

IF YOU WANT IT IN THE PAPER

Dial 3711

VOLUME XXIII—NO. 32

ROPESVILLE, HOCKLEY COUNTY, TEXAS

5c A COPY

THURSDAY, DEC. 12, 1957

# THE ROPES PLAINSMAN

## Murderer Comes Out of Night and Disappears into Darkness

# "Halloween Mask" Killer Comes to Life Leaving Dead Man in His Wake

## Hundreds of bales of Cotton Turn to Ashes

# Farm Center Gin Yard Becomes an Inferno Fanned by Gale-Like Winds

One of the most disastrous gin fires to ever occur in this territory was suffered by the Farm Center Gin, 4 miles north of Ropes, on Saturday night of last week.

Eighty-one trailers and 230 bales of cotton were completely destroyed, and the loss is estimated at \$70,000. It was brought about by a sudden shift in the wind.

For three or four days the wind had been blowing from the south and west, when it made a sudden shift to the north, coming in at a 60 mile an hour gale. Cotton trailers full of cotton were parked on the west and south side of the gin — the burning burr pit is on the north — fire from the pit was lifted and scattered over the trailers.

In a moment there was a holocaust, fanned by the wind in minutes fire was blazing on almost all of the trailers. Pickups were used to pull them away, but the trailers pulled a half mile

## Officers Are Baffle by Strange Lack of Clues

# Vicious Watch Dogs Were Gone When Gunman Appeared and Remained Away All Night

The Halloween - masked killer has come to life from the pages of history—more than once murder novels and crime comic books have depicted the fantastic creature wearing a Halloween mask at the time he committed murder. But, in Hockley County, this is no longer fiction — the masked killer is on the loose, and as this is written on Monday there is no clue

ered the lad. "Get in that room and stay there," commanded the mask.

If the man spoke to Mrs. King there is no record of it. She ran from the house screaming, her testimony says.

In that moment John King came to the door of the bedroom. The gun in the killer's hand belched smoke, fire and a lethal slug.

The first shot buried itself in the door frame. The smoking gun bucked and bucked again in the killer's hand. Red-hot bullets tore into the flesh of John King. They brought to him an unnatural sleep—his body sagging and falling beside the bed on which he had intended to rest. King on the floor, his life blood oozing from five wounds, the killer looked down on his handiwork, then without hurry, walked from the room out into the darkness from whence he had come to disappear as effectually as if he had evaporated into thin air.

### BULLETIN

As we go to press Wednesday night Sheriff Weir Clem told us over the telephone that there were no further developments in the Smyer murder case. He said: "The polograph tests have been made and we will turn what we have over to the grand jury. The parafin tests made of the hands of Mrs. King and the boy showed negative."

We don't know exactly what the investigating officers have, but we do hope that we do not have a case that cannot be solved — such cases make folks feel a little uneasy for their safety.

to his identity — he came in the night and disappeared in the night. Behind him he left a dead man.

John B. King, a farmer near Smyer, prepared for bed around 8 pm with the intention of arising at 11 pm to return a trailer from the Smyer Gin to be used by cotton pullers on Thursday.

But he did not awaken at 11 pm — he went to sleep — a sleep that will be longer than he thought, extending to the Great Judgment day.

The door of the King home smashed inward and Mrs. King and a 14-year old boy turned startled eyes toward the opening. Startled eyes turned to eyes filled with horror.

Just within the portal stood a masked man, and the face they saw was that of a terrifying orange colored mask with exaggerated eyebrows. For a startling moment he stood still, and as the two watched him they saw in his hand a revolver, the barrel pointing at them.

Fear froze their voices. "Where is your daddy?" growled the mask, speaking to the boy. "In the bedroom," quav-

# Graham-Holmes Gin in Wolfforth Suffers Loss

But for the prompt and decisive action Tuesday of the Wolfforth Fire Department, assisted by pumpers from Ropesville, Lubbock and Reese Air Force Base, the entire city of Wolfforth might have been destroyed by fire.

As it was, the Graham-Holmes Gin lost its cotton house containing 100 bales of cotton, and more than 60 trailers carrying an estimated 190 bales of cotton. north end of Wolfforth on main street, with burr pits to the north of the gin. When the wind reached gale proportions Tuesday morning burning embers were blown onto the cotton trailers with

the result that in a matter of minutes wind-swept flames were leaping skyward and the debris-filled air was throwing sparks onto the lumber yard and other buildings.

When we arrived in Wolfforth it was obscured by a dense pall of smoke, and the main street was blocked off. Four pumpers were throwing streams of water on the blaze and in a matter of minutes the Ropes Fire Department was asked to bring their pumper, putting five pumpers into operation.

Not only the school turned out, but businesses in the town were locked up and every available man was being

used in an effort to save the town.

Cotton trailers were parked up and down the highway, each a blazing inferno. As the flames ate into the tires they exploded with the sound of heavy gunfire.

The smoke was so dense that the gin and burning cotton house were not visible two hundred feet away. As the wind blew the smoke away you could see shadowy fire fighters playing water on the blazing buildings—It was this that saved the gin and office, which for a time were threatened.

This was only one of a series of fires which took place over the South Plains.

### DONATES TO

#### FIRE DEPARTMENT

Wilburn Chambers, of the Farm Center Gin, this week mailed checks of \$100 each to the Ropes and Wolfforth Fire Departments for their assistance in keeping the fire from spreading when the gin was visited by a damaging fire Saturday night.

The Ropes Fire Department boys are deeply grateful for the money.

from the fire caught and burned — they appeared as isolated fires burning as signals in the background to the main blaze.

For moments the office of the gin, the gin itself and a big residence were threatened, as well as tons and tons of grain which had been stacked on the ground.

Fire trucks from Ropesville, Wolfforth and Reese Air Force Base converged on the blazing inferno. These trucks carried tanks of water, all three perhaps twelve hundred gallons — it was like dashing a bucketful of water on a raging forest fire.

There was no chance to save the cotton and trailers, but with the limited supply of water and the Ropes truck refilling twice, the buildings were saved.

