

CHRISTMAS ISSUE

The News Review Circulates in Three Counties—Hamilton, Erath and Bosque—45 Years of Service.

The Hico News Review

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"Merry Christmas,

Yours truly,

—SANTA CLAUS"

The Night Before Christmas at Station 10

By DENNIS H. STOVALL

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JEFF THARP, district superintendent for the Red River Power Company, hung up the telephone receiver with a bang. Quin Walden, who stood by, waiting for final orders before going home for Christmas Eve, knew by the scowl on the chief's weathered face that somewhere there was trouble.

"Something is wrong out at Station Ten," Mr. Tharp snapped testily. "Sorry, Quin, but you'll have to run up there and get the trouble fixed before you quit. Farmers in Green Cove are without light, and on Christmas Eve, too!"

"I'll go!" the young "trouble-shooter" promptly answered, buttoning his leather coat, and raising the warm, fleeced collar around his neck. A cold December wind howled outside. The prospect of an eight-mile ride on his motor bicycle through a winter storm was anything but pleasant. Yet it was all a part of the day's work to Quin Walden.

"It won't be necessary for you to report at the office when you return," said Tharp. Keep tab of your extra time. The bookkeeper will mark it down in the morning. So long! And a pleasant journey." The chief grinned and waved a big hand.

Quin drew on a pair of thick driving mittens and pulled a woolen cap over his ears. Two minutes later he slung a repair kit from his shoulders and hauled a motorcycle from its shelter near the office. Though it lacked a few minutes of being six p. m., a murky darkness enveloped the town, made all the more dense by the whirling snow. Street lights blinked dimly.

"Trouble Shooter" Off With a Roar

With a wild clatter the eager little motor started at the first kick of Quin's foot on the pedal. The "trouble shooter" was off with a roar. In less than half an hour the speeding motorcycle left the paved streets, and bored through the dense blackness of a country road. Its headlight scarcely penetrated the thick gloom, but Quin could have found the way to Station Ten blindfolded. He had made the run out there more times than he cared to count—yet seldom on a colder night than this. The stiff, frigid wind bit icily at his cheeks, and the sleety coating on the road, with the smother of snow, made the going treacherous. These things, however, did not bother the "trouble shooter;" they were an accepted part of his job. But to have an old chum turn against him—

pass him up—and forget him—well, that was different.

A few miles out, he left the road and turned into a little-used trail, the shortcut to Porcupine Ridge, on whose bleak summit Station Ten was located. There were short curves and dangerous turns, but the "trouble shooter" sped on through the blinding murk with scarcely a pause.

Finally the flickering ray of the headlamp revealed the ghostly steel skeleton of the transformer station. Quin hurtled across the barren, snow-piled yard, and ran in under the platform. The wind shrieked across the high ridge and whistled through the tall structure.

By aid of his flashlight he found the ladder, which was kept securely locked and chained to one of the steel posts to prevent any except company employes from reaching the upper platform. The eight transformers, all of them connected to high voltage power lines, were not safe playthings.

Blown Fuse

Quin set up the ladder hurriedly, and after whipping his benumbed hands to and fro a number of times, to start the sluggish blood flowing, climbed to the "roost." Reaching the metal floor, he used his flashlight to grope his way forward. He proceeded with the trained electrician's meticulous caution and soon discovered the trouble—a "blown fuse" on a farm line. Quin gave utterance to a surprised ejaculation when he noted the number; it was the line that supplied electric current for the XX-Bar ranch.

Bitter reflections were started again on the "trouble shooter's" uneasy mind. In younger days he and Thad Burnett were inseparable companions. They shared the same games, the same hobbies, the same occupations. Both were "radio bugs" at a time when to own a feeble crystal set was the topmost height of attainment. Then they built a one-tube instrument for greater distance. As partners in a common interest they solved the riddle of various "hook-ups" and became experts at radio receiving. They went on higher into the study of electricity, and this past summer Quin

was given the job of "trouble shooter" of the country lighting lines by the power company. Thad, too, wanted the job. When Jeff Tharp retained Quin for Saturday and holiday work, Thad was angry. Then a decided coldness came between them. They were chums no longer. Tonight Thad was giving a party at the XX-Bar ranch, which was owned by his uncle. A number of town friends were invited, but Quin was not among the favored ones.

On With the Christmas Party

Quin opened the switch on the dead line, removed the blown fuse, and snapped a new one in place. When the current was cut in again, the glowing lamp assured the "trouble shooter" that the XX-Bar ranch house had "juice" in plenty.



"The Christmas Party!" Quin hissed the words through chattering teeth.

"On with the Christmas party!" Quin ironically exclaimed. "Though I was not invited—and can't be there—I hope the others will have a good—"

He broke off abruptly. Mingled with the shrieking of the north wind came a loud thud and a clatter as something fell to the ground.

Quin went over and blinked his flash light along the edge of the platform. The ladder was blown over. Black space lay between him and the snow-covered earth 25 feet below. It required several minutes for him to fully grasp the seriousness of this apparently slight mishap. He felt certain he could shin down one of the steel supporting posts of the transformer tower. But when he had closed his kit bag, and made ready to descend, he found it impossible to reach

any of the posts. He would have started dropping to the ground had the snow been deeper. Such a drop he feared, might result in a broken ankle.

He was marooned—stranded in the air-biting, freezing air it was that alone had chilled him to the bone. He trapped round and round, in a desperate effort to keep warm.

More than an hour dragged by—a long dreadful hour it was for the stranded "trouble shooter." Several times he was on the verge of dropping over the edge, but each time he stayed the pulse, hoping for a safer way. One day he cut the switch that connected the XX-Bar ranch line. And for that brief length of time darkness must have reigned again in the big ranch house where the party—

Freezing in the Tower

"The Christmas party!" Quin hissed the words through chattering teeth. By this time the party was under way. Thad and the others were making merry down there, while he stayed up in the tower and froze.

Then he found himself speculating. If he let the ranch line stay open—and the XX-Bar house dark—they would get alarmed and call up the division superintendent again. Which might lead to an investigation—some time before morning! By that time the marooned "trouble shooter" would be frozen stiff.

No, he must find some other way. Once again he cut out the switch and darkened the line—then brought it in again.

"I'll use the code. Thad may catch it—and read my signal!"

On the instant he began repeating the code letters, "Q-T," over and over. This was their own private call, and one they many times had used in signalling messages back and forth. Though he had a means of being assured whether it had been caught, he followed it up with a brief S. O. S. "Stranded—Station—Help! Quin!"

Open and shut—open and shut went the switch. On and off, on and off went the lights on the line, in irregular, spasmodic pauses that must have made some country folks wonder what

strange freak had taken possession of the current. The "trouble shooter" himself was beset with anxiety—and the fear that Thad and the other merry-makers would attribute the blinking antics to the wintry gale.

Kept Right on With the Signal

Yet he kept right on with the signal—giving the "Q-T" call and the message a second time, till at length his benumbed fingers scarcely had the strength to operate the switch. Black darkness enveloped the tower—a howling, shrieking darkness through which the snow whirled in a blinding maze.

As the minutes passed, and there came no evident sign of a response to his call, the "trouble shooter's" hope almost died. He began to fear the message had gone unheeded. Anyhow, it was too much to expect of Thad Burnett. Thad was no longer his friend. Thad could have no interest in one who had—

His dejected musings were interrupted by the appearance of a blurred, blinking light on the murky gloom. When Quin watched, with strained, eager eyes, he saw the light become a close-set, moving pair of glowing eyes which he knew were the headlamps of a motor car. Then a muffled droning rose above the shrieking howls of the storm. An automobile showed up at the head of the ridge road and pushed across the snow-piled yard toward the tower. A few moments later it halted under the platform. Three heavily-coated figures got out. The ladder was hoisted.

The "trouble-shooter," no longer able to stand on his feet, slumped to the edge of the platform, when he heard a familiar voice shout from below: "Quin—Quin! I got your S. O. S. Hold on—just a minute longer—and we'll bring you down!"

When Quin Walden roused to full consciousness he was lying on a leather couch in the comfortable glow of a big wood fire of the XX-Bar ranch house. Thad was bent over him, smiling close into his eyes—and offering him a cup of hot tea. A dozen other boys, guests at the party, were in the room. "I'm sorry you didn't get your invitation," Thad declared regretfully. "We had one prepared—along with the others—but uncle failed to mail it, by an oversight, and I knew nothing of it till tonight—"

"That's all right, Thad!" the "trouble shooter" interjected, raising his hand. "I'm glad—I'm glad that you answered my call!" He was too glad to say any more, for he knew that Thad—good old Thad—was "on the level" and still his friend.

Christmas Reflections—Whence Comes the Kindler Feeling?

By J. H. LOWRY

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AS the Holy Anniversary approaches, man is prone to pause at the hour for retiring, peer into the grate of expiring embers and reflect. He thinks of the coming Christmas, and he asks himself, "What is it?"

The mind runs back to childhood's happy days, when the dews of innocence were upon the brow and eternal sunshine was in the heart; to the long rows of stockings, empty on Christmas Eve when the children were tucked away in bed, too full of excitement and anxiety to fall at once into restful sleep, but gloriously full on Christmas morn when the little women and men awoke at the first clatter of the barn-yard cocks. He readily recalls that about this time in the long ago a new twinkle came into the eyes of the children, that their movements quickened, that an invisible something touched the features of joy into their faces and the music of gladness came into their voices. And he also recalls that a change came over the spirit of the dreams of the older people; even over the fathers and mothers who were bowed under the problems of the workaday world that faced them daily—problems that had turned their smiles into frowns and made of life a dull routine, a ceaseless grind that had deepened the wrinkles on their brows and driven the lustre from their eyes. He recalls that the voices of the good old people lost their accustomed harshness, that their tones were gentler, and that a spirit of greater forbearance, kindness and good cheer stole into their lives. They turned from a hard routine of life that had chilled their better natures to cultivate a deeper friendliness with their neighbors and to pet and humor their children. They made the tasks of the children easier, they were less exacting of those over whom they held dominion, they passed slight infractions of their rigid rules of decorum unnoticed, and in the yielding they seemed to find joy.

What was it? Christmas!

It's the same now. Many of us have said we would pay no attention to Christmas this year. We have problems that challenge our most serious consideration and our supreme efforts. We

have promised a loyalty to these problems that a Christmas season could not shake. We have mapped out tasks calling for all of our time. We have need of all our resources, and we have closed our purses against any demands that Christmas time might make. We have philosophied, and reached the conclusion that such expenditures are needless and a wanton waste.

But Christmas comes on. And why this desire to turn from our weighty affairs and give attention to the "nothings?"—the things that give no pain or profit? Whence comes this kindler feeling toward all mankind? Why do we let serious problems rest and play with the children. Why is it that purse-strings are loosening; why instead of trying to add to our little store of cash do we want to spend a few dimes on others? The same old answer: It's Christmas. We can't get away from the fact that Christmas time is a good time. Why?

Back of all our beautiful customs, sacred memories and benevolent impulses there is a Power, restlessness, unceasing and undiscouraged. It is God imminent in men. In the deepest heart of man there is a spirit of the same nature as the spirit of Jesus Christ, who gave all for others.

One blessed night Heaven came down to earth and the magazines of the skies poured out their glory upon Jordan hills. And as the evening star held its radiant torch over the hallowed scene the angelic choir chanted Heaven's message to earth—"Peace, Good Will."

The years will roll on. Greed will live in the hearts of men; the grim accidents of history will discourage, and the wrath of animalism will darken the visage of man created in the image of his Maker, but the spirit of Him who came to enthroned Peace and Good Will will give to the recurring seasons their perennial joy and hope, and its ultimate triumph is certain.

Christmas Children

Philadelphia, the City of Brotherly Love, came forward a few years ago with a new Christmas custom that breathes the real spirit of the glad season and at once takes the lead for novelty as well as appropriateness. In this great city there is an organization known as the Children's Aid Society. Realizing that the home in which the laughter of children is not heard cannot enjoy Christmas to the fullest extent, this society makes a business of supplying childless homes with children for

glad season. Of course the little ones are handsomely dressed by their benefactors, and have everything in the way of Christmas toys and Christmas dinners that their hearts could desire. They are given much, but they give much more in return. They give laughter, song, sunshine and innocence that yield money in the life-cups of their Christmas parents and restore the gladness of youth.

Sadly armed are many of the childless rich with their Christmas visitors that they set about at once to make the children a permanent part of their homes and lives. Adoption papers are frequently the second part of the "Christmas Baby" story.

Santa on Christmas Eve—Not Before

Before I forget it I want to protest once more against the latter-day practice of having Christmas before Christmas comes. I was taught that good old Santa Claus lives in the frozen regions of the North and never ventures away from home except on Christmas Eve, but when the shades of night have gathered on December 24 and been pinned back with stars, he harnesses his team of reindeer, loads his sleigh with all kinds of toys, fruits and sweetmeats and visits every home in the world before the first faint streaks of purple flash along the eastern horizon on Christmas morning, descending the chimneys and flues, and filling the stockings of the kiddies with beautiful presents, I want to keep on believing this, and want it taught the kiddies throughout all the ages. For myself, I refuse to be disillusioned, but fear some modern practices may create doubt in the minds and hearts of the children. It's too pretty a picture to be marred by commercialism. Of recent years, the practice has become common of having Santa stroll over the country several weeks before Christmas, and actually exhibit himself in the daytime. As a consequence Christmas is over before Christmas comes, and the kiddies, having seen Santa in the flesh, lose faith in his ability to descend every chimney



The angelic choir chanted Heaven's message to earth: "Peace, Good Will."

the holiday season. Agents of the society visit the homes of wealthy people who are not blessed with children and take orders for "Christmas Children," just as the city salesman takes orders for groceries. A boy or girl, or both, or a number of each, with eyes and hair to match the fancy of the "renter" are supplied on application. The children go from the flats of poverty to the mansions of the rich to spend the

and flue in the world in one night. Let me say again to the kiddies that every Santa Claus seen prior to the night of December 24 is an imposter. It's fine to have a big Christmas trade, but cold commercialism must keep its unholy hands off of Christmas and Santa Claus.

About Christmas Giving

Christmas, like all other days and institutions, has its problems. A season of gift-giving calls for gifts, and the great question confronting most people at Christmas time is, "what shall I give?" Sensitive natures, it is feared, will be humiliated by gifts of value, while to those more materially-minded gifts of trifles may bring the secret charge of penuriousness. In my humble opinion a gift, if it goes beyond a card or a flower, should be something that the receiver can use in some way. Articles of dress that will never be worn, or table decorations that will never find a place on the table can have no higher classification than waste. A pretty card appropriately inscribed is infinitely better. The foolishness of much of our Christmas giving was so splendidly told in a poem I read several years ago from the pen of an unknown author that I am reproducing it here. In this pretty little poem there is more than catchy rhyme—there is fine reason:

"She needed pots and a new floor broom,
And window shades for the children's room;
Her sheets were down to a threadbare three.
And her table cloths were a sight to see.
She wanted scarfs and a towel rack
And a good plain, useful dressing sack,
Some kitchen spoons, and a box for bread,
A pair of scissors and sewing thread.
She hoped some practical friend would stop
And figure out that she'd like a mop,
Or a bath-room rug, or a lacquered tray,
Or a few plain plates for every day.
She hoped and hoped, and she wished a lot,
But these, of course, were the things she got:

A cut-glass vase and a bonbonniere,
A china thing for receiving hair,
Some oyster forks, a manicure set,
A shafing dish and a cellaret,
A boudoir cap and a drawn-work mat,
And a sterling this and a sterling that;
A gilt-edged book of lofty theme,
And fancy bags until she longed to scream;
Some curling tongs and a powder puff
And a bunch of other useless stuff.
But though she inwardly raged, she wrote
To all of her friends the self-same note,
And said to each of the damfool host—
"Just how did you guess what I needed
most?"

