

THE BENJAMIN POST

A WEEKLY PUBLICATION PURPORTING TO PRESENT THE FACTS AS THEY OCCUR AND DEDICATED TO THE LIVESTOCK AND AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES OF KNOX COUNTY AND ALL WEST TEXAS

VOLUME 26

BENJAMIN, KNOX COUNTY, TEXAS, APRIL 14, 1933.

NUMBER 43

SPLINTER

A merry heart maketh a cheerful countenance.—Prov.

"The Battle of the Roses"

We knew that people were taking quite a bit of interest in the beautiful yard movement and strangers passing through the town have commented on its neat appearance but we had no idea that the movement had attained such proportions that men were ready to duel over their flower beds. Just that occurred, however, Wednesday of this week at the section house of the Santa Fe Railroad. As a general rule duels are fought over pretty women or less pretty dogs and occasionally we hear of one being fought over a hog, but to our certain knowledge, this is the first case of record in this town in which one was fought over a flower garden.

On with the battle.

And the gentlemen may cry "beer, beer" but there is no beer, the next gale that sweeps from the north will bring to our ears the clash of resounding mugs. Why stand we here idle? The Legislature—To be or not to be, that is the question. Whether 'tis nobler in oneself to suffer the pangs of outraged appetite, or by opposing W. C. T. U. and other die-hards, end it. But, no, we must have an election. That's it, an election, Nexsh year.

By the way, have you heard of anyone complaining lately of not being able to get all the home brew and 'bottled in the barn' that they had money to pay for? The return of beer would not necessarily mean that everyone would start taking the money they are now using to pay honest debts and turning it over to the brewers. More than likely it would mean taking the money they are now spending for brew of doubtful ancestry and buying a less alcoholic percentage and which would pay into the depleted state treasury a certain amount of revenue per bottle.

But the return of beer before the repeal of the 18th Amendment is getting the cart a little before the horse. It is the National law that has failed miserably and that is the law which we wish repealed. We believe that if Texas were given beer now, when it came time to vote on the repeal of the 18th Amendment, Texans would be satisfied with their beer, and vote against repeal, and if such were the case, the battle would have been lost. Repeal first the law and then work out an adequate system of state control, whether it is no beer, no whiskey, airtight or visaversa.

As an added inducement to bring out those tarnished coins, old style dollar bills and such other hoarded tokens of credit as are doing their present owners no good, we have a special offer for new and renewed subscriptions next week. Look for our advertisement. This offer might even appeal to people who have no money for many of you have heretofore taken advantages of our barter system and for a short time can still do so. Watch us.

We are indebted to Mr. Ross Bates of Goree for an excellent article this week which deals with the early history of the county. Mr. Bates' article was run as a feature in the Sunday Wichita Times. Mrs. G. H. Beavers is another contributor this week who has added much in a historical way to the contents of this edition. We believe that both articles are of interest to the majority of our readers and hope to have more from time to time.

Election Returns For Trustees Canvassed

Results of the trustee elections over the county last week were canvassed Monday by the commissioners Court and the following declared elected: Mack Hayes, County Trustee Precinct No. 1; R. V. Burton, county trustee precinct No. 2; R. L. Myers F. T. Jarvis trustees Sunset consolidated school district; Lola Scott, Emmett Richards, Lone Star; August Schumacher, Rhineland; A. P. Denton, J. O. Warren, Brock; W. P. Feemster, Vera; T. B. Dobbs, Benjamin; Everett Tidwell, W. J. Swain, Hood; Roy Browder, Horace Haynie, Antelope Flat; W. A. Shaw, E. D. Welch, Dixon; S. F. Farmer, Ben Hunt, Goree; E. P. Storm, Lester Hickman, Truscott.

"PLANT A VINE, PLANT A FLOWER, PLANT A TREE," URGES MRS. I. T. WRIGHT

All too often we hear it said "Oh I can't plant anything because this is just a rented place and we may not be here next year."

To help see another angle of this question of improving wherever we may regardless of the time we stay, we wish to call attention to the article below clipped from a former issue of "Progressive Farmer-Ruralist"

Even though we plant but a vine or shrub or a single tree we are adding our bit to the total of the world's loveliness; and joy and when we think of it that is made up bit by bit as the beach is only an aggregate of the tiny grains of sands, so let us not fail to do our bit even though it be little it will help in the cause of beauty and who say where the influence of the beauty that is a joy for ever shall stop.

Mrs. I. T. Wright, Chairman Yard Improvement Contest LEAVE A MEMORIAL OF BEAUTY "We talk of "agricultural classics" by famous poets and statesmen and orators, but here is one that was written years ago by a plain Southern farm woman for our paper—he was a tenant farmer's wife at the time—which we feel like reprinting every year that comes. Alike for beauty of expression and nobility of sentiment it is hard to surpass:—

"I am still at an old homestead that belonged for several generations to the Blank family. It has now passed into the hands of strangers. The old family are dispersed and gone far away. But this place is a memorial of them and especially of the lady who came here as a bride and lived here as wife and mother through a long and useful life.

"Her impress is still upon everything, her spirit lives anew in the recurrent blooming of her rose garden. I, a stranger, feel a kinship with her as I breathe their dewy fragrance. Today there is a flaming of crimson lilies, amaryllis, against the green shrubbery. Though she is mingled dust with dust, the work of her hands lives on in the beautiful life of the lilies. At Easter time the white flags unfurled in all their purity, an emblem of the sweet spirit of her whose pure thought and innate love of the beautiful gave them, a perpetual gift of loveliness, to those who came after her. Early in the spring a myriad of daffodils, jonquils, and narcissi came up in great haste. Some bore trumpets and were trumpeters of the good tidings of spring. The eternal yellows of all the sunsets were within the hearts of them. Their fragrance and freshness were divine.

