

CONGRESS IN THE COILS OF THE PENSION OCTOPUS.

A Washington special says that the pension bill now pending in the house, the passage of which would increase our pension payments \$200,000,000 a year and raise the total to about \$2,000,000,000 a year, is...

If the republicans do not succeed in keeping down a fight between Roosevelt and Hanna it may result in squelching both of them as presidential possibilities.

McFarlan of Kansas is the last, and third, United States senator to be indicted for accepting very for using his influence to secure federal appointments.

Do the coal miners in Texas who are passing resolutions against the working of penitentiaries in the mines want to support the convict in allness?

In spite of public sentiment and the various resolutions in opposition to it, the state of Texas is reported to be...

The staff of New York by special invitation had a negro politician attend a reception of the executive mansion...

There are three hundred newspapers and periodicals published in Oklahoma Territory...

Suppose Callerson and Bailey are still in their grips on the case of action regardless of criticism...

A bill from Washington says that the influence of the world will be said with a full...

It is said that there are already ready-made claims for pensions filed for improvement received in the war with Spain...

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GENERAL NEWS.

The pure food bill passed the house by a large majority.

The Russian soldiers in Manchuria are said to be "dying like flies."

That Kentucky volcano probably was a moonshine distillery exploded.

England is urging Russia and Japan to submit their differences to arbitration.

The Citizen's National Bank at Arlington was robbed Monday night of \$7,856.

A movement has been started at Atlanta, Ga., for the erection of a monument to Gen. Gordon.

October 7 has been designated by the management as Confederate day at the St. Louis World's Fair.

United States Senator Daniels was re-elected by the Virginia legislature Tuesday to succeed himself.

China has announced her intention to fight for Manchuria in case of war between Russia and Japan.

Sam Bickerstaff, living four miles south of Elkhart, was killed Monday night by unknown parties.

Mrs. Martha A. Young, a pioneer to Texas in 1846, died at her home on Clear Creek, Denton county, Tuesday.

Congress passed a bill Monday authorizing the erection of a monument to the long neglected John Paul Jones.

Lewis Rudford, a negro, was lynched at Guthrie, Ky., Sunday night by negroes for the killing of a negro woman.

An explosion in the Harwick coal mines in Pennsylvania a few days ago killed one hundred and seventy miners.

Several of the Eastern and northeastern states suffered greatly from floods and severe cold weather last week.

Declarer has raised the required bonds of \$17,000 and secured the building of the new railroad from Dallas to that point.

Russia has sounded France as to giving her aid in case of war with Japan but France has declined to render armed assistance.

Former Governor Taft of the Philippines arrived at San Francisco with his family last Saturday on his way to Washington to assume the duties of secretary of war, in which he succeeds Secretary Root.

A \$5,000,000 company has been organized in Germany to fight the Standard Oil company, which has carried its trust methods into that country.

At the Stratton mine at Victor, Colorado, Tuesday, a cage being drawn up the 1500-foot shaft broke loose as it reached the surface and fell down the shaft.

A German training ship with several hundred naval cadets on board and a cruiser of the German navy were at Galveston several days this week.

While 375 quarts of nitroglycerine was being hauled in a wagon from Tulsa, I. T., a few days ago to a storage house a mile out of town, the stuff exploded.

With an appropriation of \$250,000 by congress the agricultural department is going to work in Texas and demonstrate to the farmers better methods of raising their cotton.

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STATE NEWS.

Ennis has an epidemic of measles.

Texarkana had a \$25,000 fire Sunday morning.

G. L. Adair suicided of Fort Worth last Friday.

Jefferson and Miami are to have new national banks, each with \$25,000 capital.

The Salvation army is said to be conducting a very successful campaign at Marshall.

Texas is well cared for in the Rivers and Harbors appropriation bill now before congress.

Fire Sunday morning destroyed a score of buildings and other property to the amount of \$135,000 at Sour Lake.

After a long and wearisome fight of eight months in the courts, prohibition went into effect in Grayson county last week.

Texas fed hogs sold at Fort Worth for \$5.07 1/2 a few days ago, being 2 1/2 cents over best price at Kansas City on same day.

It is said that thousands of robbers have taken up their abode in the cedar breaks north of Temple, probably for the winter only.

At Woodville Saturday Angie Bashful was convicted of murder in the second degree and given a sentence of fifty years in the penitentiary.

An English-American cotton company is to be incorporated in Texas with a capital of \$1,000,000 and have its headquarters at Houston.

At the lumber mills near Shepard on Monday J. W. Vaughn was killed by a man named Shoemaker. He claimed self defense and surrendered.

Enos Cather, 61 years old, killed himself with a pistol at Brenham last Saturday. No cause, unless it was declining health, is assigned for the act.

The rain, snow, sleet and severe cold extended over the larger portion of the state. Mention is made of it in the papers from Alvin northward throughout the state.

Mrs. Lucinda C. Pease, widow of former Governor Pease fell down a flight of steps at Austin the other day and sustained injuries feared to be serious on account of her age.

Two school boys at Coxville, John Hopes, aged 15 and Jim Murchison aged 14 years, got into a difficulty and Hopes stabbed Murchison to the heart, killing him instantly.

The railroad commission has reduced the passenger rate for children in Texas from 2 cents to 1 1/2 cents per mile, effective Feb. 10. The railroads say it is a hard jolt on them.

The big dry goods store of L. Wolfson at San Antonio burned last Saturday night. The stock was estimated at \$300,000 and building at \$85,000. Insurance on stock \$200,000, on building \$35,000.

A Hillshoro special to the Fort Worth Record says: Four arrests have been made here in the last week for violations of the local option law. Sentiment is strong for the enforcement of the law, although the vote was close in the last election.

A German training ship with several hundred naval cadets on board and a cruiser of the German navy were at Galveston several days this week. The ships were visited by thousand of people from Galveston and nearby towns and the officers and cadets were entertained on shore and every courtesy shown them.

While 375 quarts of nitroglycerine was being hauled in a wagon from Tulsa, I. T., a few days ago to a storage house a mile out of town, the stuff exploded. It is said that only a few bits of the driver's flesh have been found and that a gang of men at work 300 yards from the explosion were knocked down and stunned, and damage to the amount of \$15,000 or \$20,000 done in the town, nearly a mile away from the scene.

On Tuesday the United States supreme court refused to grant a writ of error from the Texas court of appeals in the Grayson county local option case. The application was made by the attorneys for the anti and the pro set up was that the Texas local option law was unconstitutional because of discrimination for and against certain classes of persons and certain religious societies. The court in denying the writ said the record raised federal questions, but they were not of sufficient merit to justify the writ.

We have been having some of the finest weather I ever saw for the season of the year. Most too much so, for the prosperity of the farmer. A large portion of the wheat, sown in the fall, has failed to come up.

For some reason, the wedding bells have ceased ringing. We wonder why, as it is "Leap year?"

Bad Range Conditions in South Tex. San Antonio, Texas, January 23.—Mayor John P. Campbell, who returned today from a week's inspection of his ranch in Atascosa county, says that the range of Southwest Texas is practically turned up for lack of rain and that cattle are fast coming to that bad physical condition where another severe cold spell will entail very heavy losses to stockmen.

Governor Odell invites Negro. Rochester, New York, January 23.—John W. Thompson, a negro and political leader of his race in Monroe County, has received a personal invitation from Governor Odell to attend the Thursday reception at the executive mansion in Albany. Thompson is said to be the first negro to receive such honor. He is popular with both races and is said to be a friend of both the Governor and Roosevelt.

NOTICE.

The way some people are dead-beating the Telephone company for local service is growing well nigh intolerable. We are glad and willing that you use our phones for doctors, and emergency calls, but when it comes to twelve or fifteen non-subscribers calling for from three to six connections each, daily, it is too much. The time it takes for our operator to wait on you is that much time taken from our patrons who pay for it and to whom it justly belongs. It is not a matter of accommodation from your neighbor but it is how much you are willing to take for nothing, and how much we are willing to give. Respectfully, HASKELL TELEPHONE CO.

McLemore's prairie dog poison will do the business for you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

We are authorized to announce Mr. T. J. Johnson as a candidate for Sheriff of Haskell county, Texas, subject to the action of the Democratic party. We are authorized to announce Mr. J. W. Collins as a candidate for Sheriff of Haskell county, Texas, subject to the action of the Democratic party.

