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VOLUME TWO

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SETTLEMENT CISCO BOND MUDDLE IS INDICATED

Plans Submitted by D. E. Dunn and Associates Being Considered by Commission

Indications now point to a probable settlement of Cisco's bond muddle. At least the members of the city commission indicated the plan presented the city by the Dun, Davidson & Ransom bonding firm of Wichita, Kans., through Mr. Will St. John, at the commission meeting Tuesday night, was considered a favorable foundation for working out a settlement of Cisco's bonded indebtedness. Expressions of three commissioners, Clements, Henderson and Elliott, were favorable for taking up the matter at once and work out a plan whereby the matter may be brought to a settlement on some satisfactory basis. Commissioner Burnett thought that more time should be given the proposition before final action, which was adopted. Commissioner Winston voiced no opinion in the matter. But these being a majority favoring a settlement, and as the commission had not previously publicly gone on record favoring any kind of settlement and to manifest some enthusiasm now favoring a closing up of this indebtedness, is an indication that some plan will be worked out.

Mr. St. John merely gave an outline of the plans of D. E. Dunn and associates, explaining that these people are not interested in Cisco bonds financially, but their specialty is the adjustment of just such problems as now confronts Cisco. Their mission is to bring the bond holders and the city together and work out a settlement that will be equitable to all parties concerned, a settlement, extending over a period of forty years, that will enable the city to carry on while the bonds are being liquidated.

Mr. St. John told the commission that it was Dunn and associates who brought order out of chaos in the Hidalgo county bond muddle, which he said was more complicated than the Cisco situation. The result there, he said, was that all the outstanding bonds had been located and brought into the settlement except something over \$100,000. There was no reduction of the principle indebtedness.

Proposes \$2,500,000

Briefly the Dunn plan calls for a settlement on a tentative basis of \$2,500,000, slightly less than 50 per cent of the face of the bonds outstanding. That the city might carry on while liquidating this indebtedness the plan would reduce the interest to one percent for the first seven years; 2 per cent for the next eight years; 3 per cent for the next seven years; 4 per cent for the next eight years, and 5 per cent for the last ten years. None of the refunding bonds the city would issue to mature in less than 40 years, instead of maturing serially as those now outstanding. The city is to set aside one per cent for the sinking fund in addition to the amount of interest, and the sinking fund would be available to purchase any city bonds offered at the big discounts that can be had now.

Mr. St. John stated that Mr. Dunn thought that by this plan the city could liquidate its indebtedness within from seven and one-half years to 20 years. As the indebtedness is decreased by taking up what cheap bonds are offered, which would also decrease the interest.

This bonding house is said to be one of the oldest and most reliable now in the business. Dunn and associates financed the Amarillo gas project that enabled Mayor Ernest O. Thompson to whip the gas octopus in that city, which gave Thompson the appointment of railroad commissioner.

Now is probably the best time for the city to settle its bonded indebtedness, as all realize they will have to take their losses. With those outstanding bonds liquidated Cisco would proceed to function as our natural resources would justify. Once this bond muddle is cleared up we can begin to think about a municipal gas plant and

other municipally owned utilities, and not be robbed as we are now being by the Community Natural (hijackers) Gas company.

But this plan is not one that would exclude others. In answer to a question by Commissioner Elliott Mr. St. John said he was sure that Mr. Dunn, or some representative of the firm, would be glad to come to Cisco and go over the situation thoroughly, after which this or another proposition would be worked out on a basis of Cisco's ability to adopt.

Clements' plan to buy up the cheap bonds offered was not approved by Commissioner Burnett, as he thought should we do so, other bond holders would harrass the city with law suits. Mayor Berry stated he thought the Dunn plan the most feasible that had yet been presented.

After considerable discussion Mr. St. John was notified that the commissioners would take the matter up at a conference later, indicating it would be in the immediate future, however, no time was set for such conference on the subject.

Discuss Pitkin Proposal

A plan for settlement of the bonded indebtedness was discussed in a letter read by Mayor Berry from Mr. Pitkin, who was here recently, and conferred with a number of Cisco people from whom he obtained several individual tentative plans. This group holds two-thirds of the bonds. Mr. Pitkin's letter merely proposed that an appraisal or survey of the city's resources be made to ascertain Cisco's ability to liquidate the outstanding bonds, and then to work out a plan along the findings of these appraisers. Mr. Pitkin proposes that the expenses of the appraisers be paid jointly by the bond holders and the city on a 50-50 basis. Commissioners Henderson and Clements disapproved of what they considered this useless expense, "as the commissioners are more fully conversant with the city's ability to pay any part of the outstanding bonds than would a stranger coming here for the purpose.

A letter was read replying to Mr. Pitkin, prepared by Attorney F. D. Wright, at the mayor's suggestion, neither accepting or rejecting the bondholders' proposal, which was approved by the commission. This was thought sufficient by the commission pending negotiations with D. E. Dunn and associates.

Mrs. J. J. Richardson has returned to her home in Port Arthur after a pleasant visit here, the guest of Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Mayhew.

Vote for C. V. Terrell for Railroad Commissioner, 6 year term. adv.

Commissioners Fix Budget for 1933; Tax Rate is \$1.55

County Auditor W. S. Michael, has given out the budget for the expenses to operate the county government for the next fiscal year, as fixed by the commissioners court, also the tax rate, which shows a reduction under that of 1931 of 31 cents on the \$100 valuation.

