

# The Hico News Review

"Your Home Newspaper"

HICO, TEXAS, FRIDAY, JULY 21, 1967.

NUMBER 12

## 81st Homecoming Set To Begin Wednesday

### 32 Entered in Miss Reunion Contest, Friday is Deadline

"Difficult decision" will be the phrase of judges for the beauty contest to be held Friday night, July 28, third night of the 81st Annual Reunion.

Thirty-two local lovelies had been officially entered Wednesday noon of this week, with the deadline being Friday, July 21, at noon.

Contestants and their sponsors are: Liz Williams, Well's Steak House; Jeannie Baley, Lone Star Gas Co.; Devonna Scott, Bess Mingo Dress Shop; Johnette Walker, Pestic Insurance; Denna Meador, First National Bank; Nancy Davis, Gulf Sattes Tel. Co.; Kathy Roberts, Blair's Hardware; Linda Hunter, Jackson's Superette; Vickie Keller, Russell's Dry Goods; Mary Beth Martin, Hico Automotive; Sandra Patterson, Redden Mobil Station; Carolyn Wooton, Hico News Review; Joyce Garner, Western Auto Store; Linda Bruner, Hyles Dress Shop; Barbara Casey, Iredell Conoco Station; Laverne Busby, Hico Florist; Linda Sue Flowers, Mayfield Station; Carolyn Do-

ty, Hico Poultry & Egg; Bobbie Boyd, Barrow-Rutledge; Robbie Robison, Sherrard Gro.; Rebecca Martin, Hico Review Club; Nellye Wolfe, Chaney Station; Joyce Carroll, H&B Grocery; Babara Baley, Polk Cleaners; Donna Butler, Hico Frozen Locker; Vickie Polk Cheek Furniture; Cathy Cryer, Koffee Kup Cafe.

Contestants for the age 3-6 division are Beverly June Harris, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Harris; D'Ann Fillingim, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Derel Fillingim; Patricia Lea Hyles, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Hyles; Cheryl Ann Meador, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frankie Phillips; Kim Johnson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Johnson.

Entries were lagging in the Little Miss division, but more were expected before the Friday deadline.

All contestants are reminded of the rehearsal to be held Monday night, July 24 at 8 p.m. at City Park.

Hico's 81st Annual Old Settlers Reunion is all set to get underway next Wednesday, July 26, with the traditional street parade kicking off the four day celebration.

As a preliminary event to the Reunion, Manager Ray Kelier has made arrangements for a big street dance to be held on Tuesday night, July 25, beginning at 8 o'clock. The dance will be held on lower Main Street. Fred Noland and his band from Stephenville, who excel in both modern and western music, will provide entertainment.

The opening parade, scheduled at 7 p.m. instead of the usual 6 o'clock starting time, will form one street east of Main, near the Rainwater residence. After formation, the parade entries will proceed down Main to Railroad Street, and back up Main to the Church of Christ, then west and turn in front of Hico Nursing Home. It will disband at the railroad.

Big attraction of the parade this year will be the Karem Temple Shriners, with about 100 personnel making up four units including the Karem Motor Patrol, Karem Arab Patrol, Karem Band, and the Karem Clowns.

Parade committee members Donald Warren, Mrs. Fred Rainwater, Louise Blair and Bill Doty, announced a prize list totalling \$145

in cash, which should be sufficient to insure a large number of entries. The prize list includes:

Best Decorated Float, \$50; second \$25.00.  
Best Decorated Car, \$20; second place \$10.  
Best Horse and Rider, \$10.00.  
Best Comic, \$10; second \$5.  
Best Decorated Bicycle or Scooter, \$10; second \$5.00.

Golf carts may be entered in the parade, and will be placed in the car division.

#### First Night Activities

Following the parade, first night activities will get underway at 8 p.m. at City Park. Booked to furnish opening night entertainment is Don Foley and the Westerners from Stephenville, who have made appearances in the area recently, and were well received by the public.

Thursday night has been set aside as Teenagers Night, with appropriate music and entertainment being provided.

#### Friday Night

Friday night, a full evening of entertainment is assured when the ever-popular Miss Reunion contest and the newly added Little Miss Reunion Contest will be held.

32 contestants are entered in two divisions, 27 in the senior classification and 5 in the younger division. Miss Barbara Casey won the senior title last year, and Miss Belinda Christian copped the junior crown.

Mrs. Oris Bakke, Mrs. George Kilgo, Mrs. Charles Tolliver, Mrs. Von Scott, Mrs. Wayland Wooton, Mrs. Jesse Barber and Mrs. Harold Walker are committee members in charge of the beauty pageant.

#### Saturday Night

Saturday night, which always draws big crowds, promises to be even bigger this year with the appearance of one of the nation's most exciting dance and show bands, Eddie McDuff and the Country Gentlemen. McDuff, popular recording artist, will provide three hours of enjoyable entertainment for Reunion visitors. The popular band will replace the Old Fiddlers Contest, which has traditionally been held on Saturday nights of the Reunion.

Everything considered, the celebration shapes up as another successful gathering, with many, many people returning to Hico to take part and meet and greet old friends.

### Final Rites Held For Iredell Pioneer, Walter H. Sadler, 91

Funeral services for Walter H. Sadler, 91, were conducted Monday afternoon at 4 o'clock in Iredell Baptist Church. Rev. Dale Yant and Rev. Lige Jackson officiated.

Mr. Sadler passed away at 10:50 p.m. Saturday in the Stephenville Hospital where he had been a patient two days.

He was born June 23, 1876 in Valley Mills, and was the son of the late E. P. and Mary Graham Sadler. Mr. Sadler was a retired farmer, and had been living in Iredell the past 86 years.

Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Daisy Sadler of Iredell; one daughter, Mrs. Maxidine Elkins of Dallas; a half-brother, Forrest Deas of Fort Worth; three grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Burial was in New Iredell Cemetery.



Decorated — Above photograph shows Major General J. Lane, USA, Commander of the Military Traffic Management and Terminal as he presents Lt. Colonel John H. Havens, USAF, an Army Commendation Medal upon his retirement from service. Mrs. Havens is looking on as the presentation was made.

### Col. Havens Decorated Upon Retirement From Air Force

Washington, D.C. — Lt. Colonel J. Havens, U.S. Air Force, son of J. B. Havens of Clairette, was awarded an Army Commendation Medal this week on his retirement from service.

Assigned to the Military Traffic Management and Terminal Service, Col. Havens had the duties of Assistant to the Director of Personal Property Traffic at the time of his retirement.

While in the position of Assistant to the Secretary of the Air Force, he was jointly staffed with Army, Air Force, and Marine officers, as well as civilians in various positions. Its mission is to coordinate military traffic, land transportation and ocean terminals for the Department of Defense.

Col. Havens, in being decorated by the Army, became one of the few officers to have been honored by all three services since he was commended by the Navy in 1965 for outstanding effort in a combined joint-land and industrial transport operation.

Among his awards and decorations are the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal with oak leaf branch, the Purple Heart, the Air Force Commendation Medal, the Pacific Campaign Medal, the American Campaign Medal, the War II Victory Medal, a National Unit Citation, the National Defense Service Medal with Bronze Service Medal.

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### Funeral Services Held Wednesday Afternoon For H. H. Ramage, 77

Funeral services for Hawthorne Hamilton Ramage, 77, were conducted Wednesday at 2:30 p.m. in First Methodist Church. Rev. Hubert Taylor officiated.

Mr. Ramage passed away at 6:15 a.m. Tuesday in Austin, following an illness of several weeks.

He was born September 10, 1889 at Walnut Springs, and was the son of the late Jewel J. and Beulah Johnson Ramage. A retired farmer and rancher, Mr. Ramage had been a resident of Hico for 13 years, and was a former longtime resident of Duffau community and Black Stump Valley. He was a member of the Methodist Church.

Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Mattie Ramage of Hico; one daughter, Mrs. Albert Vickers of Austin; two sons, Jewel C. Ramage of Hooks, and Jimmie L. Ramage of Hico; and nine grandchildren.

Serving as pallbearers were Glenn Higginbotham, M. I. Knudson, Grady Hooper, J. C. Prater, Harold Walker, and Sandy Ogle.

Burial was in Duffau Cemetery.

Mrs. Roger Moore and children of Pasadena visited last week in the home of her sister, Mr. and Mrs. Buddy Randals and James Hord.

### Six Hico Teachers Attending Reading Workshop at Brownwood

Six Hico teachers are attending a two-week reading workshop at Howard Payne College, Brownwood. They will investigate current trends and up-to-date methods in the teaching of reading.

Local teachers attending are Mrs. R. B. Jackson, Mrs. Wayne Rutledge, Mrs. O. C. Cook, Mrs. Bernell Jernigan, Mrs. J. C. Braune, and Mrs. W. B. Hill.

The workshop is being directed by Harold W. Harvard of the Department of Elementary Education, with specialists and consultants in the area of reading. A survey of new methods and materials will be a part of the workshop program. Diagnosing and treating reading difficulties will be emphasized.

### Clairette Lodge Has Open Installation

Clairette Masonic Lodge No. 1052 held open installation of officers Saturday night, July 8.

Officers installed were Lee Par-tain, Worshipful Master; Harvey Anderson, Senior Warden; Frank Stipe, Junior Warden.

Others were Sherman Roberson, secretary; H. A. Carr, treasurer; Paul Lane, Senior Deacon; Zeph Carter, Junior Deacon; Neal Williams, Senior Steward; A. L. Cronk, Junior Steward; M. D. Gage, Tiler; and Vance Wadlington, Chaplain.

Installing officer was Right Worthy District Deputy Grand Master George Black from Stephenville.

Refreshments were served to a large crowd, with visitors from Dallas, Fort Worth, Stephenville, and surrounding towns.

### HELD LAST SATURDAY—

## Farm Tour Draws 100 People

Approximately 100 ranchers, businessmen, farmers and individuals filled three buses last Saturday for the annual County Farm Tour, held for the first time in the Hico area.

The tour is a joint effort of all agricultural agencies in the county.

The following descriptions of farms and operations visited by those on the tour were written by George Krupa, Bomar Harris, Harold Walker, and Bill McCutcheon.

#### GLEN KING FARM

Mr. and Mrs. Glen King and two children operate a 200-acre dairy farm which they purchased in January, 1966 from Truman Pier-son with a Farmers Home Administration Farm Ownership Loan.

The Kings carried out all their development work planned with the loan, which included house and dairy barn repair, new farmstead water system, brush control and

pasture improvement. They completed all development work within 4 months, that had been scheduled to be completed in 14 months, plus an additional 40 acres of brush control and 60 acres of pasture improvement not planned.

#### HILL BROS. FARM

Odus and Henry Hill have 511 acres in their farm west of Hico, that includes 150 acres of cropland, 259 acres of rangeland, 86 acres of pastureland, 10 acres of wildlife land and 6 acres for headquarters. Most of the cropland is irrigated and farmed to cotton, milo and small grain. All crop yields have been increased during the past few years because a good conservation cropping system has been carried out.

The crop rotation includes high residue soil improving crops that meets the needs of the land. Diversions, terraces, contour farming, and grassed waterways have been established. The irrigation program

is carried out with a sprinkler system. Fertilizer is applied as needed according to a soil analysis.

Last year milo was fertilized and after harvest the stalks were shredded. The field was planted to cotton this year and fertilizer has not been used.

The Hills have a chemical weed control program that is very effective. They used an early season insect control program and now are using a late insect control program.

A grassed waterway has been shaped and sprigged to Coastal Bermuda.

Three large farm ponds have been constructed on rangeland and pastureland during the past few years for better distribution of grazing. The soil and water conservation plan with the Hamilton-Coryell District includes range deferred grazing, range proper use and wildlife habitat development.

#### HOLLADAY DAIRY FARM

On their visit to the George Holladay farm, tour members had an opportunity to see one of the best improved irrigated pasture rotation operations in Central Texas, as well as some of the finest registered Holstein dairy cattle.

The Holladays moved to the 300-acre farm in 1941. They built the dairy barn in 1942 and started selling bottled milk in Hico. They later sold milk to a bottling plant in Dublin.

Mr. Holladay acquired his first Holstein cattle in 1947, and by 1950 he had an all-registered herd. He has had a part in the organization of the producer association which serves him, and helped to organize the DHIA in the area and has had his herd on test since it began in 1952. He also has his cattle classified, and presently has three "Excellent" cows in his herd. His cattle not only produce well but are consistent winners in the show

(Continued on Page 8)



# Fairy Community News

By MRS. EUNICE DANIEL

We feel indebted to Mrs. Dellis Seago of Waco for the following history of the little town of Fairy.

Fairy, in northeast Hamilton County, was first known as Martin's Gap because a man by that name is said to have driven the first ox-drawn wagon through the hills where the present town is situated. The area remained free, open range until the early 1880's.