PROFESSIONAL.

FOSTER & JONES, Law, Land and Live Stock. A. C. FOSTER, Atty at Law. J. L. JONES, Notary Public. Haskell, Texas.

H. MCCONNELL.

Attorney at Law. Office in the Court House. Haskell, Texas.

P. D. SANDERS.

Attorney at Law and Real Estate Agent. All kinds of bonds furnished in first class Guaranty Company, at reasonable rates. Loans money on ranches and farm lands, and take up and extend Vendor Lien notes. Office at Court House, With County Treasurer. HASKELL, TEXAS.

MARTIN & WILSON.

Attorneys at Law and Abstractors. Office in the Court House. Haskell, Texas.

OSCAR E. OATES.

Attorney at Law, Office over the Bank. Haskell, Texas.

S. W. SCOTT.

Attorney at Law, Office Large List of Delectable Lands. Furnishes Abstracts of Title. Writes Insurance. All kinds of Bonds furnished in a Standard Guaranty Company at reasonable rates. Address: S. W. SCOTT, Haskell, Texas.

JOE HEBBY.

Stenographer. Office at the Court House. HASKELL, TEXAS.

J. E. LINDSEY, M. D.

Chronic Diseases. Treatment of Consumption. A SPECIALTY. Office in Wriston Building, Abilene, Texas.

DR. M. T. GRIFFIN.

Physician and Surgeon. Office North Side of Square. Residence Phone No. 56.

DR. A. G. SEATHERY.

Physician and Surgeon. Office Southwest Corner Square. Office Phone No. 10. Residence Phone No. 10.

E. E. GILBERT.

Physician and Surgeon. Office North Side Public Square. Haskell, Texas.

J. O. O'NEAL.

Haskell Lodge, No. 58. J. W. REARDON, Sec'y. G. W. O'NEAL, Treas'r. M. T. GRIFFIN, Sec'y. Lodge meets every Thursday night. Blawie Camp No. 31. W. Reardon, Camp Com. G. W. O'NEAL, Sec'y. M. T. GRIFFIN, Treas'r. Visiting sovereigns invited.

OVERSTOCKED. During the next two weeks I will make you Special Bargain Prices. on several lines of goods in which I am overstocked. This is no trap set for the unwary. When I say BARGAINS I MEAN IT! Come and see for yourselves. My General Stock of DRY GOODS AND GROCERIES Is complete,—prices will be to your liking. T. G. CARNEY.

Winter is on But it is not necessary to do without VEGETABLES and FRUITS. All the following kinds of vegetables can be found in the best grade of canned goods at all times at WILLIAMS' POPULAR GROCERY STORE. Okra, Sour krout, Lye hominy, Sweet potatoes, Early June peas, Stringless beans, Corn and tomatoes, Okra and tomatoes, Marrowfat peas, Pears, Plums, Peaches, Apricots, Cherries, Blackberries, Strawberries, Gooseberries, Muscat grapes. When people buy these things they want something good, therefore I keep the good kind. You will also find 'most anything else you want to eat at Williams' Store.

CITY MEAT MARKET, J. N. Ellis, Propr., West Side of the Square. Keeps all Kinds of Fresh Meats Obtainable Here. Solicits a Share of Your Patronage.

TEXAS CENTRAL Railroad. STAMFORD. No. 1 Arrives from Waco 5:45 P. M. No. 2 Leaves for Waco 11:00 A. M. GOOD CONNECTIONS AT WACO FOR ALL POINTS IN CENTRAL EAST AND SOUTH TEXAS TO POINTS IN THE OLD STATES! VIA Cotton Belt Route and Memphis, H. & T. C. So. Pacific & New Orleans. Write us a letter, Stating When and Where you want to go. We will advise you promptly, Lowest Rates, and give you a Schedule of the Trip. THOS. F. FARMER, Agent, Stamford. W. F. McMILLIN, Gen'l Pass. Agent, Waco, Texas. Prairie dogs that eat the farmer's poison won't bother you any more.

50 To 75 Per. Cent Saved —If You Use— POWDER PAINT. Messrs. W. H. Wyman & Co. of Haskell have secured the exclusive agency in Haskell and Knox counties for this excellent and economical paint. "POWDER PAINT" is weatherproof, hardening like cement after being applied, and does not crack or chalk off. It is absolutely fireproof, hence it is a great protection to buildings painted with it. Call at store and see proof of this claim. It is not affected by acids, gases or moisture, hence it is a good sanitary protection. It comes in the form of a powder and is mixed with water only, and is applied with an ordinary brush, one coat making as good a covering as two coats of any heavy mixed oil paint and being much cheaper. It is furnished in white and all the desirable tints. For further information, samples and testimonials, call at the Haskell Rack & Store. For Sale, Land and Stock. I have 500 acres of choice river valley land; also 600 acres fine farm and grass land, located in southwest corner of Haskell county and within six miles of Mary. Also six head of work horses, one fine saddle stallion, four young jacks, twelve fine Jennets and one hundred head of cattle. All at a bargain. Will sell all together or separate. Apply to, H. C. DODD, Mary, Texas.

FLOTSAM AND JETSAM.

Mr. F. G. Alexander visited the firm's branch house at Munday this week. He says the former Knox county bank, which was a private concern, is now in full operation as the First National Bank of Munday, capital \$25,000.

Do not sell your cotton before you see me. I will give you a raise for your cotton and pay the cash for it. T. G. Carney.

Mr. G. W. Andrews who with his wife has been visiting relatives in Haskell and vicinity for two or three weeks returned home to Gorman this week. Mrs. Andrews remains here a week or so longer before going home.

SAVE MONEY by paying cash for your goods; you can get the money to do it with from the West Texas Development Co., Haskell.

Mr. Charlie Williams is running the Racket Store during Mr. Wyman's absence at the 5th Sunday meeting in Jones county.

Alexander Mercantile Co., are in receipt of a fine line of hosiery.

Mr. Finnis Smith and wife of Flat Top neighborhood visited the family of Capt. Oglesby in town this week.

YOUR VALENTINES..... AT FERRELLS.

Mr. W. E. Sherrill and family moved this week into the C. C. Frost residence on the east side.

One third off Ladies' Jackets, Fur Hats and Skirts. One fourth off Men's and Boys' winter suits. A great opportunity to secure bargains in new, stylish goods at The Stamford Dry Goods Co.

Mr. John E. Robertson and family have moved to town and occupy the residence recently occupied by Prof. Cunningham, the latter having moved to his farm a mile east of town.

"Star Brand Shoes Are Better." S. L. Robertson.

New ties and suspenders in individual boxes, the very latest and neatest to be found, are at Alexander Mercantile Co.

Swamp Root—the great kidney and liver medicine, at Robertson's drug store.

Don't Lose Your Land, we will pay it but for you. West Texas Development Co.

Mr. W. D. Dickenson of the northern portion of the county is reported seriously ill.

See the nice line of new spring styles of gingham at Alexander Mercantile Co's.

The best Fort Worth bread constantly on hand at Ellis' meat market.

We want to list a few good tracts of land for our customers whom we expect here in a short time.—West Texas Development Co., Haskell.

When you want to kill prairie dogs use McLemore's poison, it's a sure thing.

Fresh home-made hog lard for sale at the City Meat Market, J. N. Ellis, proprietor.

Can anybody tell why Hollis Fields has been looking unusually well pleased this week?

The genuine Bromo Quinine Tablets—"Cure a Cold in One Day"—at Robertson's drug store. There are various imitations on the market, get the genuine.

We take up and extend Vendor's Lien notes. West Texas Development Co.

Children, get your school tablets, pencils, pens, ink, etc. at the Racket Store.

S. L. Robertson has the best, newest and largest stock of dry goods in Haskell.

Messrs. Whitfield & Hunt have bought and are now conducting the restaurant formerly run by Mr. Fred Niemann on the northwest corner. They have refurbished the place and invite your custom. They keep for sale oakes, pies, oysters, fish and fresh bread. (1-4)

Miss Maud Hunt returned several days ago from Comanche, I. T., where she has been visiting the family of her brother for several months.