While the wind calmed a little, the fire continued. It could be seen for miles, the redness lighting the sky.

Wilburn Chambers, manager of the gin, told us 81 trailers containing 230 bales of cotton were lost. The next morning this cotton and the trailers, except for the iron work, were just little piles of white ashes.

### HERE FROM LUBBOCK

Mrs. J. C. Whitfield and children, Steve and Barbara, of Lubbock, visited Sunday in the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Troy Morris, and also her sister, Mr. and Mrs. B. J. Thomas and children.

### NAZARENE CHURCH

Rev. Dan Jones, Pastor

This year will soon be history, let's ask ourselves, "Have I done my best for God and the church?", and resolve to make this a merry Christmas by honoring the birth of our Christ.

Our Sunday School Christmas program will be given December 18 at 7 PM. All other services will be on regular schedule.

Our regular services are as usual:

Sunday School .... 9:45 AM  
Morning worship .... 11 AM  
NYPS, Juniors ..... 6:30 PM  
Evening service .... 7:00 PM

Come worship with us. You are always welcome.

### BOB WHITLOCK HAS TEETH EXTRACTED

If you see Bob Whitlock going around with a swelled up jaw don't draw the conclusion that his wife has hit him with a rolling pin. Bob was over in Lubbock Tuesday where he met a dentist who did a little extracting before Bob could dodge him.

Anyhow, that is the way most all good teeth go.

Most people save for a rainy day, but few wait for it.

### ODELL MOORE HAS MOVED TO CALIFORNIA

A recent letter from Odell Moore states that he and his family have moved to California. The letter follows:

"Dear Troy:

Just a line to let you know where I am and where to send my paper. We arrived here two weeks ago, and this will be our address, for awhile anyway. This is a wonderful climate and much beautiful scenery. The sea coast is only about a half mile from our house. This is a very friendly place, and we are enjoying it. This is one of two towns in California which is dry. Pacific Grove was originally an old Methodist Grove campground and I understand that when the town was incorporated it was stipulated that alcoholic drinks could never be sold here. Of course, Monterey is just adjoining Pacific Grove, and it is not dry.

Tell all of our friends hello, and come to see us at 604 Juniper, Pacific Grove. Yours sincerely, Odell Moore.

FOR SALE — \$750.00 — Two lots in North Ropes, the A. J. Jester place.

See Roberts—Ashburn.

### POST OFFICE STREET IS BEING PAVED

Commissioner Hulon Moreland this week moved in his road machinery and has been busily engaged in getting the street in front of the post office ready for a hot top.

Already he has hauled in 240 yards of caliche. He stated that he might have to wait awhile for the hot top as the county does not have a topping machine.

This street has not only been an eye-sore, but has been a nuisance during the rainy weather and in paving it Hulon is doing the entire community a good turn. The street is being paved out of his precinct funds.

### SENDS PAPER TO BROTHER

Miss Gert Brown this week was a pleasant caller at the Plainsman office, and while here ordered the paper sent to her brother, John Brown, in Amarillo.

It is her Christmas present to him.

### NOTICE

If there is a date written by your name on the Plainsman, your subscription expired on that date. Please take note.

## KILLER

From Page 1  
rive on the scene were Deputies J. T. Arrington, Pat McCullough and Justice of the Peace Earl Ford.

When they arrived the woman and boy were composed. They submitted to questioning without show of fear or excitement — they told identical stories.

The body was on the floor in the east bedroom, and upon examination it was found that King had been shot five times, twice in the head, one in each shoulder and one bullet through the hand. The killer evidently did not carry an empty under the hammer, as a sixth bullet was pried loose from the door frame of the room.

“What I can't understand,” said Mrs. King, “is that there was no noise. The dogs didn't bark.”

The Kings have two watch dogs, and one is vicious, but neither dog was there. In some manner they had been lured away from the place, and did not return until the next day. With the dogs there no stranger could have approached the house.

It is the opinion of District Attorney George Gilkerson that the dogs had been stolen and kept overnight to give the killer an open field. The success of his mission depended on his being able to get in the house.

The house was searched by officers, but the only gun turned up was a .22 rifle.

Gilkerson stated that Mrs. King took a rag and cleaned the blood from the bedroom floor without a show of emotion. She then took down a bottle of lotion and pouring it on her hands applied it to her face, stating:

“My face feels awfully dry.”

The grounds around the place have been searched thoroughly but no gun has been turned up — no mask has been found — no strange footprints seen — it is rather a baffling mystery.

Evidence shows there was no car near enough to be heard or seen; there is nothing to tell where the man came from or where he went; dogs supposed to be guarding the place were not there; evidence shows the killer was so muffled in mask and clothing — a dark jacket or suit coat with collar turned up, a cap with ear flaps down, the mask, brown work gloves, and khaki pants — the witnesses could not tell if he was white, black or brown. If a man had not been killed it would be as if no one had visited the place — but grim evidence of the visit was left behind.

So now, Hockley County has its mystery and, perhaps, its perfect crime.

## CONSTABLE OGLE MAKES 5 ARRESTS

Constable Jack Ogle is making good use of the Ropes jail — this week he had five people in it. Two were charged with DWI, and three charged with being intoxicated.

Three of those arrested were Latin Americans, and two were women from adjoining city. The DWI cases were transferred to the county jail to be tried in county court.

## Letters Received by Weir Clem About Whatnik Show Skepticism As Well as belief in the 'Thing'

We suppose Levelland is the best known city in the world.

The Whatnik did it. In visiting the office of Sheriff Weir Clem last week he showed us letters, not only from every state in the Union, but from different parts of the world. Some were from skeptics, some from cranks, and some from folks who are sincerely interested.

“Whatever it was,” declared Sheriff Clem, “it was there. Scientific Washington can howl St. Elmo fireballs of lightning, static conditions, until they are pale in the face, but it will not alter the fact that we saw some kind of flying machine. I don't know whether it was a ship from outer space or a ship from some other country, but I do know it was there.”

As will be remembered, reliable witnesses stated it was cigar shaped, gave off a blue-greenish glow and automobile engines stopped and lights went out when they approached it.