While on the subject of Christmas—
(Continued on Page 4, Column 5)

Current Comment—Making Twelve Months Out of Ten

By J. H. LOWRY

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December

IN the old Roman calendar December was the last month of the year. It gets its name from the Latin decem (ten), there being only ten months in the year at that time. Just why two more months were added I am somewhat in doubt, but I do know the addition has worked a great hardship on people who have to pay grocery and dry goods bills and meet installment notes on automobiles, radios and phonographs. Half-baked economists may tell you that it has proved a blessing in keeping down unemployment by providing jobs for bill collectors, but personally I prefer unemployment to bill collectors. I know that I am much happier when I am unemployed than when five or six bill collectors are chasing me. It is quite probable, however, that members of the Roman Senate were paid

by the month, and when they wanted more pay they were afraid to raise their wages lest they be defeated at the next election, so they hit upon the wise scheme of making twelve months out of ten. After further study of the matter, I incline to the opinion that I was wrong in charging the Roman Senate with the change. Old Augustus Caesar probably made it. He wasn't any too popular with the soldiers, and had to do something to cinch the soldier vote. With October the last month of the year, the soldiers were away fighting when Christmas came on, and were as mad as Tucker. Augustus added the two months, which made Christmas come later when the weather was too cold and too wet for fighting. This put the soldiers at home for Christmas pudding and Christmas egg-nog, and from that day all of them swore by Augustus.

I may do some bad things this Christmas time. I may dance a little, may eat more than my share of the Christmas dinner, and if I get an invitation to an egg-nog party I may be strong enough to decline; but there is one thing I will not do. I will not write the holy day "Xmas." From the little studying of algebra that I did I learned that X represented an unknown quantity; furthermore I don't want to leave the impression that Jesus Christ couldn't write His name and had to sign with a cross mark.

Paradoxical as it may seem or sound, the child that will have the poorest Christmas is the child that will have the most. It is a question of which is most deserving of pity, the child that has nothing or the child that has too much. I am inclined to the opinion that the latter is the greatest sufferer. The petted child of wealthy, foolish parents al-

ready has every kind of a toy it's made, and so much sweetmeats and fruits that he can't eat any of them. He can't think of anything he wants and worries his mother trying to get him to think of something for him. It is rather a painful feeling to want something, but a far more horrible condition to have everything already, leaving nothing to be wanted.

Age and viewpoint have much to do with one's attitude toward labor. Last Halloween a boy of my acquaintance, who is about 14 years old, carried a neighbor's gate, which weighed fully 100 pounds, 100 rods and dumped it in a ditch. If that boy keeps on living he will reach the age of fifty some day and when he does I wonder how much he would puff and blow and cuss if he had to carry a gate of his own, weighing fifty pounds, a distance of one hundred yards. After all, perhaps labor is only a matter of viewpoint. If it is merely a part of a dull routine, a sort of cruel concatenation that kills dreams, it taxes the muscles, and is drudgery, but if it is surrounded with the mists of imagination it makes of drudgery a thrilling adventure.

The Postmaster General says letter postage must be advanced from 2 to 3 cents if the postal service is ever made self-sustaining. This means that in a short time all letters must carry a 3-cent stamp. Well, the law of compensation can be found even in as cruel a blow as this. It will cost our creditors more to dun us.

Some people believe that wealth takes precedence over everything, always and everywhere. They are dead wrong. Recently I heard a fair young thing say that even beauty could never stand a ghost of a show against wealth. She was sadly in error. If you doubt what I say, make a fair test. Suppose a very rich and crabbed old sister and a radiant damsel of eighteen summers with cheeks as lovely as the ripe wine sap and form as perfect as the angelus desired the assistance of a man in crossing a branch; which one do you suppose would get across without soil to her slippers, and which one would be left to wade the mud?

Looking over the census returns of the States of this glorious nation, I find that three of them aren't fit to be called States. Nevada and Wyoming, with less than 200,000 people, and Delaware with not many more, ought to be demoted into counties or precincts and they can raise enough people to hold an election and put out a fire at the same time.

An Eastern woman, despite the lessons taught by the Master at the tree-

of Babel, believes all races and peoples can dwell together in love, peace and unity. She wants to show that this is possible, and will attempt to do so by a concrete example. She says she will adopt fifteen children, of the same age, representing all races and nationalities, and raise them under the same roof. I am sure this woman is a lady of philanthropic impulses, but she is courting trouble and will get more than her share. The Mexican will start an insurrection before the family is out of kilt. The Jew will soon have all the money, which may turn the other fourteen into anarchists, crying for an equal division. The American will fool away most of his time talking politics and then insist that the negro do most of the chores. The rollicking Irishman will cut off the Chiaman's queue; the German will consume more than his share of beer, and all the other nationalities will pound the Englishman because he can't see the point to their jokes. The good woman will land in the asylum for the insane, and most of her adopted family will probably find the way to the penitentiary.

Of course we can't have Christmas at the time, yet I know a lot of people in my neck of the woods whose stockings are filled with pretty things every day in the year.

In giving advice you must be very careful. If possible, first, find out what the person seeking your advice wants to do, then so advise. Not long since a young man whom I had always liked called me to one side and told me he wanted me to give him some advice. He went on to say that he had always looked upon me as one of his best friends, and was sure I was deeply concerned in his welfare and happiness and would take a deep interest in a matter that was bothering him. He tickled my vanity and caused me to feel very important by saying he knew I was a man of sound judgment, and that he knew of no other whose opinion he would prize so highly. He then in trembling voice told he was considering the very important step of getting married. He said he was deeply in love with a rare and radiant maiden, and that her love for him was just as deep and pure, and he wanted me to tell him what he should do. Approaching the matter in a very sensible, practical way, I first asked the young fellow about his savings. He confessed that he had only thirty-five dollars in the bank. The next question was about his salary, which was just about sufficient to pay his board and laundry bills and leave a few dollars for clothing; and no prospect of an immediate raise. Duly considering the young man's financial condition and the high cost of living, I told my friend that he should postpone the nuptial event until his savings were larger and his salary sufficient to meet reasonable family expenses. Three days later the young man and his little turtle dove were joined in matrimony's holy bonds, and since our confidential talk he hardly speaks to me

and seemingly looks upon me as a cruel enemy who has done him a great wrong. My experience in this unfortunate affair has caused me to praise the judgment of a West Texas friend in the matter of giving advice. This friend and another man were partners in the cattle business, and his partner went to Mexico to see about selling a large drove of cattle. When the partner reached Mexico he found the price of cattle very low and going lower, so he wired my friend whether he should sell at the price offered. The reply was, "take one more drink and use your best judgment."

The only tilt I have ever had with the clergy was on the question of lying. On this question I am somewhat of a liberal, while it appears to me that my pastor and other good ministers are radical. The ministers say we must tell the truth every time, even though the heavens occasionally take a tumble; I contend that when a lie serves humanity better than the truth it is all right to lie. I have lied many times to sick people, telling them they looked so well, when in truth they looked as if they were headed for the grave on a straight track. Wasn't that the thing to do? As a newspaper writer I have written of many a fellow who had frequently strayed from the royal road of right, as a good man, when life's golden bowl had been broken and his loved ones were in sorrow over his demise; and I have praised the beauty of brides who were red-haired, freckle-faced and bow-legged. Anything wrong in that? Rahab was a woman of Jericho's underworld. She sheltered the Hebrew spies who were sent to look Jericho over; and Rahab lied in order to save the lives of the spies. Rahab's life was spared, she was adopted into the family of the people of God, and the list of her illustrious descendants includes David, the sweet singer, Solomon, the wise, and Jesus Christ, the Saviour. Seems to me that Rahab was rewarded for saving the lives of the Hebrews by telling a lie.

The Year Is Closing

This is the last installment of Current Comment for the year that is now with us. Nineteen Hundred and Thirty nears the end of its journey, and with a few more risings and settings of the sun will live only as a memory. Death to years is what death is to human beings—a passing from the stage of action to make room for other actors; they, like human beings, are remembered for their contributions to the world and their influence upon life. The man who contributes liberally to human happiness, who renders large, unselfish service, is remembered kindly, because his life bettered the lots of those it touched; the man whose touch is hurtful, whose words wound, and whose deeds touch sorrows into hearts is gladly forgotten or admitted to memory as an unwelcome guest.

Man has his standards for judging years, just as he has his standards for

judging men; and his standards are not always true. Men who give large service to the world are frequently misunderstood, and are despised because they look beyond the hour, and their deeds and motives are misunderstood. Time dispels the clouds of error that darkened the vision of those who misjudged them, and then tall monuments are erected in honor of the toilers who went to their graves condemned by the standards.

Nineteen Hundred and Thirty has ministered abundantly to the material prosperity to the people of this section, and, for a time at least, will not have a golden setting in the galaxy of years. The seasons have not been well-timed, the elements have been unkind, and plagues of destroyers have been visited upon the land. The yield of the country's great staple crop was far below expectations, the prices below the cost of production, and tillers of the soil have but slight reward for their toil. The merchants' trade has been light, and instead of money in the bank, they have goods upon their shelves, notes in their safes, and unpaid accounts on their ledgers. The professional man and the artisan have fared no better. Large factories have been shut down, or operated only a day or two each week; great stores have reduced their sales forces, leaving thousands without the means of earning a living. As man counts the years good or bad, the year now drawing to a close has not been a good year, and for a time it will not be a year pleasant to dwell upon.

But perhaps if we look higher than our bank accounts, our houses and lands, we may be forced even now to admit it is the best year given man since the Divine hand turned chaos and utter darkness into order and light. People are better than ever before and righteousness is more strongly entrenched in the hearts of men. Science has witnessed some of its greatest triumphs, official wickedness has been routed from many cities and States, and corruption now dwells in fear in dark places whereas it once walked proudly on broad avenues. Ways to better health have been pointed out, progress has been made toward the cure of disease hitherto believed incurable, and the ties of brotherhood have been strengthened. I believe that it can be truly said, although we are yet far from the ideal life, that we have made a year's journey in that direction. The white wings of peace have been spread over our land, and, despite war rumors, the love of peace is so strongly entrenched in the hearts of our people that we almost feel we can safely say that we will war no more. The year's failures will soon be forgotten, but the year's triumphs will live on and on, with torch ever burning, to light the way to perfect life.

And now, as the fires of Nineteen Hundred and Thirty are burning low in the grate, let us read in the glow of the fading embers brighter hopes, sweeter joys, better conditions, and stronger faith in God and man and things to be.

Bill, the Errand Boy—A Yuletide Story

By JOE SAPPINGTON

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IT was a cold, rainy morning in December when Bill, the errand boy, for Macey Co.'s department store, came blustering back to the big stove where were assembled three or four of the sales staff. While warming his hands Bill gave vent to his feelings as follows: "I shore wish everybody would write their own letters and quit botherin' me about it."

"That's right, Bill; if you start writing letters for your friends they will take up all your spare time," said Miss Harkins, the milliner. "Taint no friend that wants me to write for 'em," continued Bill— "nobody but that Johnnie Mason, who lives with his Granma Roberts, who takes in washin' an' lives twist here an' wher I live."

"Bill, I wish you would reconsider the matter, as I was counting on you writing a letter for me to my sweetheart," jokingly observed Miss Myrtle, the blonde young lady who sold laces and ribbons.

"You mean that long-legged grasshopper what's got a head about the size of a nickle watermelon?" inquired Bill. "Naw, I wouldn't write 'em a letter a tall even if you was to pay me. I'd lack to hit 'em between his jimlet eyes with a rotten termater, insted uv writin' to 'em."

Bill's ludicrous criticism of Miss

Myrtle's sweetheart evoked a round of laughter that quickly subsided when Bill resumed his story of the Mason boy.

Bill's Story of the Mason Boy

"I wish you all could see that boy. He's about six or seven years old and looks like a skeer crow. He has been ding-dongin' me fur more'n a week, ever time I pass his house, to write a letter to Sandy Claus to bring 'em some presents. He's the funniest lookin' boy I ever seen—wears an old coat with the sleeves rolled up and the tail almost tetches the ground; his breeches air full of holes, showin' his necked hide an' he wears a gal's hood with a tassel on it an' goes barefooted."

The first time he tackled me to write that letter I tried to get shet of 'em by tellin' 'em to hang up his socks an' old Sandy Claus would put presents in 'em. But he jumped up an' down an' bellered that he tried it last Christmas an' didn't get a thing. 'I ain't got no paper to write on,' I said, an' run off an' left 'em still bellerin'."

"Nately I thought I was through with 'em, but I wasn't, fur the very next mornin' when I was passin' his house he come runnin' out shoutin' at me. 'Bill, here's the paper, now you can write me that letter,' but I put 'em off agin by sayin' I had no pencil and no paper to write on. But blamed if he didn't get a pencil some wher and was layin' out for me that evenin' an' come a runnin' meetin' me,

and wavin' that little piece of paper, screamin', 'Bill, Bill, Bill, here's the paper an' here's the pencil to write that letter to Sandy Claus!' But I was tared of foolin' with 'em an' told 'em to quit botherin' me, that I was too busy to write fur anybody. And blamed if he ain't still tryin' to git me to write that letter. This mornin' when I passed his house there he stood out in the cold rain barefooted, holdin' out that ragged little paper, pleadin' with me to write to Sandy Claus."

Sympathetic Response

Strange as it may seem, Bill's story created no merriment, but left a look of sadness on the faces of his listeners. The milliner and the young lady in charge of ribbons and laces thought it was smoke from the stove that made their eyes water and Mr. Hill, the clothing salesman, attributed tightness in his throat to one of the worst colds he ever had.

The gentle-voiced, charitable Miss Mary Winters, who had charge of the ladies' ready-to-wear department at Macey's, was loved by all who knew her. For the first time in his life Bill's heart was heavy. He had always fought his own battles in his own way without asking for help. But now he was in a losing fight—he was in a battle with his conscience and he had about gone down for the count, when he thought of Miss Mary.

It was probably a week after Bill had related the story of Johnnie and the Santa Claus letter he refused to write, that he came into Miss Winters' department and said: "Miss Mary, could I get you to pray for a little boy that's sick with pneumonia?"

"Why, Billie, you surprise me. Who is the little boy?"

Then in a husky voice Bill told the

pitiful story of Johnnie and the Santa Claus letter that was never written. Miss Mary cried like her heart would break and hugged Bill to her bosom.

"Yes, Billie," she said, "I shall pray for Johnnie as I have never prayed before."

"Tell God, Miss Mary, fur me, if He will save Johnnie's life I will give 'em the suit of clothes I was goin' to buy fur myself this Christmas, to say nothin' of the toys I'm a goin' to stuff his stockings with the night before Christmas."

Armful of Christmas Presents

"Dr. Jones, this is Miss Winters speaking. How is our little patient, Johnnie Mason, coming along?"

"The finest kind, Miss Mary," replied the doctor. "The crisis is passed and Johnnie, thanks to you and the splendid nurse you sent him, will soon be up and out again."