Buy your dry goods now and save money. S. L. Robertson.

McLemore Prairie Dog Poison is the cheapest, surest and best. It is for sale at the Haskell Racket Store.

List your lands for sale with the West Texas Development Co. They are the best advertised company of land men in West Texas and can sell your land on short notice.

MONEY! MONEY! MONEY! Money to loan on approved real-estate security. West Texas Development Co. Haskell.

I am selling all clothing at very little over cost. S. L. Robertson.

Messrs. Fred Irby and Clarence Lewis left Thursday morning to take a course in a school of telegraphy at Dallas.

Rev. L. L. Lusk and Mr. W. H. Wyman left Thursday morning to attend the 5th Sunday meeting of the Stonevale Association being held at Bethel church in Jones county.

Messrs. Frank Robertson and Walter Fields spent several days this week visiting at the latter's home near Mury.

Don't experiment with cheap poisons and lose your time and money, but use McLemore's poison and make a sure thing of killing your prairie dogs.

Mr. C. C. Biddle was over from Aspermont this week shaking hands with Haskell friends and looking after business matters.

See Williams' ad on another page for fresh canned fruit and vegetables.

Dr. Adams has successfully treated Mr. Henry Fox's little girl who was suffering from badly granulated sore.

No Credit Business Now. Nearly everybody has cash, and I am making mighty close prices. Buy now and save money. S. L. Robertson.

Messrs. Robert and N. G. Neathery of Waco visited the family of Dr. Neathery this week.

THE FREE PRESS will be pleased to have "Corinne" give it the Leavitt locals from time to time.

Thousands of prospectors and home-seekers were brought to Texas the latter part of last week on the excursion run by the Southwestern railroads, but none of them found their way to Haskell county, nor are they likely to do so in the future, unless interested persons do something to let them know that Haskell county is here and that it is a good place for them.

If you have hides for sale go to J. N. Ellis at the City Meat market, and get the highest market price for them.

Cotton sold in Haskell yesterday at 14.20. \$71.50 per bale is pretty good.

Pens, pencils, ink and tablets at the Racket Store for school children.

Big 5-cent school tablets at the Racket Store.

Mr. H. C. Dozier, one of the most enterprising farmers of the northwest part of the county, had business in the county capital yesterday.

Williams has a select line of canned meats. Prices right.

New line of pants, ladies skirts, jackets and many other things. Come and see. T. G. Carney.

Messrs. A. P. Bailey, W. H. Scott, R. M. Strain and J. B. Ridling were among our callers yesterday evening who set their subscription dates ahead. Much obliged, gentlemen. Next!

Mr. G. C. Clay was in town trading Thursday and did not forget THE FREE PRESS.

Two weeks ago Mr. L. B. Lackey of the Marcy neighborhood brought an orphan boy named Siblet who he is raising to Dr. J. L. G. Adams, the eye specialist, for treatment. The boy's eyelids were so badly granulated and ulcerated that they were nearly closed and his sight was greatly weakened. The doctor took him in hand and, as he was an orphan, generously treated him free of charge, and at this time his lids are getting well rapidly and his sight has been greatly improved, so much so that he reads with ease fine newspaper print.

Our one time citizen and fellow townsman, Mr. F. P. Morgan, arrived in town several days ago and will be here for two or three weeks looking after and closing out some land interests. His old friends are pleased to see him looking hale, hearty and prosperous. Mr. Morgan left here with his family about seven years ago and resided for two years in California, then moved to Oregon, where he now resides. He is very much pleased with his new home and says the portion of Oregon in which he resides has an almost ideal climate; no extremes of temperature winter or summer, never going above 90 in the summer and rarely below the frost point in winter and being entirely exempt from blizzards.

Mr. F. H. Newsum of Fannin county, who has been here two or three weeks starting operations on his farm about six miles north of town and putting his son in charge of it for this year, said to the writer yesterday that he finds the average farmers in better condition here generally than they are in the central and eastern portion of the state, and, taking this fact in connection with his former experience here, he is firmly convinced that this is a better and easier country for a farmer, especially a small farmer, to make a living in than those portions of the state. He owns a farm in Fannin county which he cultivated last year, but says he is done with that part of the country and will move back to Haskell county next fall after closing out his affairs there.

Up to Thursday noon Mr. W. T. Jones, public weigher at this place, had weighed 3699 bales of cotton of the last crop. These figures only represent the cotton hauled in the trade of this place, which we believe is considerably more than has been handled by any other town not on a railroad in northwest Texas. "Bur cotton" is still being picked and is coming in at the rate of from 15 to 20 bales a day and it is probable that Haskell's cotton figures will go close to 4000 bales when it is all in. We have no accurate knowledge at this time of the number of bales made in the county, but as a good deal of the cotton ginned at country gins has gone directly to railroad points without coming to the town of Haskell, it is probable that the total production of cotton in the county in 1903 will run close to 6,000 bales.

Mr. A. B. Carothers of the Marcy neighborhood was in town yesterday and being asked how his "neck of the woods" was getting on said that farming operations were progressing very satisfactorily since the rain put the land in condition to plow and that otherwise they were on something of a boom, filling up rapidly with new farms. He thought that not less than one hundred new houses had been put up within the last three or four months within four or five miles of the little town of Marcy, and new people were still coming in.

The town was full of people yesterday paying poll taxes. They had Mr. Bell and his office deputy, Mr. J. M. Johnson, working on the double quick. In reply to a question Mr. Bell said that something over eight hundred polls had been paid, but he was too busy to look up the exact number. This gives a better percentage of voters paying here than is reported from many portions of the state. If payments keep up during Saturday at the rate they were being made Friday the assessed list will be nearly cleared up.

B. Y. P. U. Program.

The B. Y. P. U. meets every Sunday evening at 8 o'clock at the Baptist church. The following is the program for next Sunday, January 31, 1904.

- Lesson—"Out of the Depths." Ps. 81; 77; 116.
- I. Out of the depths of persecution and slander. Psalm 31.
- II. Out of the depths of suspense and anxiety. Psalm 77.
- III. Out of the depths of deadly peril. Psalm 116.
- IV. Out of the depths of weakness and loneliness. Psalms 88:1-18; 41:3.
- V. Out of the depths of doubt. Psalm 73.
- VI. Out of the depths of defeat. Psalm 60. Similar complaints. Psalms 74; 79; 89.
- VII. Out of the depths of sin. Psalm 130.

Threshing Notice.

Sims Bros., near Phikerton, will run their thresher on Thursday, Feb. 4, for milo maize, kafir corn, sorghum, etc. All who want threshing done be sure to come on that day as we will run only one day—Feb. 4th.

R. F. Sims & Bro.

FOR SALE.

Full blood Durham males also full blood Berkshire shoats, will sell for good fall notes.

A. P. McLemore, Haskell, Tex.

Mr. J. T. Hunt who bought Mr. W. E. Sherrill's residence north of the square, moved into it this week with his family.

Mr. Emmett Robertson, who has been in New York City for the past eight or nine months, was expected to arrive home last night. He will take a position in his father's store and remain in Haskell.

Dr. J. L. G. Adams, the eye specialist, operated on the eyes of Mr. Hatch's little boy Thursday and in a few minutes left him with a pair of eyes in perfect shape, which were, before the operation, badly drawn and crossed, greatly disfiguring his appearance.

Judge P. D. Sanders returned Tuesday from a business trip to Waco and Houston. The Judge says that from what he could see and hear along his line of travel farm work is but little more advanced in the central and southern portion of the state than it is here, nor did he get the impression that the farmers in those sections were in any better, if as good, condition financially as they are here.

On Tuesday evening at the home of Mr. J. W. Meadors in this place, Mr. S. R. Gibson of Deming, N. M., and Miss Maggie Irby, daughter of Mr. J. E. Irby, a prominent citizen of the eastern portion of the county, were united in marriage, Rev. J. H. Chambliss pronouncing the ceremony. Miss Irby is of a highly esteemed family and is herself a more than usually accomplished and handsome young lady. We understand that Mr. Gibson is a very worthy gentleman and a prosperous cattleman, being largely interested in a fine ranch near Deming. Mr. and Mrs. Gibson left Friday morning for Deming, which will be their future home.