The tax rate for 1932 was fixed by the court at \$1.55, representing a 31-cent reduction from the 1931 tax rate of \$1.86 which provided the income upon which the budget of the current year was established. Comparison of the budget figures is made with 1931 expenses, since the current year expenditures cannot be finally determined until its completion.

General Fund Reduction

The most difficulty in scaling down estimates was encountered in the general fund, the court said. In some instances efforts to effect reductions were hampered by legal restrictions and little actual saving can be effected in such instances without action by the legislature. The court announced that it will recommend action by the legislature to effect this purpose when that body meets.

For instance, the salaries of court reporters, of which there are two in the county, are fixed at \$250 per month, the year around, by law. The court will suggest reduction in this pay, it is announced.

In the case of sheriff fees for waiting upon the three courts of the county, recommendations will be made to the courts that recesses be taken over the idle period between terms. Under the law, it was explained, the sheriff of the county is entitled to \$4 per day for each court, 26 days out of a month, while the court is in session. By recessing courts during days when there is no business before them a considerable saving in such fees can be realized.

Similar situations occur with respect to other legally stabilized expenditures, the commissioners court explained.

Hospital Expenses Reduced

By obtaining the services of visiting physicians free of charge the county has been able to effect a budget reduction of approximately

(Continued on page 2)

Federal Building is Believed Nearer to Becoming a Reality

Recently the Cisco Citizen published the news received in a letter to Mr. F. A. Blankenbecker from John Philp, third assistant postmaster general, in which Mr. Philp stated that those smaller postoffice projects for which appropriations had been allowed were not included in the projects postponed in a recent order of the treasury department, and that it was probable the contract for the Cisco federal building would be let early this fall.

The consummation of these plans are seen in a recent request from federal authorities of the Cisco commission for an easement in perpetuity for the construction of a retaining wall on the alley north of the building site for the proposed federal building. This request was accompanied by a ground plan for the Cisco building. This request was granted Saturday after its receipt by Mayor J. T. Berry on Friday of last week.

This easement request is taken as indicative that plans are now being made for an early commencement of the federal building, and thus materializing a dream entertained by Cisco people for several

Anniversaries of Dan Horn Couples Celebrated July 7

The families of J. J. Livingston and W. B. Starr held a joint celebration of their wedding anniversaries at the home of Mr. Livingston last Sunday, July 7. The occasion being the 35th anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Livingston, and the 29th anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Starr, all of the Dan Horn community.

After a splendid dinner, consisting of the choicest viands to be found in a hospitable country home, served in a manner that would transform an ascetic into a gourmand, the 33 present spent the afternoon most pleasantly in a social visit. Before taking their leave of the hospitable host and gracious hostess, several gallons of delicious home-frozen ice cream was enjoyed by all.

Those present, other than the immediate families of Mr. and Mrs. Livingston and Mr. and Mrs. Starr, included Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Rupe and daughter, Agnes, Miss Mabel Schultz, of Brownwood; Edgar Hazelwood, of Loraine; Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Johnston and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Rupe and two sons, of Cisco; Miss Frances Johnston, Mr. and Mrs. J. V. Starr, of Scranton; Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Heslep, of Dan Horn, and Mervin Walser, of Gladewater.

LUTHER NICHOLS WILL SPEAK FOR FERGUSON

Luther Nichols, former law partner of Senator Bailey, and former well known resident of Eastland, will speak in behalf of the candidacy of Mrs. Miriam A. Ferguson at Eastland tomorrow night. Mr. Nichols is a forceful public speaker, well informed on the issues of the day, and will come prepared to explode some of the false statements the string newspapers and the press have been attempting to make the people believe. Nichols will doubtless penetrate the smoke screen by which the subsidized press is trying to make the public believe that the Fergusons are worse grafters than Sterling, as he is prepared to show that the Sterling administration has been the most expensive the state has ever known. This buncombe about Sterling being the friend of the masses will doubtless be dissipated by the fire of Nichols' campaign guns.

years.

With the initial construction work of Cisco's federal building under way it is believed confidence will be restored, in a large measure, that will give impetus to that revival of business that has been dodging "just around the corner" ever since the present depression spread its blight all over this land.

Miss C. Durliz, sister of the late Mrs. Geo. Ruppert, has arrived from New York to reside permanently in the Ruppert home, where she will take the place of mother to the little girls of her deceased sister.

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Commission Will Confer With Employes About Paying Debts Owing to City and Merchants

With discussion complete on the bond issue the Cisco commission at its regular meeting Tuesday night, discussed the adoption of the budget for the several city departments for the ensuing fiscal year. It was explained that the budget had been made rather full to cover emergencies. While it was not contemplated that every dollar specified would be used, but it was thought advisable to allow for any emergency that might arise. It was explained that the several departments must keep their expenses within the limits prescribed in the budget, that they were not compelled to spend as much as the budget calls for, but the expenses could not exceed that amount. In view of this fact, and the further consideration of a probable settlement of the bonded indebtedness Commissioner Elliott opposed the adoption of the budget at this meeting unless it was mandatory.