"Oh, thank you so much. But say, doctor, will it be all right for Billie to come out and see Johnnie tonight? He's standin' by me at the 'phone now."

"It's all right if you will come with him, Miss Mary. Good bye."

Miss Winters knocked gently at the door and it was opened by Grandma Roberts who threw her arms around Miss Mary and hugged her. Bill followed with an armful of presents, no matter if it was five days before Christmas.

"Hello Johnnie, how air you feelin'?" was Bill's greeting.

"Fine," came a weak little voice.

"Now, Johnnie," said Bill, "lay right still while I tell you about my experience with Sandy Claus. Soon as you was took down with pneumonia I wrote 'em that letter about them presents you wanted. But I was afraid he ain't got the letter and telephoned 'em that you was

awful sick an' not to wait till Christmas, but to come right on with your presents an' bring um to my house an' I'd give 'em to you. So las night about midnight here come old Sandy lickity split with bells ringin' an' reindeer rarin' an' snortin'. Here's what he brought you."

And then Bill began to untie bundles. True to his promise, there was a new suit of clothes, a box of candy, four big oranges, five red apples, a pistol with a box of caps, a drum, a tin bugle, a rubber ball, a set of glass marbles, a French harp and a toy fiddle and bow.

"Oh, Bill," exclaimed Johnnie, "you air the bestest frien' I ever had, and this is goin' to be the bestest Christmas that ever wus!"

Johnnie was tired and weak and fell asleep surrounded by his precious gifts. Miss Mary and Bill stole softly out into the night, hand-in-hand, filled with a strange, inexpressible happiness.

The story of Bill's devotion and sacrifice was published in one of the local newspapers several days before Christmas. The story touched the hearts and loosened the purse-strings of all who read it and caused many men and women to go into the homes of the sick and unfortunate in the remote and obscure parts of the town and give aid and comfort without stint to the poor and needy.

THREE CHILDREN IN FAMILY HAVE SAME BIRTHDAY

Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Owen, of O. man, have three children who were born on the same day of the month, and are not triplets. The three children are born on the 13th day of October. The first son, who is 20, was born October 13, 1910, Charles Joe was born October 13, 1917, and Francis was born October 13, 1915.

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Brief Texas News From Over the State

TRIPLETS PERFECT IN HEALTH
 Mr. Mauldin, of Palestine, has three girls who are triplets, there being twenty-three months of babyhood by health authorities.

100 ITALIANS IN TEXAS
 According to the Italian consul, there are 100 Italians in Texas. If the statement is correct there has been a large increase of the Italian population of the State the last decade. The census of 1920 showed 8,000 immigrant and 20,000 American-born Italians in Texas.

CHILDREN TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL OPENED
 On November 10 the Children's Hospital of the State Tubercular Sanitarium at Carlsbad, Texas, was opened. About 125 children between the ages of 6 and 14 are now patients there. The building and equipment cost \$250,000, and 162 children can be cared for.

GAS TAX YIELDED \$2,900,000 FOR MONTH
 For the month of September, this year, collections from the 4 cents a gallon gasoline tax were \$2,900,000. Two-thirds of the tax was paid by five of the distributors as follows: Gulf Refining Company \$596,379, Texas Company \$561,679, Magnolia Petroleum Company \$448,786, Humble Oil and Refining Company \$227,907, Sinclair Refining Company \$150,147.

AUTO 29 YEARS OLD
 Probably the oldest automobile in Texas now in use is the property of Mr. Harry Olsen, of San Antonio. The auto is a one-cylinder Oldsmobile, and was purchased in 1901. The car is still able to run under its own power and will make from twelve to fourteen miles an hour. As to gasoline mileage, the owner says he is sometimes able to get 20 miles to the gallons of gas, and sometimes not so much.

DEVELOP \$1,000,000 IRRIGATION SYSTEM
 At least \$1,000,000 is to be spent in the development of the ten thousand acre tract near Harlingen, which was recently sold to the Farm Home and Savings Association of Nevada. The tract is to be organized into an irrigation district and an irrigation system, costing not less than one million dollars, will be constructed to irrigate the tract. The district is to be of concrete canals throughout.

THREE GREAT FIRES IN TEXAS
 Three Texas fires are listed by the National Fire Protective Association as among the eighty most disastrous conflagrations that have scourged the United States and Canada during the last one hundred years. The three Texas conflagrations include the fire at Paris about twelve years ago, which virtually destroyed that city. More than fourteen hundred buildings were burned and the property loss exceeded ten million dollars. The other disastrous fires listed among the eighty were at Houston in 1912, when damage to the amount of \$3,000,000 was caused, and the \$1,600,000 fire at Grandview, when 136 buildings were destroyed.

BIG ORDER FOR TEXAS REPTILES
 Hundreds of Texas snakes, lizards and insects have been ordered for January delivery to the National Zoological Park in Washington. All these are to be placed on exhibition in the new reptile house now nearing completion. A permanent exhibit of these reptiles and insects, with appropriate background of Texas cactus, yuccas, Spanish daggers, etc., is being arranged. This big order for reptiles and insects was given W. C. King, of Brownsville, who owns the largest snake farm in the world. The order includes snakes of several species, such as rattlers, yellow bulls, indigos, racers and chicken snakes. Also lizards, horned toads, tarantulas, tree frogs, etc.

COFFEE TREES TO BE TRIED IN VALLEY
 There is a probability that the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas, which already furnishes the nation with so much citrus fruit, soon may help fill its coffee pot.

Commercial coffee culture is to be introduced by Mr. Warden, of Pharr, Texas. Mr. Pharr has been experimenting with growing coffee trees for two years, and his experiments have convinced him the crop would perhaps become more profitable even than grapefruit.

WEALTH OF TEXAS SHOWS INCREASE
 The total wealth of Texas is now more than twelve and a half billion dollars, according to figures from the State Comptroller Department.

An increase of more than \$300,000,000 annually in the total wealth has been made during the last eight years, indicating the tremendous growth and financial progress of the State. Taxable value of all Texas property for the current year is given by the department at \$4,280,438,578. This is the highest figure in the history of the State, and represents an increase of \$70,393,116 over that of last year.

The ratio of total wealth to taxable wealth in Texas at the date of the last census of wealth was 3 to 1. The most recent wealth census was in 1922, and if this ratio has been maintained, the total wealth of Texas is slightly more than \$12,500,000.

COWBOY ACTIVE AT 100 YEARS
 Doubtless the oldest cowboy in the world, who is still active, is Mr. Reece Barton, of near Childress. Mr. Barton still performs active duties on the B. P. Smith ranch.

The subject of this item was born March 8, 1830, near Charleston, S. C. He has been a Texan eighty years, coming here when twenty and working first on a ranch near Alice. In 1867 he helped trail a herd of cattle to Kansas City, and for several years was a trail driver to Abilene and Dodge City, Kansas. In 1887 he helped move the army equipment and cavalry horses from old Fort Griffin to Fort Elliott, in the Panhandle, then a frontier post in what is now Wheeler county. Mr. Barton is still active in ranch work and declares that riding stimulates him. He is enjoying health and gets on and off horses unaided.

CAUSEWAY AT ARANSAS PASS COMPLETED
 The automobile causeway connecting Harbor Island with the mainland at Aransas Pass is now completed or will be in a very short time. This six and a half mile causeway will afford access to Harbor and Mustang Islands, where the Munsill interests are planning to invest several million dollars in port and resort development.

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS 38 YEARS
 The dean of Texas school men in length of service in one place is Superintendent J. G. Wooten, of Paris. Mr. Wooten is now in his thirty-ninth year as superintendent of Paris schools. He was born in Kentucky, taught for a while in Oxford, Miss., and then located at Paris as superintendent. More than three thousand boys and girls have graduated from the Paris High School during his administration.

PREACHER 100 YEARS OLD DEAD
 Rev. Charles McCarr, who died in Gause, near Cameron, in October, was in his 101st year, having celebrated his 100th anniversary in June of this year. Deceased preached fifty-six years, his last sermon having been delivered about two months before he reached his hundredth birthday. Rev. Mr. McCarr was born in Buffalo, New York, in 1830. He served as second lieutenant in the Federal army, and was wounded. He came South just after the close of the war.

CONSTRUCTION OF NEW RAIL LINE BEGINS JANUARY 1
 Construction of the Vernon to Seymour extension of the St. Louis & San Francisco Railway is to begin about January 1, according to announcement of officials of the company. Unless plans have been changed since the announcement was made, the work will begin at Vernon. About \$2,000,000 will be spent on construction of the new line. The line will bring connection with Fort Worth through the Gulf, Texas & Western, which now stops at Seymour, and through the Rock Island into Fort Worth.

REFINING PLANT BEING ENLARGED
 Work is now in progress on enlarging the Waggoner Refining plant at Elect. When the work is completed the plant will have nearly double its present capacity. The additional stills and equipment will make use of 3,000 barrels of additional crude oil per day in the manufacture of gasoline and other products. The present capacity of the plant is 3,500 barrels of crude oil per day. The entire amount of 6,500 barrels will be taken in the Waggoner leases in Wichita and Wilbarger counties.

HEAD OF WHICH TEXAS IS NOT PROUD
 It is said to her shame, rather than to her honor, Texas had more divorces in the year 1929 than any other State in the Union. So many divorces were granted in this State last year that Texans no longer have room to jokingly speak of Nevada as the divorce State.

The country as a whole showed a slight improvement in the ratio of divorces to marriages, but Texas did not. In 1928, taking the country over, there was a divorce to every six marriages. In 1929 there was a divorce to every 6.1 marriages, a gain for marriages of one-tenth of one per cent. But to show how the ratio has grown in favor of divorce it is only necessary to go back to the figures of 1906, when there was a divorce to every 12.2 marriages. This shows a gain in favor of 6.1 in twenty-three years. The records show that about seven out of every ten divorces are granted to women, also that nine suits for divorce out of ten are uncontested. Cruelty or desertion account for approximately three-fourths of the grounds alleged in divorce courts. Only four out of every ten cases involve children, and in these cases the husband is more often found to be the plaintiff than is the wife.

States have widely differing laws on the matter of divorce, and as a consequence there are a great many more divorces in some States than in others. In New York it is necessary to prove infidelity in order to get an absolute divorce, hence very few divorces are granted in that State. South Carolina grants no divorces at all.

Students of the question of the growing economic independence of women accounts largely for the great increase in the number of divorces sought and granted.

LEGION ASKS REVISION OF HISTORIES
 Because no history studied in the public schools of Texas gives the name of any Texas officer who served in the World War, nor mentions the part played in the great struggle by Texas divisions, the American Legion asks the revision of these histories, so that Texas children may learn what part the Texas divisions played in the war. It is said that no history now studied in the schools mentions the fact that it was a Texas division that captured St. Ennesme, though this was one of the great events of the war. The Legion contends, and correctly so, that as a matter of simple justice the histories studied in Texas schools should tell of the glorious conduct of the 200,000 Texas who so nobly served in the great contest. It is pointed out that at Vilmy Ridge Texan just about equaled the record of Sergeant York in killing Germans single-handed, but he gets no mention in the histories.

HATCHERY TO BE ESTABLISHED AT HUNTSVILLE
 A new fish hatchery is to be established at Huntsville, making the ninth in Texas. The new hatchery will be on Harmon creek, near Huntsville, and will have forty-acre feet under water, on a site of 200 acres. Three buildings will be constructed and the entire cost will be about \$35,000.

The eighth hatchery for the State is now under construction near Jasper, in Jasper county.

Christmas Reflections

(Continued From Page 2)

giving, let me warn all persons against the practice of keeping the unneeded gifts received and sending them to other friends the following Christmas. This practice may be economically sound, but it's dangerous, because nobody's memory is perfect. A lady who is a neighbor of ours received at Christmas time a few years ago a beautiful cup and saucer. The cup and saucer, though very pretty, didn't fit into the scheme of the lady's china closet, and besides, she was already overstocked on chinaware. The cup and saucer were laid away, and the following Christmas were sent to a friend. A few days later our neighbor was surprised when a letter substantially as follows was received: "I was very glad to get my cup and saucer back, and certainly thank you. They were in perfect condition, after being in your possession a year, which shows that you are very careful in handling chinaware." The pretty custom of gift-giving at Christmas, thus broken between two former friends, has not yet been revived.

Merry Christmas—Not Christmas Gift

To those of us who have reached the yellow-leaf period of existence 'tis pleasant indeed to recount the pleasures of the halcyon days of youth—when we were artless and sinless, when care had curled no frown upon the lips, when sorrow touched no sadness into the heart—when one could eat his fill and not be sick—could run all day and Morpheus would lull all the tiredness into sleep in a minute. Yea, it is delightful to dwell upon the time when a painted toy made the eye laugh and the heart leap, and when sweetmeats cured all hurts and chased all tears away. This was the Christmas of our childhood—a season of pleasures born of the gratification of our desires for sweets to eat and playthings to charm. But the look backward should occasion regrets as well as rebuild pleasures—regret that we were so poorly taught, and caught such a stained vision of the Great Day. We were encouraged to want things and expect things. We wondered what our stockings would contain when we sought them Christmas morn—would we get two sticks of candy or three; would there be enough fruits to last a day. And we wondered whether anybody would give us anything. Christmas to the childhood of most of us was merely a book of bills receivable. It was "Christmas Gift," not "Merry Christmas." Christmas is the anniversary of our freedom—freedom from bondage, freedom from the curse of sin. As such it is truly a day for rejoicing. But it is not a time for us to expect or to receive. It is a time to give—to give in word, in deed, in heart-throbs—to make hearts gladder, to give a second lustre to tear-dimmed eyes. With such a conception of the Great Day Christmas can never grow old to us, and we can never grow old to it. It will come to the aged as to the young, and there can never be what we have heard so many shriveled, selfish souls term "a dull Christmas." It is well to fill the holidays with things so beautiful and joyous that they will be a treasure house of pleasant memories for the children, but it is far more important that we impress upon the child-mind what so many of us missed—that Christmas comes not to minister to us, but to awaken us to the beauty of ministering. The Christmas feeling, the Christmas watchword must be, "A Merry Christmas," not "Christmas Gift."

Christmas Bells

*Ring out ye bells, this Christmas morn,
 Let your peals drown
 Each sigh or moan,
 For on this day a King was born
 Without a crown,
 Without a throne,
 To bless the weak and the forlorn.*

*Ring out! Ring out! Let all delight
 For He did come
 All men to bind
 In unity, by love and light,
 To voice the dumb,
 To heal the blind,
 And rectify all wrong to right.*

*Ring out! Ring out! your merry rhyme
 Along the way,
 Through all the land;
 So let the echoes sweetly chime
 With Him to-day,
 So let us stand
 And glorify His name in every clime.*

FOURTH OF STATE REVENUE COMES FROM PROPERTY TAX

A pamphlet recently issued by the United States Department of Commerce shows that one out of every four dollars of Texas revenue is obtained from a general property tax, and that the property tax increased 100 per cent in the decade from 1917 to 1927, and that the motorist in reality pays more tax money to the State than does the property owner. In 1928 the Texas per capita property levy was \$4.59. All revenues totaled \$16.70 for every tax payer, and the Texas per capita property tax was about 70 cents greater than the average per capita property levy for all the States. The gasoline fuel tax ranked next as a source of income, bringing in \$19,211,000, as compared to \$25,442,000 from the property tax. Auto licenses were the third largest source, netting \$13,404,000. Only four States in the Union had a debt of less than \$1 per capita, and Texas was one of the four. They were Wisconsin, 54 cents; Indiana, 65 cents; Texas, 76 cents, and Kentucky 79c.



