

# DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS.

SONORA, SUTTON CO., TEXAS, SATURDAY, MARCH 20 1909.

NO. 959

VOL 19

## Oh!, So Pretty!

and other expressions as "Beautiful" so "Stylish" Etc. is What the Ladies Who Have Seen Our New goods are saying. Dont buy until YOU see these NEW Goods, now on display at

### THE "STORE OF QUALITY"

BECAUSE, while THEY are all that the Ladies SAY as to BEAUTY, STYLE and NEWNESS the QUALITY VALUE has not been overlooked.

A Few of the Fabrics You Should see are

Shantung Angalis in All the Popular Colors.  
Costume Chiffon in a nice assortment of Shades.  
STRIPE SILK TANISE, FOULARD SATIN STRIPE,  
HOMESPUN SILK MERGERISED, ALL COLORS.

Everything In White Lingerie

## Sonora Mercantile Co.

### SARGASSO SEA.

An Unhallowed Spot That Mariners Shun as the Plague.

Sargasso sea lies between the meridians of 40 degrees and 75 degrees west and between the parallels of 20 and 35 degrees north, and Columbus first brought back to Europe the story of its being. Yet the old time navigator's account was very hazy and uncertain.

He spoke of a vast stretch of marshy weed, spreading from horizon to far horizon; a place of dim, uncertain horrors, reaching out grasping tentacles toward the broad seas, luring by its uncanniness unsuspecting ships into its rapacious maw, from which no craft might ever hope to win freedom.

And today, more than 400 years since Columbus voyaged forth, but little is known of the weird Sargasso sea.

Long ago, in the backwaters of time, great rivers poured their mighty floods toward the sea, and on their swift currents were borne vast fragments of vegetation, clinging driftweed, ancient tree trunks, the amazing litter that throngs a river's tide. From the far south, like a river in the sea, great currents swept, all conquering, lashing the verdant South American coasts, tearing from thence great clumps of weed, long matted tangles of grasses, more driftwood, more vegetation. These currents rebounded from the Mexican gulf and swept circling out to the broad Atlantic, but other currents met them there, and a gigantic maelstrom ensued. All floating debris was swung into the vortex of this huge boiling conflict of rushing water, and little by little, yet resistlessly, the various detached portions of weed took hold one upon the other, until in the slow process of time a great bed was formed—a floating island—lashed on its borders by the seas, but tranquil and unmoved in its midst. Centuries added to its bulk, the rivers of the Americas contributed their quotas to the whole, and now the entire stretch is one swaying, floating continent, without foundations, treacherous, awful, immoveable.

Mariners know it, but they shun it as the plague. It is an unhallowed place. Its grasp spells slow and lingering death. Woe betide the unfortunate sailing ship that once gains a position near it, for insidious currents run subsurface to drag the helpless, windless craft into its maw, where enticing channels open up to allow the inward passage of a vessel, only to be followed by the closing in of the weeds

—to lock the unfortunate in a grip that naught can loose.

Even the steamers of high power give the Sargasso sea a wide berth, for the long, clogging weed binds itself draggingly about the strongest propeller and jams it tight, so that though hundreds of horsepower be called upon to free the useless screw it is all of no avail.—London Saturday Journal.

### Languages of the World.

The least learned are aware that there are many languages in the world, but the actual number is probably beyond the dreams of ordinary people. The geographer Balbi enumerated 860 which are entitled to be considered as distinct languages and 5,000 which may be regarded as dialects. Another modern writer on this subject reckons up 3,064 languages and dialects existing and which have existed. Even after we have allowed either of these as the number of languages we must acknowledge the existence of many minor diversities for almost every province has a tongue more or less peculiar, and this we may well believe to be the case throughout the world at large.—Pearson's Weekly.

### A House of Bulrushes.

The first place of worship in Western Australia was quite unique both from its frail form of construction and also the several purposes to which it was devoted. This remarkable building was made at Perth, then merely a town site, by soldiers of the Second company, Sixty-third regiment, shortly after the detachment arrived at the colony in 1829 and was composed almost entirely of bulrushes. In addition to this rude little edifice being used on Sundays for divine worship it sometimes served as an amateur theater during the week and was used during the whole time as barracks.

### They Boiled the Water.

The ancient Greeks already recommended the use of sterilized water. Rufus of Ephesus in the first century of this era taught that "all water from rivers and ponds is bad, except that from the Nile. Water from rivers which flow through unhealthy soil, stagnant water and that which flows near public bathing places is harmful. The best water is that which has been boiled in baked earthenware vessels, cooled and then heated a second time before drinking."—Argonaut.

Read what the News' advertisers can do to help welcome Spring

### A TAX ON MARRIAGE.

Ancient Rule of a Famous Cheshire Hunt Club.

We cannot definitely tell when it was that the scarlet coat was first recognized as the emblem of the fox hunter. The annals of the renowned Tarporley Hunt club, however, indicate that in 1770, at any rate, red was the correct wear for fox hunting. Originally founded for the purpose of hare hunting in 1762, the rule as to dress ran, "Every member must have a blue frock with plain yellow metal buttons, scarlet velvet cape, double breasted scarlet waistcoat, the coat sleeve to be cut and turned up."

Later there was an amendment that "the metal buttons be changed for basket mohair ones and that every member provide himself with a scarlet saddle cloth bound with blue." Another rule was, "If any member does not appear in the strict uniform of the hunt he shall forfeit a guinea for every such offense."

In 1770 the club abandoned hare hunting for the pursuit of the fox, and then it was that the wearing of pink was insisted upon. It was then agreed that "the hunt should change their uniform to a red coat unbound, with a small frock sleeve, a grass green velvet cape and green waistcoat, and that the sleeves have no buttons, the red saddle cloth to be bound with green instead of blue." It appears evident that these gentlemen sacrificed their blue frocks for a red coat because red was the only orthodox color for fox hunting.