Mr. J. W. Collins announces this week and enters the race as a candidate for sheriff and tax collector of Haskell county, subject to the action of the democratic party. Mr. Collins' residence in Haskell county dates back a dozen years or more and he served the county as sheriff and tax collector for the four years—two terms, prior to the last general election, hence is as well known throughout the county, except to those who have become citizens within the last year or so, that it is not necessary to enter into details as to his character and standing, suffice it to say to these latter that his standing in the community has always been that of a good citizen and an upright man. As an official he was prompt and satisfactory in his settlements with the state and county as tax collector, leaving a clean record in that particular. As sheriff, in the execution of the processes of the courts, hunting up and arresting criminals, he was usually prompt and successful, leaving no old chronic cases on the docket when he retired. From these statements it is seen that he has demonstrated his qualifications and fitness for the office which he again seeks and on this record he bases his solicitation for your support.

INDIANS ON WARPATH.—Bloodshed is Feared.

Muskogee, I. T., January 25.—The Snake Indians and part of the Creek tribe are again in revolt and this time it seems that there will be bloodshed.

They have been in constant communication with the Katoowahs of the Cherokee Nation holding councils of war, and as a result the Katoowahs have left their homes, stock, grain and everything and gone up in the Green Leaf Mountains, where they will hold their war dance and they say on their return they will kill every white man in sight.

This was learned through three couriers who came in today from Texas, I. T., the seat of the Katoowahs tribe.

The Snakes have gone to Flat Rock, where their medicine is made, and the residents of that section await the result with anxiety.

An incident of War. The general often related with relish a grimly humorous incident of the battle at Appomattox.

General Gordon said that when the end came he ordered his chief aid to take a flag of truce to the Union commander. "We have no flag, sir," said the aide. "Take your handkerchief and tie it to a stick." "I have no handkerchief, general." "Tear off your shirt then." "There is not a white shirt in the army, general. I have a flannel one, but it is far from white." Atlantic Journal.

DEMOCRATIC CALL.

I hereby call a meeting of the Democratic Executive Committee of Haskell county to be held on Saturday Feb. 20, 1904, at 2 o'clock p. m., at the court house in Haskell, for the purpose of considering the question of holding a county primary, and such other questions as may come up for consideration. A general invitation is extended to Democrats to attend in an advisory capacity.

W. W. FIELDS, Chairman Exec. Com.

FEB. 11 and 12,

Dr. Adams The Eye Specialist -AT- HASKELL

If you want to know plain facts about your eye troubles see him
11 AND 12
or see Dr. Griffin any day at his office as they are now associated together in the practice.

No Hopeless Cases --ACCEPTED--

Results Guaranteed.

INVESTIGATE—For investigation proves the truth or falsity of any statement.

—OFFICE AT—
LINDELL HOTEL.

REPORT OF THE CONDITION Of the Haskell National Bank at Haskell, in the State of Texas at the close of Business Jan. 28, 1904.

RESOURCES.	
Loans and discounts	\$105,732.80
Overdrafts, secured and unsecured	15,262.50
U. S. Bonds to secure circulation	25,000.00
Premium on U. S. Bonds	500.00
Banking-house, furniture and fixtures	9,959.45
Other real estate owned	7,416.48
Due from National Banks (not reserve agents)	25,740.10
Due from approved reserve agents	12,916.82
Checks and other cash items	35.72
Fractional paper currency, nickels and cents	10.87
Legal-tender notes	5,317.00
Redemption fund with U. S. Treasurer, 5 per cent of circulation	1,250.00
TOTAL	\$214,900.87
LIABILITIES.	
Capital stock paid in	\$50,000.00
Surplus funds	29,000.00
Undivided profits, less expenses and taxes paid	15,210.95
National Bank notes outstanding	25,000.00
Due to other National Banks	2,687.71
Due to State Banks and Bankers	591.66
Due to approved reserve agents	None
Dividends unpaid	1,312.00
Individual deposits subject to check	22,681.00
Time certificates of deposit	2,823.25
Certified checks	62.50
Texas	\$214,900.87
State of Texas, County of Haskell, ss: I, G. B. Cook, Cashier of the above named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.	
G. B. Cook, Cashier.	
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 28th day of Jan., 1904.	
G. W. Thompson, Notary Public, Haskell Co., Texas	
H. S. Platoon, Attorney	
Lawrence	

Happy New Year!

Our Mercantile Record FOR 1903

Has been written and we are much gratified over the results shown by it, and, feeling renewed confidence, we are already filling our empty shelves with new goods to meet the demands of our steadily increasing trade.....

A Large Stock of Shoes

HAS JUST BEEN RECEIVED FOR MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

They are the Hamilton-Brown make, saying which is a sufficient warranty of quality to the hundreds of our customers who have bought them of us for years past. Our department of

GENTS' FURNISHING GOODS

Has just been fully replenished with all the desirable things in gents wear. It is our intention to give this department particular attention this year....

Bills are in for a new line of WASTINGS and SUITINGS in advanced styles for spring wear, to arrive right soon. New goods will be added in various lines from week to week and our general stock be kept up-to-date in all desirable fabrics...

It is our purpose to study closely the requirements of our extensive trade, and we shall spare no pains to keep before you the very best stock of goods to be found west of Fort Worth. We shall endeavor to merit your approval in both quality and prices.

Yours for a successful and prosperous 1904.

Alexander Mercantile Company.

NOTICE.
The Cemetery Association requests THE FREE PRESS to say to the public that they have had the cemetery surveyed out into blocks and lots with roadways and alleys between and the lots numbered and a map or plot made of the grounds so that in future graves can be located in regular order, and passways be kept open between. They have secured the services of Mr. J. C. McWhirter as sexton and he has a map of the grounds. Any person desiring to see him and select the lot they desire and have him point it out to them so as to avoid any mistake. He will do the digging also when it is desired. He will generally be found at the marble works or at the cemetery.

LOWEST PRICES FOR CASH! COME AND SEE!

Seeing all the stores in this section unusually depleted in stocks of reasonable goods, I went to Market and purchased a complete stock of

Late Winter and Early Spring Dry Goods.

These goods are now opened up and ready for business. I found the market just on the eve of a decided advance in the price of all cotton goods on account of the rising price of cotton. Buying just ahead of the main advance I am able to sell all cotton fabrics at a very slight advance on old prices. As cotton has continued to advance heavily, I can give my customers prices that can not be met on staple goods by those who did not buy ahead of the advance. You can save money by buying from this stock, as cotton and cotton goods are bound to go still higher.

Aycock Dog Poison.
We are making and selling under the name of Aycock Dog Poison what we believe to be one of the best and surest poisons for killing prairie dogs that has ever been used in this country. We base this statement on our experience with it as well as on the experience of a number of the best citizens of the county who have used it and give it their unqualified endorsement.

Considering its effectiveness it will be found as cheap or cheaper than any other good poison.

The price ready mixed for use either in wheat, millet or milo maize is \$4.00 per bushel.

It will be found for sale at following places:
Haskell by—Williams & Whitaker, also at Mury and Cliff.
W. F. WATTS & M. F. AYCOCK.

Strayed or Stolen.
One black mare, about 15 hands high, branded VH (connected) on shoulder, shod, all round. The mare strayed or was stolen from T. A. Pinkerton's place about eight miles northwest of Haskell. I will pay liberally for the return of the mare to me, or for information leading to her recovery.
C. H. WILLIAMS.

RELIABLE STAR BRAND SHOES!

Yours for the mouth, pal-
pitate, drawiness after
the distressing dental de-
struction of the card-play-
er.

My husband," complains the wife,
"is so prurient! He does not be-
lieve in the card-play-
er."

Star Brand Shoes ARE BETTER!

.....S. L. ROBERTSON.....