Last Minute Holiday Hints

PERHAPS there is nothing new in this suggestion but we cannot resist urging mothers to spend at least a couple of hours in dressing up the house for Christmas. Have a ball of green twine and a roll of red crepe paper and have the boys bring into the kitchen an armful of pine and evergreen branches. Make long loops of green by winding the stems (it goes fast) and drape them over the door arches, over the curtains, mantles, etc., not forgetting wreaths at the windows and outside doors. Don't know of anything at Christmas that so enthralls all of us with the Christmas spirit, as we think and breathe Christmas whenever we enter the house. Tie wreaths with large bows of red paper.

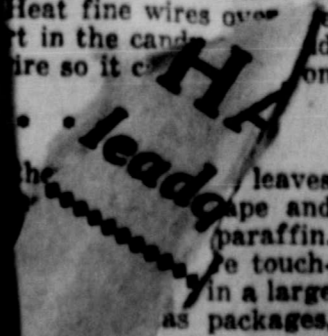


Three or four glasses of jelly nicely wrapped or put in a basket make an acceptable gift for anyone who does not make her own. Also wrap pint or quart cans of grape juice in cellophane paper and Christmas seals for inexpensive gifts to shut-ins. Fruit cakes also are nice gifts. How many make their own Christmas wreaths and find it almost impossible to get holly or other red berries for a bit of color? Have you tried cranberries with toothpicks for a stem? They are just fine for that, also make strings of cranberries for the tree. When trimming the Christmas tree use rubber bands instead of cord to

fasten the ornaments in place. The bands hold well and are easy to remove. Instead of using a regular Christmas tree stand, plant the tree in a pail of sand or dirt. It keeps it moist and the needles remain green longer and will not droop. At this time of year use an inexpensive substitute for maraschino cherries. Use cranberries, pricking each one with a fine needle to prevent their bursting and cooking them until almost done in a fairly thick syrup, just enough to cover them well. At the Christmas season keep red confectioners' sugar on hand to use for garnish. To make an attractive Christmas

one sheet of white tissue paper, straight, then one sheet of red tissue paper on top of it. Fold the red sheet diagonally upon itself. One-half will be red and one white. Wrap the package, using seals where the red and white paper join, if you wish. For a decorative Christmas tree use glossy hard candies in pretty shapes. Heat fine wires over a gas flame and hook in the candies so it catches the tree.

use two or three of the pretty leaves along with the ribbons. Put equal parts of raisins and nuts through a food grinder to make paste filling. Place this filling between walnut halves and press together gently. Roll in powdered sugar. These are very nice for the Christmas candy box. A last minute small gift which may be given by the children: By taking a cigar box, four empty spools and four clothespins, one may make a little poster bed for dolly. Remove the cover and paper from the box. Glue the spools on each corner of the bottom for legs. Place the clothespins, one in each corner of the top. The bed can be painted a solid color and if you wish you can paint a design on it or paste a small picture on it.



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The Hico News Review

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Hico, Texas, Dec. 19, 1930

NO.

THE SQUIRREL

Published by the Honey Grove School

J. W. JORDAN, Editor

Mr. Moss goes to Hamilton Tues- day. Mr. and Mrs. Moss and daughter, Madge, also Hazel and Esta Lee Jordan went to Hamilton Tues- day to get some books for Mr. Herbert and Miss Mabel. We are having so many new scholars coming in that our library was getting rather low on books until Mr. Moss returned with a lot, and ready for some more. Therefore come on you and girls that are in our community, as we have plenty of room and books for you. Mr. Herbert and Miss Mabel wish to thank Mr. Moss for getting these books as we certainly did need them.

Visits School At Recess Friday. Little Madge Lene Moss came to school Friday at recess to play with her brothers and little friends. We are always glad to see Madge and we want her to come again soon. Bring your mother and father next time, Madge.

A Tuesday Visitor. Fern Jordan stopped by the school house Tuesday as he was going to Hico. We are glad he stopped by as we needed some things from town.

A Program for January. The P. A. C. is planning a fine program for our next meeting in January. They will have a negro play and a magician to do some nice tricks. There will be another number or two planned. If you enjoy it, it will be well worth your while to come. We will announce later as to the exact date.

A Bad Car. Mr. Herbert's car has been setting inside Mr. Moss' pasture for the last part of the week. It broke down first when he needed it most.

Practice on Play Continues. Practice on our play for Christmas, "Treasure Farm" has been going on for the past few nights. The characters are: Robert Hamilton, Thabert Roberts; Faith Hamilton, Miss Mabel; Dulane, Wilma Slaughter; Eliza Ann Wattles; Vestal Roberts; Prof. Fuller; W. H. Tinsley; Frederick Norton; J. W. Jordan Jr.; Betty Alexander; Dolores Hale; and Luella Long, Ana Loue Moss. This play will be given Friday night the 19th, and we give all a cordial invitation to come and see how good the play is. There will be a short program of small children besides the play, and we will have a Christmas tree and P. E. stunts also. Everybody come!

Three New Pupils. Dolores, Clinton and John Hale, from Harms School, Detroit, Mich. enrolled in our school Monday. We are glad to have these new pupils, and we wish to help them all we can to get started off properly. We are for you and will do our best by you if you will help.

Prepare for High School. Next week, there will be in our community, an organizer who will organize Shakespearean clubs for the grade children in which each child begins his preparation for high school English. It is hoped that all pupils will become interested, for our schools need all the help they can receive to better the English of today.

A Sick Boy. W. H. Tinsley became suddenly ill Wednesday at noon. It was necessary to take him home. Mr. Herbert sent J. W. with him. W. H. was able to return to school on Thursday.

Wrestling. Our boys have been having a real good time wrestling at noon and recess for the past week. No, they don't get mad and fight. We have not had a fight among our boys this year so far. Let's hold that record, boys!

Here and There. Mr. Herbert has been going straight since 10:30 Saturday night, week ago. Esta Lee, Hazel, Ana Loue, J. W. and Miss Mabel are thinking of going to see Wilma again since they had so much fun—and candy—Saturday night, week ago. Ana Loue, Wilma and Miss Mabel are surely glad Hazel and Esta Lee have boy friends as they got to go riding and also get fed up on peanut brittles, clarks and snickers—but where and when? Better ask them.

We think we are about to lose Mr. Herbert to Hico, but it would be worse to lose Miss Mabel too, so we still have a little hope. We're hoping the "flame" will soon burn itself down at least. Ask Wilma about a certain package she found on the Cleburne-Hilway during the Thanksgiving holidays, and see her blush. Ask Mr. Herbert what happened to his car Friday night on the culvert "tween here and Oleta's. He worked a little hard and over time too, Ana Loue, J. W., Wilma and Miss Mabel thinks.

Work is Continued on Campus. All the boys and girls, including Mr. Herbert and Miss Mabel, finished cleaning the campus last week. The boys picked up all the rocks and the girls pulled weeds. We are waiting for a good freeze so that we can rake the dead grass and weeds up and then we will have a clean pretty campus.

Would You Have Thought It? Miss Mabel, Esta Lee, Ana Loue and Wilma getting up enough courage to go "a possum hunting" and then getting scared at a house cat?

Wilma running about fifty yards after a package and when she reached for it, it suddenly crawled away. She didn't stop to investigate the matter and we hardly think you would either if you knew the circumstances.

Mr. Herbert Visits Mr. and Mrs. Clepper. Wednesday morning, Mr. Herbert gave Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Clepper a surprise visit. He stayed until almost 9:00. The Clepper children rode to school with him. Mr. Clepper invited Mr. Herbert to come over again and go bird hunting some Saturday morning with him. We are sure that they will have plenty of birds for dinner for Mr. Clepper has two fine bird dogs.

Didn't Hazel and Miss Mabel laugh when Wilma said, "I just sat up straight and let the rain spatter me right in the face." Ask Wilma where she was when this happened, and why she did that. Just picture Wilma, Ana Loue, Miss Mabel and Esta Lee hiding under a culvert and getting a real thrill out of it. Did you ask why? Well—to see if people in this part of the country appreciated finding Christmas presents.

A Bit of Humor. Gearald: "Joe, I had to kill my dog yesterday." Joe: "Was it mad?" Gearald: "Well, it didn't seem any to pleased with it."

Hazel and Ana Loue and Wilma were sitting on a log out in the pasture when Hazel said, "This is getting dull." Wilma said: "You wouldn't think it quiet so dull if you were sitting on what I am."

An After Thought. We are thinking of adding one extra bowl to our school to answer for catching the tears that are going to waste. We figure the fish would do better.

Believe It or Not. Mr. Herbert put the bat that Laurenza brought to the primary room in a chalk box without any food or air holes in the box and expected it to sleep all winter. He said he read that in a book on bats. Well, the bat is still sleeping and we don't suppose it will ever wake. Wilma Gene kept the pet rabbit that Fern gave the school over the Thanksgiving holidays and it ate Hazel's and Esta Lee's flowers. The flowers must have had fly poison on them for the rabbit is now sleeping peacefully (or did the flowers kill the rabbit?).

More Information On How The Name Hico Originated

Two weeks back the editor asked for information on the derivation of the name Hico, and how it came to be applied to this city. A number of answers were received, and though the information has not been assembled in any definite shape as yet, many facts have been brought out which we have not heretofore known. This week a good friend who owns and keeps up to date a most excellent private library in his home brought us a volume, "The Writings of Col. William Byrd of Westover, in Virginia, Esquire." The volume contains a very complete account of the life and writings of the elder Byrd, who, by the way, was the great-great-grandfather of Commander Byrd of Inter-day fame.

In one chapter of this book there is a narration dealing with the writer's travels through Virginia and that section, and contains the following phrases: "... at first mistook for the south branch of Roanoke River; but discovering his error soon afterward, he assured us 'twas a river called Hico-tonony, or Turkey-Buzzard River, from the great number of those unsavoury birds that roost on the tall trees growing near its banks. A footnote conveys the information that the word Hico-tonon had been shortened to Hico. Thus we find that in naming Hico town, Mr. Alfred, who seems to be considered as the one responsible for this act, had in mind that Byrd spoken of above. The editor has not been able to find time to go deeper into the subject, but the volume brought in this week bears promise of doing light on the matter, and seems to bear much interest.

Letters to Santa Claus

Hico, Tex. Dear Santa Claus: I am a little girl six years old. I live with my grandmother. I would like to have a doll, a train that I can pull, also an airplane, some firecrackers, and a story book. Please bring me a doll, a train, an airplane, some firecrackers, and a story book. Yours truly, DOROTHY GENE ROSS.

Hico, Texas. Dear Santa Claus: I am a little girl eight years old, and am in the third grade. I go to school at Olin. My teacher's name is Johnnie Thomas. I want a doll, an airplane and a sewing basket. Please bring me some candy, oranges and nuts. ALICE MARIE BEACH.

Hico, Texas. Dear Santa Claus: I am a little girl nine years old. I go to school at Olin. Miss Johnnie Thomas is my teacher. Santa, will you please bring me a doll, a story book, some fruit, nuts and candy? I'll thank you very much, Santa. WILMA HONEA.

Hico, Texas. Dear Santa Claus: I am a little girl nine years old, and am in the third grade. I live at Olin. I want you to please bring me a wagon, a little train, a story book, and some candy and nuts. Your friend, FRED HENRY GORDON.

Hico, Texas. Dear Santa Claus: I live in the Olin community and am expecting you to come to see me Christmas Eve night. I have been a good little girl all the year. Please bring me a little stove, some dishes, and a little doll bed. Also bring me some apples, candy and nuts. I love you, Santa. MARY MARTHA HARTIN.

Hico, Texas. Dear Santa: We are brothers, 9 and 7 years of age. We have to walk about 4 miles, so we think you should please remember us Christmas Eve night. We want two air guns, two knives, a printer's set, and a ball. We also want some fruit, nuts and candy. We'll be looking for you, Santa. LAVERN ROBERTS. AUDIE ROBERTS.

Hico, Texas. Dear Santa Claus: This is my first year in school and I can not write very well yet, but I hope you will be able to read this. Santa, will you bring me a doll, some little dishes, some bananas, candy and nuts. You will find me in the Olin community. OPAL HONEA.

Hico, Texas. Dear Santa Claus: I am a little boy nine years old. I go to school at Olin, ten miles south of Hico, and am in the second grade. Santa, please bring me a little pony to ride to school, a little wagon, a football and a story book. Also bring me some fruit, nuts and candy. Your little friend, DICK McDANNELL.

Hico, Texas. Dearest Santa: I am eleven years old. At present I am going to school at Olin but expect to move to the Honey Grove community soon. If I should move before Christmas, will you please find me anyway? Santa, I want you to please bring me a doll, some apples, nuts and candy. Your friend, ROSIE BELL BARFIELD.

Hico, Texas. Dearest Santa: I live seven miles southwest of Hico, and I go to school at Olin. Will you please bring me a little wagon, a bugle, oranges, apples and candy. R. D. BARFIELD.

Hico, Texas. My Dear Santa: I am a very small girl, but I am six years old and go to school at Olin. I wish I had one of your reindeer to ride to school, for I have so far to walk. Santa, please bring me a doll, a little sewing machine, some little dishes, some bananas, nuts and candy. Please, also, remember my little brothers and sisters. RUDELL JAGGARS.

Hico, Texas. Howdy Santa Claus: Bring me a dollie, motorboat, and I want some skates and a little airplane. I want you to bring a dollie to Granddad. I can eat oranges and candy, too. Freddie-don, Santa Claus. CAROLYN HOLDFORD.

Hico, Texas. Dear Santa Claus: I am a little girl six years old. I live with my grandmother. I would like to have a doll, a train that I can pull, also an airplane, some firecrackers, and a story book. Please bring me a doll, a train, an airplane, some firecrackers, and a story book. Yours truly, DOROTHY GENE ROSS.

Hico, Texas. Dear Santa Claus: I am a little girl eight years old, and am in the third grade. I go to school at Olin. My teacher's name is Johnnie Thomas. I want a doll, an airplane and a sewing basket. Please bring me some candy, oranges and nuts. ALICE MARIE BEACH.

Hico, Texas. Dear Santa Claus: I am a little girl nine years old. I go to school at Olin. Miss Johnnie Thomas is my teacher. Santa, will you please bring me a doll, a story book, some fruit, nuts and candy? I'll thank you very much, Santa. WILMA HONEA.

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Hico, Texas, Dec. 8, 1930. Dear Santa Claus: I am a little girl six years old. I live with my grandmother. I would like to have a doll (Tickletoes), about 10 inches tall, a tiny baby doll with sleepy eyes and a bassinet for it to sleep in, some dishes for my playhouse and a little suit case for my doll's clothes. I will be good, so don't forget me and all the other little girls and boys. Yours truly, DOROTHY GENE ROSS.

Hico, Texas, Dec. 8, 1930. Dear Santa Claus: I am a little girl eight years old, and am in the third grade

IREDELL COMMUNITY

MISS STELLA JONES

is visiting in

Valley Mills vis-
iting Miss Thelma

Fouts, Gregory, Mc-
Cance and Miss Oldham
Thursday.

in Scott of California visited

his week.

and Mrs. John Carter and

ter, Mrs. Ruby Jones and

children of Cleburne visited here

week.

Ernie Locker, the youngest child

of Mr. and Mrs. Locker, is very

ill at the home of his parents. His

friends hope he will soon be well

again.

