El Paso. After January 2, a copy of the form desired may be obtained on written request.

Form 1040A, heretofore used for filing returns of individual net income of \$5,000 and less, from whatever source derived, has been revised and simplified in the interests of the largest class of taxpayers, salaried persons and wage earners. The new form will be used in reporting net income for the year 1923 of \$5,000 and less derived chiefly from salaries and wages. Reducing to a minimum the problem of correctly making out an income tax return, Form 1040A consists of a single sheet in which space is provided for answers to only three questions in relation to income: salaries, wages, commissions, etc.; interest on bank deposits, notes, mortgages, and corporation bonds, and "other income." On the reverse side are instructions. Formerly Form 1040A has consisted of six pages, the questions pertaining not only to salaries and wages, but to income from business, professions, sales of real estate, and other sources. It is estimated that for the year 1923 more than 4,000,000 persons, or 70 per cent of those who annually are required to file income tax returns, will use the new form.

Persons, any part of whose income for the year 1923 was derived from business or profession, farming, sale of property or rents, regardless of the amount, will be required to use the larger form, 1040. The use of Form 1040 will be required, also, in cases where the net income was in excess of \$5,000, whether from salary or business, profession or other taxable sources. Formerly Form 1040 was used only for reporting individual net income of more than \$5,000.

Forms for filing individual returns of income will be sent to persons who filed similar returns for the year of 1922. It being impossible to determine this year the form desired, by the taxpayer—whether he be a man whose income was derived chiefly from salary or wages or from business, profession, or other taxable sources—the taxpayer will receive both forms, and is advised to note carefully the instructions regarding their use.

CRADLE ROLL TREE

AT BAPTIST CHURCH
On last Friday afternoon a special program was rendered for the Cradle Roll Department of the First Baptist Church. Mrs. G. C. Parker, the superintendent, and Mrs. Walter Browning, who teaches the special class for these little ones, had planned and prepared well for this special occasion. The parlors of the church were beautifully decorated and a beautiful tree was covered with presents for every member of the group. The occasion was honored by having most of the mothers of Cradle Roll members present. Twenty-four little hearts were made glad when Santa Claus appeared and almost as many mothers rejoiced at seeing the kiddies smile. Refreshments were served to all present. Mrs. Parker and Mrs. Browning are to be congratulated for the success which attended the gathering.

Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Billingslea, Mr. and Mrs. Mose Jones, Mrs. W. E. Morton and daughter, and Mrs. Geo. K. Jackson, with many others from Toyah, were over Monday to the trade day drawing.

BELL WELL FLOWING INTERMITTENTLY ---SIXTY BARRELS OF OIL YESTERDAY

Starting Wednesday morning with a Guiberson swab inside the three-inch casing, the Bell well was bailed down to 2500 feet, at which time it was discovered that the cups on the swab were wearing away rapidly and a wire for a fresh lot was dispatched. These should arrive today. In the meantime they have not been idle at the well. The mud-hog was rigged up and the air-compressor hooked on

and these two tools have been alternately operated with the result that the well has been flowing intermittently and with continuously increasing vehemence. The flow of pure oil yesterday was more than sixty barrels. Our people are breathlessly awaiting the news that the Bell well has blown in and is producing a continuous flow of the liquid gold. The Bells are staying at the well day and night since Wednesday.

CHRISTMAS TREES WITH PROGRAMS AT PECOS CHURCHES

Pecos and Pecos people all had a merry, happy Christmas and there was a profusion of Christmas trees in private homes as well as at the churches.

The Methodist church had a beautiful tree with an elaborate and appropriate program which was put on by the Epworth Leagues and Sunday school under the direction of Miss Poe and those who were present were high in their praise of the performance. Old Santa was present to assist in the distribution of the presents to all who had come.

Old Santa was very much in evidence at a well laden tree at the Baptist church where he distributed generously the gifts to the members of that flock as well as all visitors. They also had a very pretty and appropriate program.

Those of the Christian church are never lagging in any instance and old Santa appeared on the scene to distribute the gifts to the faithful which he had previously placed on a beautiful tree. A program and service was also had there.