"The sweetness of one woman made possible all this loveliness. She is immortalized in the blooming of her flowers. And there is a lesson for me in all this exquisite loveliness; I, too, may live again in a flower, a tree, or vine. Who of us but can re-

County Officials Take Slash In Pay Checks

Knox County Commissioners' Court was in session Monday and Tuesday of this week and aside from the routine business of authorizing bills to be paid, it was voted to repair both the Coffman and the Brock bridges across the Brazos. Lee Coffman and John Henderson were appointed superintendents of these jobs. Tuesday the Commissioners whetted their pruning knives and proceeded to slash salaries, ten percent in their own cases to as much as forty percent in the case of the county treasurer. The schedule of pay is now Commissioners \$90 a month; county judge \$112.50 per month; district clerk \$60 a month, no cut; deputy sheriff at Knox City no salary; deputy sheriff at Benjamin \$50 a month; sheriff to furnish own light and fuel; county clerk \$35.41 a month; county attorney \$45 a month; sheriff's salary no cut; county treasurer from \$2000 to \$1200 a year. With the exception of the commissioners, deputy sheriff and treasurer, the balance of salaries are fattened by fees. The assessor and collector depend on fees entirely for their salary.

STATE INSURANCE INSPECTOR VISITS BENJAMIN

Deputy State Insurance Inspector Newsom was here Wednesday looking over the fire fighting equipment of the city and gave the town a good report. Benjamin has a good fire record and is due a decrease in insurance rates soon.

MOVES TO SEYMOUR

Mr. and Mrs. Thos. F. Glover and family have moved to Seymour where they will make their home. Mr. Glover is the court reporter of the 50th District. He was for several years the county clerk of Knox County and has many friends all over the county. We rejoice with Mr. Glover in his good position which he has secured with the Court but Benjamin hates to lose the Glover family.

Mrs. Lucille Stephens of Dallas is visiting her father here this week.

BOOT SHOP IS BENJAMIN'S NEWEST BUSINESS

C. Blatherwick, one of the last of the old time bootmakers, has moved here from Quanah and opened a boot shop and shoe repairing shop. Mr. Blatherwick is 70 years of age, a native Texan and has been engaged in making boots practically all his life. He was born in Robertson county but for the past thirty years has lived in West Texas, six years at Matador and twenty five years at Quanah. We join the people of Benjamin in making Mr. Blatherwick welcome to the town and hope that he builds up a good business here.

call even now mother's rosebush, or the hollyhocks and larkspur of the old home garden, the trees that father planted, the cedar at the gate, the poplar and walnut at the home lot, to say nothing of the individual fruit trees that had each a name and a personality of its own?

"Now for the lesson. I have already planted some blood red canas. They are growing fine and will continue for years and years. I am a rolling stone and gather no moss, perhaps, but I try to leave each spot that I roll away from a little bit improved. At one is growing a clematis vine that blooms like a midsummer snow storm of vapory white flowers. At another a Virginia creeper covers a plain little cottage, changing it to a fairy castle by moonlight."

Local Study Club Gives One In Jail, Other In Hospital Result Affray

Nine counties were represented at the Inter-County Federation meeting held at Wichita Falls last Thursday, Knox County being represented by five members of the local study club, Mesdames Atterbury, Beavers, Burnett, Brookreson and Patton and Miss Janis Patterson and Thomas Hudson who took part in the program. Mrs. Frank Patton of the Sclerosis Club was elected secretary of the Inter-County Federation of clubs. There were three hundred club women present at the meeting and one hundred sixty reservations for the luncheon. Mrs. Patton reports that the highlight of the program was Castenada, Latin-American librarian of the University of Texas who has charge of the Garcia library which is considered one of the most extensive and complete historical collection of Mexico and Texas in the United States. The collection contains 25000 volumes and 40,000 manuscripts and was purchased by the University in 1921 at a cost of \$100,000. Mrs. G. H. Beavers gave an interesting history of Knox County and Thomas Hudson, accompanied by Miss Janis Patterson, sang "Lonesome Cowboy."

DAIRY SHOW AT ALBANY APRIL 14 AND 15

Every club in Knox County represented at Albany Dairy Show is our goal. This the second dairy show is to be held at Albany, April 14 and 15. In order to get the products to Albany in time to be judged they must be brought to the Home Demonstration agents office Thursday afternoon, 5:00 o'clock.

Every one is invited to attend on Saturday. Lets have Knox County well represented.

FOUNDATION PATTERN SCHOOL DECLARED SUCCESS BY SPECIALIST

The dress-making school which was held April 4-5 at Seymour for Baylor and Knox county wardrobe demonstrators was a great success, said Mrs. Dora R. Barnes, Clothing Specialist of A. and M. College, who conducted the school.

For two days, 20 wardrobe demonstrators worked in order that they might have a pattern that fit them and one that they might use for any purpose.

The afternoon of the second day was open to all women of the two counties at which time 48 women, representing 17 clubs, heard Mrs. Barnes discuss the different priced wardrobes.

The following are statements picked up from some of the women who attended the school from Knox county.

Mrs. J. C. Patterson, Benjamin, "I feel that I learned so much at the school that I would never have learned elsewhere. I feel like what I learned about sleeves will be of more help than any other thing, but I enjoy it all very much and hope I can help some of the other club members."

Mrs. Ralph Weeks, Munday, "One of the many interesting things I learned at the school held in Seymour was the cutting and fitting of foundation patterns. We were shown the different priced adrobes in which we learned to be very economical."