Others favored its adoption, but a motion to that effect by Commissioner Clements died for the want of a second. The matter was postponed till next meeting on the suggestion of Commissioner Henderson. In the interim all heads of departments were requested to scrutinize their estimates for the coming year, and where possible, to reduce the amounts to the actual expenses thought needed.

The budget first included \$15,000 for the settling basin, but this item was excluded in Clements' motion.

Considerable discussion was engendered by Burnett's query if any of the department heads knew of any city employe who was in arrears for water, or otherwise delinquent in his payments to the city. Winston reported none, and Henderson said he had received complaints against city employes who were not paying their current bills to the merchants, some of whom were not making any effort to do so. Burnett said it was not his purpose to make it hard for anybody, but there was positively no reason why any man, working for the city, should not pay his water bills and taxes. Winston reported one employe who was making payments on a car, but he understood he owed an old grocery bill. A motion by Henderson prevailed that all employes of the city be called in conference next Tuesday night to discuss the matter of paying their obligations to the city, and also to merchants who

had supplied them merchandise. Clements reported that the Cisco Amusement company was behind with their water account, but had remitted the 5 per cent dividend due the city from receipts at Lake Cisco. Winston was instructed to make collection of all monies due from the Amusement company.

Report of committees: By Clements—Katy road had repaired crossings according to instructions. By Elliott:—Lease on land at disposal plant has expired, and thought city should repossess it.

Committee on settling basin was not ready to report and was granted further time.

'Skeeters More Prevalent

The monthly report of Dr. W. P. Lee, city health physician, stated that mosquitoes were more prevalent than formerly, owing to increased rainfall, and urged the co-operation of all people in eradicating the mosquito by reporting any breeding places. But despite this fact, health conditions during July were good, the report revealed.

The vital statistics showed there were nine deaths and an equal number of births during the past month. Ten cases of scarlet fever were reported by the health officer, who stated that 400 children had received preventive treatment for scarlet fever, and 215 had been vaccinated for small pox.

Dr. Lee told the commission that a state food inspector, who visited Cisco in July, found all food establishments sanitary with only exception.

Income and Expenses

While discussing the budget for the ensuing fiscal year it was revealed that a tentative estimate places the expenses at \$84,139.50. The estimated income was placed at \$112,000.00 from the following sources.

Ad valorem taxes on a total valuation of \$2,800,000, \$72,000.00

Water department, etc., \$40,000.

The allocation of the \$2.50 tax rate provides for \$2.00 for the general fund and 50 cents for the interest and sinking fund.

The budget estimates for the several departments are:

Street department, \$19,509; sanitary department, \$11,900; chamber of commerce, \$5,600; zoo, \$2,000; water department, \$20,000; fire department, \$5,392.50; administration, \$11,858; police department \$7,880.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SERVICE SUNDAY, JULY 7

The subject of the lesson-sermon was "Spirit" in all Churches of Christ, Scientist, Sunday, August 7. I Cor. 12:13 furnishes the golden text. "By one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit."

Included with the passages read from the Bible was the following from Galatians 5:17: "The flesh lusteth against the spirit, and the spirit against the flesh."

The service also included the following citations from the Christian Science textbook, "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures," by Mary Baker Eddy (pp. 356, 319): "Jesus knew, 'It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing' . . . Throughout the infinite cycles of eternal existence, Spirit and matter neither concur in man nor in the universe."

Vote for C. V. Terrell for Railroad Commissioner, 6 year term.

OUTLAW NOTES THAT NOT RENDERED FOR TAXATION

"I want interest reduced to six per cent and no notes to be collectable at court that have not been rendered for taxation. It is hard to tell which has caused the most damage the tax eater or the tax dodger. I declare war on both."—Miriam A. Ferguson.

The Citizen is glad to know that the leading candidate for governor has incorporated the above plank in her platform of principles. The Citizen claims the authorship of this idea, which we contributed to the platform principles of the Eastland County Taxpayers association, and it was adopted by that organization. If enacted into law there would be no problem about balancing the budget in Texas.

Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Graham and little daughters, Glenna and Mary Catherine, of Longview, and Master Jack Cross, of Eastland, were guests of their parents and grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Lash this week.

THE CISCO WEEKLY CITIZEN

R. W. H. KENNON, Editor-Publisher

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When brought to the editor's attention any erroneous reflection upon any person, firm or organization will be cheerfully corrected.

BIBLE THOUGHT FOR TODAY

He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength. But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and shall walk, and not faint.—Is. 40:29, 31.

It opens out for us God's ordered way,
Its growth invisible to mortal eye;
A rose unfolds its petals day by day,
Already settled, while we vainly try
To plan our lives.

Amy A. Choisy in C. S. Sentinel.

As we increase our knowledge of God and know him as love, infinite, unchanging, all-sufficient, our faith in him increases, and we know that he can enable us to solve every problem. If it be one of lack or limitation, in the home, in the business office, in the church, we know that divine Love is adequate to meet all such needs, and is also able to sustain us during the patient waiting which may be necessary in the working out of each individual problem.—Christian Science Monitor.

PEOPLE, ARE YOU ASLEEP?

