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Mr. and Mrs. Fred Buchanan and children of San Antonio spent the week-end at the Monte Rouquette home.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Bolser of Houston, vacationed at Forest Park Cottages this week. The Bolsers are former residents of Rockport.

Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Beck, of Houston, have been guests at the W. B. Allen home for the last 10 days.

An Unwritten
CHAPTER OF TEXAS HISTORY

EDITOR'S NOTE: The Pilot will print for its readers in this and subsequent issues, an address given by S. F. Sparks, grandfather of the late J. M. Sparks, to the Texas Veterans Association in Gonzales, Texas in 1905. Sparks, president of the association, related the causes of the war for Independence, and the development and progress of the State of Texas. Mr. Sparks came to Rockport to make his home in 1890 and resided here until the time of his death in 1908.

men all followed, I being among the number. There were in all 350 men who volunteered to go in and take Cos. Those who did not volunteer to go with us came and shook our hands, and bade us goodbye, telling us it was suicide; that we would all be killed and would not last until breakfast—we would all be killed before that time arrived. They did not offer to deter us from undertaking our desperate mission.

"We then marched on the city. About 3 o'clock in the morning, December 5, 1834, we marched with muffled tread, with scarcely a word spoken. There was a street between the houses and the river walled-in with stone, a little higher than a man's head—about 20 feet high. This is the street which our division marched down. There was a Mexican sentinel standing by a little fire. He never fired on us. Sentinels, however, further on in the town fired on us when they heard the tread of our feet. We were advancing very rapidly at this time. We were in about 60 yards of the sentinel before Smith raised his rifle and shot him through both thighs. There were three pieces of artillery fired from up the street to rake that street, but the men got inside before the artillery was fired.

"When we took possession of the first house there were three Mexican women inside and they were almost scared to death. But they soon became reassured when we told them we would not hurt them. They made tortillas for us. We all know what they are. The whole division followed us up. We knocked out holes in the walls to fire through. Three days and nights we fought with but little or no water. The women brought us water until the Mexicans fired upon them as they were crossing the street to get it. After that we had but little water. We then commenced to ditch and dug under the wall, deeper than our heads. The third day we had the San Antonio river running into the house. We fought them through our port holes and the fighting was from house to house and very desperate. At times our situation seemed almost hopeless, but we were determined to whip the Mexicans or die in the attempt. Texas history says we stormed the city and captured it, but does not give any idea how the battle was conducted and how we took it.

"I have been called upon time and again by classes in schools to give a description of how we took the city, and that is what I am now endeavoring to try and tell you.

"We got hold of a number of crow bars and two pick axes and we commenced to dig holes in the walls of the houses to shoot through, and the Mexicans also commenced to do the same thing from opposite walls, and when we would see a pick or crow bar come through an opening, we would grab it and jerk it away from them. The fighting was from house to house and we forced the Mexicans from out of one and then to another, and so we advanced fighting every foot of the way, and in that manner the city was captured, house by house.

"We carried our pick and crows and at every house we commenced

prizing out stones and making port holes. As soon as we would drive them from one house we would follow them up and occupy it. We finally reached the northern part of the plaza, a good big block containing houses with solid walls, and they went into the old mission. We kept up our tactics of knocking holes in the walls and fighting. We knocked holes through the walls and crawled in and they went out through other doors, and as they went out our rifles spoke, and the deadly missiles followed them and killed a good many. They retreated finally to where their artillery was stationed. Here I digress to mention an incident that deserves a place in history. A man named Sylvester got a hammer and running through the Mexicans right up to their cannon, spiked them, and ran back to us. As he jumped into the door we had just taken, he turned his head and they shot him, but did not kill him. This same man was the first one to leap over Santa Anna's breastworks at San Jacinto. The conspicuous bravery of this man deserves a place in history.

"On the third day of the battle, they raised the black flag on us to show that they did not intend to give any quarter. That same day they marched 800 convicts out chained together, turned them loose, gave them guns, and they commenced to fire on us. They had at this stage of the battle over 1600 troops in action. Judging from this three day fighting, it did not seem as though we would be used up by breakfast. Our boys had to change their tune. We fought them five days and nights, continually, and battle never slackened for a moment, but raged night and day with fury. We stood to our work, each man doing his utmost, straining every nerve, with a determined resolve to win the victory.

"There was never any thought of retreat or of giving up the battle, although we were at all times outnumbered nearly four to one. We killed more Mexicans at night than in the day time. They were great hands to smoke cigarettes—their wrappings were made of shucks and made a night mark to shoot at when lighted. Three or four of us were on the watch all the time, and would see them strike the fire and would then shoot. We could see them striking the fire and the streak of fire moving rapidly and it made a good mark. They told us after the surrender that we had killed more of them at night than at any other time.