Mrs. R. M. Almonrode, Gillespie, "Ever since I have known about foundation patterns I have wanted one. This week saw that wish fulfilled. I enjoyed the social side of the meeting—meeting new club members and learning their work. The different priced wardrobes were of interest."

One In Jail, Other In Hospital Result Affray

Following a cutting scrape at the section house of the Santa Fe Railroad here Wednesday "Chief" Brown an Indian, and a member of the section crew is in the hospital suffering from cuts on the hand and face and two stabs in the back, and Pete Gurez, mexican section hand is being held in the county jail pending the outcome of Brown's wounds. The fight is said to have come up as a result of an argument over a flower garden at the section house.

SPECIAL SUNRISE SERVICES TO BE OBSERVED IN BENJAMIN EASTER

There will be preaching at the Christian Church on Friday and Saturday evening of this week by Mr. Bedford Smith, Minister of the First Christian church of Olney. Services will begin at 8:00. The sermon for Friday will be "The Prayer that Works" and "The River of Life" will be the subject Saturday evening.

Bro. Smith will also speak at the Easter Sunrise Prayer meeting on "The Resurrection Gospel" then will drive to Goree to fill a regular appointment there.

The public is cordially invited to attend these services.

Jim Melton Jr. is home from Cisco for the Easter holidays.

GOOD ROADS ASSOCIATION FIGHTS AGAINST FURTHER SPLIT IN GAS TAX

HOUSTON, April 13—Discharge of 500 employees by the Oklahoma highway department, as the first of a series of drastic retrenchments forced by diversion of gasoline tax money in that state, was cited today by W. O. Higgins, president of the Texas Good Roads Association, as "a typical example of what Texas may be facing soon."

Associated Press dispatches quoted H. N. Arnold, chairman of the Oklahoma road commission, as blaming the state's tax diversion bill, which takes 40 per cent of the gasoline tax from the highway construction and maintenance fund.

"This tragedy being enacted in Oklahoma", Judge Huggins declared, "is a warning to Texas. The one vital thing today is to keep men to work and road projects provide the maximum of employment, yet Oklahomas most valuable source of work is being riddled.

"The fundamental problem right now is unemployment. We need not believe our moratoriums and remedial schemes will amount to anything unless unemployment is decreased. And if the unemployment problem is solved, all other problems will solve themselves.

"There are 20,000 men on the payrolls of the highway department and the contractors doing its work. An even greater number are producing road materials and at work in lines associated with highways. With their families they number more than 100,000 Texas people. Today they have bread and clothes and shelter. But what of tomorrow?

"If Oklahoma is in serious trouble through diversion of 40 percent of her gas tax money, what of Texas? Texas already diverts 50 percent to schools and county bonds. Yet there are two measures before the legislature to take away still more.

"The Texas highway department can barely carry on with present funds. If any more are taken away, our unemployment conditions during the coming fall and winter will be indescribably tragic. Every merciful citizen must help fight such a prospect."

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**WILLIAM GULICK, PIONEER KNOX WHO
 CAME HERE BEFORE BENJAMIN WAS
 A TOWN, TELLS EXPERIENCES**

(The Story of William Gulick)
 BY ROSS BATES

About 71 or 72 miles southwest of Wichita Falls and about a mile east of Goree on state Highway No. 30 there is a concrete bridge across a narrow stream. The highway department has erected a sign at this bridge to inform the traveler that the stream is called Lake creek. Lake creek marks the eastern and southern boundary of an unusually fertile prairie. This prairie is thickly settled and supports the towns of Goree, Munday and Knox City. The Brazos river marks its north and western boundary. In 1932 the part of it lying in Knox county produced 45,000 bales of cotton.

Six miles north of Goree, and two miles west of Lake creek, and the same distance south of the Brazos river, in a well built and comfortable farm home surrounded by unusually large mesquite trees, lives the man, who, in company with Ham Coltharp, first established a permanent home upon Knox Prairie. His name is Wm. Gulick. Mr. Gulick's farm contains 640 acres of land that is almost as level as a floor. It is clear of debt and is nearly all in cultivation. In 1932 it produced over 200 bales of cotton besides generous crops of feed.

Mr. Gulick himself is a fine looking man with a large, well formed head that he holds erect above his broad shoulders. He has been during his long life a man of unusual physical and mental powers. Mr. Gulick has had a part in changing the great West from a wilderness to its present state. His life and experience deserve to be recorded as a part of the history of the West and of the nation.

Born in Indiana

"I was born in Elkhart county, Indiana in 1847," said Mr. Gulick. "My mother moved from Indiana to Polk county, Iowa, near Des Moines, in 1853. My mother died when I was 2 years old. My father had married the second time when we moved to Iowa. We moved to Pottawatomie county in western Iowa near Nebraska line in 1861. We settled near Council Bluffs. Des Moines did not have any railroad when I lived there and houses were very scattering west of Des Moines. The country around Council Bluffs was very thinly settled. In 1862 I drove a wagon from Council Bluffs to Denver. I was hired at \$25 per month and the distance was 600 miles to Denver. I drove three yoke of oxen and was three months on the trip. The country we traveled over was open prairie with no lumber except cottonwoods along the streams. There were no settlements and no houses other than stage stations about 16 miles apart.

Buffalo and Indians

"We crossed the Platte river at Carney, and followed the south side of the river to Denver. From Carney for about 400 miles we were never out of sight of buffalo and there were a good many Indians. The Indians were civil and peaceable. These Indians wrapped their dead buffalo hides and fastened them to cottonwood trees, and to poles stretched between two posts, and did not bury them like white people do. I saw eight corpses fastened to posts

and two tied to trees. There were many antelopes, lobo wolves and coyotes.