It seems that the people are asleep, and not awake to their own interests. This is indicated in the close vote for railroad commissioner to succeed Pat Neff for his unexpired term. Ernest O. Thompson, the avowed friend of the people against the onslaughts of the utility corporations, who would exploit the people by piling on excessive rates more than the traffic will stand. Thompson, in his fight against the gas and telephone monopolies in Amarillo, has won the hatred of public service corporations all over the state. These corporations will spare nothing to defeat Thompson because they know he will see that every one gets a fair break before the commission, and that it is what the monopolies do not want. They want the long end of the stick. So far as they are concerned the people be damned. It is none of their business if people must suffer by reason of not being able to secure gas for cheap fuel. They want all the law will permit them to have—and then some. They are now protected by the statute guaranteeing that the rates shall not be cut to a less sum than will give them a net return of less than 10 per cent, and high valuations and padded expense accounts to take care of any estimates they may place on the valuations and overhead that they may make a showing of expenses exceeding their income. Thompson would scrutinize these estimates to save the people of being robbed, while his opponent, W. Gregory Hatcher, has no record of doing anything to help the people. Yet he is running neck and neck with the proven friend of the people.

This race, between a proven friend of the masses and one who has no record showing that he is the friend of the common man, is one the people must decide. They have the power of the ballot, but will they use it for their own protection? Results so far indicate they will not, but will listen to the siren song of special interests and vote as the corporations would have them do. Hatcher cannot be elected without the votes of the common people. They hold the

balance of power, but whether they will exercise that power given them by the ballot remains to be seen. But unless they arise from their sleep of indifference they will find that monopoly has again defeated the people by placing a friend of corporate greed in power, and defeating a man who has proven himself the friend of the masses.

But do the voters appreciate those who would befriend them? We often think they do not. Results of elections sustains us in that belief. Save and except the brilliant victory won for Jimmy Allred the people have no outstanding winner to their credit. Tom F. Hunter was eliminated, and now Ernest O. Thompson is in danger, and will be defeated unless the common people rise up in their God-given sovereignty and get behind his candidacy. They will have no friend on the railroad commission to espouse their cause and protect them from the rapacity of corporate greed.

Corporate wealth will leave nothing undone to defeat Thompson, and it behoves the masses to be vigilant, if they would retain their liberties. The lethargy of the people alone will cause the defeat of this friend of the masses. So, if Thompson is defeated the people will have to join hands with their own oppressors. They will be accomplices in their own undoing.

IOWA FARMERS START STRIKE

Have you ever thought of the serious condition the people of the nation would be in should all the farmers go on a strike? Probably not. Most of us believe that is one thing that will never happen. But why not? Do we believe that the farmers would never become so well organized that such an eventuality would be possible? But the movement is well under way in the state of Iowa. Milo Green, of Des Moines, is the head of the movement, and already reports from that state indicate the strike is now assuming threatening proportions.

But why not a farmer's strike? It is about time the worm was turning. The farmers have been the slave and exploited for every class of individuals to rob and exploit. A few of those who have annexed a small sum of the coin of realm hardly believe that the man who toils in the fields is deserving of any special consideration. They look on the farmer as an individual for his exploitations. Of course such people are the exceptions. Their brain cells have been dwarfed by their over-expanded egotism. Such people, of course, are lacking in judgment and breeding or they would have more sense. Any man who is wide enough between the eyes to keep from being blinded when a fly lights on his nose, could not entertain such ideas.

We are glad such men are few—sorry that there are any. Only this week a Cisco grocery merchant chided the editor for buying country produce from a farmer friend rather than buy it from him, when we requested a paper sack to carry the produce home. We told him plainly that the farmer enabled him to be in business, and deserved as much consideration as a merchant. But this did not appease him, he asked: "How much city taxes does that farmer pay? How do you expect me to get by?" We thought surely he was joking, and jokingly replied: "That's your business." But we realized he was serious when he rather heatedly retorted: "It's the principle of the thing. Here I have given you six cents on a five cents purchase, (we had bought a couple of lemons) and you buy from the farmer." Then it was that we returned the two paper sacks he had generously (?) given us, and told him that we could get along without them if it hurt so much, and we did. We got the sacks from another merchant, who refused to accept pay when offered, as he previously accommodated us when we had procured produce from farmers before.

ness would be bankrupt, and if you made a living you would Now listen, Mr. merchant. Without farmers your business have to become a "despised farmer," as a few seem to think. But thank God your tribe is small, as most merchants have a higher regard for the man who tills the soil.

But what of the farmers strike? Press reports tell us that farmers in one Iowa county are feeding their milk to the pigs, breaking their eggs, and either feeding or destroying other farm products. Should that practice become universal even the multi-millionaire would starve. If his money couldn't buy food he would be as poor as the people the Community Natural (hijackers) would rob for the privilege of using their fuel from Eastland county farmers.

The serious side of a farmers' strike would be the untold hardships it would place on the poor man, who would be the first to suffer.

Of course there will be no farmers strike. Farmers don't want to starve anybody. In fact they will give you their produce if you are not able to buy it. But the farmer is as much entitled to a profit from his labor as the merchant—and more so. The merchant produces nothing. He simply buys as cheap as he can and sells for a profit. It is to the interest of every business man to assist in every way possible to make the farmer prosperous. Everything that is produced by Eastland county farmers should find a market at some price. But are we doing anything to help the farmer sell his products? Some of those who deal in produce have it shipped in from South Texas farms, while Eastland county products rot in the field. How long do you expect to have a town of Cisco unless you create a market for farm produce? Naturally, if the farmer cannot sell his produce in Cisco he will take it elsewhere, and where he sells he will buy what he needs. The merchants of other towns will profit by our stupidity while the wares of Cisco merchants will decay on their shelves.