It was no figment of imagination, but real.

Here is letter number one. Maybe this guy, who refused to sign his name and urged that his communication be kept a dark secret, was the operator of the Whatnik:

“Sir: We note that you saw one of our space ships in the vicinity of Levelland last week. Do not mention this letter or where you received your information as it is a secret.

Yes, you saw one, and at the same time there was one in Nebraska and New Mexico.

We were testing out to see if the Government had the radar net work that they have been claiming. And we were over Dallas and Fort Worth three hours Friday and Saturday. No sky watchers.

The Government would have known long ago how the flying saucers and space ships were made, but everything the Government gets goes to Russia and they are paid for it. As we have been in Russia, Red China, and all the Red countries, but they don't mention seeing anything, but we know they have tried twice to capture it, and lost three planes trying.

There will be another demonstration around the 2nd and 3rd of December.”

Sounds like a crank letter — better take it with a little salt.

Here is another letter: (This one is written by Wallace Cantrell of Elbert, Texas.)

“I just heard it was seen somewhere back east last night hovering over a cemetery. When a patrolman shined his spotlight on it, the spotlight dimmed. They said its color was red and orange.”

Here is another from Earl D. Sheldon of Shelton, Wash. This gent evidently thinks the Whatnik came from the innermost parts of hell, for after asking for more information, says:

“When you are very close to this thing is there a very pungent, almost sickening smell of sulphur and ozone?”

That is a new angle — we never imagined it might

have been provided by old man Lucifer himself.

And this one, he is a timid sort, and doesn't want his name mentioned because people would think he was nuts, he lives in Lawton, Oklahoma. After telling Sheriff Clem, “The country is full of people who want to doubt,” and...

“There is always people who will look at you with wild eyes if you say something about flying saucers, but they are real. I saw one myself. . . the reason I haven't said anything about it is simply that people would not believe me. I was standing by myself in my back yard in 1946, at night, when one whizzed by in the sky going at a very high rate of speed. . . I noticed it was bell shaped and the under side was brighter than a welder's torch.”

The next one is from Geo. Crawford of San Carlos, California. He is somewhat of a wit, telling the sheriff:

“I wish I could have been with you and McCulloch on this expedition. I was raised, or rather let us say, grew up on the Tennessee border just over on the Kentucky side a few feet, and I have seen some horrible and most unbelievable sights in that country. But then, in those days I was much younger and the stuff to drink in those parts was quite powerful, but I'll swear I never got cross-eyed enough to see anything like you here describe. My grand father left Tennessee (I decline to say why) and spent several years in the great state of Texas, and when the air cleared up and grandpop came home he said he had killed many squirrels in Texas as big as coon hounds and partridges as large as buzzards, and that fishing worms were as long as rifle barrels, and the fish so big no single man could pull them to land, so I am inclined to think what you and McCulloch saw was just a Texas lightning bug. If the liquor in Texas measures up to all the other tales, perhaps you and Mac had sniffed a jug a wee bit too strongly. . .”

The next one comes from Dublin, Ireland. After explaining to the sheriff he had seen a like object, he gave as his opinion:

“In my opinion, from accounts I have read at various times, I consider some objects visit this planet from time to time, but of what construction I do not venture to say. There may likely be another form of life on other planets, Venus or Mars, and it may be we are at the dawn of a new discovery.”

Another letter says: “You and Mac had better change your brand of whiskey or get new glasses.”

Due to the fact that our space is limited we are able to carry only a fraction of the letters received, but one more that is brief. In an envelope was a picture of Sheriff Clem and two highway patrolmen. Some gals in a northern state got hold of it and wrote at the top:

“We're not interested in your Whatnik, but please send that tall, handsome patrolman. Do they all grow like that in Texas?”

Of course, in such cases,

you can expect skepticism. It is the nature of humans to be skeptical about any and everything. Some won't even believe their eyes and ears, so we are not surprised that they do not believe the object discussed above existed.

However, it was there.

## RALPH RIOJAS IN HOSPITAL

Ralph Riojas, local dry-goods merchant, was taken to a Lubbock hospital this past Monday suffering with a back ailment.

Latest reports as of Tuesday stated he was improving, but said that although numerous X-rays had been taken it had not been determined what was the cause of his condition.

He will probably be home by the last of the week.

## DISTRICT ATTORNEY VISITS ROPESVILLE

District Attorney George Gilkerson, of Lubbock, was in Ropes this past week looking after official business.

Mainly, George was seeking a Halloween mask that was thought to have been used in the murder at Smyer. He didn't find it.

George Gilkerson is making an outstanding district attorney and is always on the job seeing, to the best of his ability, that the law is enforced.

## MIKE MOSS HOME

Mike, son of Mrs. Betty Moss, who spent several days in a Lubbock hospital, has been returned home.

He is much improved, but will be confined to his bed for several weeks.

## CARD OF THANKS

We, the entire personnel of our Corp., would like to express our thanks and appreciation to the many people who assisted us during the fire Saturday night, and also for all the help in clearing away the debris afterward. Especially do we thank the fire boys who fought so faithfully. Had it not been for all of you our loss would have been greater.

We are so very thankful that no one was injured. May God bless all of you.

Farm Center Gin & Elevator Corp.  
W. Chambers, Mgr.

## AWARDED SILVER WINGS

Air Force 2nd Lt. Ralph O. Riojas, a 1956 graduate of Texas Tech, has been awarded the silver wings of an aircraft navigator in graduation exercises at Ellington AFB, San Antonio. Lt. Riojas, who received a Bachelor of Business Administration Degree from Tech, is the son of Ralph Riojas, of Ropesville.

## PARADE OF PROGRESS

Bob Wilson, of Lubbock, was a visitor in Ropes Tuesday. Bob is the publisher of the Parade of Progress, a yearbook of the South Plains.

He left with us the book published for 1957 which is neatly printed and chock full of information about the South Plains and its cities.

However, if you are to take the way Ropes is listed, one small paragraph, it would seem that we are not very important to the economy of the South Plains.