J. B. C. Dickerson, Lee Patterson, Capt. Battle Fort and Robert Parks were among the first settlers. Lee Patterson erected a building which housed his family on one side and a stock of groceries on the other. C. P. Woodard built a second store. On March 17, 1884, a post office was secured and it was named Fairy for a daughter of Capt. Fort. Lee J. Patterson was the first postmaster. A log school house was built in 1886 and Miss Fairy Fort was the first teacher. Church services were held in the school building.

Around 1900 Jim Leeth built a cotton gin. The town at one time had a telephone exchange, three fraternal organizations, a drug store and two doctors. Dr. Young and Dr. O. J. Colwick. Dr. Young served the community over 25 years.

In 1850 the school building was enlarged to include additional room and a second story which community meeting were held. Prof. Ben Randalls was the teacher. (Note there was a mistake in the above date as a large two-room and hall building with upper floor for use as an auditorium was built prior to 1904. Prof. Randalls was a teacher here in 1904. He was this scribe's teacher). In 1904 there are in Fairy three churches and a consolidated school system which sends buses into the adjacent area for pupils. (Note, there was also a mistake in this date as Fairy's brick building was completed July 15, 1930. W. M. Horsley was supt. and taught here for 7 years and was successful in getting this project through.

He also was successful in getting electricity for the community through REA during his years here. In 1954 the school district voted \$30,000 in bonds to build a new elementary school. Prof. Frank Hanes was supt. at this time.

There are four places of business and the agricultural program consists of crop production and raising poultry and livestock. Farm Road 1602 joins Fairy to US 281 at Hico to State 22 at Lanham and to State 36 at Jonesboro. The population in 1950 was 117.

Just a few added words to this history of Fairy. Although we can only go back 63 and a half years since we moved here with our parents in 1904. We feel sure the information on the above history of Fairy was turned in around 1960 since Farm Road 1602 was mentioned and this road was completed in 1948.

When this scribe moved to Fairy the large school building with auditorium was here. We have a school picture of it made in 1904. We had two drug stores, one operated by Dr. S. W. Young and one by Sam Cooper. We had three doctors, Young, Colwick and Dr. Crown. We also had two general merchandise stores, operated by John Fort and Sid Jenkins and his Uncle, Mr. Phelps; a confection

store operated by Tom Wilson; a millinery store operated by Mrs. Wright; a barber shop; later two barber shops operated by Gerald Licett and Jim Jacobs; one blacksmith shop operated by A. J. Basham; four churches; the telephone system operated by Ed Allison family and Mrs. Minnie Penny. The late Minnie Ross was hired to help.

Around 1906 or 1908 Mr. S. L. Trimmer and wife built a large building near the present Martin plaque which served as their home and a hotel. Our father, W. T. Newman, operated the public water well until the present well was drilled. At present Fairy has five other deep wells. Also a deep well at the school grounds drilled probably during the time Mr. Horsley taught here, as during our school days pupils had to carry water in open buckets from the public well.

Fairy was also said to have had a photo studio operated by a Mr. Fisher. We also have a picture made at his studio but this was before our day here. About the first postmasters we can remember was A. P. Rainey. Jim Olden carried mail on a route. Then around 1905 or 06 Walter Porterfield carried mail in his mail hack drawn by one horse if the roads were dry and two if they were muddy. The route was Fairy route 1 and remained this way until it was consolidated with Hico Route 3. B. O. Bridges was carrier on the Fairy route many years. Then Barto Gamble, Mr. J. P. Rodgers and the present carrier, Morse Ross. We have been blessed with some wonderful carriers on our route. We lost our post office in 1964, also our school was consolidated with Hamilton and Hico, as due to the soil bank programs, much of the land is not in production and our younger farm families had to go elsewhere for employment. Then too we have many large landowners whose children had finished school. So it looks like losing our school was unavoidable since we have laws requiring so many teachers for a certain number of grades.

At present we have only two places of business, the Willeford garage and Audie Parks electric shop at his home, and we must say they are as good as can be found anywhere.

At present we have only about ten liveable houses, two of which are brick, and only about 20 reside here, but the Marvin Porterfields are building a new home and the Lloyd Bolstads of Houston are moving here and will erect a brick home at the old Newman place. So it looks like our little town is going to stay on the map.

All enjoyed a pretty weekend with somewhat cooler temperatures early Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Dellis Seago of Waco brought her mother, Mrs. E. C. Allison to Fairy Sunday to spend the day at her home here. She is a patient in a nursing home at Waco, but spends quite a bit of time at the Seagos. She was met here by the following children: Mr. and Mrs. D. E. Allison of Stephenville, Mrs. Wayne Pittman, Karen and Kay of near Stephenville, Mr. and Mrs. Darrel Allison of Dublin, Mr. and Mrs. Texie Allison and sons, Dana and Kelly of Dublin, Mrs. Rubbie Lee Patterson and daughters, Tommy and Mrs. Joan Roberts of Dallas, and this scribe.

A delicious basket lunch was served at noon. In the afternoon the following friends dropped in for a visit: Mrs. Ruth Cunningham, Mrs. T. R. Parks and granddaughter, Becky Parks, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Ray Sellers and Janice and little Kimberly Turner of Killeen, Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Hoover and Peter Jameson Hoover of Daly City, Calif. Mrs. Allison played a few tunes on her piano, but soon became restless and the Seagos had to take her home. All were glad to see her and glad she can walk now without help. Three other daughters and a son were unable to be here.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Turner, Keith and Kimberly of Killeen spent last Friday night with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Ray Sellers and Janice, and had supper with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Willie Turner. They left early Saturday for a vacation to Colorado. Kimberly remained with the Sellers.

Mr. and Mrs. James Perry of Fort Worth visited during the weekend with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Oran Willeford and Delia.

Vernon Jackson and an employee, Milton Potter, and Mrs. Mary Able of Grand Prairie spent the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Jackson.

Mr. and Mrs. Otto Jordan of Cleburne visited last Sunday weekend with her brother, Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Parks, Mr. and Mrs. Weldon Parks and Becky of Fort Worth spent last weekend with his parents.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Farmer of Ballinger spent the weekend in the home of her brother, Mr. and Mrs. Carl King, Rev. and Mrs. Hayes of Waco were also guests in the King home. He is a former pastor here.

A card received today from Mrs. Oscar Russell of Gatesville stated that her sister, Mrs. Lula Holder had fallen three weeks ago and broke her hip and an arm. She spent three weeks in a Waco hospital and was brought to Gatesville hospital last Sunday week.

These ladies are the former Winnie and Lula Basham, daughters of the late Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Basham. We were sorry to learn of her misfortune, and feel sure she would be glad to hear from friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Hobart Proffitt accompanied the men on the farm tour Saturday. Mr. Proffitt said his wife was the only lady in the crowd of about 100 men, but that she thoroughly enjoyed every minute of it.

The Proffitts were in Rising Star Saturday night to attend the school homecoming.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl King returned home last Tuesday night after a 3-day trip to New Orleans where they attended a four state Soil convention.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Botkin, Tammy and Patsy and Mr. and Mrs. Billy Turner, Rhonda and Kurtis of Killeen visited during the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Willie Turner. Patsy and Tammy remained for a visit.

Work was completed at the cemetery Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Powell of Gatesville spent last Wednesday night with her brother, the Willie Turners.

Two birthdates for July we failed to give were Mrs. Oran Willeford, July 14 and Mrs. Ruth Cunningham July 25.

Mrs. L. M. Key of Amarillo visited at the cemetery Thursday of last week and came to our home and left a note. We had been to the cemetery to burn trash piles and stopped at the Martin plaque to burn some trash. We had never met but had corresponded while helping her to get a government marker for her grandfather, F. T. Tyler. She spent Thursday night

**T. L. Chapman**  
— INSURANCE —  
— IREDELL, TEXAS —  
Fire & Casualty  
Day Phone EM 4-2233  
Night Phone 4-2372

with her uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Berkley of near Hico and seems no one thought to call us. She had Mrs. Berkley call and tell us after she had gone home. How nice she thought the cemetery looked. A cleanup had just been completed. Our sincere thanks to the following for your donations: Mrs. Lester Grisham, Fort Worth \$10; the daughters of the late Ber-

ry Blakley \$5; and J. B. Leeth of Hico \$3.

Mrs. Ray Turner, who is with her husband and son on vacation in Colorado called her mother Monday to see how their baby was doing. Mrs. Sellers told them to continue on their trip, that the baby was fine. Mrs. Turner stated that since entering Colorado they had met Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hanes and

Mike, also there on vacation. Mrs. E. M. Hoover carried her sister, Mrs. V. H. Heyroth of Gorman Tuesday for checkup.

Mr. and Mrs. Odell Chapman of DeSoto stopped at our home Tuesday of last week for a visit. Mrs. Chapman is a cousin of late Cabert Daniel. Mr. Chapman also visited W. E. Goynes.



## Specials for Friday thru Wednesday

1 LB. CAN MAXWELL HOUSE <b>Coffee</b> 69¢	1 LB. AFFILIATED <b>Bacon</b> 69¢
5 LBS. GLADIOLA <b>Flour</b> 49¢	3 FOUND CAN MOHAWK <b>Hams</b> \$2.39
GIANT SIZE 3 OZ. INSTANT <b>Nestea</b> 99¢	SHURFRESH <b>Oleo</b> 19¢
DUNCAN HINES—White, Yellow, Choc <b>Cake Mix</b> 3\$/1.00	8 OZ PKG AMERICAN SLICED <b>Cheese</b> 30¢
3 LB. CAN SHURFINE <b>Shortening</b> 69¢	10 OZ. FOOD KING <b>Strawberries</b> 2/39¢
10 OZ. INST. MAXWELL HOUSE <b>Coffee</b> \$1.19	10 OZ BOOTH BREADED <b>Shrimp</b> 59¢
5 LB BAG GLADIOLA <b>Corn Meal</b> 39¢	1/4 GALLON AFFILIATED <b>Mellorine</b> 3/\$1
13 OZ LUSTER CREAM <b>Hair Spray</b> 49¢	ARMOUR STAR HEN—8-14 LB AV <b>Turkeys</b> lb. 35¢

# H. & B. FOOD STORE

PHONE SY 6-4322 WE DELIVER HICO, TEX.

**TOWN SHOPPE**

STEPHENVILLE, TEXAS

PRICES TAKE A NOSE DIVE IN OUR

# JULY CLEARANCE

Further Price Reductions Give Extra Savings in All Departments

CHARGE BOOKS CLOSED  
Purchases made now not due until September 10th!

CHECK OUR STORE FOR NEW FALL FASHIONS ARRIVING DAILY  
WE GIVE S & H GREEN STAMPS  
**COX'S**  
"Stephenville's Leading Department Store"

Best Wishes to the citizens of Hico on the occasion of their 81st Annual Reunion!

**HICO REUNION!**

Come, take your place in the fun! Bring the family, meet your friends at the Hico Old Settlers Reunion! It's bigger and better than ever!

**FRED RAINWATER**  
Commissioner, Precinct 3



### Clairette Community News

By MRS. LUCILE MAYFIELD

T. F. Hill, who underwent surgery at Harris Hospital in Fort Worth recently, was able to return home last Tuesday, and is doing fine.

Phillip Carr is still a patient in the Veterans Hospital at Temple. He had surgery recently. Augusta Sturdivant of Farmington, New Mexico and his father,

Chester of Dallas visited Friday and Saturday with Mr. and Mrs. Dave Alexander. Mr. and Mrs. Lem Hoffpouer went to Fort Worth Saturday to visit Frank McAnally and family a few days. Mr. and Mrs. Dave Alexander visited with Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Alexander in Hico Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. Larry Erick of

Fort Worth and Mrs. Jeanell Garner of Stephenville visited Saturday in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Roberson. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Mayfield visited his sister, Mr. and Mrs. Claude Stasey at Chalk Mountain Sunday. Recent visitors of Mr. and Mrs. John Noland were her cousins, Mrs. Ellis Bradshaw and children of Robstown, Mrs. Rudene Buys of Corpus Christi, and Mrs. James Wolfhol of Sinton. Mrs. Vora Gibson of Midland is visiting her sister, Mrs. Lillie Bishop.

Mr. and Mrs. John Noland visited with Mr. and Mrs. Buster Duncan at Hico Sunday. David and Linda Noland of Weatherford visited during the weekend with their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. John Noland. Mrs. C. L. McEntire of Stephenville spent a couple of days and night last week with her daughter, Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Noland. Mrs. M. L. Gage spent four or five days in Stephenville last week sitting with Earl Wright at the Stephenville Hospital, who has been ill for sometime.