The wearing of leathers does not appear to be specifically insisted upon in these rules, for the reason that at that time they were universally worn by regular hunting men. This is implied by a rule of the Tarporley club which decreed, "If any member of the society should marry he is to present each member of the hunt with a pair of buckskin breeches." Moreover, "Any member of the hunt who marries a second time shall give two pairs of leather breeches to each member of the hunt." We may safely infer from these rules that in 1770 a red coat and leather breeches were the correct wear of the fox hunter. It is interesting to note the close and far from simple details of this hunting costume, the slightest deviation from which led to a fine of a guinea for every such offense.

It is on record that a member was fined for "not taking the binding off the buttonholes of his coat," while another gentleman paid forfeit for having his saddle cloth bound with purple instead of the orthodox scarlet.

Surely the Tarporley Hunt club, which is still today, with its race meeting and its toasted cheese, one of the most revered institutions of Cheshire, may be regarded as the greatest of champions for the etiquette of hunting costume.—Baily's Magazine.

### A Pleasant Prospect.

A Philadelphia woman whose given name is Mary, as is also the name of her daughter, had recently engaged a domestic, when, to her embarrassment, she discovered that the servant's name, too, was Mary.

Whereupon there ensued a struggle to induce the applicant to relinquish her idea that she must be addressed by her Christian name. For some time she was rigidly uncompromising.

### Cats Among the Egyptians.

The tutelary deity of cats was Diana, and, according to Plutarch, the cat was not only sacred to the moon, but was an emblem of it; hence cats were treated with peculiar consideration in the land of the pharaohs, the death of one being regarded as a great family misfortune. Egyptian cat funerals were celebrated with the greatest pomp and ceremony, their late owners showing respect by shaving off their eyebrows and wearing sackcloth for nine days. In the time of Moses it was a capital crime to kill a cat, and we are told by Diodorus how a Roman soldier who killed one was tried, sentenced and finally put to death.

### The Judge's Warning.

Judge (about to sentence)—Prisoner, you have used this poor, half witted fellow most unmercifully. You have beaten him most cruelly. Prisoner (surlily)—He attacked me first. Besides, he is a rascal and gave me no end of trouble on the farm. It's not my fault his being an idiot. Judge (to the jury)—You should remember, that idiots, after all, are just what you and me—London

### A LOST ART.

Crude Way in Which the Old Timers Moved a Giant Statue.

"Not long ago there was a lecture delivered in St. Louis on the lost arts before a small, select gathering," says a local scholar, "in the course of which the lecturer strove very hard to show how many arts and sciences, totally unknown to us, were possessed by the ancients.

"I was particularly impressed by one statement concerning the immense size of some of the blocks of stone used in the temples of Baalbec and the pyramids of Egypt and the enormous weight of the great granite blocks from which were hewn the giant statues of the kings and gods. Some of these blocks are computed to weigh seventy-five or eighty tons, and the lecturer intimated that the ancients must have possessed engineering machinery superior to our own to be able to lift and transport stones of such immense size and weight.

"As a fact, the great cranes employed in our gunnery and armor plate works would pick up such blocks and carry them off as easily and quickly as though they were of wood.

"There is no mystery at all about the way in which these blocks were moved. In several histories of Egypt there are reproduced pictures found on the wall of an Egyptian tomb which represents the moving of one of the giant statues. Scores of ropes are attached to it, and hundreds of men stand ready waiting for the signal to pull. The statue is on a plank road and rests on rollers. Men with jars of oil are greasing the rollers, taking them out behind and placing them in position in front. The superintendent of the work stands on the pedestal with a trumpeter by his side. In the next picture he gives the signal, the trumpeter sounds, and everybody pulls for dear life, while overseers run up and down the line with whips in their hands making sure the pulling is well done.

"This is one of the lost arts, and no one need regret that it is lost. We accomplish by ingenuity and skill what the old timers did by brute force. It is not probable that anything of value has ever been lost, and, what is more to the purpose, we know a hundred, perhaps a thousand, useful things of which the ancients had no conception."—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

### A Warning.

Last summer the congregation of a little kirk in the highlands of Scotland was greatly disturbed and mystified by the appearance in its midst of an old English lady who made use of an ear trumpet during the sermon, such an instrument being entirely unknown in those simple parts.

There was much discussion of the matter, and it was finally decided that one of the elders—who had great local reputation as a man of parts—should be deputed to settle the question.

On the next Sabbath the unconscious offender again made her appearance and again produced the trumpet, whereupon the chosen elder rose from his seat and marched down the aisle to where the old lady sat and, entreating her with an upraised finger, said sternly: "The first toot—ye're oot!"—Harper's.

### The Chemistry of Life.

"In the pursuit of the science of chemistry," says the professor, removing his glasses and rubbing them thoughtfully with his silk handkerchief, "we find it of the utmost interest as well as importance to discover the affinities of the different elements and substances."

"And what if you discover the wrong affinity, professor?" asks the student in the virulent vein.

"In that case, as in other manifestations of nature," replies the professor, with a slow smile, "the probability is that there will be an explosion sooner or later."—Chicago Post.

### Same Settlement.

Diner (who has run up a heavy bill)—You are manager here, eh? Well, six months ago I dined here, and, unfortunately, being unable to pay my bill—er—you kicked me downstairs.

The Manager—Very sorry, indeed, sir, but business, you know—er—I had to—er—Diner—Oh, that's all right, old chap, but—might I trouble you again?—London Telegraph.

### A Fair Question.

A quarrel had taken place at a fair in Ireland, and the culprit was being sentenced for manslaughter. The doctor, however, had given evidence to show that the victim's skull was abnormally thin. The prisoner on being asked if he had anything to say for himself replied, "No, yer honor, but I would ask, Was that a skull for a man to go to a fair wid?"