## VISITS WITH DAUGHTER

Mr. and Mrs. Shelby Evans and daughter, Vonnie, and Mr. and Mrs. Ken Evans and children visited Sunday in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bruce McGahey in Lovington, New Mexico.

Mrs. McGahey is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Shelby Evans.

## TOLLISON BEDDING COMPANY

1715 AVE. H, LUBBOCK, TEXAS  
25 YEARS EXPERIENCE

WE MAKE ANY KIND OF MATTRESS YOU WANT. YOU CAN SAVE BY HAVING YOUR OLD BEDS MADE OVER — WE RENOVATE TO YOUR SPECIFICATIONS.

COTTON MATTRESSES, OSPEDIC MATTRESSES, INNERSPRING MATTRESSES, ETC.

BYRON STEPHENSON, Representative

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DROP US A CARD

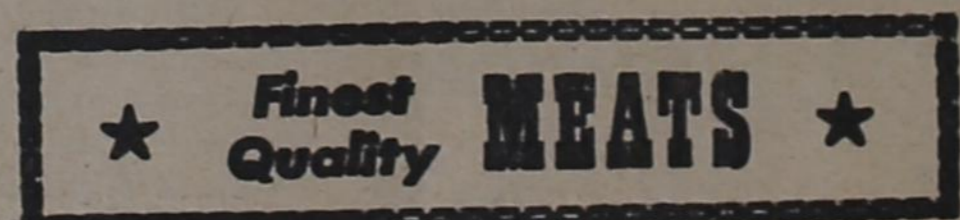
OR SEE ME WHEN I AM IN ROPES

# Ray Johnson Grocery

And Market

SPECIALS FOR FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

- Cokes, 12 bottle crt. .39
- Shortening, 3 lb. can, Shurfine. 79
- Oranges, 5 lb. bag .39
- Fresh Onions, 2 bunches .15
- Cloverlake Milk, half gal. .49
- Tide, Large Box .29
- River Rice, 2 lb. box .29



- Pork Sausage, Pinkneys, 2 lb. bag. 69
- Pork Franks, Pickneys, lb. .39
- Loin Steak, lb. .65

WE GIVE DOUBLE THRIFT STAMPS

# County Fare

By JIM & JANE REED

What's all this nonsense about "the good old days?" We can't understand why some gals are still doing things the way Grandma did back in '96—spending the hottest days of the summer steaming over their canning chores.

The "new look" in putting up your fruits and vegetables is freezing. With plastic freeze bags and boxes now available, it's a pleasant summertime job. It's easier and faster and, believe it or not, hubby will actually enjoy helping you (well, almost).

We've just finished packaging corn for "reference" next winter. This year we froze kernels and whole ears—the kernels in freeze boxes, the whole ears in bags. Each bag will hold enough to serve two people. Remember—regardless of which method you use—leave a little air space for best results.

If you don't have a freezer you can use the freezing compartment of your refrigerator or rent a locker in a cold-storage plant.

**Longer Life For Leather**  
Here's a tip passed along by a Canadian reader on how to clean leather, synthetic leather and plastic goods. Wet a Brillo soap pad slightly and rub over the leather in a circular motion. Then, using a circular motion in the opposite direction, rub the material with a soft clean cloth before it dries. This works wonders on luggage, muddy shoes, handbags and auto seat covers.

**How Does Your Garden Grow?**  
How's the weather out your way, dry? It hasn't rained in our neighborhood for the last three weeks but both our flower and vegetable gardens are still as healthy and as colorful as can be—thanks to that Kordimulch we bought this spring. This new black plastic mulch really hoards the moisture and the garden requires very little watering. It seems so nice to have big fresh flowers in the house when most people are struggling to keep their gardens alive.



**REDUCE PILES' SWELLING WITHOUT SURGERY!**  
NEW STAINLESS FORM now ALSO AVAILABLE!  
In 90% of cases of simple piles—tested by doctors—amazing Pazo ointment stopped bleeding, reduced swelling, healed cracking... shrink piles WITHOUT SURGERY! Pain was stopped or materially reduced. Pazo acts to soothe, relieve itching instantly. In tubes, also modern Suppositories at all druggists. Get Pazo today for wonderfully fast relief right away.

**INGROWN NAIL HURTING YOU? Immediate Relief!**  
A few drops of OUTGRO® bring blessed relief from tormenting pain of ingrown nail. OUTGRO® toughens the skin underneath the nail, allows the nail to be cut and thus prevents further pain and discomfort. OUTGRO® is available at all drug counters.

## 4-H NEWS

The Ropes 4-H Clubs had their annual Christmas party December 9th at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Pointer. We had invited two other clubs of the county, Pep 4-H Club and Farm Home 4-H Club. But because everyone is still so busy in the fields there were not too many there.

Clifford, Leonard and Billy Ray Martin furnished most of the entertainment with music which was really enjoyed by all present.

Refreshments of punch and cookies were served to the following:

Danny Rosser, Junior Martin, Tharon Campbell, Jimmie Lowrie, Donnie Blackman, Berrilyn Thomas, Peggy Tudor, Mary Jackson, Freda Pointer, Doris Jane Martin, Wenda Lou Lowrie, Sharon Campbell.

Those attending from Levelland were Preston Wilson, Lowell Pool, Jessie and Jan Pool, Jacquelyn Cuba, Bob Neal and Benny Neal.

Others attending were Mrs. J. W. Jackson, Mrs. Rosser, Mrs. Wilson Campbell and Rita, Ted Lowrie, Mrs. Harvey Pool and Mrs. L. Martin of Levelland, assistant county agent Daryl Coker, and the hostess, Mrs. J. C. Pointer.

The 4-H Club members presented their Adult Leaders and assistant agents with boxes of candy.

The 4-H Club members want to say again a big "thank you" to Mrs. Pointer.

**ODDS ON HIS SIDE**  
The everyday Christian has a seven to one chance over the Sunday practioner.

## MRS. WHITTEN

### BREAKS ARM

Mrs. George Whitten happened to the misfortune Sunday morning of falling and breaking her arm.