Pres- results poert- percip- They to ap- or, to et the

portion which shall his poll ful rec- est keep

go pre- d infor- without xations ou send else to order it must on as to ce, that re to the present on; with- to issue

referred to reads: se. 22 Each poll tax receipt shall bear on its face the name of the party for whom it was issued, the payment of the tax, the residence of the party, his age, his race, the length of time he has resided in Texas, the length of time he has resided in the county, the voting precinct in which he lives, his occupation, if he lives in an incorporated city or town, the ward and street number of his residence, and the length of time he has resided in such city or town. In all cases where the voter resides in a city of ten thousand inhabitants or more the tax must be paid in person or by some one by him duly authorized in writing to pay the same, and to furnish the collector the information necessary to fill out the blanks in the poll tax receipt. Where the poll tax is paid by an agent the collector shall retain on file the written authority of the agent and shall note on the receipt and shall duplicate the same for the collector. The fact that the same was paid by an agent, and the name of such agent. But in no event shall any candidate for office, nor any one who is actively espousing the cause of any candidate for office, be allowed to pay any poll tax for another, and any person violating any of the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a felony, and upon conviction shall be punished by confinement in the penitentiary for a term not less than two nor more than five years.

PROMISES WELL FOR WEST TEXAS There has been something of a movement of cotton raisers from the boll weevil districts of the State out west, and gradually the realms of King Cotton are being yearly extended until at this time they have crossed the foot of the plains, and good grazing land is being ploughed up to raise in far away Lubbock county to give place for the heavy staple. This movement is the result of a combination of factors, the most important of which is the fact that the production of cotton is just about as sure a proposition as anything else in the west. Cattlemen have actually begun to look upon its production with favor, declaring it to be a great forage crop, the seed furnishing them with what they declare to be the best feed that can be had for cattle on the west. Over a great deal of the range, it is rapidly becoming a recognized and established fact that to meet with the proper degree of success there must be a combination of more or less farming with stock raising. In the irrigated district of the Pecos Valley country cotton raising is becoming quite an item and is proving very remunerative. The development of irrigation will ultimately do much to settle the future of the west.—Texas Stockman-Journal.

As blind prejudice gives way to intelligence, or, is crowded out by it, the world moves forward in progress. For almost a score of years many persons and a few newspapers, THE FREE PRESS among them, who have been interested in the anti-irrigation movement in the West—Texas—even many of the live stock and agricultural industries—have striven to bring about such conditions as are foreshadowed in the above quotation from the Journal, and while they have made slow but steady and sure advances it is only within the last year or so that any paper representing the live stock industry has admitted the soundness and feasibility

of their position. THE FREE PRESS has long argued that it was only by the union or blending of the livestock and farming industries that the highest development and greatest profit could be secured from either or both and that it was practicable to do it in West Texas. Now that the proposition is admitted by the interests that have long cried it down, we shall confidently expect to see the progress of Western Texas greatly accelerated. And on this same line it is gratifying to note that in another item which we reproduce from the Journal it advocates establishing cotton oil mills north of the quarantine line to facilitate raising in healthy territory. Let the wheels of progress revolve.

ANNOUNCEMENT.

TO THE PUBLIC:

Having purchased the northeast corner drug business heretofore owned and conducted by Mr. L. T. Cunningham, I desire to say to my friends and the general public, that the character and reputation of this house shall not be allowed to decline in my hands.

I believe that I fully appreciate the importance of the utmost purity attainable in drugs as well as the importance of using the greatest care and skill in compounding prescriptions, where the lives of friends and neighbors are at stake, often depending on the prompt action of a prescribed remedy, and I shall look scrupulously to maintaining these requisities.

Mr. John B. Baker will remain with me in charge of the prescription department, which fact I am sure you will accept as a sufficient guaranty that your prescriptions will be correctly and scientifically compounded.

I shall carry a complete stock of all standard drugs and the leading patent and proprietary medicines at all times and invite your patronage in that line.

There will also be kept in stock a full line of toilet articles, stationery and druggist's sundries—in fact everything that goes to constitute a first-class drug store.

Hoping to have your patronage and support in my new undertaking, I am yours truly,

JOHN E. ROBERTSON.

of their position. THE FREE PRESS has long argued that it was only by the union or blending of the livestock and farming industries that the highest development and greatest profit could be secured from either or both and that it was practicable to do it in West Texas. Now that the proposition is admitted by the interests that have long cried it down, we shall confidently expect to see the progress of Western Texas greatly accelerated. And on this same line it is gratifying to note that in another item which we reproduce from the Journal it advocates establishing cotton oil mills north of the quarantine line to facilitate raising in healthy territory. Let the wheels of progress revolve.

The Bank of Jonestown, Miss., was blown open and robbed Tuesday night. The socialist party is to hold a National convention at Chicago on May 6th. Many cattle are said to be dying in Southern California as the result of a long continued drouth. An extraordinarily large and rich gold find is reported in the San Miguel mining district, state of Sonora, Mexico. Wheat for May delivery sold in Chicago a few days ago at 20 cents a bushel, the highest figure reached since September, 1902.

The Mississippi legislature on Tuesday reelected United States Senators A. J. McLaurin and H. D. Money to succeed themselves. James O'Reilly, a cattleman, bank director and school trustee at Durant, L. T., was killed by his son-in-law, Major Reed, Tuesday. Republicans are planning for a great meeting at Jackson, Michigan, on the 6th of July to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of their party.

A mass meeting at Nashville, Tennessee, Monday adopted resolutions requesting the senators from that state to vote for the ratification of the Panama canal treaty. Cured of a broken neck, James Dunn, seventeen years old, was discharged from a New York hospital Sunday. The case was a very rare one and attracted much attention among surgeons. Three vertebra of Dunn's neck were crushed and chipped. The splintered bone was removed and the fractures set. Then the whole upper body, neck and head were put in a rigid plaster cast and he was laid on a table with weights attached to his feet and head. In this position he lay for two months without moving, being kept alive by close attention. When released from the plaster cast the bones were found knitted and the body sound as ever.

In a murder case carried up from Georgia in which a negro had been convicted in the state court by a white jury, having also been indicted by a white jury, from which jury it was charged in the appeal negroes had been excluded on account of their color, or because they were negroes, the supreme court of the United States rendered a decision holding the indictment and conviction to be in violation of the fourteenth amendment to the constitution of the United States and reversing and remanding the case for further proceedings not inconsistent with the court's decision. It is said that this decision settles a large number of similar cases pending in the courts from the Southern states.

In many towns and cities throughout the South memorial services were held on Tuesday, 19th, in celebration of the anniversary of the birth of Gen. Robert E. Lee.

SABERTON—FAIRVIEW ITEMS.

Rain, hail, sleet and snow Wednesday night and Thursday washed away all the blues and smiles as large as dinner plates are each playing over the faces of the farmers.

Most of the farmers of this neighborhood have got their ground stirred, for you see they couldn't afford to sit down and wait till planting time for a rain—like they do in some places, but have been pushing their plows.

Mr. Ford's little daughter is convalescing after a spell of pneumonia.

Messrs. Nickles and Johnson, relatives of Mrs. Sam Cox, have moved in from Comanche county, so see our neighborhood keeps on growing. People are learning that our sandstorms, and dry spell are not as bad as boll weevils, dear land and high rents.

Let them come, the wilderness shall yet blossom as the rose. A great many people have always been afraid to come to the west for fear they would be robbed or killed, or that they would not find any "society" or civility here, but they are finding out that we are not altogether barbarians, or some of them are, and they are casting their lot in with us.

There is really more sociability among the people here than any place you scribe ever lived and I think the people "back east" are finding it out. If the boll weevil don't get here—which is not probable—this is going to be the cotton country of Texas, that is another thing that will bring people.

Mr. Han of Taylor county visited the family of Mr. W. H. Scott last Saturday and Sunday, returning home Monday.

Mrs. Couch and Miss Herring drove over to Haskell last Saturday.

WEST SIDER.

ANNOUNCEMENT.

We are authorized to announce Mr. T. J. Linnon as a candidate for Sheriff of Haskell County, Texas, subject to the action of the Democratic party.

PROFESSIONAL.

FOSTER & JONES,
Law, Land and Live Stock.

A. C. FOSTER, ATT'Y AT LAW
J. L. JONES, Notary Public,
Haskell, Texas.

H. G. MCCONNELL,
Attorney at Law.

Office in the Court House,
Haskell, Texas.

P. D. SANDERS,
Attorney at Law and Real Estate Agent.

All kinds of bonds furnished in first class Guaranty Company, at reasonable rates. Loans money on ranches and farm lands, and takes up and extends Vendor Lien notes.