## CHAS. SCHREINER.

### BANKER

(UNINCORPORATED)

AND COMMISSION MERCHANT

KERRVILLE, TEXAS.

A General Banking Business Transacted. Solicits Accounts of Merchants and Stockmen.

### THE FAVORITE SALOON

IS NOT affected by the passage of the PURE FOOD LAW. Our Liquors are of GOOD. Some Special Brands for Family AND MEDICINAL PURPOSES.

ICE COLD BEER AND MINERAL WATERS ALWAYS ON HAND.

Theo. Savell, Proprietor.

## THE Rock Front

BARTON & SAVELL, PROPRIETORS.

Cold Beer and Soft Drinks  
Pure Wines and Liquors  
Choice Cigars, Etc.

PHONE ORDERS TO 97 WILL RECEIVE PROMPT ATTENTION. YOUR TRADE COURTEOUSLY APPRECIATED

J. G. BARTON. AND THEO. SAVELL.

JEFF SMITH, WILL SMITH.

## SMITH BROTHERS,

PROPRIETORS OF

### Red Front Feed and Livery Stable.

Good Teams and Vehicles for hire. Careful Attention

To Your Wants. Large Barns, Good Stalls, Lots of Room. The only Wagon Yard in Town.

### Hay, Oats, Corn and Bran for Sale.

R. H. MARTIN. O. B. WARDLAW.

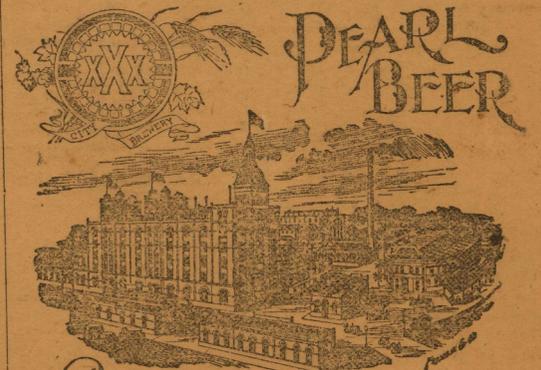
## Martin & Wardlaw,

THE LAND AND LIVE STOCK COMMISSION MEN,

SONORA, TEXAS.

Are offering for sale a number of ranches, and have on their list Cows, Stock Cattle, Steers of all ages, Sheep and Goats.

In fact if you want to buy or sell anything in the "Paradise" give us a call or write us.



## San Antonio Brewing Ass'n.

Try Our Famous TEXAS PRIDE Bottled Beer. For sale in all Saloons.

Devil's River News.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY. MIKE MURPHY, Proprietor. STEVE MURPHY, Publisher. Advertising Medium of the Stockman's Paradise. Subscription \$2 a year in advance. Entered at the Postoffice at Sonora second-class matter. Words spoken are light as air; words printed are always there.

SONORA, TEXAS. - March 20, 1909.

JOHN HEFLIN DEAD.

John E. Heflin aged 42 years, died at his home on the G. W. Irvin ranch in Schleicher county Saturday, March 12, 1909 and was buried in Sonora cemetery Sunday afternoon. Deceased was in town less than ten days ago and looked the picture of health although he was then here to consult a physician and when the news of his death came it was past believing. It seems that after complaining for a few days a neuralgic pain touched the heart causing death. Deceased was well-known being a resident of Sonora for many years until about two years ago he moved to the Irvin ranch. His funeral was largely attended the services being conducted by Rev. C. T. Davis. He is survived by his wife and three daughters, the eldest of whom is Mrs. James Irvin. His father M. L. Heflin is living in McCulloch county. His brothers are Will of Gillette, Wyoming, James, of Lohm, McCulloch county, and Lum of Sonora, his sister is Mrs. Oscar Dreeman of Sonora. The News extends its sympathy to the widow and daughters in their grief and to the other relatives in their sorrow.

A Former Sonora Land Owner.

Dr. A. Donaldson Smith is the famous African explorer and clubman who will enter the consular service in the near future, having been assigned to the post at Mersine, Asia Minor. Dr. Smith, who has been forming plans for ex-President Roosevelt's hunting trip will spend some time in North Carolina, where he will remain until he goes to Washington to qualify before a board for the service. He will arrive at Mersine on June 1. Dr. Smith made his first expedition to Somaliland in 1894-1895. In 1899 he crossed through that country to the Nile, making extensive explorations. He crossed the United States on horseback, and is noted for his energy and daring.

Dr. A. Donaldson Smith referred to above, was a visitor in Sonora about 15 years ago and was a property owner. His estate was also interested in a large tract of land south of Sonora.

SONORA BOY HONORED.

R. E. Aldwell of Sonora was elected President of the Electrical Engineers Society of Agricultural & Mechanical College. A dispatch to the Houston Post from College Station is as follows: Captain J. W. Kidd and John E. Lear, instructors in the electrical engineering department of the A & M college of Texas, have worked up an interest among the young men who are taking that course at the college, with the result that about thirty of the seniors and juniors have formed an electrical engineering society, with R. E. Aldwell, president; W. A. McDonald, vice-president and R. O. Bass, secretary and treasurer. The object is to have regular meetings and discuss electrical engineering subjects which will be a benefit to those who are students at the college.

Chas. Caruthers, manager of the E. F. & Alfred Vander Stucken ranch in Val Verde county, was in Sonora Monday and reports the second good rain in two weeks down there.

G. P. Arnold of San Angelo, is in Sonora with the intention of locating here and engaging in the practice of law. Judge Arnold has been practicing in San Angelo for the past few years and is recognized by many as one of the leading members of the bar in that city.