Tax Budget ---

(Continued from Page One)

\$1,100 maintaining the county hospital. This hospital is jointly maintained at Ranger by that city and the county. Prior to 1932 these services were not obtained without charge, it was stated.

A sufficient balance remains in the old courthouse and jail sinking fund to pay interest obligations and take care of sinking fund requirements, it was announced. The court said no levy for this fund will be necessary until 1935. The bonds do not become due until 1936 and there is enough balance to meet all interest with the addition of a small levy in 1935, to pay off the entire debt.

The ex-officio salary allowed the county judge has been reduced to \$3,000 per annum. This represents a reduction of \$1,000 from four years ago. Elimination of a stenographer effects a saving of \$1,560 in the expenses of the county judge's office.

Total county tax levy for 1931 (out of which expenses of the current fiscal year are paid) is shown as \$625,585.45. This is collected upon a rate of \$1.86, and actual collections are about 70 per cent. Balances from funds administered this year are carried over and added to estimated 1932 income in computing the available funds for financing the 1932 budget as recorded below.

Distributed between funds the total 1931 tax levy is as follows:

Fund	Rate	Total Levy
Jury Fund	...08	\$ 26,906.93
R. and B.	...15	50,450.50
General Fund	...25	84,084.17
C. and J.	...10	33,633.67
C. H. I. and S. F.	...06	20,180.02
Road Bonds	...120	403,604.25
Hospital	...02	6,726.73
Total	...\$1.86	\$625,585.45

Budget totals for fiscal year 1933 as compared with actual expenses for fiscal year 1931 are:

	1931 Expenses	Estimated Income	1933 Budget
Jury Fund	\$ 19,325.75	\$ 18,625.00	\$ 11,425.00
R. and B. Fund	120,526.02	88,550.00	85,247.00
Pre. 4 R. and B.	31,068.11	15,150.00	49,256.50
General Fund	78,249.38	56,150.00	49,256.50
Court House and Jail Fund	23,569.16	20,675.00	20,685.50
Hospital	5,815.00	5,250.00	4,722.00
Court House and Jail (Old)	419.96	15,129.84 (bal)	800.00
Road Bond Fund	256,885.52	320,000.00	258,594.12
Court House and Jail (new)	18,173.60	16,250.00	19,034.75

A deficit is anticipated in the latter fund.

O'Flaherty Takes Over Lamessa Paper As Editor-Publisher

A. B. O'Flaherty, former publisher of the Cisco Daily News, departed last Saturday for Lamessa, Texas, where he takes over the Weekly Reporter, leading newspaper of Dawson county. He was accompanied by Raymond Gunn, and joined later by Tommie Spoonemore, two young Cisco printers and Linotype operators, who will assist in the mechanical department in the publication of the Reporter.

Mr. O'Flaherty is one of the best newspaper managers in West Texas, as demonstrated in his development of the Daily News from an indifferent publication, heavily involved, to one of the best paying newspaper properties in West Texas, and after discharging an indebtedness of approximately \$20,000, disposed of the property to the Marsh-Fentress interests at an attractive profit, to have the Daily become one of the large string of newspapers owned by that corporation.

While a resident of Cisco Mr. O'Flaherty was prominently identified with every civic movement, and will prove a valuable addition to the business and civic life of the West Texas city of Lamessa.

With his splendid ability there is no question of his making a success of the paper which he has just taken over. His numerous friends in Eastland county extend their best wishes, and congratulate Lamessa on acquiring such a valuable citizen.

Rev. H. D. Blair is conducting a series of religious services at Iraan, Texas.

Mrs. R. B. Kinsey has returned from a visit to relatives in Houston and San Antonio.

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Conclusion of Adventures Of Martin V. Parmer, a Pioneer of West Texas

(Continued From Last Week)
Last week we left Mr. Parmer, in his autobiography, while he was telling of the depredation of the Indians on his work horses that made it necessary to buy new horses two or three times a year. "We got tired of this," he was telling us, "and in 1867 gathered a herd of 800 cattle and started to market. I took my family to Navaro," but he continues with the story.

We went north, thinking we would find a better market. We drove about six hundred miles without seeing a road, no settlement and no person except at Fort Arbuckle and only a few soldiers there. The first settlement we struck was Abilene, Kansas, and only a depot, one store and a saloon was there. It took six months to make the trip.

"I never took my family back to the ranch until 1869. We thought the Indian troubles were over and we returned. I employed hands to gather some cattle to take to Shreveport. We got them gathered and was going to start with them on Monday. On Sunday I went to a neighbor's house and returned. I had not been back more than ten minutes when my wife stepped out on the porch. She said: "Yonder is somebody driving horses." I went to the door and saw that it was Indians. They had the house surrounded. I secured my two seven shot rifles and commenced firing on them, but they succeeded in getting away with all our horses. If I had been a few minutes longer in returning they would have murdered my family. I secured a yoke of oxen, hitched them to the wagon, put my family in it and left there. I never took them back there to live.