"On the morning of the sixth,

by the time we could see, they retreated into the Alamo out of range. We all know about the Alamo and the subsequent tragedy that was enacted there and the heroic struggle and death of the brave defenders. On the morning of March 6 they surrendered and we let them go on parole, not to fight any more against Texas, but they afterwards did. This is all unwritten history, and is true. These incidents were the first factors that led up to the war for Texas independence. This battle was not fought for our independence, but for our rights under the Constitution of Mexico, under which we then lived. I do not know why there is so little said about this battle in history.

(To be continued next week)

Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Eller, of Victoria were week-end visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lynwood Eller.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy N. Mullinax, of Sinton, and Mrs. S. E. Evans visited in Rockport Sunday.

DID YOU KNOW . . .

A cairn is a pyramid of rough stone used as a landmark or memorial.

May, June, July and August are the only months not containing the letter "r".

"Shooting the sun" means using a sextant to determine a ship's location at sea.

Augurs were the highest class of official diviners of ancient Rome.

William Lloyd Garrison was the famous abolitionist editor of The Liberator.

Double jeopardy refers to a person tried twice for the same offense.

A book which contains the words to an opera or musical comedy is a libretto.

Periods of the year when the nights and days are of equal length are called equinoxes.

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From where I sit . . . by Joe Marsh

**Clam Chowder Can Be
Dynamite!**

If Smiley Roberts is a friend of yours, like he is mine, and if you want to keep his friendship, like I do, don't ever let him hear you say that good clam chowder can be made without cream.

In New England, where Smiley comes from, friendships have been broken over tomatoes versus cream in clam chowder. Experts say that south of Boston the tomato reigns supreme, but north of Boston it's cream—or else!

From where I sit, whether it should have cream or tomatoes is simply a matter of taste. This is plain to anyone who doesn't come from clam chowder country.

What a great world this would be if we could all see that most prejudices are matters of taste only. Some like hot coffee. Some like iced. Some people like a temperate glass of beer. Others prefer ice-cold lemonade. My grandmother used to say, "Prejudice that sees only what it pleases, cannot see very plain."

Joe Marsh

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**Warranty Deeds List
Property Transfers**

Warranty deeds recorded at the court house during the last two week shows the following property transfers:

Lots 4, 5, 12 and 13, block 127, Doughty and Mathis, from J. S. Solenberg et ux to I. W. Stryker et ux.

The north 40 feet of lot 2 and all of lots 1, 9, 10 and 11, block 127, Doughty and Mathis, from I. L. Gibson et ux to I. W. Stryker et ux.

Lot 5, lot 13, block 42, Doughty and Mathis, from Clifford L. Stevens to Frank Leececke.

The east one-half of lots 1 and 2, block 5, Fulton, from Edna Aline Taylor et vir to J. R. DeForest.

All of farm lot 32, block 216, Burton-Danforth subdivision, from R. W. Lawson et ux to W. C. Boring.

The east one-half of lot 8, block 19, Smith and Wood, from Camillo Delgado et ux to Ellen G. Greer.

The east one-half of lot 6, block 19, Smith and Wood, from Camillo Delgado to Rudolph Garcia.

The east one-half of lot 5, block 19, Smith and Wood from A. P. Gonzales et vir to Rudolph Garcia.

All of lots 9 through 16, block 150, Doughty and Mathis, from G. M. Broach to W. G. Terry et ux.

One-half interest in lot 3, block 6, Stewart Addition, from A. R. White to Luma Mims.

The west one-half of lots 5, 6, 7 and 8, block 19, Smith and Wood, from Desiderio Pena to Alfredo Pena et ux.



WAY UP IN THE AIR—Hazel Franklin, an ice follies comedienne, limbers up for the ice revue which runs at Madison Square Garden, New York. Miss Franklin is an English competitive skater.

**G. F. & O. Commission
Proposes to Operate
Cedar Bayou Fish Trap**

The Game, Fish and Oyster Commission has made application to install and operate a fish trap in Cedar Bayou adjacent to Grass Island between St Joseph and Matagorda Islands and two subsidiary wire curtains in the Gulf of Mexico at the mouth of Cedar Bayou.

The fish trap, approximately 20 by 95 feet, would be located adjacent to and near the center of Grass Island. Two leads constructed of timber piling and wire curtains would extend outward at approximate 45 degree angles from the trap to St. Joseph Island and two leads would extend from each end of Grass Island to Matagorda Island. Two 26 foot gates located approximately 40 feet channelward from the shore-line of Grass Island would provide a navigation opening of approximately 20 feet at right angles to the channel between Grass and St. Joseph Islands. The timber piles would be spaced 20 feet apart and would have a top elevation of 5 feet above mean low water except for the piling at the gates which would be 26 feet apart and would have a top elevation of 15 feet above mean low water. The elevation of the top of the wire curtain would be 2.5 feet above mean low water.