Mr. and Mrs. B. N. Strong were

in Dallas and Fort Worth this last

week.

Miss Eugenia Pike, a student at

John Tarleton, spent the week end

here.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Davis and

children, Mr. and Mrs. Elois Lott,

Mr. Frank Sparks and daughter,

Miss Ola, were in Hico Thursday.

Mr. R. S. Echols was in Hico

Friday.

Miss Dorothy Gregory was in

Hico Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Montgomery

received the announcement of the

arrival of a daughter that came

to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Sam

Osborn at Des Moines, Mexico.

The little lady arrived December

6, weighed 8 lbs. and was named

Nancy Jean. Mrs. Osborn is the

daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mont-

gomery.

Messrs. Bob Gosdin, R. Y. Pat-

terson, W. E. Bryan and Odie

Bryan were in Waco Monday.

Mrs. Echols and Misses Ina Mc-

Elroy and Florence Smith were in

Meridian Saturday afternoon.

Mrs. J. L. Newsom and daughter

Miss Inez were in Clifton Satur-

day.

Misses Ina and Esther McElroy

were in Hico Saturday.

Harold and Maxine Ruth Daw-
son spent the week end with their
grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Wash-
am of near Fairy.

Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Golden, who
have resided in De Leon for some
time, have moved to the C. A.
Mitchell farm, vacated by Mr. and
Mrs. Walter Chaffin.

Mrs. W. B. Worrel returned a
few days ago from Cranfill's Gap
and reports the arrival of a son
at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Mun-
roe Fields. The son weighed 11
pounds, and is named Henry John.
He arrived November 27.

Rev. and Mrs. Duncan Tidwell
of Brownwood spent the week end
here.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Locker and
children and Mrs. Leslie Locker
and daughter, all of Grandview,
are at the bedside of their brot-
her, Ernie Locker, who has been
very ill but is getting along fine
now.

Mr. and Mrs. Nichols of Dallas
spent the week end with their
uncle, Mr. Fuller.

Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Seales and
his nephew, Randolph Seales, and
Miss Opal Lawrence visited in
Brownwood Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Willie Shoemaker
and daughter of Clifton visited
her parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. R.
Turner here Sunday. Mr. and
Mrs. Buster Shoemaker accompan-

ied them.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Conley and
Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Conley and
children enjoyed a turkey dinner
at Mrs. Ruby Phillips' at Stephe-
nville last Sunday.

Mrs. Elmo Heyroth, who has
been ill for some time, is doing
fine now and is able to be sitting
up. She had a pleurisy pain.

Mesdames Laswell, Tidwell and
Cavness and children attended
the Workers Council at Meridian
on Monday.

There will be a union Christmas
tree here at the Methodist Church

on Wednesday evening, December
24th. Everyone invited.

Mr. and Mrs. Royce Newsom
and son of Dallas spent the week
end here.

The presiding elder will preach
here Sunday morning and will
hold the first quarterly conference
for this place here in the after-
noon.

Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Tidwell vis-
ited her mother, Mrs. J. L. Spen-
cer at Walnut Springs Sunday af-
ternoon.

W. M. U. Party.
Friday evening, December 12th,
the W. M. U. Ladies gave an apron
party at the Purdue Building.
The aprons were very small and
were given to every grown person
in town, the measurements were
taken around the waist and that
was the admission.

When the crowd arrived sev-
eral games and contests were
played and everyone certainly had
a fine time. Messrs. A. L. Harris
Robert Sawyer and Mino Loughlin
gave some instrumental music
which was fine. Refreshments of
coffee, cake and hot chocolate
were served. At the close it was
found that Mr. Charlie McBeath
was the largest man, Mrs. Lee
Priddy the largest woman and
Rev. and Mrs. D. D. Tidwell were
the smallest. A prize was given
to them for being the largest and
smallest around the waist.

A sum of \$13.00 and some cents
was taken in, which will be used
in the church.

E. H. Persons
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW
HICO, TEXAS

J. C. Rodgers
NOTARY PUBLIC
Real Estate, Insurance
HICO, TEXAS



CHRISTMAS GIFTS

FOR YEARS AND YEARS

We have been buying Christmas goods at this store. We
endeavored to stock the things you want at Christ-
mas as at other seasons, and this year is no exception.
The children there is an array of toys for your selection
make them happy indeed, and at the same time the
prices will please indulgent fathers and mothers who
let the children what they want at the smallest cash
possible.

Give the Children In—We Want to
Show Our Goods

PRACTICAL GIFTS FOR EVERYONE THIS CHRISTMAS

FIND OUR STOCK MORE USEFUL in the selection
as presents this year than ever before, due to the
al gifts are the order of the day. Some of the articles
are here in abundance. It will be a pleasure to

- GAS LIGHTS
- FLASHLIGHTS
- ALUMINUM TOOLS
- RY
- CARPENTER TOOLS
- ARE
- RADIO BATTERIES
- GAS RANGES
- FLY
- PYREX
- SILVERWARE
- OS

With Christmas and New Year to be Days Away...

THESE COULD BE NO BETTER TIME FOR
THANK YOUR VERY BEST WISHES AND
FOR THE BUSINESS YOU FAVORED

GOOD WILL OF OUR PATRONS AND
ONE OF OUR MOST VALUABLE AS-
PIRIT OF THE SEASON BRINGS TO US
APPRECIATION OF OLD ASSOCIATIONS
VALUE OF NEW FRIENDS.

YOUR CHRISTMAS BE HAPPY AND
TEND YOUR NEW YEAR, IS THE COR-
C. L. LYNCH HDWE. CO.

A Most Practical Gift



Clarion Jr.

The first compact radio with every big-
radio feature—including Tone Control!
\$4.95 complete with tubes

This year of years, Christmas should
provide permanent pleasure—real in-
vestments.

- WAGONS
- BUGGIES
- FRICTION TOYS
- FIRE TRUCKS



- ELECTRIC TRAINS
- TOOL CHESTS
- ODD TOOLS
- RAKES AND HOES
- HAMMERS



- AIRPLANES
- BALLOONS
- BUILDER SETS
- BLOCKS
- COUNTERS



- TELEPHONES
- PIANOS
- PUSH CARTS
- SCOOTERS



- RATTLERS
- CRADLES
- TOY PISTOLS
- POP GUNS
- RAILWAYS



- FIRE ENGINES
- DUMP CARTS
- AIR GUNS
- SPRING TRAINS
- STREET CARS

- TRICYCLES
- SWEEPERS
- DOLL TEA SETS
- DOLL BUGGIES



- MAIN STREET TOYS
- LAUNDRY SETS
- DOLL IRONS
- BROOMS
- SEWING MACHINES



- BANKS
- RUBBER BALLS
- FOOTBALLS
- BALLS AND JACKS
- SPRING TOPS



- BUNNIES
- DOLL BEDS
- DOLL CHAIRS
- DOLL STOVES



- TRACTORS
- TOY TREES
- TOILET SETS
- BOOKS
- PAINT OUTFITS



- CRAYOLAS
- BLACKBOARDS
- EXCITING GAMES
- DOLLS OF ALL KINDS
- TEDDY BEARS

For Her Happiness Give Something Electrical



Give Her What She's Always Wanted—
**GENERAL ELECTRIC
ALL-STEEL REFRIGERATOR**

Picture her on Christmas morning—surprised, delight-
ed, thrilling with joy—when she sees it standing there
in all its gleaming beauty—a long-cherished dream
come true! A few dollars down will deliver the model
of your choice Christmas Eve so that the ice cubes will
be frozen when she looks into the trays in the morning.

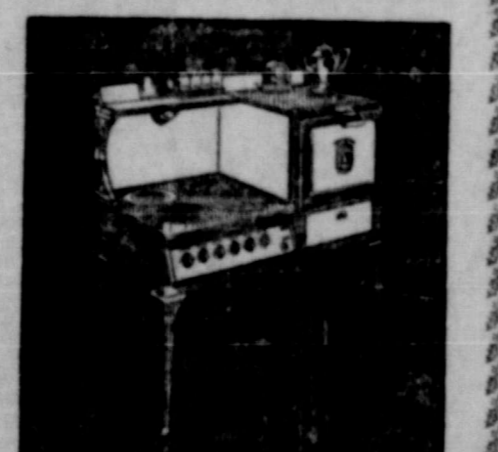
Special Low Christmas Terms
\$10 DOWN 24 MONTHS TO PAY
(Next Payment February 1st, 1931)

FREE—13 Piece Luncheon Set—FREE

With Every Toaster or Percolator
Two beautiful gifts for the price of one! The luncheon set,
a regular \$5.00 value, consists of six demi-tasse cups and saucers
and one sandwich tray in the new sun-tan shade, charm-
ingly decorated in platinum. FREE with any toaster or
percolator in our stock! Come in today!
Toasters, \$5 up Percolators, \$5 up

Give Her New Hours of Freedom with a Westinghouse Automatic ELECTRIC RANGE

Three times a day for all the years to come, Mother will
thank you for the time and effort her electric range saves
her. With it she can put a meal in the oven in the morning,
go away all day, and come home to find a delicious dinner
cooked to savory perfection, automatically, the electric
way. You give well-earned leisure to Mother and more
appetizing meals for all the family when you give a West-
inghouse Range.



\$25 for Your Old Range as Down Payment **18** Months to Pay the Balance
(Next Payment Feb. 1, 1931)

Other Useful Gifts at Everyday Low Prices!

- Electric Irons \$3.95 up
- Egg Cookers \$7.50 up
- Warming Pads \$6.50 up
- Vacuum Cleaners \$24.50 up
- Floor Lamps \$3.95 up
- Xmas Tree Lights \$2.50 set
- Any Waffle Iron In Our Stock **\$9.95** Value to \$15.00
95c Down—Balance Monthly



C. L. LYNCH HARDWARE CO.

Gift Headquarters

Personal Items

Duke, proprietress spent the first of the week in Dallas buying holiday merchandise for the Shoppe.

Mr. Dudley Christopher and Charles, of De Leon, were Sunday guests of his brother George Christopher and wife.

All parties knowing themselves indebted to Higginbotham Bros. & Co. will do me a favor to call in at once and settle their accounts.—J. C. Barrow, Mgr. 28-1c.

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh E. McCullough and daughter, Mary Ella, were in Goldthwaite over the week end visiting their parents.

Buy your Xmas Candy from Alexander and Segrest Candy Kitchen, located at the Surprise Store

E. F. Porter was in Dallas Monday buying holiday merchandise for Porter's Drug Store.

Mrs. Jessie Duncan, Zella Mirm and Haldor Duncan, Mable and Wynna Anderson and Marguerite Fairer were visitors in Fort Worth Sunday.

Miss Etoile Diltz spent the first of the week in Fort Worth with friends.

CANDY SALE
The Review Club will sell choice home-made candy on the streets of Hico Saturday, Dec. 20.

Misses Lola Mae Williamson, Annie Pierson and Carmen Shelton were visitors in Waco last Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. H. N. Wolfe and Mrs. Anna Wolfe were visitors in Fort Worth last Saturday.

Don't forget Dr. C. C. Baker, the dentist, is in his Hico office every Friday from 9:00 a. m. until 5:00 p. m. Lady assistant. Office over the Ford Sales. Phone 278.

Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Wiseman were visitors in Dallas the first of the week.

J. D. Colvin and son, Charles, of Blum, were here last week visiting friends and looking after their business interests.

Mrs. Kathryn Sawyer left Monday for Houston to spend the holidays with her daughter, Mrs. Sam Waddell, and family.

Mrs. C. L. Woodward, Mrs. Earl R. Lynch, and Mrs. H. F. Sellers were in Hamilton Friday night to see the Little Theatre play put on by Comanche people.

MEMORIAL WREATHS
Memorial Art Wreaths for graves at Christmas times, made of flowers, cones and greens which last for weeks. Prices \$2.50 and up. HICO FLORIST—Phone 152

Buy that home made mixed candy from Alexander and Segrest Candy Kitchen, located at the Surprise Store.

Mrs. Susie Slone of Cameron was here last week visiting Miss Mary Gandy and other friends.

Mrs. J. D. Jordan and Buck Jordan of Anton were week end guests in the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Jordan home.

All parties knowing themselves indebted to Higginbotham Bros. & Co. will do me a favor to call in at once and settle their accounts.—J. C. Barrow, Mgr. 28-1c.

NOTICE!
Anyone having old clothing of any kind, please leave at the Hico Furniture Co. to go into the charity box for Hico—Class No. 3 of M. E. Sunday School. 28-3tc.

J. L. Wilson, Jno. L. Wilson Jr. and Mrs. Lucille Parker and daughter were in Waco Sunday to see R. F. D. Newton, who underwent another operation Sunday. Later messages from his bedside are to the effect that his recovery is as rapid as could be expected.

COUNTY LINE

J. H. Ragsdale was in Comanche one day last week. While there he traded for a truck. Judson and Parker Cole spent a while Sunday with Monroe Ragsdale.

Cecil Luckie spent Sunday with Monroe Luckie.

E. L. Duncan and family spent Sunday afternoon with her parents Mr. and Mrs. Jim Hatchcock. The Wicker boys were in Camp Branch community Saturday. Several have been hunting 'possums lately.

Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Cole spent Sunday in the Cole home.

666

is a doctor's prescription for COLDS and HEADACHES
It's the most speedy remedy known
666 also in Tablets.

Fred L. Wolfe
Insurance, Loans, Bonds and Real Estate
Old First Natl. Bank Bldg.
Stephenville, Texas

KODAKS

IN COLORS FOR CHRISTMAS



WHAT COULD BE MORE APPROPRIATE?

A Kodak is not only a useful Christmas Gift—it is a constant reminder of the giver as well as perpetual record of your friends and relatives in proportion to the frequency with which you use it.

The Wiseman Studio

ALL CHRISTMAS JOY BE THINE

To Our Many Friends and Patrons With Whom We Have Had so Many Pleasant Dealings:—

During the year now coming to a close, it has been our joy to deal pleasantly with a great host of people and now, at this glad season, we welcome the opportunity to express to each of you our sincerest thanks for all the courtesies of the past and to wish for you, one and all, a full measure of the joys of Christmas time.

As we approach the coming New Year, we find encouragement and added zeal to continue to press forward toward our ideal of service and to resolve anew to devote ourselves wholeheartedly and completely in rendering the maximum of service.

MAY CHRISTMAS AND THE NEW YEAR MEAN MUCH TO YOU AND YOURS.

The Hico National Bank

W. M. CHENEY W. PITT BARNES ROBT. PARKS
J. M. NASH H. F. SELLERS

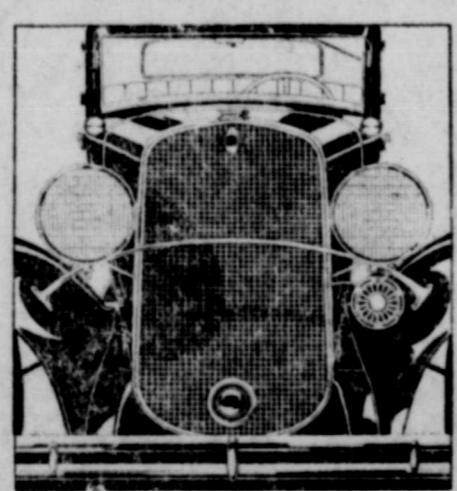
BIGGER AND BETTER THE GREAT AMERICAN VALUE

Fine-car distinction and quality in the new Chevrolet Six

Again, Chevrolet and General Motors have utilized their combined resources to establish a new and higher standard of value for the American motor car.