She was attending services at the Church of Christ when the accident occurred. The sidewalks in front of the church had become ice over from water from the city water tower which had run over the night before.

### ATTEND FUNERAL

#### AT CLAUDE

Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Bond and daughter, Mrs. Rosemary Knippa, attended the funeral Tuesday afternoon of Mrs. Bond's sister, Mrs. John Butler, of Claude, Texas.

## VISIT IN

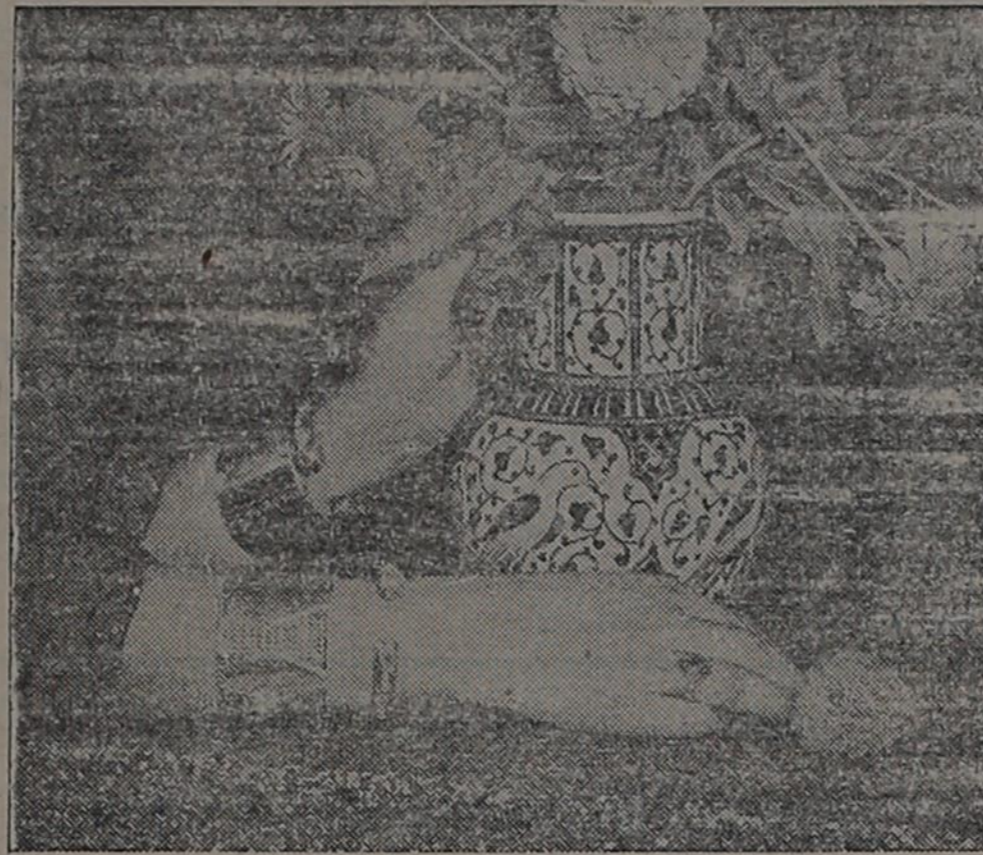
### BLUE RIDGE

Mr. and Mrs. Ulys Gregg and children, and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Edwards and son returned this week from Blue Ridge where they had been visiting in the home of Mrs. Gregg's and Mr. Edwards' parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Edwards.

Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Edwards celebrated their golden wedding anniversary last week.

The present generation pays the debts of the last generation by issuing bonds for the next generation to pay.

## For My Fair Lady



The jewelry of an Iraqi maiden may include earrings of silver and gold, some set with turquoise stones; heavy antique silver bracelets, several inches wide; silver and bead amulets alternating with coral beads and Ottoman gold coins to form an ornate necklace, and many other examples of the Iraqi craftsman's skill. Their skill and craftsmanship is the same that characterized the jewelry worn by the Queens of Ur 4500 years ago.

Traditional patterns of jewelry design include lace-like silver ornamentation and big solid silver bracelets. The Iraqi woman may wear many such bracelets on one arm and occasionally use an antique child's bracelet as a decorative clasp for long hair.

Today small children often wear the silver anklet hung with small bells and decorated with turquoise or with Karbala clay, glazed and painted blue. These are not only pretty, but the bells help the mother keep watch over the child at play.

Pendant earrings of three crescents graded in size, each hung with rows of tiny leaves are another design of the Iraqi craftsmen. Pearls and corals imported from the Persian Gulf are suspended from gold bracelets with slender chains. Other gold bracelets are formed of intricate links with the name of the owner engraved on the clasp. This jewelry of Iraq has an exotic charm and a fabled beauty like something, naturally, out of the Tales of the Arabian Nights.

# Read the Ads

## They Will Save You Money

To Get ALL the News... All the Time...

## You Need A Big State DAILY NEWSPAPER

The Fort Worth Star-Telegram  
AMON CARTER JR., President

## IS YOUR BEST BUY!

NOW ON REDUCED BARGAIN DAYS RATES

EFFECTIVE A SHORT TIME  
Daily and Sunday  
7 Days a Week

WAS ..... \$18<sup>00</sup> Per Year  
NOW ..... \$13<sup>95</sup> By Mail

Daily Without Sunday  
6 Days a Week

WAS ..... \$15<sup>00</sup> Per Year  
NOW ..... \$12<sup>60</sup> By Mail

Fill out coupon below, mail direct or hand to your nearest Home Town Agent.

NAME .....  
LOCAL ADDRESS .....  
TOWN ..... STATE .....

**Itching Torture PROMPTLY RELIEVED**  
A doctor's formula—soothing anti-septic Zemo—promptly relieves the itching, burning of Skin Rashes, Eczema, Psoriasis, Ringworm and Athlete's Foot. Zemo stops scratching and so aids healing of irritated skin.