Office at Court House,
With County Treasurer,
HASKELL, - - TEXAS.

MARTIN & WILSON,
Attorneys at Law and Abstractors...

Office in the Court House,
Haskell, Texas.

OSCAR E. OATES,
Attorney at Law,

Office over the Bank,
Haskell, Texas.

S. W. SCOTT,
Attorney at Law,

Offers Large List of Desirable Lands. Furnishes Abstracts of Title. Writes Insurance.

All kinds of Bonds furnished in a Standard Guaranty Company at reasonable rates.

Address: S. W. SCOTT,
Haskell, Texas.

JOE IRBY,
Stenographer.

Office at the Court House,
HASKELL, TEXAS.

J. E. LINDSEY, M. D.
Chronic Diseases.

Treatment of Consumption... A SPECIALTY.

Office in Wriston Building,
Ablene, Texas.

D. M. T. GRIFFIN,
Physician and Surgeon.

Office North Side of Square,
Residence Phone No. 26.

D. R. A. G. NEATHERY,
Physician and Surgeon.

Office Northwest Corner Square,
Office Phone No. 22.
Dr. Neathery's Res. No. 23.

E. E. GILBERT,
Physician and Surgeon.

Office North Side Public Square,
Haskell, Texas.

L. O. O. P.
Haskell Lodge, No. 55.
E. D. LONG, F. D.
M. F. GRIFFIN, Sec'y.
Lodge meets every Thursday night.

Elmwood Camp No. 54.
J. W. Anderson, Com. Camp.
M. F. Griffin, Sec'y.
Meets 2nd and 4th Tuesday.
Visiting sovereigns invited.

OVERSTOCKED:

During the next two weeks
I will make you

Special Bargain Prices..

on several lines of goods in which
I am overstocked. This is no trap
set for the unwary. When I say

BARGAINS I MEAN IT!

Come and see for yourselves.

My General Stock of
DRY GOODS AND GROCERIES
Is complete,—prices will be to your liking.

T. G. CARNEY..

Winter is on

But it is not necessary to do without

VEGETABLES and FRUITS

All the following kinds of vegetables can be found in
the best grade of canned goods at all times at

WILLIAMS' POPULAR GROCERY STORE

Okra, Corn and tomatoes,
Sour kroul, Okra and tomatoes,
Sweet potatoes, Early June peas, Stringless beans
—And in canned fruits the following are always in stock—
Pears,
Plums, Peaches,
Apricots, Cherries, Blackberries,
Strawberries, Gooseberries, Muscat grapes.

When people buy these things they want something good,
therefore I keep the good kind. You will also find 'most anything
else you want to eat at

...Williams' Store...

MARCY NOTES.

A New Year Letter from our Regular Correspondent.

After a silence of several weeks I'll try to give you the news of Marcy.

We have had a very mild winter so far, but last night it thundered and lightened and a little shower of rain fell. About daylight a norther blew, then came the sleet and snow. As I write the ground is nearly white and the sun is trying to shine.

There is some sickness in and near Marcy—lagrippe and pneumonia—though none of the cases have been fatal.

Mrs. Sarah Hall was summoned to Lingville last week to be with her daughter, Miss Laura, who was very sick. She is some better now, but not able to be up.

Since our last letter there have been several changes around Marcy. Clemmer & Speck have sold their store house and goods to E. L. Garner of Erath county. He took possession on the 1st of January. Mr. Speck has moved to his farm, two miles east of Marcy.

Mr. T. W. Worley has purchased Sam Chapman's interest in the gin here, and Mr. Chapman has gone back to Hamford.

Marcy and the surrounding country are on a boom. Mr. Jud Robertson is having a nice residence erected here and will move in this week, so as to be near the public school. Mr. C. M. Chapman is having a substantial barn built, so he can house his stock during bad weather. You can see more than a dozen houses going up around town. About a dozen or more new comers have moved among us. Mr. Cane from Haskell county has purchased the Joe Huddleston farm near town and moved here this week. We are glad to have him among us and trust his move will be both profitable and pleasant.

Mr. Dillard Speck and Miss Mary Etta Pounds were married at the church last Sunday afternoon at 5 o'clock by Rev. P. A. Mansell. The attendants were Miss Sue Mansell and Mr. Seaf Grant, Miss Sus Fowler and Mr. John Mansell, Miss Jessie Maxwell and Mr. Zed Wadzeck, Miss Willie Walker and Mr. Oscar Carothers. They have our best wishes.

Mrs. Haden Huddleston is very ill. Her children have all come home to be with her for a while. She is not expected to recover.

Messrs. Seaf Grant and Marion Hicks have gone to keeping batch. We haven't a favorable opinion of such, because there are many nice, good looking girls around here who can cook.

NELLY BLY.
Marcy, January 21, 1904.

NOTICE.

The way some people are deebating the Telephone company for local service is growing well nigh intolerable. We are glad and willing that you use our 'phones for doctors, and emergency calls, but when it comes to twelve or fifteen non subscribers calling for from three to six connections each, daily, it is too much. The time it takes for an operator to wait on you is that much time taken from our patrons who pay for it and to whom it justly belongs. It is not a matter of accommodation from your neighbor but it is how much you are willing to take for nothing, and how much we are willing to give. Respectfully,
HASKELL TELEPHONE CO.

60 To 75 Per. Cent Saved

—If You Use—
POWDER PAINT.

Messrs. W. H. Wyman & Co. of Haskell have secured the exclusive agency in Haskell and Knox counties for this excellent and economical paint.

"POWDER PAINT" is weatherproof, hardening like cement after being applied, and does not crack or chalk off. It is absolutely fireproof, hence it is a great protection to buildings painted with it. Call at store and see proof of this claim.

It is not affected by acids, gases or moisture, hence it is a good sanitary protection.

It comes in the form of a powder and is mixed with water only, and is applied with an ordinary brush, one coat making as good a covering as two coats of any ready mixed oil paint and being much cheaper.

It is furnished in white and all the desirable tints.

For further information, samples and testimonials, call at the

Haskell Basket Store.

For Sale, Land and Stock.

I have 550 acres of choice river valley land; also 300 acres See farm and green land, located in northwest corner of Haskell county and within six miles of Marcy. Also six head of work horses, one fine middle stallion, four young jacks, twelve fine Jennets and one hundred head of cattle. All at a bargain. Will sell all together or separate. Apply to, E. G. Doonan, Marcy, Texas.

Prairie dogs that eat McLaughlin's poison won't bother you any more.

FLOTSAM AND JETSAM.

Messrs. G. H. Couch, cashier of the Haskell National Bank, and Mr. S. W. Scott went over to Aspermont Monday to attend the meeting of the stockholders of the First National Bank of that place, also to look after some legal matters. Mr. Marshall Pierson, assistant cashier, and Mr. Frank Vernon are taking care of the Haskell bank.

Don't forget the Ladies' Minstrel will be here the last of the month. Watch out for the date.

Mr. W. M. Stephens completed this week the building of a good residence for Mr. H. C. Scott, on the latter's farm seven miles east of town.

Do not sell your cotton before you see us. I will give you a raise for your cotton and pay the cash for it. T. G. Carney.

Mr. Ervin Farmer, who once resided in this county but now lives in Grayson, visited friends here this week.

SAVE MONEY by paying cash for your goods; you can get the money to do it with from the West Texas Development Co., Haskell.

Mr. J. F. Pinkerton brought to town and sold a lot of oats Wednesday. It speaks well for a country when its farmers have surplus grain for sale at this time of the year.

McLemore's prairie dog poison will do the business for you.

Mr. Oscar Martin returned the first of the week from a business trip to Alvarado.

New ties and suspenders in individual boxes, the very latest and no-biast to be found, are at Alexander Mercantile Co's.

Mr. Frank Simmons who recently moved to Bosque county visited Haskell friends this week.

DON'T LOSE YOUR LAND, we will pay it out for you. West Texas Development Co.

Judge H. G. McConnell returned Tuesday night from Fort Worth, where he was looking after business in the court of civil appeals.

The best Fort Worth bread constantly on hand at Ellis' meat market.

Mr. J. A. Price, a leading stockfarmer of the Miller Creek community, was doing business in town Wednesday.