Bill and Hughie Carr visited their brother, Phillip in the Veterans Hospital at Temple Sunday. Mrs. Mary Miller and Mrs. Gladys Lepard of Big Spring are visiting Mr. and Mrs. Hughie Carr.

Any time you have news for the paper and cannot contact me, call the News Review not later than Tuesday noon and ask them to add your news to the Clairette column. Thank you.

Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Burch of Hamilton, Mrs. J. W. Scott, Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Mayfield, Mrs. Loyd Riley and children, Buddie, James and Jean, and Mrs. Jack Garner, Vanda and Karen of Stephenville, also Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Koonsman, Mr. and Mrs. Von Scott, Devonna and Tanja, Mr. and Mrs. Harlon Koonsman, Toby and Kristi of Hico, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Currey of Dublin, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Wolfe and Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Walsworth all enjoyed a cookout and fish fry at the Walsworth home during the weekend.

Mr. and Mrs. John Alexander of Stephenville visited Saturday night with Mrs. Zena Havens. The revival at Clairette Meth-

### Olin Community News

By MRS. CYRUS KING

Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Gray and daughter, Cynthia, and Mr. and Mrs. Cyrus King were in Brownwood Monday on business.

Mrs. J. P. Merritt and daughters, Elaine and Jerry Beth were guests Saturday night of Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Henderson at Hico.

Miss Barbara Baley spent Sunday night with Miss Leana Knapp.

Rev. and Mrs. Sam Johnston and Elsie of Lampasas and Mr. and Mrs. Homer Bishop of West were Sunday luncheon guests in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Murrell Ables.

After lunch the Ables, Rev. and Mrs. Johnston, Mr. and Mrs. Harmon Trammell, Mrs. A. C. Odell and Misses Elaine Merritt and Leana Knapp drove to Lampasas where Rev. Johnston was ordained to be a Baptist minister in the First Baptist Church at that city.

Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Staggs of Providence visited awhile Tuesday night with Mr. and Mrs. Cyrus King.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Hale and children of Temple spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Gene Hale and Kay.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Ables and sons, Mark and Alvin of Everman visited Mr. and Mrs. Murrell Ables during the weekend. Mark and Al-

vin will begin July 30 and continue through the week. Everyone is invited to attend.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Smith and family and Mrs. Nila Denton of Stephenville were Sunday visitors with Mr. and Mrs. Hub Alexander. Sharon Smith remained for a visit.

Mr. and Mrs. Tidwell of Dallas and Mr. and Mrs. Glen Smith and family of Mason spent Sunday visiting with Mr. and Mrs. A. E. James.

#### CUSTOM SLAUGHTERING

Cattle - Hogs - Sheep & Goats

All animals processed & wrapped to your specifications.

Locker Boxes for Rent - HICO LOCKER PLANT

Phone SY 6-4786



HOWDY!

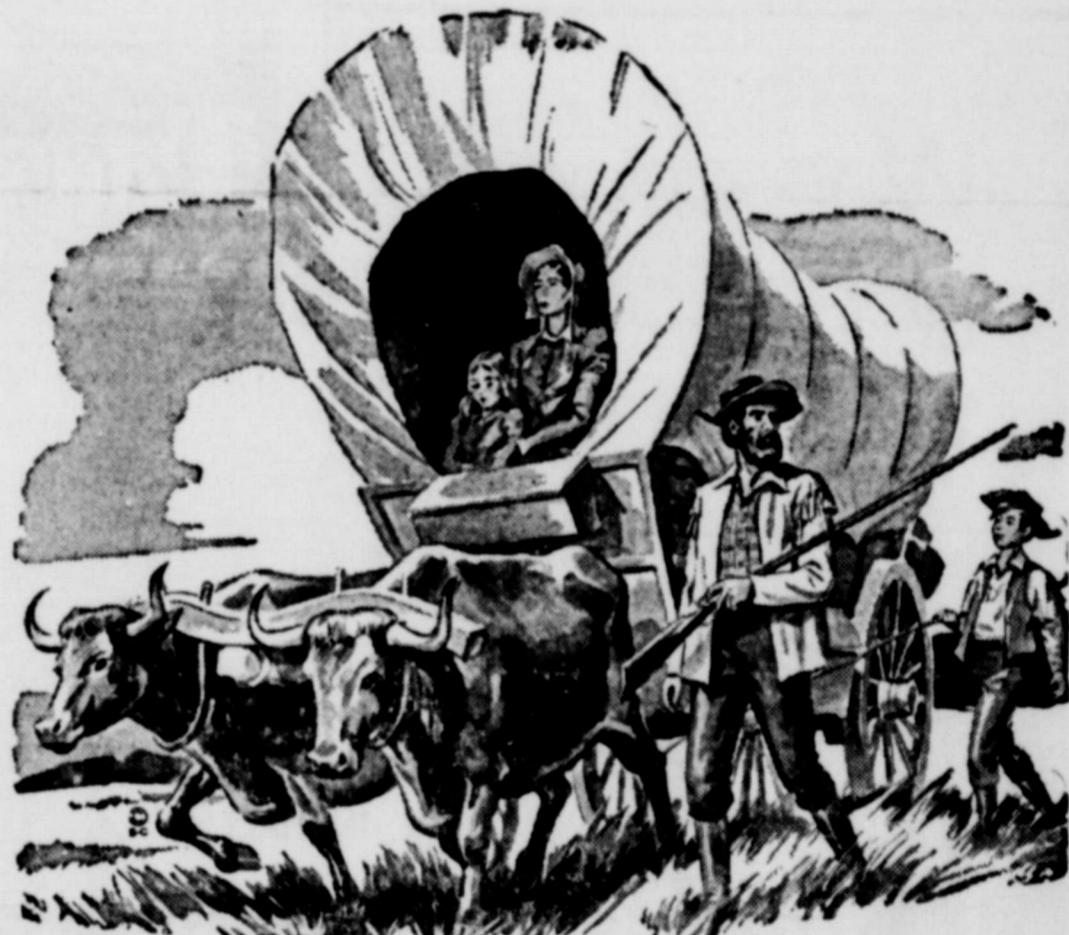
WE'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AT HICO'S OLD SETTLERS REUNION

### Polk Cleaners

Derwood & Berta

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Free Pickup and Delivery Service



BARNES & McCULLOUGH EXTENDS A HEARTY WELCOME TO PIONEERS AND VISITORS DURING

### The Annual Hico Reunion

There is no occasion that should have a greater recognition than the Reunion — a time when we all should come together in joy and prayerful thought for good things that have been brought our way.

We are extremely proud to have had a part in the building of Hico through the years. We believe in its agriculture prosperity; appreciate the fine school plant, churches, beautiful homes and the friendly people—and looking forward to its ambitious future.

Come visit with us in our celebration. Enjoy our Texas hospitality. Plan to attend every year—You'll be glad — and we will too!

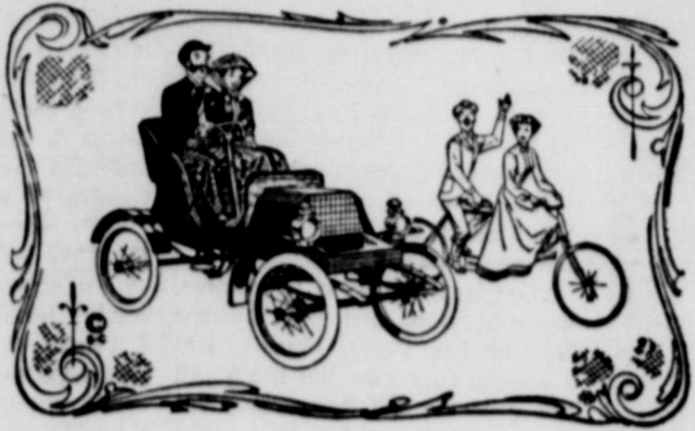
## Barnes & McCullough

"EVERYTHING TO BUILD ANYTHING"

PHONE SY 6-4422

HICO, TEXAS

## A HEARTY WELCOME



— TO —

## The Annual Hico Reunion

KEEP ROLLING AND HEAD FOR HICO JULY 26 THRU 29 AND JOIN IN THE FUN OF OUR ANNUAL REUNION CELEBRATION! SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!

IN RETURNING HOME, STOP BY FOR A VISIT AND COMPLETE AUTOMOBILE SERVICE WHILE WE CHAT.

Trust your car to the man who wears the star



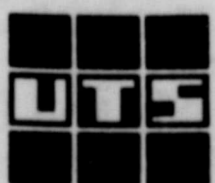
# Ogle Bros.

Texaco Service Station

## PLAN TO ATTEND The Annual Hico Reunion JULY 26-27-28-29



THIS COMPANY IS PROUD TO BE PART OF THE HICO COMMUNITY AND PROUD TO BE PART OF THE INDEPENDENT TELEPHONE INDUSTRY THAT PROVIDES MILLIONS OF AMERICANS WITH THE FINEST TELEPHONE SERVICE AVAILABLE ANYWHERE.



## Gulf States-United Telephone Company

UNITED TELEPHONE SYSTEM



# Fractured 'Filosophy ...

By J. Rayford Wooton

## "Old Bell"

I never saw Old Bell, but as a boy of seven, I had heard many fantastic stories about the big blue speckled steer. The majestic old steer was long and scraggly by today's standards. His horns swept out in a spread of more than four feet. His blue speckled and mottled color seemed to blend into the heavy brush terrain that covered his favorite range. The big bell he wore about his neck rarely ever made a sound. It was amazing how this old steer could move so swiftly, and prevent the big bell from clanging.

The T-P Coal Company owned many thousands of acres of land in Erath, Palo Pinto and Eastland counties, and other landowners had fenced only their fields, so the entire area was outside, and everyone's livestock ran wild. Old Bell had belonged to Mr. Stages, and when he was two years old, his

owner had put the big bell on him, and turned him loose to range. When the fall roundup came about, Old Bell evaded the cowboys, and was not brought in to be sold. He had developed a very cunning, and wary way. He would not let himself be brought into a herd, and driven to the corrals. This kept up until the old steer was 12 years old, and quite famous. Old Bell always made good his escape, and several times he had led other cattle that could not be driven out of the heavy brush of the cedar canyons. Leading other cattle away from the roundup was the undoing of Old Bell.

The coal company put a reward of \$25 on Old Bell. Anyone who could catch the wise and evasive old steer and deliver him to Thurbur, dead or alive, could claim the reward. The market value of Old Bell was not more than half of the reward. Many different men tried, but in vain. Old Bell had outsmarted everyone who thought he could collect the reward, until Bill Nichols, who worked on a ranch more than 40 miles from the range of the famous old steer, heard of the offer, and decided to try his skill. The reward was more than a month's wages.

Bill owned two very good cow dogs. He knew he could count on his dogs trailing and following Old

Bell into places where a horse could not go. This was the strategy he used to capture his quarry. It didn't take too long to find the scent of Old Bell. Bill started the dogs on the trail, and soon they jumped the old renegade. The race was on, and for more than three hours the dogs pressed Old Bell in close pursuit. The old steer was determined not to leave the cover of the heavy brush areas, but the dogs kept pushing so closely until finally he had to get into less covered places to get speed to stay ahead of the fierce dogs. Bill let the dogs do the brush work, and saved his horse for the time when the elusive Bell did leave for more open ground.

Old Bell broke cover and headed for the mesquite flats and open timber of the Middle Creek bottom. Bill urged his horse into the race, and was keeping quite close to the fleeing steer. Just before Old Bell reached Middle Creek, he started across a clearing of several hundred feet. It was here that Bill did his work. With rope swinging wide, and spurring his mount within reach, he cast a sure loop over the old steer's wide horns. As the rope settled neatly around the big steer's neck, Bill noticed they were just on top of the Middle Creek bank. He set the reins hard on his horse to try to avoid being dragged off the bank. The spunky cow pony dug in, as he too saw the danger.

Old Bell cleared the bank, and in mid-air was thrown for a tail-spin. He landed in the creek head down. The fall broke the old steer's neck, and Bill and his pony were no more than a foot from the bank's edge. Just this much space was their margin of safety.

Old Bell runs no more, and Bill Nichols felt he earned several times the amount of the \$25 reward. His call was close.



The Hail Family

... Headed for the First Reunion

# Hico Pioneer Tells of First Reunion Celebration

"This being the 81st Reunion brings back lots of memories to me," said Brooks Hail, one of Hico's last remaining pioneers.

"This old group picture of me and my family at that time was taken in 1881. I was six years old at the time."

"Dad loaded us all up and brought us to the Reunion. First, we went to Connally and Sellers store and Dad dressed us up. That is where I got mad. They dressed Hugh in long pants and boots and me in short pants and button shoes. That really made me mad. They then took us to have pictures made, and as you see, I wouldn't look at the birdie. I turned my head," the old-timer continued.

"So, I was at the first Reunion, but I didn't like it on account of the way I was dressed."