Mrs. R. J. Whitehead and sons Walter and Will and Mr. String fellow came in from the G. W. Whitehead & Sons ranch in Val Verde county Friday. Mrs. Whitehead had been down to the ranch for a week and enjoyed the trip and visit to all parts of the ranch in the Whitehead auto.

Stock News.

Hides and furs bought by E. F. Vander Stucken Co. We will buy your hides and furs E. F. Vander Stucken Co.

The highest price paid for hides and furs at E. F. Vander Stucken Co.

Bring your hides and furs to us we will pay highest price for them E. F. Vander Stucken Co.

J. A. Cope sold a half interest in 1300 stock goats to Clyde Mills at p. t.

Clyde Mills of Sonora sold to R. A. Evans of Eldorado, 40 head of stock cattle at \$15 per head.

J. A. Cope Commission Co. sold for D. B. Cusenbary and Will Noguera of Sonora to J. A. Whitten of Eldorado, 1000 cows 4 year-old up at p. t.

The sale of Herefords at Brady on March 22, should be attended by all lovers of this famous family of superior cattle.

When you need either saddles or harness, come in and have it made just to suit you. 57 1/2 D. H. Kirkland.

The News has a few blanks on which cattlemen may make application for Government Black Leg Vaccine.

Abbott & Martin sold for C. E. Springstun of Lipan Flat, 350 head of steers, 3s and ups, to Townsend & Co., of Caney, Kans. This bunch sold at \$26 around or for a total consideration of \$9,100.- Angelo's Standard.

Meanea or Sullivan trees used in Kirkland's saddles. What you want we make. See Kirkland the Saddler. 57 1/2.

There will be a nice, clean sale of Hereford cattle at Brady, on Monday March 22, notice of which appears in this issue of the News. The owners of the cattle that will be offered and the quality of the cattle need no introduction to the cattlemen of West Texas.

Bog Scott Brothers & Babington of Coleman and Lee Brothers of San Angelo, probably two of the most progressive Hereford breeders of West Texas, will offer at auction on Monday, March 22, at Brady, a number of cows, calves, yearlings and bulls ready for service. The Bog-Scott & Babington cattle have won prizes in the stock shows of the east and the Lee Bros. of San Angelo have a herd that wins prizes wherever shown.

WANTED—From owners only Some small ranches to trade for farms in Central Texas. F. M. LONG, Goldthwaite, Texas.

Notice to Cattlemen.

Those who wish their brands looked after at Brady and Angelo also at other shipping points and the markets, are invited to become members of the Cattle Raisers Association.

Nearly as can be estimated, from 50 to 100 strays pass through at Brady each spring in brands not on our books. These we are forbidden to cut. So, it would certainly be to the interest of every cattlemen to have his brands in our books. These animals come in when hair is long and generally unobserved by the shipper till discovered by the inspector, and as a rule the shipper would gladly turn such animals over to the inspector.

On receipt of postal card directed to me at Brady proper blanks will be at once forwarded to any one wishing membership. Very respectfully, JOHN R. BANISTER, 55 1/2 Brady, Texas.

5000 POSTS WANTED.

We want 5000 cedar fence posts, 6 1/2 feet long. None but good ones will be bought. E. F. Vander Stucken Co.

HEREFORD BULL.

I will sell at a bargain one coming three year-old bull raised by Lee Bros., of San Angelo. I bought this bull recently for my own use but have changed my plans. Come quick if you want him. D. T. YAWS, 57 1/2 Mayer, Texas.

For Sale or Trade. Good second hand Surrey. D. H. Kirkland.

YOU'D BETTER HURRY

If you knew as the writer does what splendid values, what varied selections this store has ready for your inspection you would hurry.

TAILORED SUITS, SKIRTS, SHIRT WAISTS, TRIMMED HATS,

In style, value and usefulness just what you want.

Newest of the Fashion in New Silks

Jacquard, Crepe de Cheen, China, Taffeta, Etc., in all colors, shades and designs.

Beautiful Dress Goods in Patterns

Nuns Veiling, 36 inches wide, in pale blue, pink, Lilac and white. Panamas in cream, brown and black. Wool skirt patterns, no two same shade.

Latest Washable Dress Fabrics

In all the newest goods, weaves, shades and colors. They are so numerous and so pretty that you must see them. They include printed lawns, linen border, Persians in plain, stripe and bordered effects, Crepe Plisse, bordered batiste, Rep suitings, zephyrs, cotton serge, ginghams and calicos.

LADIES COLLARS, RUSHINGS AND NOVELTIES.

Beyond a doubt this is the finest, largest and best stock of dry goods ever brought to Sonora for a seasons' trade. We can't tell you all we have

YOU MUST SEE THEM

E. F. Vander Stucken Co.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Bond gave a dinner Sunday to Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Green, Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Vander Stucken, Mrs. Robt. Duncan, Miss Schley, W. L. Aldwell, Malcolm McNeel and Steve Murphy. Those who have partaken of the hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. Bond well know what a delightful dinner and how enjoyable the day was spent. Mr. and Mrs. Vander Stucken and W. L. Aldwell and Steve Murphy made the trip from and to Sonora in the Vander Stucken car.

Angust Meckel left on Tuesday evening for Fredericksburg, to attend the funeral of his brother Henry Meckel, who died at his home in that city Tuesday. The deceased has been in poor health for some time and his death was looked for at any moment. It will be remembered that a few weeks ago a sister to Mr. Meckel died at Mason. The News extends its sympathy to the family in their sorrow.

D. H. Kirkland the Sonora saddler employed who pays made the Fraser's makes the same quality of leather; the

J. F. Craig the Schleicher county cattlemen, was in the Sonora country this week passing on the steers recently bought by Thompson & Co., of Coleman.