The proposed fish trap would be in operation for one week out of every four during operation the trap would be attended so that the gates may be opened to permit navigation of the channel at any time. The subsidiary curtains would be parallel and approximately 250 feet apart and would extend seaward from the mouth of Cedar Bayou for a distance of 1,500 feet into water having a depth of 10 feet at mean low water. The curtains would be similarly constructed to the leads except that the spacing of the timber piles would be 30 feet.



CITY GIRL KNOWS HER WAY—Shirley Everitt isn't just an ordinary farmerette who makes a pretty picture with a pitchfork. She can handle any piece of machinery on her father's farm near Flemington, N. J., on the two days a week she spends there. The rest of the week she works in downtown New York. Shirley has won prizes with her own thoroughbred cattle which she has been raising since she was 10 years old.

**New Cars Seen In
Rockport Area**

New cars and trucks registered at the court house this month include:

R. R. Rice: 1949 Lincoln Cosmopolitan.

City of Rockport: 1949 Chevrolet truck.

A. O. Freeman: 1949 Dodge express.

New cars registered in other counties are:

Sparks Grocery: 1950 pickup.

C. W. Boone: 1949 Ford.

Jack Hagar: 1949 Packard.

Henry Ballou: 1949 Ford.



WRITES ON WEEKLIES—Thomas F. Barnhart, professor of journalism at the University of Minnesota, has completed his third book on weekly newspaper publishing, "Weekly Newspaper Writing and Editing." After 10 years of research and writing, the author has become nationally known for his books.

**Margaret Harshaw
Opens San Antonio
Concert Season**

SAN ANTONIO—The San Antonio Symphony and Conductor Max Reiter will open the 1949-50 season at Municipal Auditorium here next Saturday night, Nov. 12, with the first of 15 subscrip-



MARGARET HARSHAW

tion concerts in the eleventh subscription series.

Assisting artist will be Margaret Harshaw, versatile, American-born contralto of the Metropolitan Opera, making her first concert appearance with the Symphony.

The Seventh Symphony of Beethoven will keynote the Orchestra's initial program. Also listed are "Little Train of the Catpiras" (Villa-Lobos), "The Sorcerer's Apprentice" (Dukas) and the dramatic "Immolation" scene from "Die Walkuere" (Wagner), in which Miss Harshaw will be featured.

She will also sing four songs of Richard Strauss—"Zueignung", "Morgen", "Freundliche Vision" and "Ich trage meine minne".

The Pennsylvania-born contralto made memorable occasions of the San Antonio Grand Opera Festival productions of "Aida", in which she sang Amneris, and, last February, "Il Trovatore", in which her incomparable Azucena stopped the show more than once.

The combined forces of season ticket holders, already past the 4,000 mark, and first-night enthusiasts are expected to fill the 6,000 seat Symphony hall for the opening event.

Arthur Rubenstein, much-celebrated pianist, will be guest soloist for the San Antonio Symphony's second subscription concert, Saturday night, Nov. 19, performing the Greig Piano Con-

**Old-Time Stars In
New Musical Film**

A silent movie, vintage of 1924, furnished one of the nostalgic highlights for "You're My Everything," the Twentieth Century-Fox technicolor musical, which opens on Thursday, the 17th at the Surf theatre.

To give more realism to this old-time movie Producer Lamar Trotti and Director Walter Lang rounded up many colorful actors, whose names were by-words with movie fans of the twenties. Buster Keaton brought along the pancake hat he has worn in every picture he has made, more than 200, since buying it for three dollars back in 1922. Jack Mulhall, one of the screen's greatest lovers, returned to the set to play himself and Stuart Holmes and Charles Morton stars of the silents, found a touch of nostalgia in their roles.

Anne Baxter, who shares starring honors in "You're My Everything" with Dan Dailey, did an impersonation of Clara Bow, the famous "It" girl, and the Twentieth Century-Fox studio was turned back 25 years for this silent movie sequence. Director Lang huddled four companions together on one stage, had orchestras playing "mood" music and swordsmen dropping off parapets into mattresses on the floor for this black and white movie set right in the middle of all the Technicolor splendor of "You're My Everything."

There were more curious visitors on the set during the filming of these silent scene than at any time during the production of the entire picture. Lang was besieged by more than 400 studio employees who asked for roles in the silent movie.

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