"Our family grew to 12 children, seven boys and five girls. Aurther Hail of Las Vegas, Nevada, and I are the only boys still living. All five girls are still living. They are Vivian Maloney of Las Vegas, Nevada, Addie Diesher of Plainview, Jean Woodruff of Duncan, Okla., and Cora Wright and Mayme King of Hico," Mr. Hail continued.

"Now on with the story. On account of us being in the open range in 1888, dad and mother decided to move closer to church and school. So dad rounded up 500 head of cattle with his brand, OT

on the right side. The cowboys helping were Tom Stinnett, father of Mattie Stinnett and the father of Susie Salmon; Clem Jones, father of Bonnie Alexander; John Large, father of Ola Waldrop and Le Epperson; and two more men, Tom Roseman and Uncle Billy High. We started the herd, Hugh and I with it."

"Our ranch at that time was on Spring Creek where the Gidins now live. We went straight across Honey Creek about 13 miles. Only saw two houses, Walter Peterson's mother's ranch and one on Hard Scrabble," Hail said. "Dad traded one-half of the land for land, kept 50 head at home and sold over 200 head to E. Gamble for \$8.00 a head."

"We stayed there until I was 15. They began to fence me so I went west and was a long time coming back. But am back now. I started from," Brooks said. "I hope the 81st Reunion will be a big success and all heretofore the old-timer concluded."

## CARD OF THANKS

We wish to express our thanks and appreciation to members of Hico Volunteer Fire Department for their promptness in answering the call and extinguishing the fire on our ranch Monday afternoon, July 13-1967.

BOYD RANNEY



## WORRIED ABOUT YOUR HEARING??

JACK JONES  
9 Years A Sonotone Manager

Then you want SONOTONE. If you need expert help on a hearing problem, thousands of persons across the U.S. will tell you—Sonotone is THE company to see. Thousands have also found—through discouraging experience elsewhere—that Sonotone is the most economical in the long run, 35 YEARS OF LEADERSHIP

## SONOTONE of FORT WORTH

921 Cherry Street

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Write or Call for Appointment—Home or Office

## Too Late To Classify—

FOR SALE: 8' Aero windmill and tower, Jensen pump and pressure system, 12 joints 2" pipe and sucker rod. Ph. 796-4902. 13-2tp.

# Just An Old-Fashioned Greeting to All Our Friends and Visitors at the Annual Hico Reunion



YES, IT'S REUNION TIME AGAIN, AND FOR EACH AND EVERYONE WE EXTEND SPECIAL SALUTATIONS, AND WELCOME YOU TO HICO.

Hico City Hospital

Hico Clinic

Jenkins Laundry

Bess Mingus Dress Shop

Peggy O'Neal BEAUTY Shop

Bill's Sheet Metal Shop

Willard Leach Serv. Sta.

Hico TV Sales & Service

MODERNISTIC BEAUTY SALON

Hico Nursing Home

Robert Jackson

Grover Renfroe

Casey Garage & Auto

Neel Truck & Tractor

Solsbery Shoe Shop

Hico Motor Co.

# Women get a lot they like with electric dishwashing...



CUTS AFTER MEAL CLEAN-UP TIME IN HALF!



SANITIZES MY DISHES... DRIES THEM SPARKLING BRIGHT!



HELPS ME KEEP A TIDIER KITCHEN—FREE FROM CLUTTER

You'll find a lot to like, too, about electric dishwashing. Isn't it time you saw your appliance dealer and traded dishpan drudgery for the convenience of an automatic electric dishwasher?

COMMUNITY PUBLIC SERVICE

Your Electric Light & Power Company





# CLUB and SOCIETY PAGE

CLUBS — SOCIETY — PARTIES — PERSONAL MENTION

## Meets, Hears Reports

The women's society of Christian met in regular session in the home of Mrs. B. C. Dayton.

Meeting was opened with prayer by Mrs. Tom Hale. Mrs. Hale gave an informative report on the coming year's work. Officers reported on their new prayer calendar.

The topic for the day was "The Church is There." The program was presented as a series of readings from the scriptures. Portions of the letters from Paul from the new testament were included in the study.

Mrs. John Rusk, Mrs. Taylor and Mrs. Alvin C. Taylor were present.

Mrs. Ina Randall, Mrs. Ina Zuelia Strother and Mrs. Ross.

Jerry Needham, Hal and Rio Vista have been visiting the past two weeks in the homes of Mr. and Mrs. Rex and Mrs. Bill Needham with other relatives and

## ELLIS FAMILY ENJOYS OUTING AT LAKE PROCTOR

Mr. and Mrs. Rex Ellis and all of their children and families enjoyed a camping and fishing trip at Proctor Lake during the weekend. Present were Mr. and Mrs. Bill Ellis and family, Mr. and Mrs. James Rainwater and family, and Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Ellis and family of Fort Worth; Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Needham and family of Rio Vista; Mrs. Margaret Tressler and DeLana of Jennerstown, Pa.; Mr. and Mrs. Doyle O'Neal and Mrs. Ellis.

## ENJOY VACATION TRIP

Mrs. Travis Holley returned home Friday following a week's vacation trip to West Texas where she visited with her children in Lubbock and Fort Stockton. She also visited points of interest in the Panhandle, and Palo Duro Canyon and Big Bend National Park. She accompanied her son, Mr. and Mrs. Elson Holley and family of Houston on the trip. David Holley returned home with his grandmother for an extended visit.

Cathy and Mike Graves, and a friend, Linda Clarke, all of Austin are spending two weeks with their grandmother, Mrs. Mamie Graves.

## D'Ann Stringer Feted On 2nd Birthday

D'Ann Stringer celebrated her second birthday with a lawn party at her home Wednesday afternoon of last week. Her mother, Mrs. Jerry Stringer was hostess for the courtesy.

Guests enjoyed swimming, and refreshments of cake, ice cream and punch.

Present were Joy and Tony Putty, Merri Jo, Carmen and Lou Hill, Vickie, Debbie, Kim and Jay Autrey, Sherri and D'Anna Edwards and Shelly Sherling of Ft. Worth. Adults attending were Mrs. Henry Hill, Mrs. E. L. Putty, Mrs. Arvill Edwards and Mrs. James Autrey.

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. East and Ronnie spent last weekend in Waco with his aunt and cousin, Mrs. S. O. Durham and Baylor, his uncle and cousin, Mr. E. W. East and Belba, and cousins, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. West.

Mr. and Mrs. Jake Lane and Sharon of Ponca City, Okla. are vacationing here and visiting in the homes of his parents and brother, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Lane and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Lane and Debbie.

Sunday visitors in the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Bobo were their daughter and son and families, Mr. and Mrs. Leon Ladyman, Karen, David and Sylvia of Dallas, and James R. Bobo and Janice of San Antonio. Sylvia and Janice remained for a longer visit with their grandparents.

Mr. and Mrs. Lester Simpson and Blake are spending their two-week vacation here visiting in the homes of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Simpson and Mr. and Mrs. Wauwic Ogle.

Mr. and Mrs. Tyrus King visited in Comanche Monday with Rev. and Mrs. J. D. Smoot, and in Dublin with Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Adams.

Mrs. Charles Oxley and son of Fort Worth are spending two weeks here with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Raby Bruner and Linda while her husband is attending summer camp at Fort Hood.

Mrs. Ed Pettitt of Stephenville is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Sherrard, while her husband is at training camp with the Dallas Cowboys in California.

## ILLINOIS VISITORS

Visiting in the home of Mrs. John Golightly last Friday afternoon and evening were Mr. and Mrs. Irving Lemenager of Ashburn, Illinois, and their son, John, who is stationed at Fort Hood; also Mr. Clyde Gillispie and Dan of Clifton, Ill.; Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Golightly, Charles Jr., John, George, James and Steven of Tyler; Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Burden, Randall, David and Don of Clifton; Mr. and Mrs. Ray Keller, Vickie, Curtis and Brent of Hico. The Lemenagers had purchased 11 registered Polled Herefords from Mrs. Golightly. This was their first trip to Texas, and they thoroughly enjoyed the hamburger supper and visit.

Gene Simpson of Glen Rose visited Monday in the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Simpson. Friday visitors in the home were Mrs. David Box, Carolyn and Donna of Hamilton.

Visiting in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Winfrey Griffiths last Wednesday and Thursday was their daughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Blue, Billy Dan, Cheryl, Gary and Dana of Crane.

Mrs. Jud Roach of Fort Worth visited last week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Lane and Debbie while her husband was on a job in Oklahoma. They were moving to Oklahoma this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Lucas of Howard, Pa. were recent visitors with her mother, Mrs. Mary Alexander. Mrs. Lucas is the former Jessie Alexander.

Alex Kilcrease and children and Mr. and Mrs. Loyd Hester and family of Dublin visited Sunday in the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Kilcrease and Johnny.

David Holley of Houston visited last week in the home of his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Travis Holley.

Pfc. Bill Rutledge of Fort Hood visited during the weekend with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Rutledge.

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Erick of Fort Worth visited Saturday night in the homes of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Wooton and Mr. and Mrs. Wayland Wooton.

Mrs. D. H. Burden and Mrs. Pierce McBride of Dallas visited recently in the home of their mother, Mrs. W. L. Malone.

Mrs. Don Burgan, Mark and Charles of Stephenville visited Sunday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Luther Spinks and other relatives.

## HONORED WITH DINNER

Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Barber were hosts in their home last Friday night when they honored their cousin, Mrs. Charles Tolliver with a birthday dinner. Attending were the honoree, her husband and daughter, Lynette, and the hosts.

Mr. and Mrs. B. W. Hail and Gurley Hail of Chalk Mountain were supper guests last Thursday night of their daughter and niece, Mrs. Mary, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Hill, H. L. Carmen, Lou and Merri Jo.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Loyd and daughters visited last week with relatives in Wichita Falls, Iowa Park, Vernon and Holliday.

Weekend visitors in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Pat Christian, Donny, Torrie and Stevan were Mr. and Mrs. Bill Bryant of Fort Worth.

Mr. and Mrs. Troy Thurman and sons of Stephenville visited Sunday with her sister, Mrs. Darrel Simons and Darla.

Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Partain and Ronnie of Fort Worth spent the weekend at their home here and visited with friends.

## CARD OF THANKS

I would like to thank my many friends for their kind words of concern and for their visits, cards and flowers while I was in the hospital. I would like to thank Dr. Dayton and the nurses for taking care of me. Thanks for everything, Joy Putty.

## CARD OF THANKS

It is with humble hearts that we say thanks to each of you for the many kindnesses shown us during the illness and death of our loved one. May God bless each of you in our prayer.

The Family of Grace Harris Fouts  
13-1tp. m

Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Simpson enjoyed a camping and fishing trip to the Leon River during the weekend.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Stevens, Glenda and Gary spent the weekend with her mother, Mrs. Bess Mingus.

## HICO THEATRE

● New Time! Open at 7:15, Show Starts 7:30

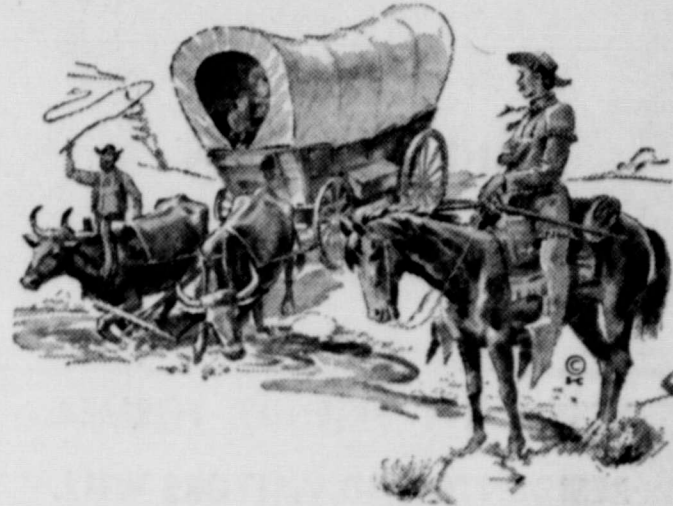
FRIDAY & SATURDAY—

A Fantastic and Spectacular voyage—thru the human body — into the brain!