DeWitt's Kidney and Bladder Pills are unequalled for weak kidneys, backache, inflammation of the bladder and all urinary disorders. They are antiseptic. Sold by the Allison Pharmacy.

Mrs. Iva Ellis Jr., is the guest of her mother Mrs. M. M. Parker-son while "Bud" is away busy with cattle work.

Abbott & Martin, the firm that keeps stock turning, Friday afternoon brought to final consumation a big cattle deal involving \$34,000. They sold for Russell & Blocker to Blankenship, Allen & Friar, of Lindsay, Oklahoma, 1,500 two-year-old steers for the consideration mentioned above—San Angelo Standard.

What's the Use? Aches, Pains, Burns, Cuts, Sprains and all other similar afflictions are always instantly relieved; often entirely cured by an application of that unequalled remedy, Hunt's Lightning Oil. Don't suffer. Don't delay. What's the use?

Read what the advertisers can do to help you. Spring.

A Neighbor of Yours as well as yourself is liable at any time to have rheumatism. We're all liable to have cuts or burns, bruises or scalds, crick in the back, neck or side—some kind of an ache or pain. Then heed this advice and tell your neighbors—Ballard's Snow Liniment relieves all aches and pains, and heals all wounds. Sold by J. Lewenthal.

The rain fall in Sonora for the year 1908, was just three points more than 22 inches. This is the lowest total in six years in the Sonora Country with the exception of 1904 when the rainfall was 21 1/2 inches.

A Swollen Jaw is not pretty nor pleasant. Whether it's caused by neuralgia, tooth-ache or accident. Ballard's Snow Liniment will reduce the swelling and relieve the pain. The great and sure cure for rheumatism, cuts, burns, bruises, scalds—any and all aches and pains. Sold by J. Lewenthal.

Ship your "broom tail mares" to France where they make automobiles and eat horses, but bred your good mares to the best horses you can read about in the News' advertising columns.

The survey for the Orient railroad is through Sonora on a seventh grade and Sonora is bound to get it—if we put up, and that's what we always do. Sonora is noted for that spirit of progress.

Miss Jessie Deaton

Of the Ladies Bazar, of San Angelo will not visit Sonora this season, but, in order not to disappoint her many customers will have an assortment of the very latest Millinery on display on March 24th and 25th in my parlor at the Commercial Hotel. Come and see them. Respectfully.

Mrs. James Cornell

The Home Mission Society of the Methodist church, will give a box supper on the Court House grounds Monday evening March 29

Letter to J. D. Fields & Co., Sonora, Texas.

Dear Sir: We repeat: Every job painted Devoe takes less gallons than any other paint. If not, no pay. Yours truly F. W. DEVOE & CO. P. O. Box 100, Sonora, Texas.

Easter Sunday will be on April 11th this year.

DeWitt's Carbolyzed Witch Hazel salve penetrates the skin and heals quickly. It is especially good for piles. It is sold by the Allison Pharmacy.

You may depend on the News doing the right thing at the right time. Build your home in Sonora.

March 29th, is the first day of District Court and the Ladies of the Methodist church will give a box supper on the Court House grounds that evening. Everybody invited to participate.

No Need of Scratching Other afflictions may be more painful, but none more annoying than many forms of itching trouble. The quickest and most reliable remedy for itching diseases of any character is Hunt's Cure. One application relieves—one box guaranteed to cure.

Did you notice while reading the "gush" the papers give Presidents and their families these days, that the boy of the family, Charlie Taft was more taken up with the horses than anything else. His man in herent nature to love the animate and this illustration exemplifies it. He has been accustomed to horses and autos all his life but the new horses appealed to him—not so the big new autos. Make a note of this Mr. Horseman, good, kind and intelligent horse, will always be in demand.

In order to have good, healthy, perfect digestion keep your stomach well by taking Kodol for Dyspepsia and Indigestion occasionally—just when you need it. Pleasant to take. Sold by the Allison Pharmacy.

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Now as the days are beginning to get long, get in the habit of shopping early and then when the hot days come the tired clerk and business people will have an opportunity of enjoying this delightful climate.

TIFFANY.

I have the best assurance that he is a

THOROUGHBRED

That he is a good one you can judge for yourself or ask those who have seen him. That he is

FOR SALE

Is due solely to the reason that having sold my mares I have no use for him. If interested see or write

PAYNE ROUNTREE,

at Sonora Mercantile Co.

The following is the list of jurors for the District Court which convenes in Sonora, Monday, March 29:

- GRAND JURY. C J Lewis, R B Maddox, W C Mabray, J J North, W C Strackbein, E E Steen, Nick Shurley, I N Brooks, E S Briant, Newt Burris, B A Dail, W E Dunbar, J T Evans, S E Gilbert, Carl Guzzar, W A Glasscock, PETIT JURY, G S Allison, T B Adams, W L Aldwell, W H Anderson, W C Bryson, H L Bridge, G E Clements, Louis Kirkpatrick, E Cloudt, H P Cooper, W B Clendennen, Et Fowler, R S Franks, Ed Mayfield, J E Robbins, J P Ratley, G W Stephenson, Lem Stokes, Theo Savell, W A Thomson, R E Taylor, Joe Trainer, Ira Word, J W Wilson, Dud Yaws, W J Fields, Dred Green, C S Holcomb, J A Hagerlund, Sam Luckie, G A Kellis, C Joy, J F Logan, Lee Merck, J. F. Merck, T J Stuart

BOX SUPPER

The Home Mission Society of the Methodist church will give a Box Supper on the Court House grounds on Monday evening March 29. Everybody invited to participate.

Now as the days are beginning to get long, get in the habit of shopping early and then when the hot days come the tired clerk and business people will have an opportunity of enjoying this delightful climate.