"In 1863 my father, my half-brother and I went to Colorado and took my father's teams. We stopped in Gilpin county and worked furnishing wood for engines in the gold mines at Central City, about 40 miles west of Denver. Denver, when I first saw it in 1862 had only one street and did not have as large population as Goree has now. It is situated on the Platte river. We remained in Colorado until the fall of 1865 and then went back to Polk county, near Des Moines.

"When we left Denver in 1865 to return to Iowa the Indians were on the warpath and we went with a train of about 60 wagons and 100 armed men. We were held in a corral one time for half a day by hostile Indians near Alkali station in Nebraska. One of our party was wounded by the Indians. We shot two Indians off their horses, killing one of them. In 1867 I went back to near Council Bluffs and stayed there until July, 1868. I then went out about 60 miles west where Omaha, Neb., is now, and took a train to Cheyenne, Wyo. I went south from Cheyenne, to Boulder City on a wagon, and then went on foot to Gilpin county, about 40 miles. I worked in this county until the winter of 1878.

To Texas Frontier

"In January, 1878, I asked an acquaintance where to go in Texas to get to the frontier and he said to go to Graham. I took a wagon and five head of horses, and with a man by the name of Ed Schaeffer to accompany me, started for Texas. I came from Denver to Pueblo and followed a stage line from there in camp Supply. There were 300 soldiers at camp Supply. They were guarding the Indians and riding the line on them, and keeping them from crossing Red river on the south. Camp Supply is situated in what is now Oklahoma, just a few miles from the northeast corner of the Texas Panhandle. The Indians were as warlike as they dared to be. There was a Jew peddler at Camp Supply and the Indians would not let him leave. We took the peddler with us and with the assistance of the soldiers got him out.

No Houses

"From Pike's Peak to Round Timbers, in Baylor county, there were no houses or settlements of any kind. I struck a mail route trail at the Little Cimarron and followed it to Camp Supply. I turned south from Camp Supply and followed a trail made by buffalo hide hunters until it played out. I then followed a south-east course as nearly as I could judge by the sun until I came to an abandoned buffalo hunters' camp out west of where Guthrie, Texas, is now. From this abandoned camp a dim trail led almost east. This road forked somewhere west of Benjamin, one going to Fort Griffin and the other fork to Graham. I followed the Graham branch and the Jew peddler took the fork toward Fort Griffin.

Camped at Site of Seymour

"We passed through where Benjamin is now and through the narrows between the Brazos and Wichita

rivers and camped on Seymour creek where Seymour is now. Buffalo hunters had made a trail between where Benjamin and Seymour are now, but neither town had been started then. There was nothing in Seymour except wild turkeys, but there were lots of them at our camp on Seymour creek. "The first house we saw was the John Stevens ranch near Round Timbers in the east part of Baylor county. There was an occasional cowboys' camp between the Stevens ranch and Graham.

"The buffalo had been killed. The last hunting was done about the time we came to Graham. I did not see but one buffalo on the road from Denver to Graham and only a very few buffalo hunters. The country after we left Camp Supply was covered with dead buffalo. For several days we were never out of sight of buffalo carcasses. There were no cattle on the road. I did not see any cows on the trip. The country from Graham to Nebraska was stocked with cattle from Texas, and the cowmen had to wait for the buffalo to be killed and the Indians put on the reservation before he could take cattle into the country north of here.

Reached Graham in 1878

"I arrived in Graham, Feb. 3, 1878 and worked in the country around Graham that year. I hauled lumber from Fort Worth to Fort Griffin and hauled corn to Fort Griffin.

"In 1879 Steve Franklin and Will Cartwright, who at that time lived west of Graham, and I took a bunch of horses to Houston county, Texas, near Crockett and traded them for cattle. We brought the cattle through Hillsboro and Weatherford to Graham. In the fall of 1879 Ham Coltharp and I brought the cattle through Seymour and up the Brazos river to the mouth of Lake creek and turned them loose. We camped together during that winter. In the summer of 1880, Ham Coltharp's father and family moved to our camp and built a house at the mouth of Lake creek. Ham stayed with the old folks until he married in 1882.

"Seymour had started that year but there were only a few houses there.

"The country from here to Houston county was all outside. There were no fences, other than rail fences, barbed wire had not been invented.

"If my memory is correct, and I think it is, there was not a single house or camp of any kind on what is now Knox prairie.

Cattle in Knox County

"In the spring of 1880 Uncle Hilory Bedford drove a bunch of cattle in near where Benjamin is now. Sometime in 1880 a man by the name of Lynn brought a bunch of cattle across the prairie and stopped near the Salt Fork of the Brazos west of Knox City. Uncle Billy Robinson, father of Earnest Robinson of Goree, was with him. Mr. Robinson went to Seymour several times after his mail and stopped at our camp.

"There were a few people north of the Brazos in Baylor county, but I do not remember any one who lived in Knox County. Millits had a little camp north of the river.

"Ham Colthorp came to this county with me, and in 1880 I left him in charge of the cattle that we jointly owned and I went to work for the Millet brothers, who had what was afterward the Hash Knife ranch with headquarters at the mouth of Miller creek. Lake creek and Cottonwood hole were the western line of the Millet range. I gave Ham Colthorp half of my wages and he looked after my part of the cattle. I got \$25 per month for working for the Millets and furnished my own saddle and blankets and bedding.

"I worked for the Millets and Bill Irvin, a partner of the Millets, during 1880 and 1881 and then went to work for the Hash Knife and worked for them until July 1883, when I married. I married Mary Jane Colthorp, a sister of Ham Colthorp.