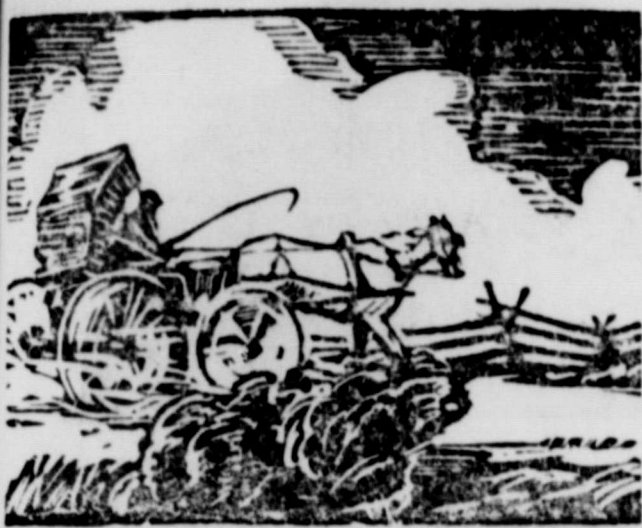
"FANTASTIC VOYAGE"

Stephen Boyd, Raquel Welch, Edmond O'Brien and Donald Pleasance

★ Remember — Closed Next Week for Hico's 81st Old Settlers Reunion



We are happy to be a part of this fine community, and participate in the celebration of Hico's ANNUAL REUNION — WELCOME, FRIENDS & VISITORS — Hico Frozen Food Locker



WE ARE HAPPY TO EXTEND OUR GREETINGS AND TO WELCOME VISITORS TO HICO'S ANNUAL REUNION

Country Cousin's Corner VERNON CHEW

## GREETINGS

TO ALL OUR FRIENDS AND VISITORS! WE WELCOME YOU TO — HICO'S REUNION



WE ARE ALWAYS GLAD TO SEE YOU & IF WE MAY BE OF SERVICE TO YOU WHILE YOU ARE IN TOWN PLEASE ALLOW US TO DO SO. STOP BY FOR A VISIT!

Your Money Buys More at —

Russell's Dry Goods

— We Give Plaid Stamps —

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Hico, Texas

## WELCOME, REUNION VISITORS

# JACKSON'S SUPERETTE

AND MARKET

Store Hours: 6:30 am to 9:00 pm — OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK —

- Armour Chili—300 size ..... 39c
- Honey Boy Salmon—Tall ..... 59c
- Majesty Lunch Meat ..... 39c
- Kounty Kist Cream Style Corn ..... 19c

## DUNCAN HINES CAKE MIXES

- White, Yellow, Devils Food, Spice, Cherry Supreme; Coconut Supreme; Pineapple Supreme; Butter Recipe Golden; Caramel Supreme; Butter Recipe Fudge—
- YOUR CHOICE ..... 35c

## QUALITY MEATS

- Hamburger Meat ..... lb 49c
- Round Steak ..... lb 99c
- T-Bone Steak ..... lb 85c
- Sirloin Steak ..... lb 79c

## FRUIT & VEGETABLES

- Delicious Apples ..... lb 19c
- Sunkist Oranges ..... lb 19c
- Grapefruit ..... each 10c
- Lettuce ..... lb 30c
- Cabbage ..... lb 10c

— WE GIVE PLAID STAMPS —



# WELCOME ...

OLD SETTLERS AND VISITORS TO THE 80th ANNUAL REUNION

We take great pleasure in participating in this annual affair.

Celebrations such as the Hico Reunion are occasions to look back on the past and pay tribute to the pioneers who settled this country. The story of Hico and the Reunion is one of pioneer spirit, of rugged stamina, of vision and hard work, and of inspiring work.

We salute those pioneers and welcome them back during this, the 81st such homecoming

A Registered Pharmacist on Duty at All Times

# Howard Drug Co.

"The Store of Friendly Service"

Phone SY 6-4215

HICO, TEXAS



THE VISITORS ARE COMING —



AND WE WELCOME  
EVERY ONE OF THEM!

YES, MANY FRIENDS, FORMER  
RESIDENTS AND VISITORS WILL  
BE IN HICO JULY 26 THROUGH  
JULY 29 TO ATTEND OUR 80th  
ANNUAL REUNION, AND WE  
EXTEND A HEARTY WELCOME  
TO EACH AND EVERYONE!

**Barrow-Rutledge  
Funeral Home**

Items of Interest From Iredell . . .

FORMER CORRESPONDENT  
TELLS OF NEW POSITION

(Ed Note: Mrs. Vinita Blakley, former Iredell correspondent for the News Review, wrote the following descriptive account of her new duties at Arlington, and is being published as a matter of interest to her many friends.)

It has been my intentions to write to my former news column since I have been living at the Eastern Star Home in Arlington, but have been rather busy learning my work and meeting some 85 ladies in the home, plus all the workers.

If someone had told me two months ago that I would be living this experience, I would have not believed it.

This is a lovely place to live and work. As a waitress I am responsible for six tables in the dining room and when all are present I have served 30. My group includes Mr. Clyde Haden, the business manager, Mrs. Edythe Dixon, a matron and acting superintendent, Mrs. Rebecca L. Miles, grand secretary as a guest twice, also several other grand officers as guests, and a table of six nurses.

My work is interesting meeting people and serving food to the ladies whose ages are from 75 to 92 years. I marvel at their morale. Coming to breakfast at 7:30 in the morning dressed as if going to church, they sing several songs at the entrance to the dining room then have the table grace and enjoy their fellowship together at the tables three times a day.

There is never a dull moment. Those who wish to go to church on Sunday morning are carried. A Sunday School class is held each Sunday morning and a service in the afternoon at the lovely chapel.

The ladies that could go have been carried to Casa Manna three times since I have been here. I was one of the group to see "Can Can." I wondered if I reached 85 or 90 years if I would be able to go as these ladies do. Here is another experience: On the Fourth of July they were carried to the parade, then that night at 9 we went to see the fireworks display at Arlington Stadium. We arrived

back of the field where the display was to be and had to wait an hour for the ball game to be over. Can you imagine these women, one 85 years, walking with a cane, being "knot hole" peepers? That is what the announcer said we were. It was fun, and I do believe I'll grow younger being with these women. For recreation those that want to play 42, canasta and bridge, do handwork and occasionally have bingo.

Each month a birthday party is given for those whose birthday comes in that month. In June there were five, and one was 100 years old that day. Her chapter from Dallas came to be with her. She is a retired RN and a native of England where she started training, then to Canada, the United States and Dallas. She is a resident of the hospital, not active, but takes

no medication. I am fortunate to have a nice room in the home near my work, and to have nice people to work for and with.

I miss my home, my friends, and most of all, my church, but I'll be back some day. I did not burn any bridges behind me.

Who should I meet when I first came to a Mrs. Petsick, the former dietician at the home and a native of Hico, the former Priscilla Rodgers. I was happy to meet her.

I could go on writing about the happenings in the home, but maybe there will be another chapter. Hope you have enjoyed this little bit of news. I don't claim to be a writer, but wanted to let you share some of my experiences.

Best wishes to all of you.  
VINITA M. BLAKLEY.

The Hico News Review

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES:  
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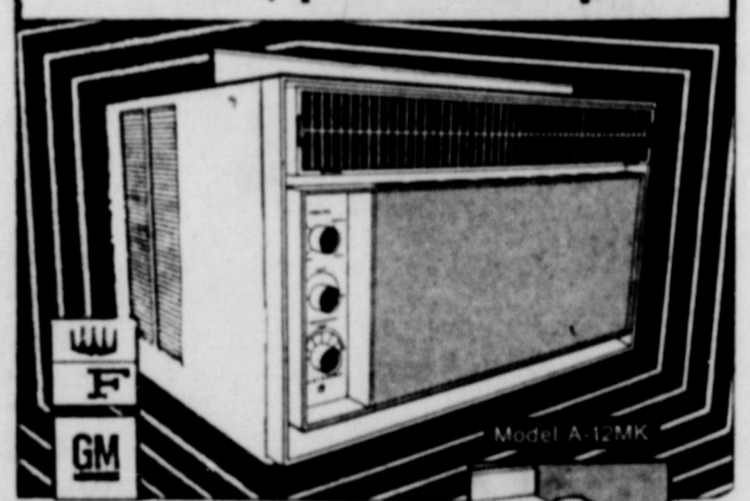
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It's our 10th Anniversary, and we would like to say "thanks" to our friends and customers in Hico and surrounding areas for the good business you have given us. We are looking forward to serving you in the future with the great appliances FRIGIDAIRE now brings you.

LOUISE BLAIR

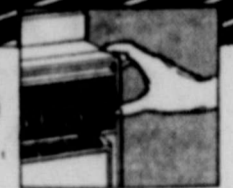
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SALE OR TRADE

Evaporative cooler, Ph. 6796-4916. 13-1tp. from Viola Davis place Hico and Iredell, one 300 heater. Ph. 796-4844. 13-2tp. 1960 Ford bus for sale. Bids will be accepted. Independent School District Aug. 1. School board right to reject any and all bids. 13-2tc.

MISCELLANEOUS

FOR RENT. Clean 4-rm. house. Former Bill Hardy residence. Call collect Mrs. Jimmy Mitchell, WA 3-8008, Fort Worth. 12-tfc. HAY BALING: Grand new Holland wire baler, mower and mower conditioner. Shares or cash. 796-4959. 4-tfc. FARMS, RANCHES & CITY PROPERTY. We need your listings. They will be appreciated. Hico Real Estate. 19-tfc. REMODELING? Adding a room? Building a new home? We have linoleum, tile, and carpet in stock. Expert installations. Denman Tile & Carpet, 150 S. Columbia, Stephenville. 50-tfc. VACANCIES for men and women at the Hico Nursing Home. Phone SY 6-4710. 32-tfc.

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Carlton Community News

BY MRS. FRED GEYER

Mrs. Jewell Lowery received a message last week that her brother, P. L. (Plummer) Massingill had passed away in Clovis, New Mexico July 7 at the age of 67. Funeral services were held July 10 in Clovis, with burial there also. He was the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. George Massingill of Carlton. We attended the Carlton school together. Mrs. Lowery was unable to attend the funeral. Mrs. Leland Keith and children of Fort Worth were weekend visitors with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Upham, and attended services Sunday morning at the Baptist Church. A correction: Mrs. Laymon Smith and two children, visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charley Profitt, are from Newport News, Va. instead of Fort Knox, Ky. They are returning home this week after they place her mother in the Golden Age Nursing Home at Dublin.

AUCTION SALE Farm Machinery

THURSDAY, JULY 27 — 10 AM

Gap Implement Company CRANFILLS GAP, TEXAS TRACTORS, PLOWS & ALL KINDS OF EQUIPMENT

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Hico Automotive Supply Phone SY 6-4949

COW POKES

By Ace Reid



"Open yore eyes Jake! You can't look for cattle with yore eyes closed."

Joe Chick and sons, Randy and Marc of Fort Worth were Carlton visitors Saturday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Freddie Self and baby, Misti of Arlington were weekend visitors with his mother and grandmother, Mrs. Ruth Self and Mrs. Fred Geyer.

Mrs. Charley Dyer returned home Saturday from a weeks visit in San Angelo with her daughter, Mrs. Novice Littleton, and in Odessa with her granddaughter and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Berry. Mrs. Littleton accompanied her mother home.

Mr. and Mrs. Mike Brown of Dublin were visitors Friday night with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Lunsford.

Glenn and Curtis Hyles of Hico are visiting their uncle, Wade Anderson and family. Their mother, Mrs. Vernon Hyles is a patient in the Hico Hospital.

Mrs. Wayne Cozby has received word that her sister, Mrs. Moad of Jefferson City, Mo., who had major surgery recently, is doing fine.

Kenneth Lunsford, a game warden cadet at Breckenridge, his wife and daughter, Jackie of Dublin spent the weekend with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Lunsford.

Mrs. George Barnett fell Saturday night in the home of neigh-

bors, Mr. and Mrs. George Driver and broke her hip. She was carried to the Stephenville Hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Strickland of Graham were visitors during the weekend with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Lunsford. Their children, Larry and Charles Sharp accompanied them home after a visit with their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Sharp and Mr. and Mrs. Lunsford.

Last week and weekend visitors with Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Cozby were two brothers, Milton Cozby

and son, Rickey of Albuquerque, New Mexico, and Homer Cozby of Stephenville; also her sister and husband, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. May of Whitney, Mrs. Joe Palmore and Mrs. Eddie Hatley of Dublin, Bro. Maurice Mosley and Marty of Cleveland, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Cozby were business visitors last week in Morgan, her hometown.

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# COUNTY AGENT REPORTS

By BILL McCUTCHEON

The Hamilton County Agricultural Agencies Farm Tour last Saturday in the Hico area was a good one. Some 90 people from the county attended and saw some outstanding operations. We certainly wish to thank Glenn King, Henry and Otis Hill, George Holladay, Derel Fillingim and the Bluebonnet Country Club for making their farms and operations available for the tour.

The Dutch Treat barbecue lunch was also outstanding. Martin Schrank did the cooking for the event and did his usual outstanding job.

We saw some almost unbelievable

production on the tour, but even with the production local farmers and other farmers in the United States are getting, world food production in this year is only equal to last year's production and there are 65 million more mouths to feed.