**Devil's River News**  
 PUBLISHED WEEKLY.  
 MIKE MURPHY, Proprietor.  
 STEVE MURPHY, Publisher.  
 SUBSCRIPTION \$2 A YEAR IN ADVANCE  
 Entered at the Postoffice at Sonora,  
 as second-class matter.

Advertising Medium of the  
 Stockman's Paradise.

Sonora, Texas. March 20, 1900

**FOLLY OF BAD ROADS.**

Cost Farmers Yearly Over Fifty-two Million Dollars.

**VALUE OF MODEL HIGHWAYS**

More Than a Billion and a Half in Gain Would Be Saved—Value of Road Built Near Greenville, Miss., at Low Rate.

When the annual appropriation bill of the department of agriculture was under discussion last April Representative Benjamin Humphreys of Greenville, Miss., made the epigrammatic statement that "no road can cost the farmers as much as a poor one." That touched the very kernel of road economics, for careful research and exhaustive study have proved, says the New York American, that the poor roads of the nation place a mud and a hill climbing tax of not less than a quarter of a billion dollars a year on those who use them.

The representative's sparkling little sentence was in answer to a query by Representative Sims as to the cost of building the unique burnt clay roads of the south, a system evolved by the experts of the office of public roads of the United States department of agriculture at an almost incalculable benefit to the cotton growers of the south.

Mr. Humphreys had explained in instances the skillful methods adopted by Engineer Spoon, who had been ordered by Director Logan Waller Page of the office of public roads to go to the delta district of Mississippi and make a study of conditions. He laid logs



IMPROVED HIGHWAYS WILL SOLVE IT.

along stretches of impassable thoroughfares which had as a basis the sticky "gumbo" clay of the south, burnt them to such purpose that the clay was changed entirely in character and then supervised the construction of a road that for hauling purposes is little short of the splendid macadam roads of the north and east.

"It depends entirely upon the character of the country through which the road passes," said Mr. Humphreys when asked what it all cost. "If it be wooded so that fuel can be bought for, say, \$1.25 a cord, the road can be made for \$1,500 a mile. I may say that it costs from one-half to one-fifth as much as a macadam road cost, and it is as easily and as cheaply maintained.

"In a country where the people have never gone into the building of good roads the thought of paying \$2,000 a mile seems prohibitive. Where the experiment is once made, however, we all know that the people, and especially the farmers, who usually at first are most violently opposed to the undertaking, demand that the roads be constructed and are most willing to bear the tax."

In explaining how easily the burden of taxation would be borne, even if the authorities of his county decided to expend a half million in the construction of a perfect system of high class roads, Mr. Humphreys said: "If the farmer, instead of hauling six bales of cotton with two mules, as could be done with ease last winter over the burnt clay road near Greenville (the one built as a model by Engineer Spoon of Director Page's office), could haul but two, he would be taxed for a bad road at a higher rate than anybody was ever taxed for a good road, not counting the wear and tear on mules and wagons.

"I have seen seed cotton in the pens in July which had been picked after the rains had begun to fall in the previous winter and which had not been hauled to the railroad where the gin was located because the roads were too bad to travel. Think of the tax that man was paying, and that, too, for a road he could not travel!"

Mr. Humphreys, who has taken a great interest in the splendid work being done by Director Page and who is apparently thoroughly familiar with the experiments and scientific advancements being made by that scholarly road expert, named a number of the publications issued by the office and told of the vast benefits the farmers of his country were receiving through their distribution. He referred especially to the efficacy of the split log drag as a road builder and malleable and read letters from men

who had attained the most gratifying results from the use of this simple but effective device.

Last year the 2,000,000 miles of poor roads in the United States cost a vast fortune to the farmers and incidentally another to the city men, the added cost to the farmers of hauling farm products over the well high impassable roads being in the end paid by the men who consume them.

Statistics gathered from the leading countries of Europe prove that the cost of hauling over the American roads is far higher than in any other country, the average in France, Germany and England being 12 cents a ton mile last year to a cost of 25 cents here. That difference of 13 cents is the unnecessary tax burden the American farmer is forced to bear because state and county authorities have long been blind to the benefits which would follow an awakening to road importance.

As the average length of the haul of all American farm products is 9.4 miles, it will be seen that every ton hauled cost the farmer who hauled it \$1.22 more than the hauling of a ton of similar products would cost the farmers of England, France or Germany. Last year nearly \$6,000,000, 000,000 pounds of farm products were hauled over the country roads. Reduce that vast weight to tons, charge it \$1.22 a ton, and it proves an annual loss to the farmer of \$72,400,000.

And the saving of that sum would be a trifle of a fraction of the benefits that would come from an immediate construction of perfect roads, for it is but a portion of the weight annually hauled over these roads, the statistics of the department of commerce and labor after liberal deductions placing the quantity at approximately 230, 000,000 tons. The saving in the handling of that stupendous bulk would be \$305,500,000 annually.

It has been ascertained also that the construction of model highways in a rural community brings an immediate increase in the value of the property which such roads traverse. There are 840,000,000 acres of farm lands in the United States at the present time. Statistics show that the improved road increase in farm values is from \$2 to \$3 an acre. Were all the acres to benefit even the lowest amount the gain would be \$1,680,000,000, which might be saved in hauling, and the total would be amply large enough to gridiron the length and breadth of the continent with macadam roads as fine as those which have given the fame and wealth to France—the land of perfect highways.

**GOOD ROAD SUGGESTION.**

Kansas Man Says Put State Agricultural College in Charge.