All the above were had on Christmas Eve but what is said by many of our citizens to have been the "best stunt ever pulled off in Pecos" was that on the evening of Christmas Day at the street crossing at the Pecos Hotel site. This was a beautiful Christmas tree which had been elaborately decorated with colored lights and the big fireplace, well filled with wood, lighted with a blaze of fire from electric lights to make it more homelike. This tree was sponsored by Mike Neiderkorn of the Pecos Power and Ice Company and the Pecos Volunteer Fire Department, and was for the Mexican and negro population of the entire county, and in fact, for all of these two races that came. It proved popular and was well attended by people from all over the county. The Mexicans were here from every corner of the county and were agreeably surprised at the elaborateness of the tree. After a talk by Mayor B. A. Toliver in their own tongue, the children were marched in file by the foot of the tree where each one was loaded down with Christmas goodies.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

The palatial home of Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Pruett, long-time residents of Pecos and who have always been in the front in the development of Pecos and Reeves county, was the scene of one of the most elaborate and prettily appointed Christmas parties of the season Friday afternoon, when Mrs. Pruett and her daughters, the Mesdames A. G. Taggart, C. B. Jordan and Tena Adams, and Mesdames William Garlick, H. N. Lusk and R. E. Johnson entertained with a reception and a "42" party. The rooms presented a beautiful color scheme in the Christmas colors. There were bells and bells, holly, poinsettias and other symbols of the season. As the guests arrived the door was opened by Master David Butler, the handsome little son of Mrs. Lillian Butler, who presented them to the receiving line composed of the hostesses and Santa Claus at the end, who distributed the beautifully decorated tally cards.

The Christmas spirit was rife and the desire for revelry was at its height among the handsomely gowned ladies. Seventeen tables were arranged for the games that were played with enthusiasm. At intervals during the afternoon Miss Ora Pruett, the winsome daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Pruett, presided at the Victrola and gave some beautiful selections. At the conclusion of the games pretty

MONDAY WAS BIG DAY IN PECOS ---STORES CROWDED WITH BUYERS ---R. M. GREER WINS THE FORD CAR

BUILDING A HOUSE FROM ITS CELLAR

It would be a strange thing if one of the oldest forms of architecture in this half of the world—so old that it has almost been forgotten—should come now to the rescue of us and save us from the oppressive cost of building. But something very like that is brought up by Edward W. Coffin, M. E., in an article which he has written for the Washington Star. Pise de terre is the technical name for building a house out of what you dig from its own cellar. In short it is a house made of dirt, yet without mortar, moistening or the use of straw. Rammed earth is the name that Mr. Coffin uses in reference to it.

Dr. H. B. Humphreys, a Government employe in scientific work, undertook to build his residence at Glen Echo, Md., out of rammed earth and succeeded at the first trial, using untrained labor to erect its walls out of the earth immediately at hand. His experiment indicates that it costs one-fourth as much as brick, one-half the cost of concrete, and about two-thirds the cost of substantial frame. It is warm in winter, cool in summer, and is easily made rat and vermin-proof. The older it gets the stronger it gets, finally turning to stone. And it may be made of any kind of earth that will make a stiff rut in the road, we are told. An extract from the article in the Star follows:

"Pise construction contains all the best principles of masonry, together with some rules peculiar to itself. Unskilled labor, very carefully supervised, it is true, made the walls of Dr. Humphrey's house. Three men laid two cubic yards of pise in an eight-hour day. The material was right at the site. It was only necessary to prepare it by screening, removing all lumps, vegetable matter and large stones.

The walls of this new pise house are 12½ feet high and 18 inches thick. They rest on a concrete foundation, which raises the earth-wall off the ground, thus avoiding moisture attacking the earth at the jointure. Inside the basement are 12-inch walls supporting the floor beams and serving as partition walls. The house is 48 feet long and 32 feet wide.

After the lower walls were all completed in pise, the second and third stories were put on in frame. The pise walls could have been carried right on up to the gable, and the partitions inside on the second floor could have been made of pise at a lower cost than in frame, but this knowledge of pise was acquired after the plans had been made, and it was considered inadvisable to change."