All of us can remember that just a few years ago, so-called "burdensome" surpluses were a favorite subject of editorial writers. Today the only surplus we have is cotton and these stockpiles will be greatly reduced this year. There are no surpluses of wheat, rice, feedgrain, soybeans, dairy products or other major food commodities in the United States or elsewhere in the world.

Even though an almost forgotten "stepchild" in the past several decades, agriculture has always been the foundation of our national economy and certainly our lifeblood in Hamilton County. The farmers have had the short end of the stick for many years, but I think the tide will be changing sooner than most of us expect.

## ★ FLAG KITS ARE AVAILABLE HERE

Hico Civic Club has available to the public, 50 flag kits and poles. Total cost of the kit, which includes an American flag, a Texas flag, and a 10-foot pole is \$3.60.

The Civic Club purchased the flags in an attempt to have every business in town decorated for every holiday. Businessmen and individuals may obtain the kits from Bruce Slaughter, secretary of the club.

## First Baptist Church

Rev. R. E. Tatum, Pastor  
 Sunday School, 9:45  
 Morning Worship, 11:00  
 Training Union, 6:30 p.m.  
 Evening Worship, 7:30  
 Wednesday Prayer Meeting, 7:00

## Farm Tour—

rings throughout the state. Today he milks about 35 cows. Over the years the Holladay operation has demanded a tremendous amount of forage to feed the almost 100 head of milk cows, dry cows and heifers for replacements. The 125-acre Bosque River bottom was used for years as temporary pasture and for hay. Some seven years ago Coastal was sprigged in a 10-acre plot that was highly susceptible to erosion. Floods along the river continually made oats and sudan pasture operations hazardous. The 10-acre plot of Coastal proved so successful that 20 acres was sprigged the next year. Drought conditions required a re-planting the next year.

Mr. Holladay started irrigating from the river and increased his acreage to 60 acres. He had the usual problems of grassburr and weeds to contend with but found that fertilizer took care of the grassburrs and herbicides the weeds. He also found his river irrigation a problem in that the dry years when he needed water the river was too low to pump and a little rise would catch his equipment in the river, and it was difficult to move out. He was also limited to watering about 30 acres using 30 sprinkler heads. Two years ago he drilled a 350-foot irrigation well and pumps it from 255 feet. It will deliver 540 gallons per minute at 40 pounds pressure on 90 sprinkler heads. The well is 6-inch

column pipe with turbine pump and is run by a diesel engine which is about three times more economical than his old unit.

The 60 acres of Coastal is divided into five plots and cattle are rotated so that each plot is watered every three weeks receiving the equivalent of 5 inches of water. Production has exceeded his grazing needs to the extent that he has been able to harvest 3000 bales of hay so far this season. His fertilizer applications have consisted of 250 pounds per acre of 16-20-0 granular and 2 applications each of 100 pounds of 33 percent nitrogen liquid fertilizer injected into his irrigation lines.

Mr. Holladay is especially pleased with the conservation value of the Coastal and the increase in fertility due to humus added to the soil. He feels that he may

achieve even greater production as he gains experience in the use of water and the response to fertilizer and by making use of winter pasture by overseeding.

## FILLINGIM-WOODARD FARM

Derel Fillingim's farm was the last stop on the tour.

Fillingim has been farming since 1937 and presently has about 725 acres in cultivation with over 200 acres of this in irrigation. He has a good fertilizer and overall management program. Nearly all of his cropland has been fertilized with chicken manure, and he also makes good use of commercial fertilizers.

His farming operation is really diversified, with 20,000 laying hens, 123 head of mother cows, 73 acres of cotton, 100 acres of peanuts, 71 acres of milo, and other land in hybrid forages and small grains.

## JOHNSON FARM

A stop on the tour previous scheduled was the farm of Melvin Johnson, located 2 miles south of Hico.

Dr. Johnson has carried outstanding soil and water conservation program. The grassed way practice is very good. He shaped a rocky gully a few years ago and planted it to Coastal and cover the first year. It was a tremendous amount of water from a large watershed drained through the watershed. Grassing did not occur before grass was established.

Dr. Johnson has established young pecan and peach orchards. He has done brush control and good cover of native grasses as Little Bluestem, Indian and Sideoats.



• JULY SALE CONTINUES •

ALL LIVING ROOM, BED ROOM, DINETTES, RECLINERS AND OTHER ARTICLES OF FURNITURE REDUCED IN ORDER TO LOWER OUR STOCK FOR MERCHANDISE THAT WILL BE COMING IN FROM MARKET BUYING!

WE HAVE SOME EXTRA SPECIAL BUYS ON MATTRESS & BOX SPRINGS IN REGULAR SIZE, QUEEN SIZE AND KING SIZE. (ALSO 3-3 SIZE)

ALWAYS YOUR BEST PLACE TO BUY WALL TO WALL CARPET AND INLAID LINOLEUM.

# Cheek Furniture Co. Hico, Texas

"Where Customers Send Their Friends"

YOU CAN HAVE AN EXTENSION PHONE INSTALLED IN YOUR HOME

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INCLUDING YOUR CHOICE OF COLOR! IF YOU ACT NOW!!!

WE URGE YOU TO ORDER YOURS PROMPTLY!

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A Call to Our Business Office is all that is Required  
 Business Office Telephone 796-4201



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## BOWLING ALONG...

By RUTH SALMON  
 League Secretary

The Wobblers just waddled themselves into a half-point lead. They set the Wahoos back for four points with George Kilgo getting a 167 game and Marlene a 168.

And Uncle Pete has done it again, when he visits the Civic Club he is counted three times, then at the bowling alley he hits high game and series, such as a 256-615. Next in line with a good series was Jim Jameson with a 523 and partner Louise Blair a 171-462.

Pat Ross latched onto a 215-518, Judy Keller a 169 and June Roberson a 162. Overall most of the bowlers were having a little trouble getting the pins down.

The Standings:

The Wobblers	19	9
The Skippers	18½	9½
The Swifties	18	10
The Wahoos	15	13
The Pluggers	15	13
Poodle Papas	13	15
Alley Oops	12½	15½
Alley Gators	11½	16½
The Widows	10	18
The Daisies	7½	20½

## CARD OF THANKS

We want to express our eternal gratitude to all the friends and neighbors who were so helpful and understanding in our terrible hours of grief. The flowers, the food, telegrams, visits and many acts of kindness were so appreciated. We especially want to thank the ladies who prepared and served the food at the Baptist Church. The ministers, the choir, and the pallbearers. May the Lord bless each of you for your kindness.

The Family of Walter Sadler.  
 13-1tp. m

## RODEO DANCE



MARK SCOTT and the WESTERN KINGS will play a big RODEO DANCE Saturday, July 22, 9 'till Old Skating Rink MERIDIAN \$1.00 Per Person



YESTERDAY AND TODAY! Time changes everything— But Salmon-Ross business policy never changes! May we welcome everyone to Hico's Annual Reunion this year, and invite you to make our store your headquarters during the celebration.

• OUR ANNIVERSARY SALE CONTINUES! WE HAVE A LOT OF TOP BARGAINS TO OFFER YOU. SAVE 20% TO 40% ON ALL OUR SPECIAL VALUES!

# Salmon-Ross Dept. Store

PHONE SY 6-4424 HICO, TEXAS

## Take The Next Stagecoach...

YOU'RE BOUND TO HAVE A WONDERFUL TIME AT THE ANNUAL HICO REUNION!



We extend a cordial invitation to all the Old Settlers And Former Residents, and other visitors to drop by for a delicious meal in cool comfort during your stay in our town.

— SHORT ORDERS TO GO —

• Breakfast Served Any Hour •  
 Open Daily 6:00 AM — Close 12:00 PM

# Wells' Steak House

Wayne & Bobbie Wells Phone 796-4220



# The Hico News Review

"Your Home Newspaper"

HICO, TEXAS, FRIDAY, JULY 21, 1967.

NUMBER 11

## Into Eternity---Last Public Erath Hanging

The story of the last hanging in Erath County reproduced with permission of the Stephenville Empire.

7 p.m. Tom Wright, constable, finished his 17-minute talk saying "goodbye" to 4,000 voices in the jail. He replied "Goodbye" to Sheriff R. T. Hume bound his hands behind his back, bound his hands behind his eyes, and tied his feet. Then the silk cap was drawn down over his face and the rope adjusted.

"I don't want to die a death," came again as the trap was sprung.

E. C. Brown, Methodist minister from Dublin, said a brief closing with a benediction. He said, "goodbye to all!" The trap was sprung.

Feud With Adams

Wright's trouble with the law started about 8 years prior to the hanging. He was charged frequently with violating the law of the land, especially the local option law. He and John Adams, constable at Dublin, had clashed on many occasions. In 1891 a Mexican's house was set fire and burned in Dublin. Wright was arrested by Adams and convicted on the charge and sentenced to six years in the penitentiary for arson. After serving two years he was pardoned by Gov. Hogg and returned to Erath County. Wright was watched constantly by Adams and arrested from time to time. A mutual dislike grew between the two men.

In the latter part of 1897 Adams was told that Wright had been trying to hire someone to kill him (Adams), and a resident of Dublin named Blassengame told Adams that Wright had offered him a horse and saddle and \$50 and a Winchester if he would kill Adams. The constable went to Blassengame who told him about the proposition, and gave Adams a sworn statement covering the facts. Adams took the statement and went to Wright, and asked him if he was armed, at the same time holding his pistol down at his side. Wright replied that he was not armed.

Adams said "I would not harm a hair of your head if you are armed, but arm yourself." Wright told Adams that the constable had the wrong information and that he wanted to talk the matter over. Adams replied "No, I have it in black and white that

you have tried on three different occasions to hire persons to kill me and it cannot be explained."

Bystanders stopped the argument

and nothing more was said at that time.

On the following morning Frank Leslie remarked to a clerk at La-

tham's store that "it is coming off today." On being asked what, he said "Wright is going to kill Adams, if his nerve did not give

down." but that he "would bet his nerve failed him." But Wright's nerve did not fail him.

Shot in Back of Head



HANGING SITE—The present Stephenville Masonic Lodge building was the Erath County jail at the time of the hanging of Tom Wright. The scaffold walls were constructed so that the west and north sides would let down at the top, enabling Wright to talk to the 4,000 people assembled for the hanging.

About 5 o'clock on the afternoon of Dec. 18, 1897 the transfer bus drove down Black Jack St. from the Rio Grande Depot, after the arrival of the afternoon train, and stopped at the crossing of Patrick St. The driver called to John Adams, who was passing by, to open the rear door of the bus and let little Jesse Maloney out. Adams started to open the door, and just as it swung open the fatal shot was fired from behind by Tom Wright.

The killer had hidden in the stairway which led to the offices in the old bank building. Wright had watched his chance, and when Adams' back was turned, Wright ran out behind the victim and shot him in the back of the head. Adams fell face down and Wright placed the muzzle of the gun within 18 inches of his head and fired the other charge. Then Wright waved the gun over his head and shouted "there is the last of John Adams."

He walked to the sidewalk, talked a few minutes to someone while Adams' body was being moved, then returned to the bloody spot. Waving the gun over his head he repeated the words about Adams. City Marshal Jesse Phillips placed Wright under arrest.

The preliminary trial was held before Esquire W. E. Lowe of Dublin, who remanded Wright without bail. A writ of habeas corpus was sued out before Judge Straugham, who also refused bail for Wright. The case was taken to the Court of Appeals with the same results.

(Continued on page 2, this section)

A Membership of Loyal and Enterprising Citizens Assure Progress and Development With The . . .

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- A MODERN HOSPITAL
- FINE STREETS
- PLENTY OF WATER
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- NEW RESIDENCES
- FINE CHURCHES

# Hico Civic Club

Every business firm and professional man has a definite responsibility to make Hico a better and larger community—to help Hico grow and prosper.

Pooling resources of manpower and finances offers the only practical method of making a community thrive and progress.

The Civic Club is the only organization in town dedicated to the betterment of business conditions through the joint

action of the dozens of business and professional men of Hico.

Anyone can belong to the Civic Club. The future of Hico and this area is limited only by the amount of time, effort and money invested to make it better.

If you don't belong to Hico Civic Club you are invited to join. Hico will not "just happen to grow" in the future. It will require YOUR help!

Welcome to Hico's Annual Reunion

## Hico Civic Club

— OFFICERS —

Harold Walker ..... President  
 Ollie Davis ..... Vice-President  
 Bruce Slaughter ..... Secretary-Treasurer



**INTO ETERNITY**

On May 5, 1898 the grand jury returned a bill against Wright for murder in the first degree and the case came to trial in the same term of court.

**Death Penalty**

Wright was defended by R. H. McCain, Taylor Daniels and Rev. J. T. Harris, none of whom had ever had much experience in criminal practice. On the 16th day of May the trial began and on May 23 the jury returned a verdict of guilty and assessed the punishment at death.