Knox County Organized

"I was off working after cattle when Knox county was organized and Steve Franklin filed on a section of land for me. I moved to it in 1885 and in 1886 sold my claim to J. H.

Bates and filed on the section of land which I now own and on which I make my home.

"If I live to the fourteenth of this coming April I will be 86 years old.

"I have one half-brother in Iowa and a half-sister in California and my children are here with me in Knox county.

No Mesquite Seen

"When I first knew this country there were no mesquite from the mouth of Lake creek to Goree that were big enough to make a post. There were some large mesquite on what was known as wild horse prairie in Haskell county. The trees on Wild Horse prairie were dead. Ches Tackett told me that buffalo hunters burned the prairie to run the buffalo to rough country, where they could get close enough to shoot them, and killed the mesquite with prairie fire. "A Man's Word Was Good"

"During the years that I spent in the frontier—the years before 1900—there was no law and no effective effort made to enforce law, but most men were honest. We did not take men's notes then. A man's word was good.

"The biggest roundup I ever saw

was north of Iowa Park on Red river at what was called Deep Red. The Waggoner outfit was rounding the cattle from here north and putting them in the Indian Territory. I was wagon boss for Hash Knife at that time. They let us work with them. We got about 125 or 130 unbranded calves out of the bunch, besides the cows. There were so many cattle that we could not see across the herd and the cattle covered about two sections of land.

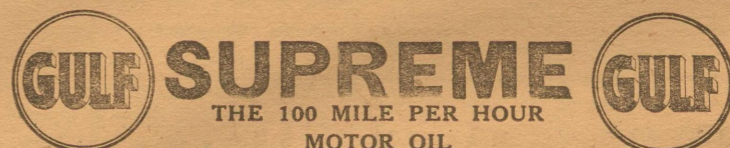
"I hauled the lumber for part of my present house from Wichita Falls. At that time Wichita Falls had only one street where there was any business transacted. There were a few people there and many saloons."

FOR SALE

We have stored in the vicinity of Benjamin one Baby grand and two upright pianos, rather than ship back will sell at sacrifice.

Starr Piano Co.,
 1708 Carter St.
 Dallas Texas.

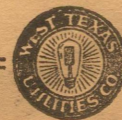
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EARLY HISTORY OF KNOX COUNTY AS TOLD BY DAUGHTER OF ONE OF THE FOUNDERS OF BENJAMIN

BY MRS. G. H. BEAVERS
While we sit in the shadows of the past and dream of days of old, may I ask you to share with me the visions and experiences of the early settlers of Knox County.

After the Indians and buffaloes had acknowledged the white man, their conqueror by moving on to newer grounds, the first settlers of Knox county were ranch men. There were a few small ranches and two large ones, the W Cross owned by Mr. Clark of Dallas and the L Bar owned and operated by a Stock Company organized by Hilory G. Bedford of Ellis county. My father being one of the original twelve members of this company, it is of their experiences I speak.

Coming from widely separated sections of the state, natives of Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi and Louisiana and of varied avocations of life, yet all united in purpose and vision of home and perhaps wealth in this new found country, they were

truly pioneers in every sense of the word.

The nearest railway station being the village of Wichita Falls, Texas, it was from that point, we fared forth on our expedition to the unknown country in covered wagons, drawn by oxens, the ladies and children riding, in state, in hacks with spring seats in them and drawn by horses.

The only sign of life on the three days journey of 90 miles was the Prairie dog towns until we came to the hamlet of Seymour.

The first three months were spent at the ranch headquarters on the banks of the Wichita river, each family having a large tent or tents with board sides and floor, for their domicile in a great grove of Cottonwood trees. The country was wild and rough, the summer hot and dry, the only drinking water was from creeks, and pools and gyp springs, from which the cattle also drank. Many of the men had spent their

lives in the office, store or school room and not used to work in hot, searching sun. Some of the women had been reared in comparative luxury and were ill fitted to cope with the inconveniences and discomforts and were no doubt justified in thinking this country "Satans Private Hell" as Mr. Hastings described another section of Texas.

"He had scattered trantulas on the roads, Put thorns on the cactus and horns on the teads, He quickened the buck of the broncho steed And poisoned the feet of the centipede.

He even put needles in the grass That pricked your ankles as you pass. And snakes that warned one with their rattlers Weren't the least of menaces to the early settlers.

The wild life roamed in the black chappare, It was a hell of a place, he had for his Hell."

The stillness of the night was often broken by the lonesome whoo, whoo of the owl, the barking of a pack of coyotes, the howl of a lone lobo wolf, or the scream of a panther or wildcat, at times noises comparable to those of the African Jungle.

More than once the lowing of the cattle and the bleat of a young calf awakened the sleeping ranchmen and they would sally forth into the night with their Winchester, in search of the marauding enemy among the herds.

The good and the evil are always present everywhere, and there was a rosy side also to this life.

The air was redolent in season of the wild plum blossoms, the beauty of the cactus blooms made us forget the thorns, wild flowers, large and small, carpeted the prairies, and the songs of the mocking bird put one in harmony with any fate God meted out to them. Wild game was abundant Deer, wild turkeys, plover, quail, prairie chickens, squirrels and fish furnished a variety of meat, almost at the door, and provided recreation for the men and boys. The children's life was one continued picnic, with no restrictions as to space, the whole out doors was the community play ground for the 15 or 20 children.

So the summer passed. Just 5 miles west of the Narrows,

the divide which separates the breaks of the Brazos and Wichita rivers, and at which point tradition says was fought one of Sul Ross's celebrated fights with the Indians, was Section 242 of Knox county.