Several articles have appeared in the papers recently on the subject of good roads, and always with the thought of a lot of new officers and commissions. Why duplicate officers all the time? Instead of creating new commissions and a new set of officers the sensible and economical thing to do would be to grant the Agricultural college funds to be used for this specific purpose, writes J. K. Miller of Manhattan, Kan., to the Kansas City Star. Plans have been furnished free to county commissioners, township trustees and road supervisors. Special meetings have been held in many counties, and the subject of good roads has been placed on the programs of hundreds of farmers' institutes.

A bulletin prepared for members of farmers' institutes in Kansas covers the whole subject of roadmaking, dirt roads, macadamized roads, bridges, culverts, concrete, stone, iron, wooden, etc. All we need now is a few thousand dollars a year to employ a special highway engineer to work with the county engineers and commissioners and others, prepare plans and go out to the different communities that want improved roads and help start the work. The entire expense could be met by a small state license on automobiles, as they tear up the roads more than ten times the number of wagons.

**EFFECT OF GOOD ROADS.**

Much Easier to Haul Cotton Now in Lee County, Ga.

A sight was witnessed at Leesburg, Ga., the other day that would have been impossible a few years ago. Two mules from five miles in the country came into town with five bales of cotton. Several years ago the particular road traveled was in places an almost bottomless sand bed.

The convicts have been at work on the road for about four years, and while the roads lack much yet of being what they should be, still the difference is great and markedly noticeable when former times are compared. The hardest part of the pull was after the team hit the streets of Leesburg. Lee county has about thirty convicts at work steadily on her roads. It is hoped that she will soon have some of the best roads in the state.

**Shale Rock for a Park Road.**

About a mile and a half of driveway in North park, Springfield, Ill., was built in 1907 and surfaced with shale at a cost of 10.6 cents per square yard. The shale was spread eight inches thick and compressed to six inches by rolling. It was hauled from mines, one a mile and a half away and another two miles. Hauling from the former cost 40 cents and from the latter 60 cents per cubic yard, two yards being hauled at a load. The soil cut from the line of the road, 4,648 square feet in area, was used for sodding the sides of the cuts and fills at a cost of 9.3 cents per square yard.

**Notice to Trespassers**

Notice is hereby given that all trespassers on my ranch east of Sonora for the purpose of cutting timber, hauling wood or hunting hogs without my permission, will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

W. J. FIELDS,  
 Sonora, Texas.

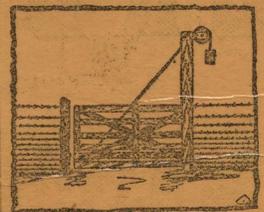
**Farm and Garden**

**A RISING AND FOLDING GATE.**

Easily Constructed, Inexpensive and Operated by a Balance Weight.

A gate that will rise or fold has its advantages. One may be constructed without much expense.

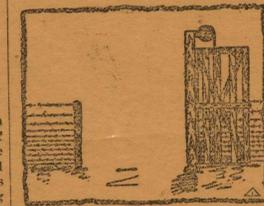
The gate should be braced both ways and made of good, clear lumber. A wire rope or a one-half inch cotton rope. However, if cotton, hemp or sisal is used the rope should have close attention, that it does not in some manner become worn or cut. The weight may be made in several ways, the best and least expensive perhaps being a slim galvanized iron bucket.



THE GATE WHEN CLOSED.

It may be filled with gravel, etc., until the gate is slightly the heavier and so that a slight pull will cause it to fold back in place.

It may be necessary where unruly stock is kept to set two posts for the gate to shut between, in order to keep them from pushing through. The post for the weight may be bolted to two ordinary fenceposts, or they may be full length, but in either case they should be set well into the ground. The grooved wheel over which the rope works may be secured from almost any pile of old scrap iron, or if one cannot be found, make it of wood by sawing three wheels and having one slightly smaller than the others. Nail them together, with the small wheel in the center. This forms a flange that will hold the rope in place. The gate may be constructed to lift straight up by setting long posts on



GATE OPENED BY WEIGHT.

both sides and using two weights. But there is no advantage, and it is more expensive, also rather dangerous, as sleet will sometimes form on the gate and add so much to its weight, and in falling these gates have several times injured both animals and men.

**Country News and Views.**

The government is developing the Morgan horse at the breeding establishment at Waybridge, Va.

The American mule is said to be worth \$410,939,000, for it is claimed that it is comparatively immune from disease and is not susceptible to contagion.

The Kansas experiment station has realized \$11.90 per acre from rape pasture and \$24.10 from alfalfa pasture in ninety-eight days. These results were obtained from experiments which were begun July 25 and concluded Oct. 21.

To keep up the fertility of the soil it is imperative that the orchards be liberally fertilized. Both mineral and vegetable fertilization is necessary. A crop of apples will remove considerably more potash from the soil than will a crop of wheat. To produce trees requires large quantities of both vegetable and mineral matters. Unleached wood ashes are excellent.

Horses that are idle in the winter should not be fed much feed that is rich in nitrogen—as, for instance, clover hay. If a horse does not receive regular exercise he cannot assimilate such feeds, and consequently the system becomes clogged and the disease known as azoturia takes place. Horses to keep in good condition should have daily work or exercise.

**Method For Curing Hams.**

The following method of curing hams and bacon has been used in a Missouri family for many years: For an eighteen or twenty pound ham mix a dessertspoonful of saltpeter with one-fourth or one-third pound of brown sugar and rub well into the flesh side of the ham. Pack in tubs or boxes and cover the flesh side well with fine salt. Allow the meat to remain in the boxes from four to six weeks. Small hams or pieces may be removed in four weeks' time. Lift out and rub all salt off and cover well with good ground black pepper. Be sure to put plenty of pepper around the bone. Let hang for two or three days to dry and smoke for six or eight weeks. You will not only have very fine flavored meat, but it will not have to be bagged. To make Mississippi sausage take eight pounds of lean tenderloin, five pounds of back-bone fat, four teaspoonfuls of black pepper, two teaspoonfuls of salt, one teaspoonful of cayenne pepper, seven teaspoonfuls of sage. Grind twice and mix well.