Tents Of Buffalo Hides

"Wife and I went through all the Indian troubles together. She had many narrow escapes as well as myself, but we lived through it all and are still living. She has been a faithful companion. I have followed the Indians as long as eleven days without a bite to eat except what wild game we could kill on the trail, and this roasted on the camp fire without salt or anything else. While on these trips I have been caught in snow storms. Then we would kill buffalo and make tents of the hides, flooring them with the same material. We enjoyed it all, as we were accustomed to this kind of life. I have been in many fights with the Indians, and this is only a light sketch of frontier life in those days. What I have here stated is part of my own experience, none of it second hand. "We left Jack county in 1869 and stayed away until 1879 and then sold out there and moved west. We located in Eastland county in March, 1879. This county was very thinly settled at that time. I settled

four miles west of Cisco where I now live. Our nearest railroad was Fort Worth. I stretched my tent where I now live, cut logs and built a house, covered it with post oak boards and used the ground for a floor. As the summer came on the water gave out and we had to carry it one mile in buckets for house use. We drove our stock four to five miles to water. To avoid inconvenience we moved to Post Oak creek near Deep creek, and stayed there until it rained. I brought a nice bunch of cattle to this country with me. I had a good rifle and knew how to use it. We never suffered for meat, milk and game. For a time I had to go one hundred and twenty miles for bread although I did that before coming here. There were no wire fences here then, as everything was in the open and free, and I did not think that I needed any land as I had free access to it all anyway, but I took up 160 acres of school land. I put in a farm, which seemed useless in this dry country, but after the first year I made enough for my bread. This was the main item, though I had to take my wheat sixty miles to have it ground into flour. My crop was principally wheat. A good many people came to this country at this time and took up land but the drouth and crop failures caused them to leave and give up their homes. They would ask me if I was going to stay, and I told them that I came to stay. "When I first settled here we had about two general roundups a year, now we can have one every week. All we have to do is to step out to the mail box and get it and sit down and round up the news of the country. I was one among the first to subscribe for the Round-Up—M. V. Parmer, Cisco, Texas.

Ponca City Joins No Tax Cities Of Oklahoma-Kansas

The city commission of Ponca City announced last week that there will be no tax levy for 1933. Ponca City will be the first Oklahoma city that will be free of city taxes, though Chanute, Beloit and several other Kansas cities have achieved that goal, as the utility plants, municipally owned, will supply all revenues necessary to operate the city government of Ponca City and those Kansas towns that have freed themselves of city taxes by operating their own utility plants.

An 8-mill sinking fund levy was made last year but this year the \$138,714 appropriation will be paid from profits of the municipal own-

Potato Inspection Should Be Applied For During August

County Agent J. C. Patterson is notifying sweet potato growers that August is the time to have their fields inspected for certification. He says:

Sweet potato growers who had their fields inspected last fall for certification of potato seed have received blanks for use in requesting inspection again this fall. Other growers may secure this service free of cost by applying direct to the Texas department of agriculture at Austin, or by notifying the county agent. Application should be made during August so that the inspector may be scheduled in the county for sufficient time to visit all fields where he is wanted. This inspection service aids the grower in producing disease-free seed even though no seed or plants are to be offered for sale and should be utilized by all sweet potato growers. A state law prohibits the sale of sweet potato seed or plants that are not certified as being free of disease. The law has not been enforced giving growers opportunity to get inspection if it was desired.

SIC-EM, JIM

Lo, Clem Calhoun, he barked at the moon,
They thought he had tree'd a big bear;
They all agreed they'd have a big feed,
When all of the gang got there.

They heard that sound the state around,
And fixed to strike a run;
The signal hour betrayed their power,
They said—"I'm a son of a gun."

All eyes were focussed on the scene,
And ears were listening in;
They heard Calhoun curse and bemoan,
The common people's friend.

He spent his time and talent too,
Exhausted all his skill;
With politics we guess he's thru,
But Jimmie goes on still.

Now when the smoke is cleared away,
We'll cry out, Sic-Em, Jim;
Those big boys all have had their day,
Our chances are so slim.

That dominating, grafting crew,
Have pauperized our land;
Now Jimmie, we are trusting you,
To carry on like a man.

Your past reveals ability,
Just stay right on the job;
Use honor and integrity,
Defeat that heartless mob.

We're still reminded of that race,
'Tween tortoise and the hare;
That high powered car swung out in space,
Momentum lost somewhere.

Respectfully dedicated to James V. Allred, by J. B. Wright, 207 W. 9th. st., Cisco, Texas.

ed utility plants. There has been no general revenue fund levy in several years.

Twice in the last two years the water and light rate has been reduced. Rates are about on a level with those of other Oklahoma cities.

Elimination of the city tax will cut about a third from the tax payments on state, county and school district levies. The city's bonded indebtedness is \$745,500.

BALED HAY FOR SALE

Baled cane and sudan grass for church community, or phone 9015. sale. Henry Stroebel, Lutheran 37-3tc

Max Elser, Octogenarian, Felicitated on Eighty-First Birthday by Old Friends

Max Elser, of Cisco, was in Fort Worth last Friday, where he celebrated his 81st birthday at the home of his daughter, Mrs. H. H. Hardy, 1504 College Avenue. Concerning this Cisco octogenarian the Star-Telegram, of last Saturday, had the following to say:

Max Elser Sr., Cisco, pioneer Fort Worth publisher and founder of the city's first telegraph system, was celebrating his eighty-first birthday Friday with a visit to relatives and friends here.