The new Chevrolet represents a type of economical transportation that America has long anticipated—a low-priced six styled with such striking talent and good taste, so smartly beautiful and complete in its perfection of detail, so advanced and refined mechanically that you will immediately recognize it as the Great American Value.

This great value is the outcome of four basic Chevrolet advantages: (1) The savings of volume production in nineteen immense, modern plants. (2) The economies which result from great purchasing power. (3) The benefits of continu-



Front view of the new Chevrolet Sport Coupe

ous research in General Motors laboratories and on the General Motors Proving Ground. And (4) the close association with the Fisher Body Corporation who, this year, have surpassed all their previous achievements in developing bodies of outstanding quality, refinement and value.

These basic advantages have made it possible to build a finer car at lower cost. They have enabled Chevrolet to offer a car with a longer wheel-base—greater roominess and comfort—strikingly smarter style—impressive new luxury—more thoroughly satisfactory performance—greater dependability. And to pass on these savings of efficient manufacturing to the buyer in the form of lower prices!

» » AT NEW LOW PRICES « «


The Phaeton.....	\$510	The Coach.....	\$545	Sport Coupe with rumble seat	\$575
The Roadster.....	\$475	Standard Coupe.....	\$535	Standard Sedan.....	\$635
Sport Roadster with rumble seat.	\$495	Standard Five-Window Coupe..	\$545	Special Sedan.....	\$650

SPECIAL EQUIPMENT EXTRA
Chevrolet Trucks from \$355 to \$695
All prices f. o. b. Flint, Michigan

NEW CHEVROLET SIX

IT'S WISE TO CHOOSE A SIX

BLAIR'S

Sales and Service  HICO, TEXAS

WISHING YOU THE JOYS OF THE AGES...

It has been many hundreds of years since the good Bishop Nicholas of Myra, out of the generosity of his heart, gave useful and joy-bringing gifts to so many people that he inaugurated a custom of benevolent giving which has grown and spread throughout the ages and has come down to us in the form of our wonderful Christmas.

Thus can the beauty of a noble life carry on with vigor and increasing splendor long after the passing of one who performed its laudable deed. Thus do integrity and philanthropy justify themselves in the world of men and demonstrate that they are the material out of which all lasting lives are made.

It is a pleasure to us to be able to pass along in as many ways as possible the praiseworthy work of Saint Nicholas in spreading well-being and happiness among our fellows. We trust that no one among you will miss any of the high joys of Christmastide.



MAGAZINE IS PAL OF BOYS

Those boyhood years between the ages of ten and twenty are the impressionable years—the formative years when the fundamental character of a boy is molded into the pattern it will maintain throughout the remainder of his life.

That is why so much importance is placed on the factors that govern the lives of adolescent boys—their companions, their environment, their reading, the food they eat, etc. At this age is determined whether the boy will develop into a cheerful or surly man, generous or selfish, intelligent or dull, ambitious or indolent.

School teachers, librarians, Scout leaders and others engaged in boy activities have found that THE AMERICAN BOY-YOUTH'S COMPANION magazine is one of the most favorable influences a boy between ten and twenty can have. Its stories and articles are a force for good—wholesome, alive, inspiring.

The million or so boys who read this magazine every month consider it their closest friend. In it they find the keenest entertainment, adventure, mystery, athletics, aviation, humor, everything that delights a livewire American boy. Its sports articles by famous coaches and athletes help boys win places on their school teams. Its professional articles and biographical sketches aid them in selecting their life's work. Its keenly analytical editorials guide them in their daily problems.

That boy or young man in whom you are interested would have a world of pleasure reading THE AMERICAN BOY-YOUTH'S COMPANION. Make a subscription to this magazine your gift to him. Subscription prices are only \$2.00 for one year or \$3.00 for three years. Mail your order direct to THE AMERICAN BOY-YOUTH'S COMPANION, 550 W. Lafayette Blvd., Detroit, Michigan.

Cards of thanks, obituaries and resolutions of respect will be charged at the rate of one cent per word. Display advertising rate will be given upon request.

Hico, Tex., Friday, Dec. 19, 1930

Knows His Crooked Rows Pay.
Paint Rock.—Terracing pays. Arthur Floyd knows it pays because he has checked and double checked the crooked rows on his Concho county farm for three years. In 1927 seven acres of this black land farm, unterraced, yielded less than one-half bale of cotton. Then came the county agent, R. W. Terry, and the seven acre plot was terraced. With about the same rainfall in 1928 the same land made two and one-half bales of cotton.

In 1929 Mr. Floyd introduced the crooked rows in more of his farm, and from 18 acres gathered six bales of cotton as compared to three bales from 22 unterraced acres. This year, from an additional 25 acres terraced he has made six and one-half bales of cotton against three bales and 600 pounds of seed cotton from an unterraced 30-acre field.

MAGAZINE IS PAL OF BOYS

Those boyhood years between the ages of ten and twenty are the impressionable years—the formative years when the fundamental character of a boy is molded into the pattern it will maintain throughout the remainder of his life.

That is why so much importance is placed on the factors that govern the lives of adolescent boys—their companions, their environment, their reading, the food they eat, etc. At this age is determined whether the boy will develop into a cheerful or surly man, generous or selfish, intelligent or dull, ambitious or indolent.

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Pigs Pay \$1.80 Per Bushel For Corn.

Gonzales.—While B. R. Boenig was selling his corn through pigs for \$1.80 per bushel this fall other Gonzales county farmers were hauling it to the elevator for 65 cents per bushel. As a result of this and a similar demonstration by Mr. Boenig last spring in which he realized \$2.35 per bushel for corn fed to pigs, many nearby farmers have commenced feeding operations as a means of profitably marketing home-grown feed, reports J. M. Saunders, county agent.

Mr. Boenig fed corn and a protein supplement in a self-feeder to 27 pigs while they ran on sudan pasture. The pigs weighed in July 1st at 47 pounds and sold out September 20th at 186 pounds for \$9.30 per hundred. Then consumed 170 bushels of corn and 1665 pounds of protein supplement worth \$2.50 per hundred. The supplement consisted of 40 pounds tankage and 40 pounds cottonseed meal mixed in a self feeder with all the corn the pigs would clean up.

HONEY GROVE

Winter has come at last. Mr. and Mrs. Ellis Jordan and family, J. A. Jordan, Luvit Jordan of Lamesa, Mr. and Mrs. Watz Jordan of O'Donnel were in the J. W. Jordan home Sunday.

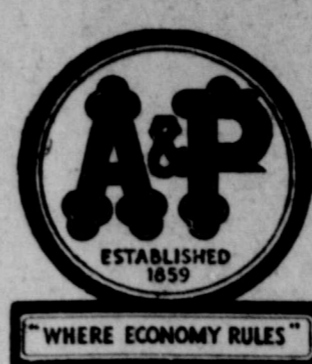
Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Moss and family and Miss Mable Polnack were in the J. S. King home Sunday.

Those present in the J. S. King home Monday were Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Jordan, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Moss and daughter, Madge, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. King, Mr. and Mrs. Fern Jordan.

Mr. and Mrs. Anson Vinson and son, Elvis, were in the Joe Griffiths home Sunday.

Customers of the Texas-Louisiana Power Company were entertained with a tea at their office Tuesday afternoon from 4 to 5:30 o'clock. A number responded to the invitations sent out earlier in the week, and the entire time was enjoyed. Refreshments were served to the guests.

GROCERY BUYING OPPORTUNITIES



A&P Stores offer a wide selection of foods for Christmas — All kinds of foods necessary in making the Christmas dinner a success. A great opportunity to obtain your Christmas Grocery Needs at a minimum price is offered at your nearest A&P.

COFFEE 8 O'Clock lb. 25c

Spuds 10 lbs. 27c	HOLIDAY SEASONS ARE ALWAYS OPEN SEASONS IN A&P STORES FOR THE GREAT ARMY OF BARGAIN HUNTERS— THEY KNOW THAT A&P GIVES THEM PARTICULARLY GOOD CHANCES FOR THE FOODS THAT ARE IN THE GREATEST DEMAND.	Iona Cocoa 2 lbs. 25c	
Cherries No 10 \$1.19		Sunnyfield Corn Flakes Large 2 for 21c	
Compound 8 lb. pail 94c		IT'S A&P'S POLICY TO REDUCE RATHER THAN INCREASE PRICES OF WHAT THE PUBLIC MOST WANTS—TURKEYS SOON FOR INSTANCE.	Palmolive Soap 3 for 20c
Apricots Gal. 69c		Peacock Imit. Vanilla 3 oz. 8c	Iona Corn, Peas no. 2 2 for 25c
Crushed Pineapple No. 10. 99c	Waldorf toilet Paper 4 for 19c	Tomatoes No. 2 3 cans 25c	
	Red Front Extract 2 oz. 17c	5 lb. box Asst. Xmas Choc. 98c	
	Scot Tissue Paper 3 for 25c	Eagle Brand Cond. Milk 19c	
	Encore Olive Oil 8 oz. 27c	Pinto Beans 20 lbs. \$1.00	
	Dill or Sour Pickles 6 oz. 10c	Raisins 2 lbs. 17c	

SEE OUR COMPLETE LINE OF FRUITS, NUTS AND CANDIES FOR CHRISTMAS

THE GREAT ATLANTIC & PACIFIC TEA CO.

Tax Collector's Notice

I will have the Hico, Carlton and Fairy tax receipt books at Hico, December 19th and 20th for the purpose of collecting 1930 taxes, also registering cars for 1931. We have our books arranged to where you won't be detained long. Hoping to meet you at Hico.

Yours for the best service possible,

Shade Register

Tax Collector Hamilton Co., Texas

Christmas Sale

This is your last chance to take advantage of reduced Sale Prices at Duncan Brothers'. Sale Closes Christmas Eve. Don't Wait — Save Money Now!

Many new arrivals in Christmas Boxed Gift Sets at 25c and 50c

HINTS for "HIM"	GIFTS For "HER"
Arrow Boxed Handkerchiefs 50c and \$1.00 Box	Rayon or Silk Underwear 48c to \$3.95
Xmas Ties 69c, 75c and \$1.00	Fine Silk Hosiery 49c, \$1.00, \$1.35 to \$1.95
Arrow Underwear Sets (Boxed) \$1.50 Box	Felt or D'Orsay Pump house Shoes 89c
Silk Mufflers \$1.00 and \$1.50	Snugglers Leather or Quilted Satin House Shoes \$1.75
Gift Shirts 85c, \$1.00, \$1.79	LOVELY GIFT Handkerchiefs 05c to 50c
Gift Sox 10c, 18c, 23c to 75c	Gift Purses 98c to \$3.95
Hand Bag or Gladstone \$4.95 to \$12.50	CHILDREN'S Bath Robes Sizes 10 to 14, values to \$4.95 \$2.98
Flannel Shirts Special 89c	Blankets ALL REDUCED \$1.29, \$1.59, \$2.39
Reductions on All Suits, Sweaters, Trousers, Boots and Shoes	A Dress Pattern From our splendid assortment of Piece Goods All at Sale Prices

SHOES, DRESSES, HATS OR COATS All Reduced for Christmas Sale

Duncan Bros.

Wishing You A MERRY CHRISTMAS

TURKEY PRODUCERS

We Thank You

During the current Turkey Season that has now closed we wish to extend our thanks and appreciation to all the producers who have favored us with their business. We have endeavored to top the market every day, and thus maintain our reputation for paying highest cash prices always for produce of any kind.

With the closing of the turkey season we will again launch into the chicken, egg, and general produce business with a full determination to make it worth your while to market your produce with us.

We will strive at all times to give you even better service in the future than in the past. May we have a portion of your business in the future?

Farmers Poultry & Egg Co.

"Where the Price Is Right" Phone 248 B. PIRTLE, Owner

A BASKET OF GOOD CHEER

Just a word of appreciation to our customers. We are grateful for the business you have given us. May the Yuletide basket of cheer be laden with the fruits of friendship and good will for you.

WACO PACKING CO.
Lyle Golden, Local Manager

LADIES...

You have talked about Christmas lists. Let us show you—

GIFTS MEN DESIRE

Visit with us and view our display of MEN'S PAJAMAS, HOSIERY, TIES, UNDERWEAR and ACCESSORIES

We believe we have one of the best assortments of Ties ever brought to Hico.

DRY CLEANING

—Will be given prompt attention during the Holidays, as well as other times, and we are prepared to take care of your cleaning needs on short notice.

City Tailor Shop
Copeland & Son, Props.

— A —

Merry Christmas TO ALL

AND REMEMBER—Our well assorted line of Holiday Goods is now on display. In this will be found some very beautiful gifts.

Whether it is a DIAMOND RING, WRIST WATCH, TOILET SET or MANICURE SET, MILITARY SETS, FOUNTAIN PEN, RADIO or many other useful things, it will pay you to see our line before you buy.

Corner Drug Store
E. H. ELKINS, Prop.
Call for your 1931 Calendars

GORDON NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. Doba Strickland were in Stephenville one day last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Bryant Smith and son, John D., spent Monday with Frankie Dawson and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Doba Strickland were in Hamilton Thursday afternoon.

Frankie Dawson and family spent a while Friday night with Mr. and Mrs. Bryant Smith.

Bryant Smith and family spent a few hours Wednesday night with G. W. Chaffin.

Mr. and Mrs. Homer Lester spent Thursday with Mr. and Mrs. John Hanshaw.

Frank Dawson and family spent Wednesday with Bryant Smith and family.

Mrs. W. W. Newton spent a while Thursday morning with Mrs. Strickland.

Earnest Hanshaw spent a while with Homer Lester Friday.

Mrs. John Myer's granddaughter, J. J., spent Sunday with Hugh Harris and family.

G. W. Chaffin has a carbuncle on his hand and has suffered for over ten days. We hope he will soon be better.

Homer Lester and family were in Hico Saturday afternoon.

Walter Hanshaw spent a while Tuesday with Mr. and Mrs. John Hanshaw.

Mrs. Fairy Washam and children spent Thursday night with Frankie Dawson and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Burn Sawyer and Miss Mittie Gordon of Iredell spent a while Friday night with Abe Myers, his children and mother.

Mr. and Mrs. John Strickland of Iredell spent Friday with Mr. and Mrs. Doba Strickland.

Bryant Smith and family spent a while Monday with Bud Smith and family at Black Stump.

Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Newton and Mr. and Mrs. Bryant Smith and son, John D., spent a while Sunday afternoon with G. W. Chaffin and wife.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Pruitt of near Hico spent Sunday with Doba Strickland and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Burn Sawyer and Mr. and Mrs. Doba Strickland and daughter, Earline, spent a few hours with Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Chaffin.

R. O. Moffitt was in Clifton Thursday to attend the funeral services of his aunt, who died at her home there Wednesday. She was the mother of Roy Moffatt, who is well known in Hico. He is engineer of plants of the Texas-Louisiana Power Company, and

Hico Methodist Church.
(Put God First)

Follow the wise and come to Church. Don't stay away because company comes; bring them. Don't stay away because you are poor; no charge for admission or exit. Don't stay away because you are lazy; idle people are easily tempted by the Devil. Don't stay away because the Church is imperfect; should you join the perfect Church, its perfection would cease.

Sunday School 9:45 A. M., J. C. Barrow, Superintendent. In the Sunday School we study the Bible and learn of God and His Son. We study How God dealt and is now dealing with man. Come, here is a class for you.