A motion for a new trial was made on June 1, but was overruled. An appeal was taken to the Court of Criminal Appeals, and that court affirmed the decision of the district court.

At the return of the mandate at the last October term of Erath District Court, Judge Straugham sentenced Wright to be hanged Nov. 10, 1899.

After the day of the hanging had been set a petition was signed by several residents and sent to the board of pardons at Austin praying that the sentence be commuted to life imprisonment. The board of pardons, joined by the state attorney general, unanimously refused, but on Oct. 28, Gov. Joseph D. Sayers refused to accept the report and ordered the sheriff to proceed with the execution. On Nov. 4 several members of the Erath Bar signed the following petition and letters which were taken to Austin 6 days before the scheduled execution by the wife of the condemned man.

**Letter to Governor**

Dear Sir: As members of the Erath County Bar, we beg to express Your Excellency the dispassionate opinion that the ends of justice will be met by a commutation of the sentence of Tom Wright, who is to be hanged on the 10th. Neither of us has had any interest in or connection with the case whatever, but we are cognizant of all the facts, many of which we believe have never been presented to you. Many of us are solemnly impressed that the condemned man was very lamely represented as is intimated in the

opinion of the Court of Appeals; we know that much prejudice, deep seated and widespread, existed against the condemned at the time of his trial, and that he fought singlehanded a large and most influential class of our citizens. We do not believe he ought to be hanged and never believed he would be until Your Excellency overruled the recommendation of the board of pardons. We further believe most confidently that four-fifths of our citizens do not believe that he ought to be hanged, and if given necessary time they will petition Your Excellency.

We assure Your Excellency that we have no personal sympathy in this matter, but we do most solemnly feel his sentence ought to be commuted to life imprisonment, and we most earnestly beg Your Excellency to grant a respite of a reasonable number of days to give us time to present to you our views. Hoping for a favorable reply, we remain, with the highest respects, your obedient servants.

The letter was signed by 16 members of the Erath Bar.

Other letters were submitted by a judge and ex-district attorney on behalf of Wright.

However, the Governor wired back: Sir—I decline to interfere with execution of Tom Wright tomorrow. J. D. Sayers, Governor.

After learning the final decision, Tom Wright made the following written statement, written and signed by himself:

I wish in connection with my statement which I made sometime back which was published in one of our county papers that Frank Leslie who stands charged as accomplice in the killing of John Adams in Dublin that he had nothing to do with it. I asked him to go and get me a gun to keep at my house to defend myself. I told him that Adams was slipping around my house the night before trying to shoot through the window. He said he would try to get something to defend myself with. He went to town and came back without the gun and when he got back he was pretty full of liquor, and I asked him to go up to Bob Snead and see if he could get his gun,

and he went and got the gun and brought it to my house. And my wife had told me that we were out of coffee and meat and after I got the gun I decided to go and get what was needed. I took the gun and having the shells already of my own I went to town, and after we started Frank said: "Tom if I was you I would not go. You may get killed. Adams will be on the lookout for you and may have others to watch and he will hide and kill you if he sees you coming."

I told him I was going—that I had kept run out of town two or three days trying to settle the matter on fair terms, but I had failed so far and that I had rather die than let a man run over me in such way. That is our conversation as night as I can remember. And I had not seen Frank Leslie before that day for two weeks. We had been at work at the compress together about two weeks prior to the killing, and I had quit on account I could not get steady work. And I do hope the people will not hang but one innocent man on this charge. I feel it is my duty to ask the people of this county to take the matter home to themselves and consider this over. Now, this is the truth, and I want the world to know it and to know we have been kangarooed in this court.

Stephenville, Nov. 1899

To my friends and the public in general: When you know that I have been convicted to pay the death penalty for the killing of John Adams and on the 18th day of December, 1897. I have been very badly treated in this matter as you all know who knows about how I was prosecuted in the court of Erath County. Only having Mr. R. H. McCain as my counsel and he being new in the case, he could do nothing, and the state had eight or ten against him and they overruled every bill of exception that he made and in fact everything in their own way and then Mr. McCain died and left me here. I paid Judge Hurt of Dallas to argue my case before the court of appeals which he never done and has not returned the money. And if that is a fair trial I should not like to have any more trials in this court.

The jurors being fixed to hang us both, especially one. I. A. Griffith who swore he had formed no opinion and said there ought to be a double hanging in Erath County, and I was told by F. W. Freeman that Will Nugent that he had saw Colling George and Griffith talking together in a new building that he was building for Mr. George and they was talking about the case, but they fixed me now and it is too late to help me any now.

But I want the world to know what they have done; but I hope God will forgive them for I am sure that I will forgive them. But I pray they may never do any other poor man as they have done me, and the false witnesses that swore my life away, I want all to know that I die with no all feelings toward you all and I forgive you all. And I hope forgiveness for my sins and I believe He has done it. I have more respect for you and your dear families as to call any names as you all know who you are. And as some of you have relations I love and respect. And I hope to meet you all in heaven where we will have peace. And I hope the people will not look down on my dear family and scorn them for what I have done and for the way I had to die, and don't throw it up to my little children. If you see them doing wrong please correct them, and if my little boy starts down hill please do not kick him further down. Give him a lift or say something to him to lead him in the right direction.

If there was more of that kind of work done in the world it would be better. Less crime and better people. I hope the good people will do what they can to help my poor family get along and also poor Mrs. Adams and her little children to get through the world, for his family or mine could not help what we done. If they could I am sure they would have done so, and I hope my enemies will forgive me if I have ever done them any

harm. Friends, I want to tell you one and all how this came about.

Four or five days before the killing I was in a blind tiger one day

belonging to Gus Blassengame (Continued on next page)

**PIONEER DAYS**

ARE HERE AGAIN IN HICO AS WE WELCOME EVERYONE TO **The Annual Hico Reunion**



Despite the hardships and privations shared by cattlemen, farmers and businessmen during early days, a great and prosperous country has developed. To all pioneers of this area we offer our sincere appreciation and wish for you a most enjoyable Reunion.

**Turner Feed Mill**

— KIMBELL FEEDS —

Ralph Turner

Phone SY 6-4729

**WE'RE ROLLING OUT THE RED CARPET FOR YOU**

Hico's 81st Annual Old Settlers Reunion

July 26-29

**FREE ENTERTAINMENT EACH NIGHT**

Parade Opening Day 7:00 P.M.

Jim Jameson, Mobil Oil  
H. H. Ross, Texaco Inc.  
Grady Hooper, Gulf Dist

We join in a hearty welcome to the **Hico Reunion** July 26-29



Four fun-filled days await you at Hico's 81st Annual Reunion, where home folks and former residents will be renewing old friendships and making new ones. Reddy Kilowatt will be there, of course, providing electric light and doing other jobs. Reddy and all employees of Community Public Service Company look forward to seeing you at the Reunion. They invite you to make the Community Public Service office your headquarters while in town.

**COMMUNITY PUBLIC SERVICE**

Your Electric Light & Power Company





**TO ETERNITY** —  
 was four or five persons in  
 And Mr. George Thompson  
 amongst them and he was  
 drunk and spending his mon-  
 ey over the bar and had fif-  
 dollars in currency, and ten  
 silver bill and a five dol-  
 greenback. And while the mon-  
 was thrown around each  
 small piece torn off the corn-

er and was dropped on the floor.  
 I picked them up and put them  
 in my pocket. About that time I  
 saw a man get the money and  
 step out the door. It was not long  
 until Thompson missed the money  
 and was going on and cursing  
 about somebody robbing him. Pret-  
 ty soon I saw Mr. Green Harrison  
 and told him all about what I seen  
 and who had the money.  
 He said "I will go and make him

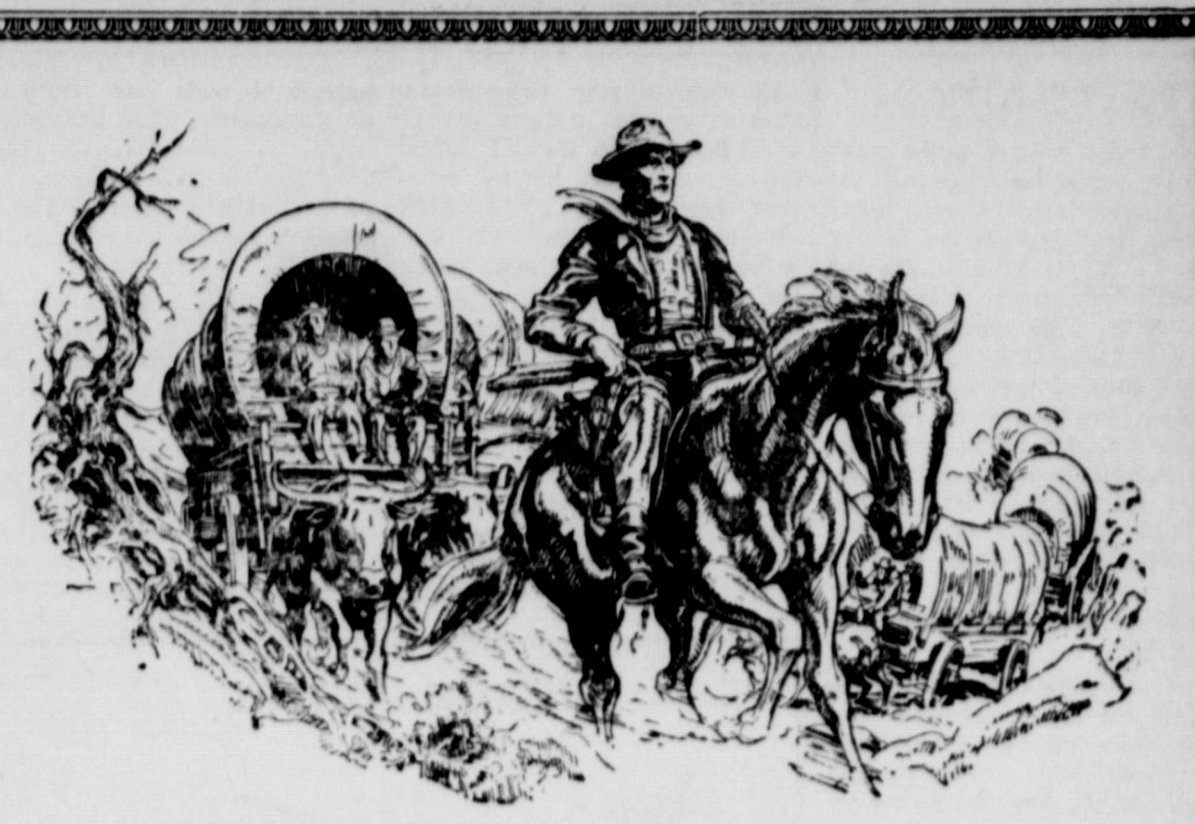
give it up." He went to the man  
 and asked him to give up the mon-  
 ey. He told the man what I had  
 told him. He cursed me for every-  
 thing he could think of and said  
 that I was a liar, that he did not  
 get the money. He went back to  
 the blind tiger and while he was  
 gone Harrison found the money  
 in one corner of the money draw-  
 er with some papers over it. He  
 took the money and came to me

and asked me if I could identify  
 or describe it.  
 I told him I could, which I did  
 as I have already stated, and told  
 him that I had the corners of both  
 bills in my pocket. He took the  
 pieces and fitted both to the bills  
 and they fitted alright. He then  
 went and told Adams all about  
 it, and Adams came and took me  
 before the court and I told what  
 I saw. Mr. Adams arrested the  
 man and put him under bond. Then  
 these two fixed up the plot to get  
 shed of me and Adams both.

They knew that Adams and my-  
 self were not on good terms, and  
 Blassengame and the other party  
 told Adams that I had tried to hire  
 him (Blassengame) to kill him, and  
 Adams took Blassengame before  
 a notary and he made affidavit  
 that I had offered him the horse,  
 bridle and saddle, Winchester and  
 \$50 in money to kill him and said  
 there was three men in the house  
 and heard it. He went to the men  
 and told them what he had done,  
 and told them they must get in  
 the middle of the road and swear  
 it; that he was after that damned  
 s.o.b. and he would break his neck.  
 But when he tried to prove this he  
 failed on two of them. But a fel-  
 low who was working for him swore  
 he heard us talking about Adams,  
 but he did not understand it all,  
 which I know he did not, for noth-  
 ing of the kind was ever talked  
 between us.