**Employment Bureau.**

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Charges reasonable.

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TRAINER BROS.,

At the Bank Saloon.

**AN IRISH CONSPIRACY.**

How an Ulster Reporter Duped a London Correspondent.

A correspondent sends us an amusing instance, for the truth of which he vouches. "It was the time of the plan of campaign," he writes, "and the English Tory papers were doing their best to prove that Ireland was in a condition that would make an armed insurrection at any moment not at all surprising. One of the leading London papers sent over its picked correspondent, a man with a splendid ignorance of everything Irish and a splendid willingness to believe anything of a sensational nature he could hear. Among the places he visited was a little town in Ulster that was about as quiet a spot as he could have singled out anywhere between the north pole and the Rock of Gibraltar. He had the reporter of the local weekly paper into the hotel with him, and over the whisky he set himself to extract from that rather unscrupulous person the 'truth about Ireland.'"

"'Is it true,' he asked, lowering his voice for a question of so grave an import, 'that the peasants are being drilled every night in the use of arms?' The local man could have burst out laughing, but he contented himself with a quiet twinkle and admitted solemnly that the state of the country was getting desperate. The truth seeker then said he was determined to get at the bottom of things and wondered if there was any possibility of his being a witness of one of these midnight drillings. The local man after pondering for a moment thought it might be managed, though it would involve some danger, but he was sure the other didn't mind that.

"It was pouring weather the next night, and the great correspondent was taken away from the fire in the hotel and given a walk of a mile or so along a dark, muddy, deep rutted road. Then he had to scramble through a gap in a hedge and over a wall into a field and walk on tiptoe toward the side of the field. Here he had to get down into the ditch and move along on his hands and knees through the nettles and brambles that he dared not even curse for fear the 'rebels' would hear him. At the end of the field, however, drenched, dirtied, stung, pricked, he had his exceedingly great reward. Kneeling in several inches of water, with his chest pressed against a bank of wet earth, he was able to peep through a hole at the bottom of the hedge at certain dim figures in the next field. They were being walked up and down, and now and then the word 'Halt!' or some other word of command was sternly spoken in an undertone and rigorously obeyed.

"It was too dark to see very clearly, but it was clear the conspirators were armed with something long, either pikes or rifles, which they raised into the air every now and then. The local man admitted that this was only one of many fields where such things were nightly practiced. The visitor crawled back to his bed, sore and sneezing, but happy, and probably he tells his friends to the present day of how he saw Irish rebels at their wicked midnight work. Of course the 'conspirators' were only a few of the boys of the place, whom the local correspondent had put up to the joke, and the rifles and pikes were nothing worse than a few simple sticks cut from a hedge."—London Mail.

**Lost and Wanted.**

The polite shopwalker obsequiously approached the square jawed, austere looking woman who stood before the "lost and found" counter at the special sale.

"Madam, have you lost anything?" he politely inquired. "Yes, sir," she replied. "I've lost a hundred and fourteen pounds of husband, in a light brown suit, with black bowler, small tuft of hair on his chin, two scars on his temple and a frightened look. I lost it in a crush at the fancy goods counter. It's probably wandering through the building in search of me, and I want it on account of a bundle of lies carrying under its arm. I thought perhaps you could find it easier than I can."

**Romance of the Bloodhound.**

No breed of dogs makes a more interesting study than does the bloodhound. It leads one from the beaten track of canine interest into the realm of history and romance. In the wars between England and Scotland it was often used in tracking fugitives. Both Wallace and Bruce had many hairbreadth escapes from bloodhounds. On one occasion the hounds were so hot on the trail of Bruce that he only escaped by wading down a stream until he found refuge in an overhanging tree and so succeeded in throwing his pursuers off the scent.—Country Life.

**FRED BERGER,**

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TRAINER BROS.

BANK SALOON.

NOTICE.

I forbid anybody laying or tearing down my fences or driving stock through my pastures without my consent

Sp 1y R. T. BAKER

NOTICE.

Parties knowing themselves indebted to me will do me the favor to settle at once. Otherwise their accounts will be placed in the hands of an attorney for collection

N. B.—No one but myself or member of my family is authorized to collect or receipt for money due me.

DR. A. J. SMITH,  
 10 ft. Sonora, Texas.

**Notice to Trespassers.**

Notice is hereby given that all trespassers on my ranch known as the Lost Lake ranch 12 miles south east of Sonora, and other ranches owned and controlled by me, for the purpose of cutting timber, hauling wood or hunting hogs without my permission, will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

A. F. CLARKSON,  
 45 Sonora, Texas.

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**Hagelstein Cattle.**

W. A. Glascock of Sonora is owner of the Hagelstein cattle and anyone knowing the whereabouts of any of these cattle will confer a favor by notifying

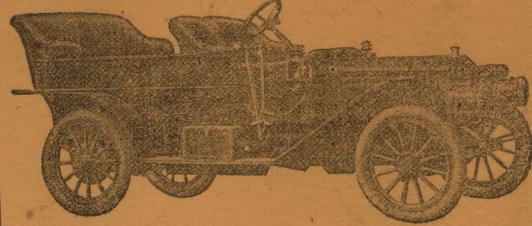
W. A. GLASCOCK,  
 16 ft. Sonora, Texas.

When you go to San Angelo call on Eddie Maier, at the Favorite Saloon, he will treat you O. K. 72-ft

Notice to Trespassers.

Notice is hereby given that all trespassers on my ranch, cutting timber, hauling wood, working stock, gathering pecans, hog hunting or hunting of any kind or fishing, without my permission will be prosecuted.

R. F. SAWYER.



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