Mr. Bedford had purchased this section of land which is now divided into tracts of 50 acres, (setting aside 40 acres for public square, street and alleys, and he gave to each stock member one of these tracts to induce them to locate there, build a home and thereby become founders of the little town of Benjamin, so named in memory of Mr. Bedford's son who had been killed by lightning.

The first lumber, freighted from Wichita Falls, was laid on the ground in Aug, 1884, and soon the sound of hammer and saw echoed through the thickets of mesquite and twelve little weather stripped box houses dotted the town site. All the necessaries of living were brought from Wichita Falls, the freighters making one trip a week, and just that often did we hear from the outside world, as they were or mail carriers, also.

Prior to its organization Knox county was attached to Baylor county for judicial purposes, and was presided over by Judge Jeremiah Vardeman Cockrell, who in later years was elected to Congress. At the expiration of his service in Washington, he was on his way home to Abilene and stopped over in Dallas. Being a layman in the Methodist Church, he was invited to occupy the pulpit while there. The Dallas News' comment on his sermon said "Judge Cockrell is the only man who has served a period in Congress and come out with enough religion left to preach a sermon." Judge Cockrell's favorite grandjury men were Knox county citizens and it was at one of these sessions of grandjuries that Mr. Bull Turner, a noted character and ranch owner, testified to facts which led to his assassination. He and Mr. Sam Lazarus, (a rail road builder) were riding on the Benjamin-Seymour road when Mr. Turner was shot from ambush. Mr. Lazarus crawled out onto the buggy tongue between the horses and rode on into Seymour.

Knox county was organized with Benjamin as county seat and elected officers in Feb. 1886, the first county judge being Mr. J. J. Truscott for whom the town of Truscott was named later. The first county clerk was Mr. D. A. Walker, a free thinker One of the interesting incidents of the early days was the exchange of his office (of which he had grown tired to Mr. Tom Keenan, for his job as traveling salesman, with which he was dissatisfied). Mr. Keenan held the office till his death, several years afterwards. One of the early merchants in Benjamin was a unique character. Uncle Bob Barton was at one time a merchant in Arkansas. He decided to come to Texas. He tore down his store, freighted to by wagons to Jacksboro, and rebuilt it. After a few years he decided to move further west, so again he took his house apart and moved it to Benjamin and

rebuilt it where it still stands. Uncle Bob always had money, which he kept tucked away under his wall paper and could produce any amount at any time. All of the original founders of Benjamin were members of the Christian Church, hence, it was the first church organized and the town was heralded for many years by traveling salesmen as the religious town of the West.

All of the founders lived here for many years and gave the best of their lives to the building of the community. Mr. Goree moved to southside of Brazos and the town of Goree is named in his honor. His daughter, Miss Eddie, is now State Librarian in Austin. Mr. Bedford Stewart moved to Mineral Wells and served as Mayor to that city for many years.

One of Mr. Hilory Bedford's daughters married Chas. E. Coombes a young lawyer of Benjamin, who later moved to Stamford, then to Abilene, serving as Mayor to both cities and later elected President of West Texas Chamber of Commerce.

The first school was taught by Mr. R. P. Dimmitt who continued Supt. of schools for many years, finally elected member of the Legislature where he served until his death. His daughter is the only original settler, who remains in the county. The first physician of the country was Dr. Vining from Canada, who succumbed to Tuberculosis from which he was seeking relief in the new land. He was succeeded by Dr. L. P. Jones, and Dr. G. H. Beavers, both of whom bought sections of the original L Bar ranch, the latter being the present possessor.

Mr. Allen Horner was the first Dispenser of Drugs. He was a brother to the wives of Messrs. T. H. and Bruce Burnett and Col. P. C. Sams, all of whom moved to Benjamin soon after the organization and have contributed worthily to the upbuilding of the community.

Time doesn't permit me to tell many interesting facts concerning the noble characters of all the pioneers of Knox County, some of whom became prominent men in the weaving of the History of the state. The pure threads of good deeds have produced a worth while fabric and their descendants hail with honor the rich heritage we enjoy.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED BY THE KNOX COUNTY HOME DEMONSTRATION COUNCIL

We, the women and girls of the Home Demonstration Clubs and 4-H clubs of Knox County, hereby pass the following resolutions:

1. In as much as the Governor recommended a 25 percent cut in appropriation for the Extension work at A. and M. College, we would protest against a cut greater than that which would necessarily cripple beyond the point of efficiency the work in the state of Texas at this time when it is needed most.

2. We believe that the men and women of the state should be heard in this matter. The "Live at Home" program which is carried out in this work is essential to the life of the farmer at this time. Cutting down so much on this work is false economy in our belief. Agriculture is the chief industry of our state and we consider our demonstration agents indispensable to our work, or living, now.

The Knox County Council is composed of the President and one representative from each women's club in the county.

Signed by Knox County Council. Mrs. R. N. Almanrode, President. Mrs. Carl Patterson, Secretary.

The Red & White Stores

If it's something better, you can find it in the Red and White Store, at saving prices.