A form about three feet high and ten feet long is used in the building of rammed earth walls. It must be of strong timbers so as to resist the side thrust as the earth is tamped in rammers, which are of oak, the face being of iron, each weighing about fifteen pounds. The dry earth is put into the form to a depth of about four inches and pounded until it is firm, then more earth is added and pounded, and so on until the top of the form is reached. Arrangement is made so that one section of rammed wall is keyed into the next. No joint is apparent and no weakness develops at the union. When the form is removed the grain of the smoothly dressed wood shows plainly on the wall. When the work is carefully done the wall is substantial enough to lay timbers directly upon without any danger of collapse. The roof and tiles of the Humphrey house weigh eighteen tons. Tests prove that a pise column eighteen inches square and forty-two inches high, after drying sixteen days, had a crushing strength of eighteen and one-half tons, Mr. Coffin says.

It is claimed for the earth wall that it takes paint, plaster or stucco readily. Wall paper may be applied to it directly without difficulty. It does not transmit moisture. Window frames, doors and the like are set in the forms and the earth tamped

Monday being Christmas Eve and also the last of the three trade days put on by the Pecos Chamber of Commerce and the business men of Pecos, was one of the biggest days in Pecos for the past several years. It being the last of the shopping days before Christmas as well as the day the new Ford touring car was given away is one of the reasons for such an influx of people. Probably the direct cause of such numbers of people on our streets on that day is the result of the drawing of the Ford car. That brought in the people from every nook and corner of this county as well as adjoining counties.

Although the merchants of the town had secured all available help for the occasion each and every store in town was literally crowded with eager buyers who had to await their turn to be waited upon. There was hardly standing room in the stores in the afternoon especially, and they were all purchasing goods. Every department of the various stores was jammed and crammed full of people.

Everything was made ready for the drawing and judges from various points in the county solicited, who in turn selected a Mexican lad to draw the ticket from the box. The first ticket drawn was held in duplicate number by R. M. Greer, who drew the car. Mr. Greer is one of our farmers who has been very ill during the fall, and a good man and deserving. The ENTERPRISE has heard a good number of our citizens who expressed their gratification at Mr. Greer's good luck. He has a bad eye-sight, is feeble and unable to drive the car and besides, since the doctor has ordered him to cease hard work for a whole year, and he will likely need the money, he is now offering the car, with license paid for the coming year, for \$450.

The drawing was pulled off in a manner which could draw no criticism since it was as fair a proposition as could have been presented. It is said that some eighty-five thousand tickets were held in the drawing which represented an expenditure of some \$170,000 in Pecos, and with her business concerns who participated in the distribution of these tickets, within the past three months. That is some money and it is safe to say that our merchants made close prices on the goods sold and that those who made the purchases saved money.

And thus passes one of the biggest days with one of the largest crowds seen in Pecos for the past several years.

HYPNOTIZE DRINKING HUSBANDS IN SLEEP TO CURE 'EM, SAYS COUE

Paris, Dec. 17.—Auto-suggestion, practiced by a wife, may unconsciously influence her husband and prevent marital unhappiness, according to an announcement by Professor Coue, made before his class at Nancy. "If your husband drinks stand over him when he is asleep and say to yourself, over and over again, 'I have not got a husband who drinks; my husband is not a drunkard; my husband does not like liquor.'"

"Keep this up consistently, night after night, and you will find that your husband will drink less and less until finally he signs the pledge. He will actually have lost his taste for the stuff."

Another of Coue's newest ideas is a phonograph record which repeats the words: "I am growing better every day."

This, says the professor, is for people too lazy to say it themselves. It will, he asserts, work just as well.

around them. Thereafter they can be removed only by tearing them out piece by piece. In Europe are houses more than two hundred years old which were made of rammed earth, but which have apparently turned to stone. In South America are ruins of such houses which are of unknown age. In South Africa the pise building is not uncommon. Authorities in New South Wales have recommended this type of building to settlers, stating that the life of such a structure is a century and a half.—Dallas News.