Still in good health except for a lame back caused by an automobile accident several years ago, Elser recalled vividly the days when he first came to Fort Worth. He arrived here in September, 1874, 58 years ago, when the population numbered only 800.

Tonight at 8 o'clock Elser will be honored at a reception in the home of his daughter, Mrs. H. H. Hardy, 1504 College Avenue. For the last 20 years Elser has been in the oil business in Cisco.

With the late C. L. Foster, Elser built and operated Fort Worth's first telegraph lines some time before the railroad reached here.

Between 1880 and 1882 Elser built under contract the following telegraph lines: From Fort Worth to El Paso for the Texas & Pacific Railroad; from Denison to near Austin for the M. K. & T. Railroad; from Fort Worth to Wichita Falls for the Fort Worth & Denver Railroad; from Shreveport to New Orleans for the Texas & Pacific Rail-

POLITICAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements are made subject to the action of the Democratic primaries in 1932. Candidates who have previously announced in this column will be carried in the city, precinct, county, or district offices, without additional fees.

FOR JUDGE 88TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT:

BURETTE W. PATTERSON
FRANK SPARKS
For State Senator, 24th District:
OLIVER CUNNINGHAM
(Re-Election)

FOR REPRESENTATIVE 107th FLOTORIAL DISTRICT:

CECIL A. LOTIEF
of Cross Plains
B. L. RUSSELL, Jr.
FOR DISTRICT CLERK:
P. L. (LEWIS) CROSSLEY

FOR COUNTY JUDGE:

CLYDE L. GARRETT
(Re-election)
FOR COUNTY CLERK:
TURNER M. COLLIE
FOR SHERIFF, EASTLAND CO.
VIRGE FOSTER
(For re-election)

FOR TAX ASSESSOR:

JOHN HART
T. J. (TOM) HALEY
FOR TAX COLLECTOR:
T. L. COOPER
(Re-election, 2nd term)

FOR COMMISSIONER PREC. No. 4

ARCH BINT
BIRT BRITAIN
FOR JUSTICE OF THE PEACE
PRECINCT NO. 6:

J. H. McDONALD
(Re-election)
For Constable, Precinct No 6:
JOE B. HICKS

road, all told about 1500 miles.

Later Elser established and operated in Fort Worth the largest book store in Texas. Elser is the oldest living past grand chancellor of the Grand Lodge of Texas, Knights of Pythias. He is a charter member of Queen City Lodge No. 21, Knights of Pythias, here, having joined that organization upon his arrival here 58 years ago. A tribute to his service as a member of the fraternity is given by Theo Yarbrough, Weatherford, grand keeper of the records and seals, Texas K. of P., in a current issue of Texas Pythian News Nuggets. The article extended congratulations in advance upon "the turning of your eighty-first milestone."—Star-Telegram

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SERVICES SUNDAY

"SOUL" is the lesson-sermon subject in all Churches of Christ, Scientist, Sunday, August 14.

The golden text is from Hebrews 10:38, 39: "Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him. But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believes to the saving of the soul."

Passages from the Bible include this from Psalms 84:2: "My soul longeth, yea, even fainteth for the courts of the Lord: My heart and crieth out for the living God."

The service also includes the following from "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures," by Mary Baker Eddy (p. 359): "The evidence of the existence of Spirit,

Soul, is palpable only to spiritual sense, and is not apparent to the material senses, which cognize only that which is the opposite of Spirit."

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Electric power, to serve any community adequately, must be flexible. It must meet all requirements, large or small—from a large factory to a small household—at any time and at any place.

Small local plants serving single communities lack this flexibility—they lack the variety of volume and demand which enables a larger system, serving a wide area by transmission lines, to operate efficiently.

The transmission line delivers larger amounts of power *at once* without the delay of installing additional equipment. Thus it clears the way for a rapid and permanently expanding industrial growth.

The present day industrial progress of small communities is based in a large measure on the ample economical power supply which resulted when transmission systems replaced inefficient and expensive small local plants throughout the nation.

The West Texas Utilities Company, through its widespread 2,500 mile transmission line network, makes available to 125 progressive West Texas cities and towns over 100,000 horsepower of electric energy—ready at the turn of a switch.

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1105 Avenue D

A. Garland Thomas Succumbs to Auto Accident Injuries

A. Garland Thomas, auditor for the West Texas Utilities Co., passed away Friday night at 11:30 o'clock at Griggs Sanitarium at Baird.

Mr. Thomas had been at work on the company's books in Abilene, till a late hour, and was returning to Cisco when the fatal mishap occurred. It was thought that he fell asleep while driving, and his car struck the center pillar of the underpass on the Texas & Pacific road, just west of Baird. He was removed from the wrecked car by J. B. Brooks and T. George, White Star Refinery employes, who were passing, and conveyed in their truck to the Baird hospital. It was thought that his injuries were only slight, as he was conscious for several hours.

However, it was ascertained that his hurts were more serious than at first thought, and on the arrival of Dick Giles, cashier of the Cisco office, to convey him to the home of his parents in Abilene, he had become so much worse that he could not be moved.