**PULL THE PLUG ON STOMACH UPSET**  
without interrupting sleep or work!

When constipation sours your stomach, you feel lousy, headachy. Taken at bedtime, Black-Draught® is "timed" to relieve constipation first thing in morning—without harsh griping or urgency! This amazing "overnight" laxative helps sweeten sour stomach too. Then life looks sunny again! Made from pure vegetable herbs, thorough but gentle. Get Black-Draught.

**CHILDREN:** When constipation sours young digestions, get Syrup of Black-Draught. Tastes honey-sweet!

## COLD SUFFERERS

Get STANBACK, tablets or powders, for relief of COLD-DISCOMFORTS. The STANBACK prescription type formula is a combination of pain relieving ingredients that work together for FASTER RELIEF of HEADACHE, NEURALGIA and ACHING MUSCLES due to colds. STANBACK also REDUCES FEVER. SNAP BACK with STANBACK.

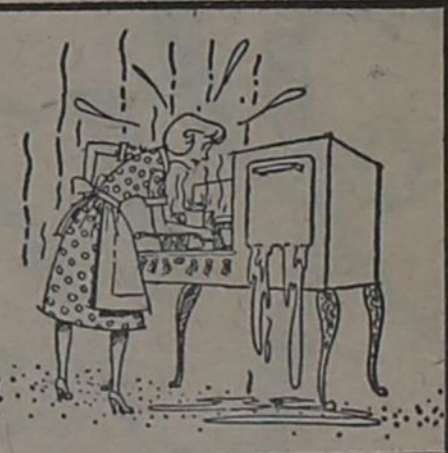
## "Sweetens Whole 'Insides', Relieves Constipation—both overnight!"

Says Mrs. Milton Kistler, Wescosville, Pa. Half-alive, headachy, when constipation sours stomach? Black-Draught® relieves constipation overnight. Helps sweeten sour stomach too. No harsh griping. Made from pure vegetable herbs. Brings thorough but gentle relief in morning. Life looks sunny again! Get Black-Draught today.

**CHILDREN:** When constipation sours children's digestion, get Syrup of Black-Draught. They love its honey-sweet taste.



Looked at your wife's stove, lately?



If you're hunting for THE gift... the "piece de resistance" that'll put you in solid clear thru 'til next Christmas... a new GAS range is your best bet. She'll thank her lucky stars for a Santa such as you, with each meal she prepares.

## GO GAS FOR GIVING

A glamorous GAS range is so completely automatic it guarantees cooking success. And it looks just as good as it cooks... streamlined beauty that gives any kitchen a "lift." As for economy, you'll reap much more than you sow—money wise—because GAS costs 5 to 8 times less than other fuels (a nice bonus for your wife's piggy bank!) Need we say more, than... see your gas appliance dealer tomorrow!

BURNER WITH A BRAIN... the last word in automatic cooking

fuel for a growing empire Pioneer Natural Gas Company

Before You Buy See the

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# The Eagles Claw

Assistant Editor ..... Joyce Dozier  
Feature Editor ..... Patsy Robertson  
Class News ..... Layoid Lowrie  
Sports, Coming Events ..... Rosine O'Neal  
Humorous Writings ..... Joyce Dozier

## COMING ATTRACTIONS

Dec. 12: Meadow Tournament Thursday night at 9:15, boys play Meadow boys.  
Dec. 17: Union, here. Boys and girls at 7:00 p.m.  
Dec. 20: Meadow, here. Boys and girls at 7:00 pm.

## SALUTING THE SENIORS

Emma Jane Christopher is the seventeen year old, red-haired daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Christopher. She has lived near Ropes all her life, and has accomplished a great deal of which Ropes is proud. Her great interest is in basketball for which she has received many honors, such as receiving honorable mention last year, being voted Most Athletic two different years, and, of course, being on the State Championship ball team last year. She has played seven years and has helped Ropes win many victories.  
Emma is both the annual and paper editor, a member of the Church of Christ, be-

longs to FHA, and takes part in all class activities.

Emma shares her hobbies, as she does everything else, with her sister, Lena. They are interested in all sports, mainly basket ball, and horseback riding.

Emma's plans are to attend Lubbock Christian College next fall.

## JUNIOR NEWS

The junior high basketball girls played Smyer and beat them, too, in the Wellman tournament on December 2. They played Meadow Thursday and it ended in a tie and had to play three more minutes. The tie score was 14 to 14, and we lost 14 to 16.

The boys played Muleshoe December 2nd, and lost 14 to 16.

The boys played Meadow December 6th and beat them 33 to 11. They played Smyer Saturday and beat them 25 to 15. The boys won the consolation trophy.

## SOPHOMORE NEWS

The sophomore class gave their oral book reports and they were pretty good but nervously given. We are looking forward to the ball games this week and hope we will beat Meadow tonight.

## 7th GRADE NEWS

We are enjoying our science very much. We have been doing experiments and have many more planned to do.

We are almost finished with our Writing and History. At mid-term we will start over again in our writing books and will have Texas geography.

Friday the 7th grade boys played the 6th grade boys in basketball. The score was 21 and 3, in favor of the 7th grade boys.

## 5th GRADE - Mrs. Kirk

Tipton Pierce, a former pupil who has been in the Seagraves school the past six weeks, has moved back to Ropes and re-entered our class this past week.

We are getting ready for Christmas. We have been making Christmas carol books, and now have four songs in it. Of course, we shall write more, but these are all we have at the present.

With our box supper money we plan to have a book case built and buy many other things.

Bobby Rowland went hunting last weekend, but the big game he brought home was one lone rabbit. Better luck next time, Bobby.

Carol Conatser helped to celebrate the birthday of her grandfather, Mr. Charlie Conatser, of Levelland.

Mary and Jeannette Jackson spent the weekend visiting their grandmother, Mrs. Conner, of Lubbock.

Our teacher, Mrs. Kirk, visited friends in Lubbock

and Littlefield during the weekend.

Reporter, Diane Collins.

## 4th GRADE NEWS

The 4B's are busy getting ready for Christmas. The following made 100 in spelling last week: Shirley Odom, Lynda Snider, Donnie Blackman, Connie Cruz, Berilyn Thomas, Peggy Tudor, Royce Cavitt and Robert Flores.