We want to get a few good tracts of land for our customers whom we expect here by a short time. West Texas Development Co., Haskell.

Judge P. D. Sanders left Thursday for Waco and Houston to look after business matters.

When you want to kill prairie dogs use McLemore's poison, it's a sure thing.

A daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Culbert of the western portion of the county on the 16th inst.

Fresh home-made hog lard for sale at the City Meat Market, J. N. Ellis, proprietor.

Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Dickenson of the Marcy neighborhood were presented with a son on Saturday, 16th inst.

We take up and extend Vendor's Lien notes. West Texas Development Co.

Born Monday, 11th inst., to Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Brown of the northern portion of the county, a daughter.

Children, get your school tablets, pencils, pens, ink, etc at the Racket Store.

A daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Price of the northeastern portion of the county on the 10th.

Messrs. Whitfield & Hunt have bought and are now conducting the restaurant formerly run by Mr. Fred Nieman on the northwest corner. They have refurbished the place and invite your custom. They keep for sale cakes, pies, oysters, fish and fresh bread. (1-4)

We learn that a fine boy was born to Mr. and Mrs. Walter Bevers of the northern portion of the county on Sunday, the 10th inst.

A new line of gentlemen's shirts at Alexander Mer. Co's.

Fred Knowles, who is now a newsboy on the Texas Central, visited friends and relatives here this week.

A full line of school tablets at the Racket Store.

Mr. A. H. Storrs and brother left Wednesday to visit their father in McLennan county, who is reported quite sick.

COMING!—Ladies' minstrel, latter part of month—watch for later announcements.

Mr. A. P. McLemore, who is now traveling for the wholesale drug firm of Bass Bros., Abilene, was here a day or so this week to see his family and do business with Haskell drug stores. Pop's many Haskell friends are always glad to see him.

McLemore Prairie Dog Poison is the cheapest, surest and best. It is for sale at the Haskell Racket Store.

Mr. Warren Fitzgerald was in from the X-ranch in Throckmorton county visiting Haskell friends this week.

List your lands for sale with the West Texas Development Co. They are the best advertising company in land use in West Texas and sell your land on short notice.

Bluford Dodson, who has been for several months employed at Rowell, New Mexico, came in the first of the week on a visit to his father's family. By an accident two or three weeks ago his hands were painfully scalded.

Alexander Mercantile Co., have in stock a fine line of Hymane-Heat pickles, sweet and sour. "Hymane" as pickles means they are the best.

The Ladies Aid Society of the C. P. church will meet every Saturday at 2 o'clock, p. m., at the residence of Mrs. English. All the ladies are urged to be present. Secretary.

Rev. Philleby will preach in Haskell February 7, 1904. The services will be held in the second story of the building occupied by Mr. K. Jones.

If you have hides for sale go to J. N. Ellis at the City Meat market, and get the highest market price for them.

A number of persons who have had experience with it say that Nicotragus wheat sown in this country in the spring will make a good crop if the spring seasons are at all favorable. It would be well to test this matter, on a small scale at least.

Pens, pencils, ink and tablets at the Racket Store for school children.

Our Marcy correspondent is on deck again this week with a new and interesting letter. We would like to have such from each community in the county. They would be mutually beneficial to the paper and to the communities.

The first three or four days of this week were springlike in temperature, fires being unnecessary for comfort day or night.

Big 5-cent school tablets at the Racket Store.

The child of Mr. G. E. Ballow, whose sickness was mentioned in the paper last week, died on Friday night, 15th inst., of pneumonia. The family have the sympathy of the community in their bereavement.

Williams line select line of canned meats. Prices right.

Mr. M. A. Clifton, the prize winning farmer of the Cliff community, was doing business in the county capital Tuesday.

New line of pants, ladies skirts, jackets and many other things. Come and see. T. G. Carney.

Messrs. T. A. Greer and Marion Hicks leading farmers of the Sandhills country had business in town Tuesday.

See Williams ad. on another page for fresh canned fruits and vegetables.

We note that Mr. Wm. Pierson of Greenville has announced as a candidate for county attorney of Hunt county. Knowing his ability, qualifications and sterling integrity as a man, we hope to hear of his election in due time, as we believe he would administer the affairs of the office with credit to himself and benefit to his county. Being a son of Mr. M. S. Pierson of this place and having resided here, he has many friends in Haskell who will join THE FREE PRESS in wishing him success.

Mr. J. E. Carter of the western part of the county was in town Monday and remembered THE FREE PRESS in a substantial way. He says that while the country is needing rain badly to enable farm work to be carried on to advantage, wheat in his section is alive but not making any growth. He excepted, however, from the last statement about 30 acres of muscoroni wheat on his farm which he says is still making some growth, although there has been no rain since it was sown. This seems to be pretty good evidence of its drought resisting quality.

Instead of preaching as usual at the Methodist church last Sunday night, Rev. J. H. Chambliss turned the church over to the Epworth League society who had prepared for the occasion and rendered a very interesting program, consisting of a scriptural lesson, songs, etc. An instructive and interesting talk was made by Prof. C. M. Porter on the advantages held out to the young people of today and how they should prepare to reap and utilize the benefits of them. Rev. Chambliss also made a very beneficial talk on a similar line.

The long looked for rain came Wednesday night. About daylight Thursday morning the wind changed to the north and there was quite a drop in the temperature which changed the rain first to sleet, then to snow, finishing off with an inch or two of snow. The moisture is sufficient to revive wheat and set it growing, except some of the earliest sowings which were probably too far gone to come out. It will also greatly facilitate the breaking and preparation of land for spring planting.

Magazine Club Program.

The Haskell Magazine Club will meet next Saturday, January 30th, at the home of Mrs. S. W. Scott. The following is the program:

Father Ryan—the Post Laureate of the Confederacy.—Mrs. M. Pierson.

Recitation from Ryan.—Miss Rogers.

Paul Hamilton Hayne—the Post Laureate of the South.—Mrs. W. E. Sherrill.

Reading from Hayne.—Mrs. H. H. Jones.

Vocal Solo: "The Mocking Bird."—Miss Rupe.

Paper: Southern Authors.—Miss Hike.

Four Favorite Characters in Southern Fiction. Why?—Mrs. L. T. Cunningham.

Which Southern Author Best Typifies the South.—Mrs. Levi McCollum.

Vocal Solo: "Suwanee River."—Mrs. J. W. Meadors.

Legends and Superstitions of the South.—Mrs. J. B. Baker.

Southern Women of Today Compared With Those of Fifty Years Ago.—Mrs. J. F. Posey.

Diversion.—Hostess.

B. V. P. U. Program.

The B. V. P. U. meets every Sunday evening at 8 o'clock at the Baptist church. The following is the program for next Sunday, January 24, 1904.

Lesson—"Wrestling with Devils."—Psalm 91: 7, 8.

Absence of Modern Devils. Job 1: 17. Eccl. 2: 127.

Tennison and Modern Devils. See "In Memoriam."

The great problem. Text: Luke 11: 17-20.

L. A. P. U. Session.—Psalm 91. II. A. P. U. Session.—Psalm 91.

Bank Directors Elected.

At the recent meeting of the stockholders of the Haskell National Bank, the following gentlemen were elected as the board of directors: M. S. Pierson, G. H. Couch, Lee Pierson, S. W. Scott, Marshall Pierson, H. S. Post, P. M. Morton, all being substantial citizens of Haskell and Haskell county and men whose qualifications and ability to manage the affairs of such an institution are well known and calculated to maintain the high reputation and financial soundness of this bank, indeed most of them have been connected with it for a long while and it is to them it owes its present high standing.

The old officers, to wit: M. S. Pierson, president; Lee Pierson, vice-president; G. H. Couch, cashier and Marshall Pierson, assistant cashier, were all reelected by the board of directors.

We may mention in this connection that a statement of the bank's financial condition printed at this office a few days ago to be sent out to its correspondents, shows a very healthy and satisfactory condition of its affairs as, also, that there is some money in this country—the item of deposits being \$106,742.08.

OFFICERS INSTALLED.