SPECIALS FOR
Friday and Saturday
April 14-15

GRAPE FRUIT, TEXAS SWEET, DOZEN.	.25
APPLES, FANCY DELICIOUS, 100'S, DOZEN	.30
STRAWBERRIES, PINTS	.10
LETTUCE, 2 HEADS FOR	.15
GREEN BEANS, PER POUND	.05
NEW POTATOES, 6 LBS. FOR	.25
ORANGES, 288'S, EACH	.01
GALLON FRUIT, CHERRIES, APRICOTS, GAL.	.49
GRAPE NUTS, PER PACKAGE,	.17
MAXWELL HOUSE COFFEE, 3 LBS,	.79
BAKING POWDER, CALUMET, 1 LB.	.24
SPINACH, NO. 2 CAN	.10
MILK, RED AND WHITE, 6 Small or 3 Large	.15
PEARS, RED AND WHITE, NO. 1 CAN	.14
SYRUP, PURE CANE, GALLON	.54
EVAP. APPLES OR PEACHES, 2 LBS.	.19
MARSHMALLOW, 1-2 LB. RED AND WHITE PKG.	.10
WHITE BEANS, GREAT NORTHERN, 5 LBS.	.24
PEACHES, 2 1-2 Red and White, MAMOUTH, 3 FOR	.55
PINEAPPLE, NO. 1, BLUE AND WHITE, Crushed, 3 FOR	.27
WALNUTS, ALMONDS, BRAZIL NUTS, PER LB.	.10
FRESH OYSTERS, PER DOZEN	.15
SPECKLED TROUT, PER POUND	.22
GREEN VEGETABLES AT LOWEST PRICES.	

LATE ARRIVALS: HOSE, MARBLES, RUBBER BALLS, COMBS, HAIR SET, POND'S CREAM, FACE POWDER, TOOTH BRUSHES, PIPES, HINDS CREAM, OVERALLS, OIL CLOTH, CAMBRIC, LACE CLOTH, BROADCLOTH, BLOOMERS, PLAY SUITS, WORK CLOTHES, GLOVES, HALF HOSE, UNDERWEAR, STRAWS AND WASH DRESSES.

LET US HELP LOWER YOUR EXPENSES.

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1933 IMPROVED LISTERS AND CULTIVATORS

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NORTH SIDE SQUARE

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PRICES

SUITS, C. and P. 75c
SUITS, Pressed 40c
PANTS C. and P. 35c
PANTS Pressed 25c
Dresses 50c up

J. C. Veale

Texas Theatre

SEYMOUR, TEXAS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEEK APRIL 14

Friday, Saturday Matinee

Tom Keene in
"CHEYNE KID"

A new serial in 12 Episodes
Tom Tyler in
"CLANCY OF THE MOUNTED"

Saturday Night

Warren William, Lili Damita
"THE MATCH KING"

A story of the Gigantic Match
Industry that controlled nations

Monday-Tuesday

"A LADY'S PROFESSION"
with Alison Skipworth and
Roland Young

Wednesday-Thursday

A Technicolor Thriller
The Mystery of the
"WAX MUSEUM"
Lionel Atwill, Fay Wray

—COMING—

HALLELUAH I'M A BUM
HOT PEPPER

PRICES

Adults 25c Children 10c
2 shows, 7:30 and 9:15 p. m.
Matinee 1:45
Tuesday night, Family night

TRUSCOTT

BY VELMETA SOLOMON

Mrs. Dann and little daughter of Sweetwater visited her sister, Mrs. Ozzie Turner a few days last week. Mrs. W. W. Gleason is visiting in Jacksboro this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Ozie Turner and family visited in Foard City Sunday.

Mmes. Geo. Brown and T. B. Masterson, class mothers of the Juniors entertained the Sophmores and Juniors with a picnic on the Masterson ranch Sunday. Everyone had a exceptionally nice time.

The Seniors presented their play entitled "The Red Headed Stepchild" last Tuesday night. Over \$15 was the net proceeds.

Phil H. Davidson, Doc Abbott and Dennies Eubank were in Abilene this week.

Mr. and Mrs. G. V. Bostic of Duenont, former teachers of Truscott, were here one day last week.

Mmes. Robert Burg and Van Browning were in Quannah Saturday. A birthday dinner was given in the honor of Mrs. P. G. Iising Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Cowden of Chillicothe visited here Sunday.

Mmes. S. E. Mills, W. O. Solomon and Mr. and Mrs. Dave Moore were in Vernon one day last week.

The Truscott P. T. A. had their regular meeting Friday night with Mrs. T. B. Masterson, President in charge. New officers for the following year were elected. Mrs. Thomas Westbrook, President; Mrs. Lee Randolph, Vice-president; Mrs. L. P. Jones, Treasurer; Miss Ila Masterson Treasurer; Mrs. S. E. Mills reelected Historian. The new officers will be installed at a later meeting.

Truscott was allowed six delegates this year to the District meeting to be at Croell this week. Among those chosen were Mrs. Jolly Myers, Mrs. Storm, Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Laquey. The Methodist meeting being held by Bro. Turentine of Crowell closed last Sunday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Billingsley of Vera were in Truscott one day last week.

J. P. Dae and Misses Edna and Erma Eubank and Irene Maddox were in Wichita Falls one day last week.

C. H. Stewart and Louie Cure were in Benjamin one day last week.

Misses Ethel Mae Chilcoat and Doris Stoker were in Benjamin Sunday.

Mrs. Glenn Burnett and children were in Benjamin Sunday.

The Seniors entertained the Juniors with a picnic on north Wichita river bridge last Monday night. The Seniors in some way wanted to show their appreciation to the Juniors for the lovely banquet they gave them

way to Vernon just after crossing the north Wichita bridge they saw some turkeys and driving slowly until they came in abot ten steps of the turkeys they discovered they were wild ones. It has been reported quite a few wild turkeys have been seen in the river breaks but this is the first that have been seen walking down the highway.

Wednesday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Jolly Myers and family and Mrs. Irene Gerrald were in Vernon Monday.

Prof. Cloud of Knox City was in Truscott Saturday.