## 2B - Mrs. Redford

We are fixing our room up for Christmas. We have our tree and are going to decorate it soon.

Most of our class is back in school now and feeling much better, including the teacher.

We are going to have a Christmas program and want all our parents to come Friday, December 20th.

—o—

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It is not the intention of the Plainsman to cast erroneous reflection on the character of any individual, firm, corporation or group, and if through error we should, and same is called to our attention, we will gladly make correction.

"We Hew to the Line—Let the Chips Fall Where They May".

**CITATION BY PUBLICATION TO THE STATE OF TEXAS**

The Unknown Heirs and the Unknown Legal Representatives of J. C. George, deceased, and all persons claiming any interest in land under deed heretofore given to J. C. George of Hockley County, Texas, as grantee, said deed recorded in Volume 32, page 176, Deed Records of Hockley County, Texas,

Issued this the 10th day of December, 1957.

Given under my hand and seal of said Court, at office in Levelland, Texas, this the 10th day of December A. D., 1957.

Ruby Beebe,  
District Clerk,  
72nd Judicial District  
Court,  
Hockley County, Texas.

(Seal)

**MEETING OF HALE-AKIN COMMITTEE**

Supt. O. V. Fuller attended a meeting of the Hale-Akins Committee in the court house at Levelland on Monday night.

The object of the meeting was to organize a study course. The course will include standards, services, special programs, finance, teacher supply and school construction.

Fred Paxton, of Levelland, was made permanent chairman; Mrs. Edwards, Smyer, vice president; T. O. Petty, recording secretary.

The first study meeting will be held in January.

Members of the committee attending from Ropes community were E. J. Abney, H. S. Abston, Terry Redford and O. V. Fuller.

**Negro Enrollment Up**  
The enrollment at the Ropes colored school has showed a pickup in enrollment, the number of pupils now being forty.

At the present time the school has but one teacher, but Mr. Fuller stated that if the attendance held up a second teacher would be employed next year.

**Assembly Program**  
The assembly program was held Wednesday. The principle speaker was Bill Boedeker, of Levelland, who spoke on law as a profession.

**Band News**  
The Ropes band, under the direction of Boyd Lee Montgomery, will attend a work shop meeting in Lubbock at Texas Tech on Friday of this week.

The band is making steady progress and is an aggregation that the folks of the community can be proud of.

**New Notary**  
Mrs. Patterson, school secretary, has qualified as a notary public and will assist J. W. Berry in notarizing school papers.

Mr. Fuller stated there is so much of this kind of work that having two notaries on tap is going to be a real convenience.

According to announcement this week the Ropes schools will close their 1957-58 session on May 23.

Also, unless there is more bad weather which forces closing of the schools, two days will be taken off for Easter.

**ROPES GIRLS TROMP MEADOW**

It wasn't an upset when the Ropes basketball girls defeated Meadow girls, 49-42, — it was expected.

This took place in the Meadow basketball tournament, which was recessed until today (Thursday) when play will be resumed and continued for three days.

Jean Tussy sank 21 points for the Ropes High, and Linda Hendricks was credited with 20 points for Meadow High.

In the tournament, which opens Thursday, the Ropes boys will play the Meadow boys at 9:15 Thursday night.

**THIS WEEK IN AUSTIN**

By Preston Smith

Looking back at the second special session, one thing stands out. While legislators were involved in considering how to keep paratroopers off Texas school grounds, the second special session may have been the first such governmental body to take concrete steps toward keeping up with Russian technological advances.

In the midst of confusion concerning the anti-troop bill, the House completed final action on a concurrent resolution instructing the commission on high education to co-ordinate a statewide program to study the feasibility of state encouragement for graduate study in mathematics and physical sciences.

This resolution asks that a report of the study's findings be made at the next Legislature.

Prompting this action was an address by Dr. Frederick Eby, mentioned recently in this column, for his startling disclosures that Texas schools are offering anywhere near the scientific courses of study available to Russian children.

Dr. Eby's talk brought about other observations, also, which prove interesting to most of us connected with the special sessions.

First of all, it is strange that neither Texas school superintendents, P-TA groups or classroom teacher leaders, school board members—the groups so active in the Capital just a few months ago when the teacher pay raises were being debated — none of these people have spoken for or against the two measures that have affected their school systems as seriously, if not more seriously, than pay raises. While integration, anti-troop laws and other points of real concern to Texas public schools were being discussed, very little in the way of information or thought was produced from the very people who have most of the facts dealing with this legislation.

In checking with several lawmakers, a survey showed that most of them hadn't gotten any letters, cards or phone calls on the anti-troop bill or the other school bills. A typical reply was: "I have not been contacted by one single letter or telephone call by any of those people on the bills before the Legislature now. I'd really like to have their views."

Senator Fly of Victoria summed it up this way: "I don't know where the school people are now, but rather than fight over their personal benefits, they ought to be down here fighting for their schools."

**IDALOU, ROPESVILLE DIVIDE TWIN-BILL**

Idalou and Ropesville split a basketball doubleheader at Idalou Friday night of last week, the Idalou boys winning, 51-45, and the Ropes girls taking a 53-37 verdict.

Idalou held a 26-24 half-time lead in the boys game, but neither team could score in the first four minutes of the third quarter. Idalou managed five points during the eight-minute period; Ropes, only two.

Ken Weaver had 13 points for Idalou, while Larry Rogers had 12 and Jimmy May, 10. Troy Witherspoon of Ropes, however, was the leading scorer of the night with 16.

Jean Tussy, with 21, and Emma Christopher, with 20, led the Ropes girls, while Betty Motley and Barbara Bramlett had 11 each for Idalou. Ropes led at half-time, 29-20.

**W. O. DRAKE IN HOSPITAL**

W. O. Drake, we are told, is back in a Lubbock hospital where he is being treated for peptic ulcers, high blood pressure and complications.

It is stated that he is showing some improvement.