Morning Worship 11:00 O'clock.

Prelude

Invocation Sentence by the Choir Harrington

Hymn No. 46, "I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord" Williams

The Apostles' Creed

Prayer

Hymn No. 257, "The Church in the Wilderness" Pitts

Old Testament Lesson

The Gloria Patri

New Testament Lesson

Announcements and Offering

Dedication Prayer

Hymn No. 23, "The Church's One Foundation" Wesley

Sermon, "Why We Believe in The Holy Catholic Church" Rev. A. C. Haynes

Invitation Hymn No. 19, "Jesus Calls Us" Jude

"Sweet Hour of Prayer" by the Choir Bradbury

Benediction

Postlude

The Junior Epworth Society meets at 2:30 P. M. All the boys and girls of the Church are urged to come.

The Senior Epworth League meets at 6:15 P. M. If you want to learn more about God and have a good time socially come to this service each Sunday evening.

Evening Worship 7:00 O'clock

The membership and friends are urged to worship at the Baptist Church and thus welcome the new Baptist Pastor to our town and community.

Activities For the Week.

Wednesday 7:00 P. M. White Gift Christmas Service and Old Santa Claus. Show your love for God and prove to the world that you are a Christian by living a Christ like life and by loving and serving God, the Church, and your fellow man.

YOUNG WIFE, AFRAID TO EAT, LIVES ON SOUP

"Afraid of stomach gas, I lived on soup for 5 months. Then I tried Adlerika and now I eat most anything without any gas." Mrs. A. Connor.

Adlerika relieves stomach gas in TEN minutes! Acts on BOTH upper and lower bowel, removing old poisonous waste you never knew was there. Don't fool with medicine which cleans only PART of bowels, but let Adlerika give stomach and bowels a REAL cleaning and get rid of all gas!

PORTER'S DRUG STORE

FALLS CREEK

Mrs. Grace Blakley and sons, Lorraine and Walton, visited relatives at Fairy the past week end.

Mr. and Mrs. Ira Ellis are the proud parents of a baby girl, who made her arrival Tuesday. Both mother and babe are doing nicely.

Miss Neva Cook visited her mother, Mrs. J. H. Cook, at Walnut Springs the past week end.

Miss Emma Ann Hargrove visited her sister, Miss Helen Hargrove of Fort Worth Sunday.

Everyone enjoyed singing at L. C. Jameson's Sunday night.

Woodward Brummett of Fairy visited Frank Griffiths Saturday night.

Dan Bullard and family of Dry Fork visited Monroe Latham Saturday and Sunday.

Judd Massingill and family of Fairy visited Jess Massingill and wife Sunday.

Elmer Bullard and family of Dry Fork visited J. Bullard and family Sunday.

M. L. Foust of Fort Worth visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Foust Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Foust returned Monday evening from Stephenville where Mrs. Foust has been with her dying mother, Mrs. Annie Moffitt, who died at 3 P. M. Sunday. Mrs. Moffitt was a dearly beloved mother, and had lots of dear friends that stayed with her to the last. She is well known and respected by everybody in Hico who knew her, and always brought cheer with her into every home. She is at rest now where calm and peace abide and God, with his truth and love are resting at her side.

Little Miss Carolyn Carmean celebrated her fourth birthday anniversary with a little party for a few of her friends at their home last Saturday afternoon. Outdoor games were enjoyed from 3 until 5 o'clock, after which refreshments were served. The guests departed wishing her many happy returns of the day.

GIFTS For LADIES



Coats, Hats, Dresses, Silk Lingerie, Robes, Slips, Bloomers, Dance Sets, Brassieres, Step-Ins, Teddies, Hose, Doll Lamps — and many other gifts.

Do Your Christmas Shopping

— At —

THE VOGUE

BONNIE C. DUKE

Your Business Appreciated

GET READY FOR

The Holidays

Only a few days until Christmas. You'll want your clothes to have that new appearance. We specialize in the finest garments. Try our service.

"We Are Not Satisfied Until You Are Satisfied"

Latham Cleaners

Christmas

IS A DAY ON WHICH TO REMEMBER AND FORGET

—Forget your worries, and remember the bright, happy things of life. We hope your life will be full of Happy Christmases.



We feel very keenly that our customers and those with whom we deal are our partners, and that our success is but a reflection of your good will.

LONG MAY WE GO ON HAPPILY TOGETHER

BELL

Ice & Dairy Products Co.

HICO, TEXAS

COMPLETELY ANSWERING THE CHRISTMAS PROBLEM OF

"What Shall I Give?"

CARLTON BROS. OFFER AN UNUSUAL VARIETY OF

Lasting Gifts

Your Christmas Shopping is more important than ever this year, because this year it is more important than ever that you find the best gifts at the best prices. Your list will find many beautiful and useful suggestions here, for we have gathered together a large offering of Christmas gift items—every one a useful gift. Remember, the useful gift is the most appreciated. We list here only a few of our chosen gift items.

COME TO OUR STORE—SEE THEM ALL!

SHIRTS



Special assortment for Christmas 89c \$1.29 \$1.95

MEN'S and LADIES' PAJAMAS



Special Christmas Assortment Both Men's and Ladies Silk Pajamas

BELTS

Give Belts with Initial \$2.79 per set

SLIPPERS



Give Her or Him House Slippers 69c \$1.25 \$1.69

BLANKETS



What could be more appropriate? \$1.19 to \$7.95

BED SPREADS

Christmas Special \$2.65 to \$5.85

Ladies Kid Gloves



\$2.25 and \$2.95 Black and Tan, Brown

MEN'S GLOVES

15c—25c—50c 95c—\$1.29—\$1.95—\$2.85

CHRISTMAS CARDS

2 for 5c and 5c each

LADIES' BLOOMERS

Special 75c and 98c

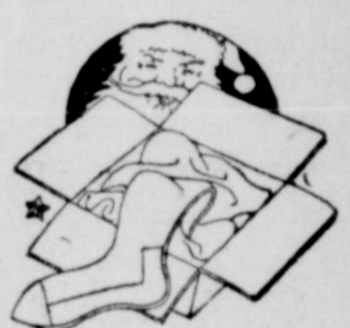
TOWELS

Turkish and Linen Towels

BATH MATS

Brighten up the Bath Rooms90c

DULL-FINISH HOSE



Give Hosiery. We can save you money on Hosiery. Ladies Hose 89c \$1.29 \$1.69 See us for Xmas Hosiery

HANDKERCHIEFS



See our Christmas Assortment.

NECKWEAR



Christmas Ties—Boys' Neckwear 50c; Men's Neckwear 75c and \$1.00

BEADS

Give Her Beads \$1.00 \$1.25 \$1.50 \$2.50

Baby Toilet Sets-Blankets

Then Visit Our Grocery Dept.

—WHERE YOU CAN GET YOUR FRUITS, CANDIES, NUTS, ETC. AT VERY SPECIAL PRICES. BE SURE AND VISIT THIS DEPT.

G. M. Carlton Bros. & Co.

Dealers In Everything

HICO, TEXAS

Priscilla Jean Rodgers Celebrates Sixth Birthday.

Little Miss Priscilla Jean Rodgers celebrated her sixth birthday, December 11th, with a little party at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Rodgers Jr., when a few of her little friends gathered in honor of the occasion.

Many games were played and the time was greatly enjoyed. The large birthday cake with six pink candles surrounded with flowers, was cut by the honoree.

Refreshments were served to the following: Helon Louise Gamble, Elinor Willis, Katherine Massingill, Mary Ella McCullough, Betty Jo and Carroll Anderson, Mary Anna Eakins, Golden Ross, Ima Norton Bowden, Nell Patterson, Mary Brown and Rita Gandy.

NOTICE!

We want to call special attention to the Fire Ordinance of the City of Hico now in effect and we are going to enforce it to the let-

ter. The State Fire Insurance Department at Austin sent us Special instructions to enforce the ordinance. Shooting fireworks on the streets and other things are prohibited. This is dangerous to buildings and property in a general way. In having a Christmas tree, do not have too much paper on the tree where candles can set it on fire. Let us have a Christmas that will be safe for everybody. Do not violate the ordinance.
J. C. BARROW, Mayor.
J. R. McMILLAN, Fire Mar.



Your Christmas Store

An Endless Number of Choice Gifts for Every Member of Your Family to Be Had Here

In line with the program of reduced prices on all lines of merchandise we are showing more than our usual quota of choice gifts at prices that will prove more than a surprise. Already we have a large number of packages stored away, awaiting delivery on Christmas that have solved the problem of Christmas gifts for our customers.

We Are Anxious to Show You Thru Our Store

Come in any day, and let us help you in making the selection. This one feature of our business is a pleasure—a rare pleasure—and we invite you to come in today.

JUST A FEW SUGGESTIONS ON WHAT TO BUY:

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Fountain Pen Sets | Silverware |
| Manicure Sets | Leather Goods |
| Key Sets | Bill Folds |
| Diamonds | Watches |
| Toilet Sets | Perfumes |
| Candies | Cigars and Cigarettes |

AND MANY OTHER ITEMS

PORTER'S DRUG STORE

Just the Old-Time Happy Phrase . . .

Merry Christmas

EXPRESSES ALL THAT IS IN OUR HEARTS OF GRATITUDE AND OF WELL-WISHING FOR YOU AND YOURS.

We hope that our associations with the public have been as profitable and satisfactory to them as they have been pleasant and enjoyable to us. We have striven to so conduct our business relations that we might at this season be sincere in wishing for one and all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

If our good wishes will solve your problems as happily as your good will has solved ours, then this will be your Merriest Christmas, and 1931 your happiest year.

Randals Brothers

Manufacturers of
3-R FEEDS

Konjola Ends Rheumatism

Kidney And Bowel Trouble Also Yield To Amazing Power Of New Medicine.



MR. JACK J. FISHER

"I suffered frightfully from rheumatism for eighteen years," said Mr. Jack J. Fisher, well-known cook, residing at 300 Fahay street, Fort Worth. "The pains were mostly in my lower limbs but my entire body was affected. I was handicapped in my work because of the misery of this ailment. Constipation finally became an added misery. I tried many remedies over a period of years but got no results until I tried Konjola.

"I began to improve in health from the very first bottle of this medicine, and constipation has not bothered me since I began the treatment. My kidneys have been strengthened and although the pains of rheumatism seemed worse for a time, they gradually disappeared and today there is not a trace of this ailment."

Konjola should be taken over a six to eight week period in the average case.

Konjola is sold in Hico, Texas, at Porter's Drug Store, and by all the best druggists in all towns throughout this entire section.

MILLERVILLE

Elder Jno. M. Aiton preached at this place last Sunday. There were several visitors present. There are services every Sunday at 10:30.

Mrs. R. V. Stockton of Hico spent the week end with her daughter, Mrs. C. H. Miller.

H. J. Howerton spent part of last week in Stephenville attending court.

J. W. Osborn and wife went to Mt. Calm last week to spend the winter with their sons.

J. P. Everett went to Eulogy on Sunday to see his brother who is very low.

W. E. Koonsma and wife spent Sunday with their daughter, Milton Howerton and family.

Sammie McCollum had the misfortune of cutting his foot with an ax last week. His brother, Wesley and family, of Hamilton, came over and spent Sunday with him.

The Strong Arm Club met at the school house Friday evening and played H. H. Miller's ball team. The scores were 42 to 11 in favor of the Club.



You Still Have Time for that

Photographic Miniature

for Christmas

Made on Ivora, suitably enclosed in gold or silver holders. Carefully tinted.

Price \$5 Each

The
**WISEMAN
STUDIO**

HICO, TEXAS



Phone No. 19

We Deliver

More Good Bargains For Week-End Shoppers

We are very grateful to you for the nice business you are giving us from day to day, and for the benefit of our old as well as our new customers, we are quoting a few of our prices for the week-end shopper.

HERE ARE A FEW THAT SHOULD INTEREST YOU:

- | | |
|---|--------|
| Oranges, per dozen | 19c |
| Extra fancy Delicious Apples, doz. | 40c |
| English Walnuts, lb. 25c; Almonds, 20c; Butternuts, 25c | |
| Cranberries, two pounds | 40c |
| Smith's Best Flour, 48 lb. bag | \$1.40 |
| Red Seal Flour, 48 lb. bag | \$1.10 |
| Salt Pork, pound | 19c |
| Sugar, 18 pounds for | \$1.00 |
| Lard, any kind, 8 lb. pail (except Crisco) | 95c |
| 4 pounds Coffee | 89c |

Don't Forget

XMAS. EVE, and be on time at our store at 3 p. m.

BIGGER AND BETTER PREMIUMS

Including a \$25.00 Mandolin-Guitar

J. E. Burleson

"Keep the Home Fires Burning"

MORE CHRISTMAS MONEY!

During the remaining shopping days before Christmas, bring us your Turkeys, Chickens, Eggs and Cream, and have more money to buy your Christmas supplies. Be sure to visit us on next cow day, which is December 24.

A Word of Appreciation

We want to express our sincere appreciation to our customers and friends who have favored us with their business during the past several months. We have enjoyed our business dealings with you and will be glad to serve you in 1930.

Our cordial good wishes for a Merry Christmas and a New Year of great happiness. May the Yule season bring abundant joy to you and yours, is the wish of the manager of The Hico Poultry and Egg Co., together with its employees.

HICO POULTRY & EGG CO.

WATT M. ROSS, Local Manager

"Where the Weight Is Right"

MT. ZION NEWS

We have surely had some pretty weather the past week.

Mr. Bill Martin and family of Cleburne spent part of last week with his sister, Mr. and Mrs. G. D. Adkison.

Dave Davis and family visited Mr. Hodge and family Wednesday night.

Ernest Adkison from Athens, Texas, spent Thursday with Grady Adkison, also J. N. Simpson was visiting Grady awhile Thursday night.

C. L. Adkison and family and Mike Adkison were in the G. L. Adkison home awhile Friday night.

Mr. Hugh McKenzie and family and Ray Adkison and wife were in the A. F. Polnaek home Sunday.

Gus Jones and wife, Dave Davis and family were in the G. D. Adkison home Sunday night.

A. F. Polnaek and wife went to church at Hico Sunday night.

Mr. Bowman and wife were in the Jones home Sunday.

G. D. Adkison and wife and son Grady were in Cleburne Saturday night.

Dave Davis and family were in the Stephens home Saturday night.

J. C. Laney and daughter, Mrs. H. H. Ramage of Duffau, were in Dallas Sunday and Monday visiting their daughter and sister, Mrs. Ludie L. Thompson.

Ed Ockander of Waco was visiting friends in Hico Monday.

FLAG BRANCH

Mr. Galliger was a visitor in the F. D. Craig home Wednesday night.

L. L. Flanary, Claud Pruitt and families spent Thursday with Hugh Graves and family.

Junior Mingus was the guest of

Joe and Raymond Newman Saturday night.

Duane Harlow was the guest of Vernon Coleman Tuesday night.

Nadine Gosdin was the guest of Marguerite Graves Saturday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Hanshaw spent Thursday with Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Davis of near Iredell.

O. V. Coleman and family entertained the young folks with a party Saturday night. Everyone enjoyed themselves.

R. L. Mingus returned from

Stephenville where he has been visiting his daughter, Mrs. Delpha Flanary.

Oral Bowman was the guest of L. C. Harlow Saturday night.