Last Monday morning when Mmes. A. S. Tarpley, D. C. Hutton, G. W. and W. O. Solomon were on their

GILLILAND

BY ELIZABETH PARRIS

Mr. and Mrs. Willie Cook were in Seymour Thursday on business.

Mr. and Mrs. Olie Iising were in Knox City Thursday.

Helen, John and Fred Glover, Seniors in Knox City High School spent the week end here visiting relatives.

Miss Geraldine Colthorp of Spur was the guest of her brothers here the past week.

Mr. J. R. Spivey accompanied his mother to Brownfield. She spent the winter here and is now visiting relatives and friends in Brownfield.

Dolph Martin and daughter Ella Grace visited his parents in Vernon Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Cook and son Howard visited friends in Antelope Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Hogan and family were in Seymour Saturday.

The Juniors are presenting their play Friday night, April 21. The play is free. Name of play, "Path Across the Hill".

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Farris have returned from Fort Worth where they have been visiting their daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Hanks and Mrs. Andy Randolph of Truscott visited friends here Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Garland Colthorp visited friends in Truscott Sunday.

Louie Cure, Senior in high school at Truscott spent the week end here visiting his parents.

Miss Doris Hurd was the guest of her sister, Miss Lula Hurd last week.

Mr. L. B. Baty was in Henrietta Tuesday.

Mrs. Marion Ryder, Mrs. J. G. Parris, Mrs. B. B. Chamberlain, Mrs. W. J. Farris, Mrs. Dallas Patton and Miss Francis Portter were in Crowell Tuesday and Wednesday attending the District P. T. A. Meeting.

Mrs. J. O. Cure suprised her daughter, Geraldine on her eleventh birth-

day with a slumber party. The girls romped and played until midnight, then a dainty midnight super was served to a number of guests.

Miss Ardill Briggs visited her sister in Floydada Saturday and Sunday.

Miss Mollie Dae of Truscott was the guest of Francis McGuire here Saturday and Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. H. T. Cook and Mr. J. S. Cook were in Snyder Okla. visiting relatives Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Williams and family visited their daughter, Avis, in Benjamin Saturday.

Mrs. J. R. Spivey, Mrs. W. H. Smith, Mrs. Price Stephens, Edith, Bobbie and Sybil Spivey were in Wichita Falls Tuesday visiting relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Hughes were in Munday Wednesday.

Mrs. Ed Feemster, Mrs. Robbins, Mrs. Joe Cook were in Seymour Wednesday on business.

WHO WANTS A BEAUTIFUL NEW PIANO AT A BARGAIN We have in this vicinity a splendid upright piano with duet bench to match. Also a lovely Baby Grand in two tone Mahogany. Rather than reship will sell either of these at a bargain. Terms if desired. Address at once. Brook Mays and Co., The Reliable Piano House, Dallas, Texas.

FOR SALE

We have stored in the vicinity of Benjamin one Baby grand and two upright pianos, rather than ship back will sell at sacrifice.

Starr Piano Co.,
1708 Carter St.
Dallas Texas.

FOR SALE OR TRADE: Easiest Way Oil Stove. Good condition. Reasonable priced. Call of Benjamin Post.

ANNUAL JUNIOR-SENIOR BANQUET OF TRUSCOTT SCHOOL GIVEN APRIL 5.

The Junior Class of Truscott High School entertained the Seniors with a banquet Wednesday night, April 5 at the Truscott Hotel.

After a get together in the lobby the dining room doors were opened disclosing the room decorated in pink and silver, Senior class colors. The tables were centered with bouquets of Lilacs. Baby pictures of the Seniors served as place cards.

The menu and program were decorated with an Easter rabbit and eggs.

Senior Sponosr, Phil H. Davidson, acted as Toastmaster.

Welcome address, Doc Abbott. Reply, Louis Cure.

Introduction of those present, Toastmaster.

Reading, Velmeta Solomon. What the Seniors have accomplished, Irene Maddox.

What the Seniors of 1934 want to accomplish, Mary Helen Gilliland.

Quartet, Lawrence Abbott, Presley Chilcoat, Louis Cure and Orval Myers.

Menu		
Chicken	Fruit Cocktail	Dressing
	Green Peas	
	Creamed Potatoes	
	Salad	
Asparagus		Hot Rolls
	Punch	
Ice Cream		Cake

Mrs. R. D. McDonald of Abilene is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Alexander here this week.

J. L. Galloway and A. C. McGlothlin were in Wichita Falls Wednesday.

W. P. H. McFadden of Beaumont is in Benjamin this week.

STRAYED: One small black mule with hair rubbed off left side. If found notify Jim Crawford, Box 121, Seymour. Strayed off April 10th.

SEND \$1.00

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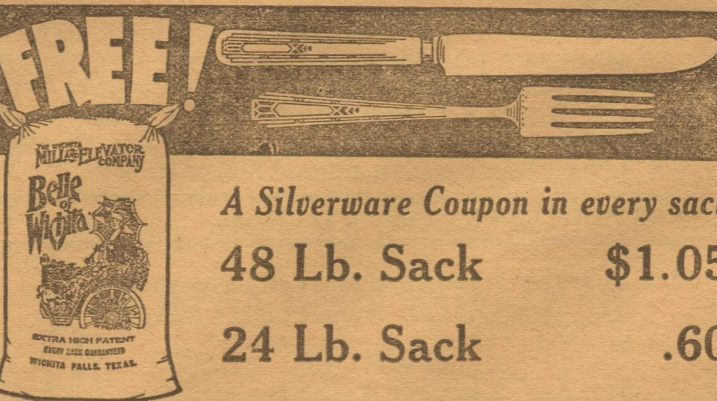
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