FULLER ATTENDED

**RETURN TO RETURNS TO**

O. V. Larence, who has spent the past several month here employed in Doc's Garage, this week moved with his wife back to their home in Greenville.

Mrs. Larence is a sister of Mrs. Whitehead and Mrs. Cotton Cavitt.

**J. P. O'CONNOR HAS MEAT PROCESSING PLANT NOW OPEN**

J. P. O'Connor, of Levelland, was in Ropes Wednesday, and left an ad with the Plainsman announcing that he and C. R. Smiley opened a meat processing plant in Levelland where you can buy choice meats, beef and pork at wholesale prices. Also, custom curing and custom killing, scald, scrape or skin hogs. They will also buy cattle.

This new firm is located on North Avenue H, one block north of Highway 116.

**JUDGE P. WILLIAMS HERE WEDNESDAY**

County Judge Paul Williams, of Levelland, was a pleasant and appreciated visitor in Ropes on Wednesday afternoon of this week.

Paul says that unless unforeseen circumstances arise he will be a candidate for re-election to the office of county judge. Paul has served a four-year term, and is making an outstanding record, both as a judge and an executive.

**BILL BOEDEKER SPEAKS AT SCHOOL WEDNESDAY**

Bill Boedeker, Levelland attorney and former resident of Ropes, was the featured speaker at the school assembly on Wednesday of this week.

Bill had as his theme, "The Law as a Profession".

After delivering the address he invited anyone who cared to, to ask a question.

One boy asked: "Can you put a boy under seventeen in jail?"

Boedeker told the questioner that any boy could be placed in jail pending the disposal of his case by the juvenile officer.

It has been a popular idea that boys and girls under 17 are immune to the law. This is a mistake. Minors can now, by state law, be fined and jailed for traffic offenses.

**SUNDAY VISITORS**

Sunday visitors in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Ivy were her daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Charles D. Thomas and son, Davey, of Pasadena; another daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Harmon Wilson and children of Levelland; Mrs. Kay Lincoln, also of Levelland; Mr. and Mrs. Mansfield Thomas and daughters, and Mr. and Mrs. Bob Thomas, all of Ropesville.

Charles Thomas and family also visited in the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Thomas, while here.

**ROPESVILLE SPLITS WITH ROOSEVELT**

Roosevelt and Ropesville split a close basketball double-header here Tuesday night, the visiting girls taking a 43-42 victory with the host boys getting a 48-43 verdict.

Joy Williams and Anne Jones each tossed in 17 points to lead the Roosevelt team to victory, while Lena Christopher had 17 and Jean Tussy 15.

Troy Witherspoon sparked the Eagles to their win with 15 points, while Johnny Valentine had 12. Jerry Weaver led Roosevelt with 14 points and Jerry Hill added 12.

**SERIES OF LOCAL CHILDREN'S PICTURES TO BE TAKEN FREE**

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There Is No Obligation Tuesday, December 17th, is the big day for the picture taking of your youngsters! The Plainsman is having pictures taken of all children who are brought by their parents or other guardian to the Mrs. L. Hughes residence between 10 AM and 5 PM absolutely free of charge.

The Plainsman wants a picture of your child to print in its forthcoming feature, "Citizens of Tomorrow", a series of photographic studies of local children. The more we get the better the feature will be, so the cooperation of the mothers and fathers is urged.

There is absolutely no charge or obligation for taking the pictures. Parents don't even have to be a subscriber to the Plainsman nor even a reader. You do not have to purchase pictures either.

Appointments may be made by calling Mrs. Dorothy Martin, Ropesville. Phone No. 3371.

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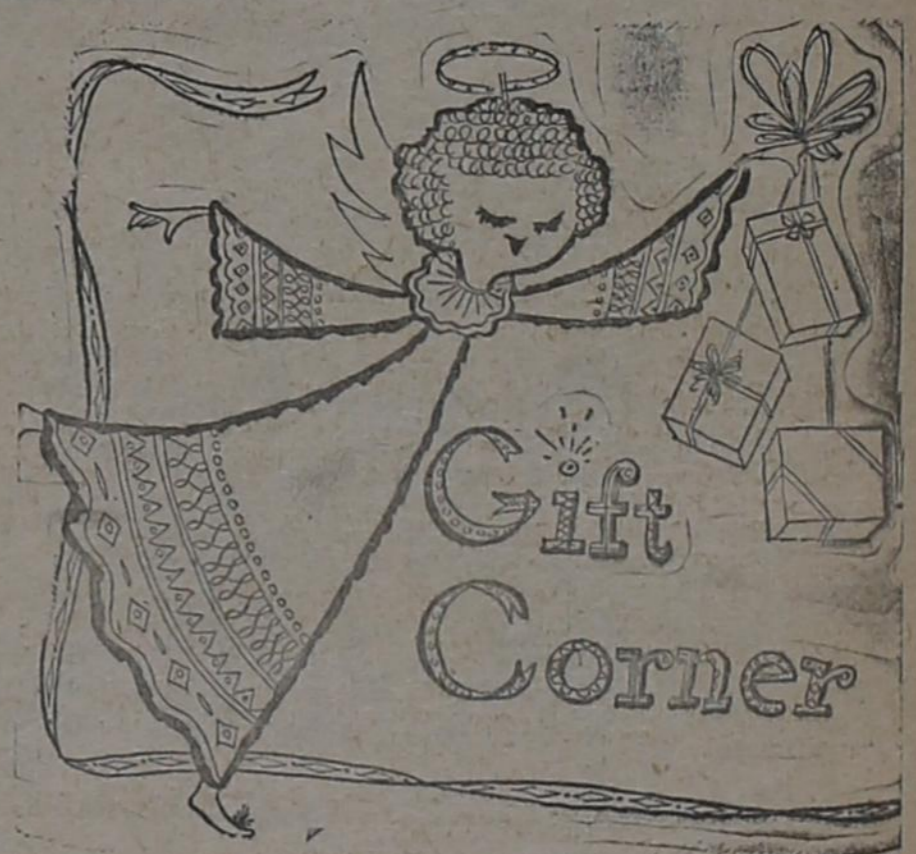
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