"Dear Old John"  
 It was a lie from start to finish.  
 They wanted get shed of "dear  
 old John" so one could run the  
 blind tiger and the other would be  
 constable which he wanted but the  
 commissioners court did not ap-  
 point him. They thought I would go  
 in the blind tiger business again,  
 and they wanted to get shed of  
 me on that account and so I would  
 not be witness in the money case.  
 That was the way the three fixed  
 it to get shed of the both of us.  
 Then to get shed of the case that  
 was against him for selling whis-  
 key, he was a good witness for  
 the state, and that was the start-  
 ing of the trouble.

I want to call your attention to  
 the fact as a great many who  
 know me that I was convicted here  
 in 1891 for arson—burning of a  
 Mexican tent that reported to have  
 smallpox in it. The citizens offer-  
 ed a reward of \$485.00 for the  
 (Continued on back page)



**Our Best Wishes to the  
 Best People in the World**

You can remember Hico as a place of hospitality  
 and your memories are packed with recollections  
 of good times at past Reunions.

So keep your cherished memories alive — May we  
 welcome you to —

**The Annual Hico Reunion**

**J. B. Woodard Produce**

**A HEARTY WELCOME  
 — TO —  
 The Annual Hico Reunion**



WHILE YOU ARE HERE, WE INVITE YOU TO VISIT OUR  
 NEW, MODERN RESTAURANT AND GET A TASTE OF  
 SOME GOOD OLD-FASHIONED HOME COOKED FOOD

**KOFFEE KUP KAFE**

Herman and Marcel Moody

Short Orders to Go

Phone 796-4839

**WELCOME . . .**

• HICO OFFERS •

- GOOD SCHOOLS
- A MODERN HOSPITAL
- NURSING HOMES
- NUMEROUS CHURCHES
- EXCELLENT HIGHWAYS  
AND STREETS
- A PLENTIFUL WATER SUPPLY
- BEAUTIFUL NEW COUNTRY CLUB
- FINE FISHING & HUNTING

TO THE 81ST

**Annual  
 Old Settlers  
 Reunion**

OUR SINCEREST WISH FOR REUNION VISITORS IS  
 THAT THEY MAY ENJOY EVERY MINUTE OF THEIR VISIT  
 HERE AND COME BACK AGAIN AND AGAIN!

WE ARE EVER ALERT TO THE NEEDS OF OUR CITY,  
 AND ARE STRIVING TO MAKE THE OLD HOME TOWN  
 BETTER AND MORE MODERN AS THE YEARS PASS!

ENJOY BEAUTIFUL HICO  
 CITY PARK ON ALL OCCASIONS

It is being improved and maintained for your  
 pleasure during Hico's Annual Reunion, and  
 throughout the year.

**CITY OF HICO**

W. C. HOWARD, Mayor

WAYNE RUTLEDGE

G. M. BULLARD

TOMMIE PIERCE

JIM JAMESON

ALVIN CASEY



**INTO ETERNITY —**

arrest and conviction of the guilty parties, and Adams arrested me and convicted me to state prison for six years and got the reward. I was pardoned after serving two years and six months. I know who done it but I was innocent myself of the charge and was in bed asleep when it was done. I tried to keep the boys from doing it. As soon as I got home from the pen Adams commenced on me again and kept it up until the killing took place. So I have told you all the truth. So goodbye to all. I hope to meet you all in a better world. As ever yours (signed) T. A. Wright.

I want to thank the good Christian people for the kindness they have shown me since I have been in prison, and especially Bob Smallwood. He has been to see me several times and I have got the greatest confidence in his religion. I have almost been raised with him and I am glad for the change there has been in the man for the last few years. He gave me several good talks, and I honestly believe he is a changed man and he has made a great change in me. Mr. J. D. Jackson has made me several talks which was highly appreciated by me. I hope the people of this country will forgive me for the way I have lived. I feel God has forgiven me. I don't know malice against no one on earth. Mr. A. P. Hickey, one of the death guards, has been one of the faithful men I ever saw. He has been kind and good and civil to me in every way. He has been on duty about seven months and he is a perfect gentleman in every way. I don't feel like I deserve hanging for the crime I committed, but I will take all of that over to the Lord and let Him be the judge. I hope the Lord will forgive the people that have mistreated me in the trouble as I freely forgive all. So I will close by saying, Goodbye forever, and hoping you will win a home in heaven. Your friend, T. A. Wright.

At 2:30 on the day of the execution the wife and daughter of the condemned were admitted to the run-around of which Wright had been given the privilege a few minutes before, and were weeping bitterly. It was a sad sound that greeted the ears of the listeners. About 12:50 a song was sung, "Show Pity, Lord, Oh Lord Forgive." Then Rev. C. E. Brown of Dublin offered a fervent and very feeling prayer, the earnestness of which brought tears to many eyes. The preacher also prayed earnestly for the other prisoners, and the guards and the jailor. At 1:20 the doomed man climbed the stairs by the help of Sheriff Hume. This was not for lack of strength, or nerve but because the stairs were very steep.

Sheriff Hume spoke a few minutes, saying "Fellow citizens you are all aware that the law requires all legal hangings to be private. I have had this scaffold so arranged that these two sides can be set down, and Wright can talk to you then they will be closed and the execution take place." There were about 20 or 25 persons on the scaffold, some of them being guards, also the visiting sheriffs and deputies from Hamilton and Lampasas counties and reporters for the county papers, Dallas News, Houston Post and others.

Rev. Brown and J. D. Jackson also came to the stand with Wright. The sheriff then introduced Wright, but Rev. Brown spoke for him at his request, saying that Mr. Wright had asked him to make a few statements, and to say that he had cast all bitterness out of his heart, and entertained no malice for anyone. He also wished to warn the young men and boys against drinking liquor, that being the cause of this. Rev. Brown spoke about five minutes and closed.

Then Wright began speaking and spoke in a rambling way for about 17 minutes. He said in part, "I want to say a few words. I can't talk much. The wind is blowing and besides I am not used to it. I am not guilty of the murder. What I did I did in self defense. I had to do it. I don't think hard of anybody, not even the jury that convicted me, nor the lawyers. (Here the prisoner changed from the west to the north side of the scaffold at the request of the immense sea of faces that looked up to him) and said, "Friends I hate here he named some of the jury to go over all this talk again." that convicted him and said "I want to say to the men and boys here. I guess you will, some of you, have trials in court some time. Don't get these men on your jury."

He then in very strong terms warned the boys and men present to let liquor alone. He said "liquor brought me to this. But for liquor poor John Adams nor I would have been in our present condition. It was violating the local option law that done it."

"Boys hold up your hands on this, and promise me you will let liquor alone." At 1:39 he closed his remarks saying "goodbye to all."

The body was cut down by Sheriff Hume, the rope, death cap and bondages removed, and the body laid in a neat coffin. Miss Kate Hume handed down a fragrant

bouquet of white roses from the kitchen stairway, which were placed inside the coffin, the lid closed down and the body turned over to D. C. Deaton, a cousin of the deceased to be taken to Dublin for burial.

The hearts of nearly all go out in sympathy to poor Tom Wright in this hour of his supreme sorrow, and to his wife and children. Yet it is the natural result of a violated law. Let every young man and older one take a lesson from it and depart from the ways of evil, for the seed that is sown will produce a harvest, some 30, some 60, and some a hundred fold.

**WELCOME VISITORS!**



We hope to see you during our annual celebration, and we know that you will enjoy the four days of entertainment that is planned.

While you are in town, we invite you to stop by for a visit.

— Free Pickup and Delivery Service —  
**WILSON CLEANERS**

S & H Green Stamps Ph. SY 6-4425

**THE GREAT Big Parade** *come to the*  
**ENTERTAINMENT EXHIBITS SHOWS • PRIZES**

**81st Annual Old Settlers REUNION**  
**JULY 26 - 27 - 28 - 29**



● Miss Reunion Contest  
One of the most beautiful and crowd pleasing events each year is the Miss Reunion Contest, to be held Friday night, July 28th.



● Opening Day Parade  
Wednesday, July 26th, 7 p.m. For details contact Donald Warren, Mrs. Fred Rainwater, Bill Doty or Louise Blair.

● FREE ENTERTAINMENT EACH NIGHT UNDER THE PAVILLION ●



● Carnival rides and games to please everyone, on the midway each night by Ralph Wagner Shows.



● Reunion festivities begin Tuesday night, July 25th with a big FREE Street Dance. Music by Fred Noland.

FOR INFORMATION ON BOOTH RENTAL CONTACT BILL DOTY

**Ray Keller, Manager**

**WELCOME ...**

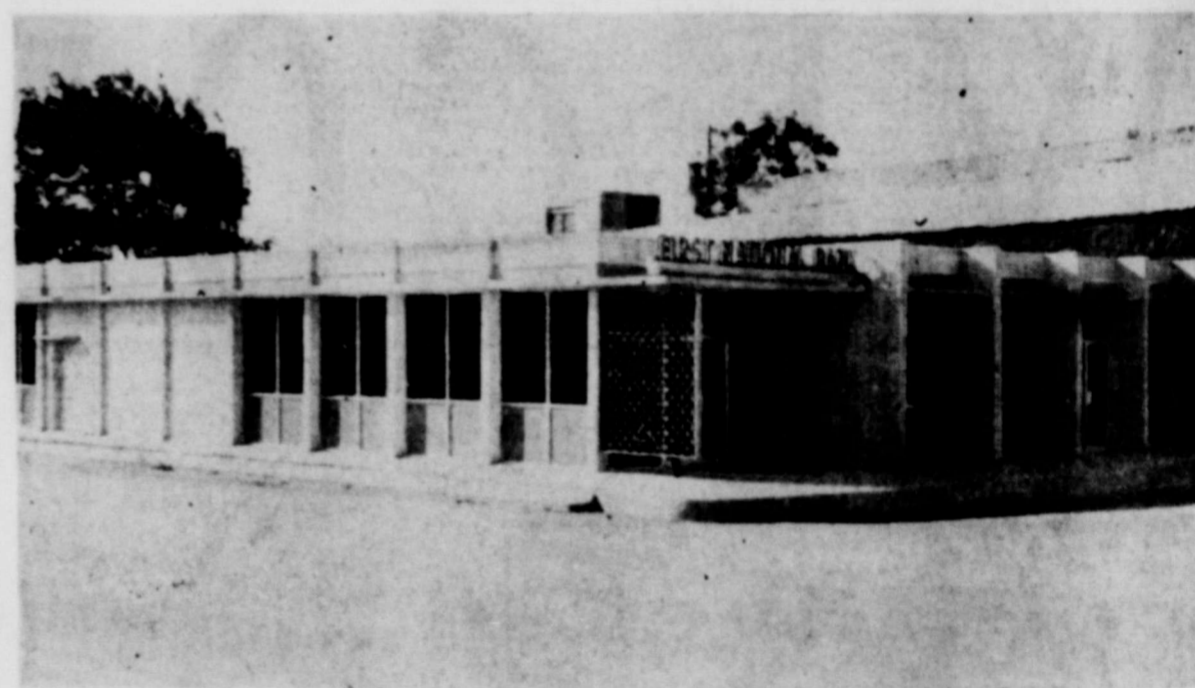
We would like to welcome all former Hico residents to the 81st Annual Old Settlers Reunion.

Celebrations such as the Hico Reunion are occasions to look back on the past and pay tribute to the pioneers who settled this country. The story of Hico and the Reunion is one of pioneer spirit, of rugged stamina, of vision and hard work, and of inspiring work.

We salute those pioneers, and issue a warm invitation for them to come back during this, the 81st such homecoming.

At the Close of Business on June 30, 1967

RESOURCES		LIABILITIES	
Cash and Due from Banks	646,698.37	Capital Stock	50,000.00
U.S. Government Bonds	619,512.50	Surplus	150,000.00
Municipal Bonds	22,000.00	Undivided Profits	20,000.00
Loans and Discounts	1,302,317.01	Reserves	55,479.44
Building, Furniture and Fixtures	35,200.24	Dividend	5,000.00
Stock in Federal Reserve Bank	6,000.00	Deposits	2,351,248.66
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,631,728.12</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,631,728.12</b>



**It's Our Anniversary, Too . . .**

77 years ago—on July 11, 1890—the First National Bank was established. And since that time has worked with the people of Hico and territory for the growth and development of the area.

Today we are happy to join other citizens of Hico in observance of this celebration, and we pledge our continued efforts in building an even greater future for this community.

— OFFICERS —

Lorraine Petsick, President Ellis Randals, Vice-President  
D. E. Bulloch, Cashier

— DIRECTORS —

Otho Petsick, J. B. Woodard, D. E. Bulloch,  
Ellis Randals, Mrs. Odis Petsick

— PERSONNEL —

Mrs. Geraldine Bakke, Mrs. Marlene Kilgo, Mrs. Margo Woody  
Mrs. Carolyn Wooton, Mrs. Jay Dean Barber, Mrs. Diann Stone

**The First National Bank**

"In Hico Since 1890"

— MEMBER F. D. I. C. —

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