He sustained several internal injuries which proved fatal.

Mr. Thomas came to Cisco from Ballinger last April and relieved O. J. Tunnell in the Cisco office, who in turn, was transferred to Ballinger, taking the place vacated by Mr. Thomas. Since his residence in Cisco he had won many friends with whom he became associated, and his death is generally regretted.

Burial was in Abilene Sunday, the funeral being attended by several friends and co-workers, including Mr. and Mrs. P. P. Shepard, Dick Giles, Mr. and Mrs. O. C. Lomax, Mr. and Mrs. Guy Austin, Mr. and Mrs. W. Ulrich, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Moon, Mr. and Mrs. S. B. Parks, R. D. Midgley, J. E. Proctor and Mr. Anderson.

NEWLY WEDS ARE HERE VISITING RELATIVES

Mr. and Mrs. Richard B. Ford, of Waco, are visiting the parents of Mrs. Ford, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Sanders.

An advance notice came a few days ago announcing the marriage of Miss Grace Sanders and Mr. Richard B. Ford, which was consummated August 6, in Waco. The same announcement stated they would arrive this week for a visit here before beginning the keeping of their own home in Waco, where they will probably reside.

The announcement of this marriage came as a surprise to Mrs. Ford's parents, however, it was the termination of their own romance of several years standing. This couple were old sweethearts when Mr. Ford lived here several years ago, and it is said he was the first beau his bride ever had. Just prior to their marriage, it was thought the affair had been interrupted, but with their meeting on the occasion of her visit to Waco the love ties were revived and the rites celebrated.

The bride is well known here as the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Sanders, and the saleslady at the Ruppert Bakery, a position she filled continuously for some time.

C. V. Terrell, candidate for Railroad Commissioner, 6 year term, led his nearest opponent by 152,957 votes in the July primary. Your vote and help is solicited for Mr. Terrell in the primary to be held August 27. adv.

Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Smith and daughter, Miss Faye Smith, of El Paso, were stop-over guests of their brother and uncle, Mr. A. C. Smith, of Cisco, while in transit of Fort Worth and intermediate points. They were accompanied by Mr. McCoombs, who was making the trip with them.

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LIBRARY GIVEN BOOKS

Twenty additional volumes were added to the Cisco Public Library Wednesday, when G. C. Collum presented the library these volumes for boys, according to Mrs. G. B. Kelly, who said the donation included many interesting books for the youngsters. Mrs. Kelly also reported that the rentals for books for July were \$24, one of the largest receipts from this source in recent months. All monies from rentals of books must, according to the rules of the library, be used to purchase additional volumes.

MRS ELBERT BLEASE IS A GUEST AT LAGUNA HOTEL

Mrs. Elbert Blease, of Dallas, is spending some time here while looking after business in connection with the Blease Motor Co., of which she is major owner. She is a guest at the Laguna Hotel while here. Mrs. Blease reports business improving with the Blease Motor Co., that this improvement is more marked since the new V-8 came on the market.

She stated that her stay here is of undetermined duration, as she is

enjoying her vacation now, and stated that she could find no more congenial place. "The nights are perfectly delightful, and I am enjoying this wonderful climate," she said.

In answer to the question when she expected to come home, Mrs. Blease said that was a possibility, but she was yet undecided about returning to live here soon.

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Blitch have as their guests their nieces, Mrs. Minnie Jones and Miss Sarah Neal, of Atlanta, Ga.

THE COMMERCIAL USE OF TEXAS HIGHWAYS IS A PRIVILEGE, NOT A RIGHT

● The highways of Texas are the property of its citizens. They constitute a system of nearly 200,000 miles of road of which 20,000 miles are designated as State highways and the remainder are county roads. All types of road are represented in this system, less than 5% have so-called "permanent" surface.

The total cost of these highways is unknown but it amounts to many hundred million dollars. From 1917 to 1930, inclusive, counties and road districts of the State issued \$243,592,834 in bonds for the construction and improvement of roads and bridges. In the two-year period ending August 31, 1930, the State Highway Commission expended \$89,032,825, of which \$22,488,426 was for maintenance of the State highways.

In view of these tremendous costs the preservation of our highways from rapid wear and destruction is a matter of very vital interest to their owners, viz., the public. It is especially important that they be made to outlast the life of the bonds, which run from 20 to 30 years.

The use of the public highways for commercial purposes is not a right but a privilege which may be withheld or granted subject to such restrictions, regulations and charges as the Legislature may see fit to impose. Such regulations are intended to promote safety, preserve the highways and safeguard the interests of the public.

Texas Railroads, which pay the entire cost of construction and maintenance of their own roadbeds and, in addition, make substantial contributions to the cost of Texas highways, are thoroughly regulated with respect to their services, rates, methods and practices. There is no good reason why commercial users of the highways, built and maintained at the expense of the public, should not likewise be regulated to such extent as the public interest requires and pay such charges as will represent proper compensation for the privileges granted them.

● The statutes governing highway transportation as enacted by the Forty-second Legislature represent the wishes of the citizens of this State and express their desire to give equal rights to all and special privileges to none. These statutes should be given a fair trial and their value ascertained. Unless this is done, a chaotic condition in transportation as a whole will surely ensue.

THE TEXAS RAILROADS