The following is a list of officers installed by the I. O. O. F. Lodge on last Thursday night, for the ensuing term: Noble Grand, C. D. Long; Vice Grand, J. T. Ellis; Secretary, Guest Whitaker; Treasurer, Joe Irby; Warden, E. F. Springer; Conductor, T. B. Russell; Right Supporter to N. G., R. E. Ellis; Left Supporter to N. G., Dr. M. T. Griffin; Right Supporter to V. G., Booth English; Left Supporter to V. G., M. E. Park; Right Soene Supporter, Jim Killingsworth; Left Soene Supporter, R. D. C. Stephens; Inside Guardian, Bob Irby; Outside Guardian, Turner Lewis.

Judge H. R. Jones was elected representative to the Grand Lodge with E. F. Springer, as alternate.

The following is a list of officers installed by the Rebekah I. O. O. F. Lodge, on Monday night, for the ensuing term: Noble Grand, Mrs. J. W. Meadors; Vice Grand, Mrs. W. E. Sherrill; Secretary, Miss Sarah Montgomery; Treasurer, Miss Maud Isbell; Warden, Mr. Joe Irby; Conductor, Miss Jesty Ellis; Right Supporter to N. G., Mrs. Guest Whitaker; Left Supporter to N. G., Miss Bertha Irby; Right Supporter to V. G., Mrs. M. T. Griffin; Left Supporter to V. G., Miss Lillie Rike; Inside Guardian, Miss Edith Sowell; Outside Guardian, Mr. Booth English.

Mrs. H. R. Jones was elected representative to the Grand Assembly with Mr. W. E. Sherrill as alternate.

The following "Entertainment Committee" was appointed by the Noble Grand: Mrs. Guest Whitaker, Miss Ethel Alexander and Mr. W. E. Sherrill.

The installation of officers was followed by an oyster supper.

FOR SALE.

Full blood Dufham males also full blood Berkshire shoats, will sell for good fall notes.

A. P. McLEMORE, Haskell, Tex.

STATE NEWS.

Bud Kykendall of Lampasas was killed by a train on the Santa Fe road.

The oil field in Clay county is said to be developing beyond the expectation of the most sanguine.

Jesse Portman, nineteen years of age, from Denton county, was shot on Sunday and died on Monday near Dallas by R. L. Brock.

Near Pittsburg Monday George Riley shot his son-in-law Will Helms with a 22 rifle. The wound is not thought to be fatal.

Extensive prairie fires have lately occurred on the ranges in Rannels, Concho and Tom Green counties, doing much damage to the stock interests.

It is reported from Comanche county that it is getting so dry in that section that wheat is dying, which will result in a very heavy cotton crop being planted.

Johnston Dysart, one of the oldest settlers in north Texas, died at his home near Anna, Collin county, on the 16th inst., as the result of injuries sustained in a runaway nearly two months ago.

Numerous robberies and attempts at robbery have recently been made along the line of the Texas and New Orleans railroad in the southeastern portion of the state. It is thought that an organized band of white men are doing the devilment.

Wednesday night of last week at Roby Ross Millsap was shot and instantly killed. It is stated that about ten o'clock he entered the kitchen of the Palace hotel for some purpose and was shot from the outside through a window, sixteen buckshot entering his body and killing him instantly. He was about forty years old and had a wife and one child.

JANUARY 28 and 29, At HASKELL.

...DR...
J. L. G. ADAMS,
Eye Specialist,
Anson, Stamford and Haskell, Texas.
—ASSISTED BY—
DRS. WRAY & McMORDIE.
Office at Lindell Hotel.

Diseases and deformities of the eye treated by the latest and most approved methods. Will straighten 3 cases cross eyes at each place free of charge. Have straightened over 800 to date—all the proof you want.

If you have granulated lids, overflow of tears, ingrowing lashes (so called wild hairs), drooped or deformed lids, lid tumors, cataracts, pterygiums, etc., or need glasses for old sight, near-sight, far-sight, astigmatism or double vision, call and see us; we tell you plain facts about your case, waste no time on hopeless cases. Give references from hundreds who were lead about, but now see to read. References from many of the leading physicians, bankers and business men of the state, yet we think our rules in practice are references enough for anyone.

Rules: Examination Free. Each and every one told plain facts about their condition. No one placed under treatment unless we know their case can be treated successfully. Those doubting a cure can place cost of treatment in bank, follow our instructions and pay only when they have received the results we promise them.

Could you ask for a fairer offer? Call and hear our honest opinion about your case. Chronic, surgical and difficult cases solicited.

We save you time, money, and prevent future suffering.

90 Days
—AT—
Stamford, Anson and Haskell.

JANUARY 28 and 29, AT HASKELL.

NOTICE.

The Cemetery Association requests THE FREE PRESS to say to the public that they have had the cemetery surveyed out into blocks and lots with roadways and alleys between and the lots numbered and a map or plot made of the grounds so that in future grave passways be kept open between. They have secured the services of Mr. J. C. McWhirter as sexton and he has a map of the grounds. Any person desiring to have a grave dug is requested to see him and select the lot they desire and have him point it out to them so as to avoid any mistake. He will do the digging also when it is desired. He will generally be found at the marble works or at the cemetery.

Aycock Dog Poison.

We are making and selling under the name of Aycock Dog Poison what we believe to be one of the best and surest poisons for killing prairie dogs that has ever been used in this country. We base this statement on our experience with it as well as on the experience of a number of the best citizens of the county who have used it and give it their unqualified endorsement.

Considering its effectiveness it will be found as cheap or cheaper than any other good poison.

The price ready mixed for use either in wheat, millet or milo maize is \$4.00 per bushel.

It will be found for sale at following places:
Haskell by—Williams & Whitaker, also at Marcy and CHE.
W. F. WATTS & M. F. AYCOCK.

Strayed or Stolen.

One black mare, about 15 hands high, branded V.E. (concealed) on shoulder, about all round. The mare strayed or was stolen from T. A. Pinkerton's place about eight miles northwest of Haskell. I will pay liberally for the return of the mare to me, or for information leading to her recovery. C. N. WILLIAMS.

Lunch tickets at the Racket Store.

Happy New Year!

Our Mercantile Record FOR 1903

Has been written and we are much gratified over the results shown by it, and, feeling renewed confidence, we are already filling our empty shelves with new goods to meet the demands of our steadily increasing trade.....

A Large Stock of Shoes

HAS JUST BEEN RECEIVED FOR MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

They are the Hamilton-Brown make, saying which is a sufficient warranty of quality to the hundreds of our customers who have bought them of us for years past. Our department of

GENTS' FURNISHING GOODS

Has just been fully replenished with all the desirable things in gents wear. It is our intention to give this department particular attention this year....

Bills are in for a new line of WASTINGS and SUITINGS in advanced styles for spring wear, to arrive right soon. New goods will be added in various lines from week to week and our general stock be kept up-to-date in all desirable fabrics...

It is our purpose to study closely the requirements of our extensive trade, and we shall spare no pains to keep before you the very best stock of goods to be found west of Fort Worth. We shall endeavor to merit your approval in both quality and prices.

Yours for a successful and prosperous 1904.

Alexander Mercantile Company..

S. L. ROBERTSON TALKS.

In entering upon another year of business in Haskell I wish to say to the friends and patrons of the past year that I am deeply appreciative of the patronage extended to me. At the beginning of the fall season I had a fairly complete stock in all lines, thinking it sufficient, but had twice to replenish my general stock besides making several orders. Thus it is seen that the business exceeded in volume what I had expected, and, I am pleased to believe, has been pleasant and profitable to merchant and customer alike. Turning now to the year just opening before us I will say to former customers and the public at large that I have just returned from St. Louis, where I purchased goods to complete my winter stock in all broken lines, thus again giving you a full stock of seasonable goods from which to make your selections.

West Texas is not a back number and I have purchased no back number goods, but only such as I can offer on their merits as to quality and style. As to prices, they will be put as low as such goods can be sold in any town in this section. Of this I am confident and invite your patronage accordingly.

The last goods purchased are now arriving, and it will be a pleasure to have you call and look over them and learn the prices. In due time I will put out a full stock of Spring goods. It is my intention to make this year's stock the most complete and best that I have ever offered to the Haskell trade.

With fair dealing and low and hot live prices I shall hope to continue to merit and hold your confidence and patronage. Wishing to all an abundantly prosperous year, I am, Yours truly,

S. L. ROBERTSON.