Henry Burks and family, Mr. and Mrs. John Hanshaw and son, Earnest Gordon, spent Sunday with W. K. Hanshaw and family.

Charley Moore of Paluxy has been visiting his brother, Bob Moore.

Mr. and Mrs. Sylvester Mingus spent the week end with her par-

ents, Mr. Christopher and family of near Fairy.

Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Flanary spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Craig.

Mrs. Finis Graves of Iredell visited her parents, Henry Davis and family.

Miss Ola Flannary and Mr. and Mrs. Shermond Bandy spent Sunday in the J. M. Cooper home.

Mrs. G. W. Mingus and daughter, Doris, visited Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Graves a while Saturday night.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS TO OUR FIFTEEN HUNDRED FRIENDS AND CUSTOMERS AND A SINCERE WISH FOR A PLEASANT AND PROSPEROUS 1931.

The First National Bank
Hico, Texas

Forty-one years in Hico under the same management.



SANTA Says: GIVE USEFUL GIFTS

Think of the joy you would bring to your entire family by buying a new Chevrolet for their Christmas surprise. Let us demonstrate the new 1931 models, which are the best values Chevrolet has ever offered.

Accessories of every kind for most any make of car. These make presents that are appreciated, and keep on giving every day in the year. Some are very inexpensive, others higher priced are worth every cent you pay—and more.

KASH IS KING!

EFFECTIVE JAN. 1, 1931, and from now on, we will sell our merchandise and service for cash only. Automobiles will be sold on regular terms. We will give 5% off for cash (on even dollars only). We have at all times a first-class stock of automobile supplies and first-class automobile service. Remember that we sell for cash and give you 5% discount (on even dollars only).

COMPLETE LINE OF NEW AND USED CHEVROLET CARS—SEE US FOR A BARGAIN

NEW TIRES Make Excellent Gifts



"GOODYEAR" on the Christmas package is definite assurance that your gift will be appreciated. All sizes of fresh, new tires and tubes carried at all times.

BLAIR'S

KASH IS KING 5% OFF FOR CASH

This Christmas
Give Furniture

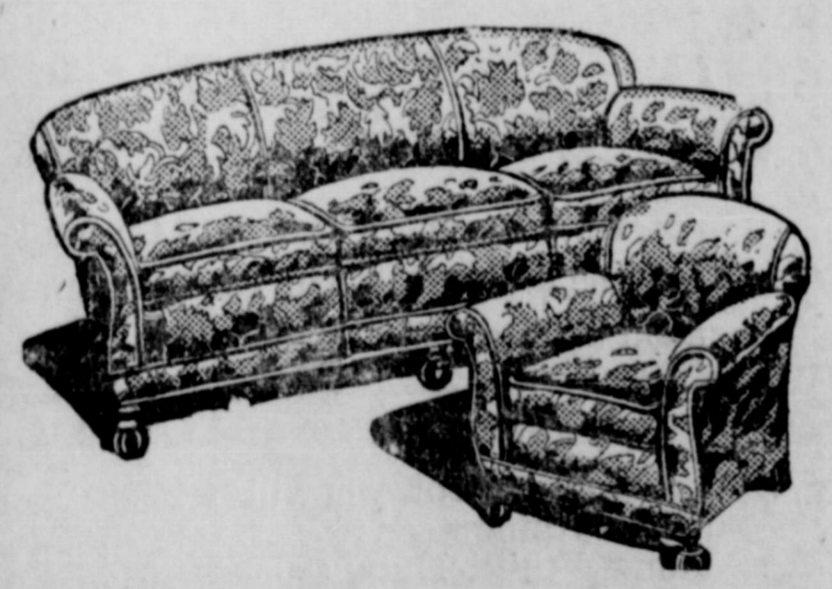


FURNITURE
For every room and to fit all your needs.



RUGS
Of every size and shape, for every purpose.
For Her—
A Cedar Chest!
\$8.95 to \$37.50

FURNITURE—the finest gift of all. A gift of beauty as well as utility. One that will last through years, giving satisfaction and enjoyment. We have room enough to only mention a few of the many beautiful and useful pieces we have on display in our store. Come in and choose some of these lovely things for that Christmas present.



\$89⁵⁰ Up

WHAT A GIFT FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY
How delighted the whole family would be if, coming down on Christmas morning, they are confronted with this magnificent suite of living room furniture.

Hico Furniture Company

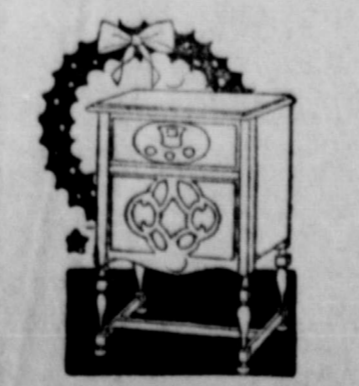


TABLES
Of every description and in a wide price range.

Magazine Stands
\$1.45 to \$10.50
Some pretty ones.

Children's Rockers
\$1.15, \$1.45, \$1.85, \$4.95, and up

Smoking Stands
75c Up
The men who smoke would appreciate such a gift.



R. C. A. RADIOLA
See the new models on display at our store.

**PAGE EIGHT
FIXED**

House Mobiloil, Pennaker State. Will drain and sell for \$1.00 as long as it lasts.—C. D. 28-2tc.

ED—Young men and women join our Sunday School Bible. We are having an interesting time now with our regular lessons, memory verses and weekly Bible readings. It is fine to study God's word.—C. D. PHILLIPS.

74 acres of land for sale or trade five miles from Hico on Highway 108.—G. A. Latham. 27-1pt.

We make farm and ranch loans. No expense to borrower.—Bird Land Co. 22-ttc.

FOR SALE—CHRYSLER COUPE
—Has been carefully used and is an unusually good used car. Has been reconditioned mechanically by expert mechanic. I have 2 cars and have use for only one. Would sell at bargain or trade for cattle.—H. W. Pierce, 6 miles from Hico on Hamilton road. 29-2p.

DUFFAU NEWS

Miss Laurette Rich, who lives near Carlton, spent the week end with Miss Nancy Mae Campbell.

Mr. and Mrs. J. I. Hefner and family spent Sunday with Mrs. Hefner's parents at Clairette.

O. M. Bramblett spent Sunday with Elworth McAnally.

Mrs. Beulah Cavitt and sons, Russell and Kenneth Ray, visited Mrs. Enoch Cavitt and children last Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Hood Howerton visited Mr. and Mrs. Geo. T. Camp bell and family Sunday afternoon.

Little Wynona Clyde Herod spent Friday with Mrs. J. P. Smart and daughter, Vera.

Mr. and Mrs. Enoch Cavitt and children had the misfortune of getting ptomaine poison Thursday night of last week.

Helen Nachtigall entertained the members of the Junior B. Y. P. U. last Saturday afternoon by giving a social.

Miss Gladys Latham spent the week end with her homefolks at Seldon.

The Duffau basket ball teams went to Black Stamp Valley and played ball last Friday afternoon and came home victorious.

Mr. and Mrs. George Bowie and daughter, Reba, visited Mr. and Mrs. Enoch Cavitt a while last Friday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Ewin Ledbetter and children and the former's mother, Mrs. Ledbetter, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Eck Bell.

Here For Holidays from T. W. C.
Miss Marguerite McMillan will arrive Sunday to spend the Christmas holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. McMillan from Texas Woman's College, Fort Worth, where she is a member of the Freshman class and popular in campus activities, including club, class, and dormitory affairs. During last week she was a participant in several festivities incident to the Christmas season—a vesper service presented by the college dramatic club, society and class parties, the annual Mulkey hall Christmas tree celebration, and numerous "room-feasts."

She reports a splendid fall and is looking forward to the work of the remainder of the college year. She will return to Fort Worth in time for the resuming of class work on Monday, January 5.

BROKEN
RUBY M. AYRES

"When I get well I'll start all over again and show you how nice I can be," she told him. "You've been so good to me—far better than I ever deserved. I'll pay you back some day, Giles."

"Get well and strong, and I shall wait nothing else," he told her.

The reports of the specialists were encouraging. They had every hope, they said—it might be a long time naturally, but Mrs. Chitttenham was such an excellent patient.

Giles winced and turned away. One Saturday he and Bim went down into Gloucester to follow up a clue which they hoped might lead to news of Julie. Chitttenham had told Sadie he was going away on business.

She turned impatiently away when he would have kissed her. "You treat me like a child. Nobody would think I am your wife," Chitttenham frowned.

"Don't be unreasonable, Sadie. I cannot spend all my time with you."

Her drawn face flushed. "You would want to, if you loved me," she accused him.

"If you would rather I did not go—" he began hopelessly; but she broke in offensively.

"Oh, go! go! They all say you behave like an angel. They all think that I am a beast to you. Oh, I know they don't say so, but I know what they think." Then as she felt him move to leave her she caught at his arm with her thin, nervous hands. "I'm sorry, Giles. I didn't mean it. I do try to be reasonable, but if you were in my place—" Her voice broke, and she controlled it with an effort.

"I'll do anything in the world to make you happy, Sadie," Giles said, but in his heart he despised himself for a coward and a traitor to the woman he loved. He could do nothing for Sadie if it was only his love she wanted; that was already in the keeping of Julie, who had gone out of his life perhaps forever. He kissed Sadie hurriedly, anxious to be gone, but she clung to him.

"Kiss my lips—kiss my lips—" "Sadie!"

He held back from her for a moment, then gave way. He kissed her lips kindly enough, but with no warmth or passion, and she pushed him from her petulantly.

"Go away. You don't love me. You hate being with me."

And a storm of tears came, and bitter sobbing.

Chitttenham went out to Bim, who was waiting for him, his face set and white, and his eyes miserable.

"I can't stand this much longer," he told her as they drove away. "It's an impossible situation. God only knows what the end will be. But the whole world knew the end when on Monday morning, after a hopeless search along a chain of false clues which led them nowhere, Bim and Chitttenham returned to town."

There was an urgent telephone call from Sadie's nursing home. Would Mr. Chitttenham please come immediately.

"I'll go with you," Bim said at once, and looking at Chitttenham's white face, she hated herself for saying: "Perhaps it's good news. Perhaps she is recovering her sight."

"I hope so. God knows, I hope so," Chitttenham answered.

But it was something very different. Early that morning, just as it was getting light, they had found Sadie lying on the pavement below her window—quite dead.

"It must have been an accident," they told him for his comfort.

"She must have tried to open the window—the nurse had left her alone for a few minutes—and we think she lost her balance. Last night she was quite cheerful and hopeful, and looking forward to seeing you today. We are sure it must have been an accident."

Chitttenham made no answer, and presently Bim drew the nurse aside to whisper: "Would you . . . do you think she would ever have recovered her sight?"

There was a little silence before the answer came.

"The doctors were hopeful—but" the nurse shook her head. "I don't think Mrs. Chitttenham herself ever had any real hope."

Bim walked to the window and looked out. The sun was shining, and the air was soft and warm. She closed her own eyes and tried to imagine what Sadie had suffered. To be blind! Never to see the sunlight or the flowers, or a beloved face.

She turned and crossed the room to Chitttenham. She understood so well what he was feeling, how his heart must be torn with remorse and grief, and yet through it all she knew he must be conscious of a great and overwhelming relief.

She slipped a hand into his.

"At any rate, wherever she is, she can see the sunshine again."

There had been no definite plan in Julie's mind when she ran away from London.

She had no idea where she meant to go, but she had taken a ticket to Folkestone because it was the first place that occurred to her, and because she had once spent a happy holiday there.

It was only at mid-day when she reached Folkestone that the idea occurred to her to cross over to France. It was only a little journey, but there was something comforting in the knowledge that she could so easily put the width of the sea between herself and the things from which she desired to escape.

She crossed to Ostend by the mid-day boat and took a room in a cheap little pension which at any rate had the merit of great cleanliness. And there Julie stayed for a fortnight, sleeping and resting, and trying to forget.

She never thought of Schofield—it was too bitter a memory. He had been the rock in her sea of distress to which she had always unconsciously clung, and he had failed her even as everything else had failed her.

Concluded Next Week.

CHILDREN GATHER IN HOME OF PARENTS TO CELEBRATE BIRTHDAY

On Sunday, December 7th, the children of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Morgan of Carlton, made their annual home-coming to celebrate their father's birthday. He was 77 years old. The occasion was a very happy one, marred only by the absence of four of the family who could not come.

Dinner was spread outside, it being a very lovely day and the table was loaded with good things to eat, including turkey. The three-tier birthday cake with its rose candles which was baked by a daughter was an added attraction to the table.

The honoree received a number of gifts which shows how much his children love him.

Those of the children present with their families were: E. B. Morgan, San Antonio; W. R. Morgan, Colorado; B. E. Morgan, Jonesboro; Mack Morgan, H. W. Morgan, Hamilton; Mrs. Wayne Redden of Pearl; Geo. A. and Alfonso Morgan of Dilley; Mrs. Tell McLarty, Hico; Mrs. E. B. Adams of Spurlin; and Dock and Pauline of the parental home; also Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Stevenson of Carlton, parents of Mrs. Morgan.

Others present not mentioned above were: Rev. and Mrs. A. B. Quinn, Carlton; Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Burden, Olin; Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Herrington, Hico; and Mrs. Het-tie Adams, Spurlin; one married grandson, Paul Morgan, Sweet-water, and three great grandchil-

SILK SALE

10,000 dress-length remnants of finest silk to be cleared by mail, regardless. Every desired yardage and color. All 39 inches wide. Let us send you a piece of genuine \$6 Crepe Paris (very heavy flat crepe) on approval for your inspection. If you then wish to keep it mail us your check at only \$1.90 a yard. (Original price \$6 a yd.)

Or choose printed Crepe Paris. Every wanted combination of colors. We will gladly send you a piece to look at. What colors and yardage, please? If you keep it you can mail us check at \$1.25 a yd. (Final reduction. Originally \$6 a yd.)

All \$2 silks, \$2 satins and \$2 printed crepes are 90¢ a yd. in this sale. Every color. Do not ask for or buy from samples. See the whole piece you are getting before deciding. We want to be your New York reference so tell us all you wish to about yourself and describe the piece you want to see on approval. Write NOW. Send no money. To advertise our silk thread we send you a spool to match free.

CRANE'S, Silks, 545 Fifth Ave. New York City, N. Y.

LIGHT TESTING

Have your lights tested before applying for a new number. By doing this now you will avoid the rush and your certificate will be ready when you need it.

SPECIAL!

For a limited time we will WASH AND GREASE CARS FOR \$1.50. This means a direct saving to you. Work guaranteed.

HICO MOTOR CO.

Marvin Bell Roy French Penn Blair Chief Mechanic

HICO METHODIST CHURCH (Put God First)

Follow the "WISE MEN" to Church

Hear the fourth sermon of 6 Sunday morning sermons on the Apostles' Creed Sunday, Dec. 21, 11 A. M.—

"Why We Believe in the Holy Catholic Church, or Holy Universal Church" Sunday, Dec. 21, 7 P. M.—

Members and friends are requested to worship at the Baptist Church and welcome the new Baptist pastor.

COME, WORSHIP THE LORD

dren were also present, making a total of 51 guests.

J. W. Morgan was born near Oxford, Miss., Dec. 10th 1853, coming to Texas early in life, living in Bell and Coryell counties. He has lived in Hamilton county for the past 31 years. Twenty-four of these years he lived in the Shive community moving from there to Carlton in December 1923.

May God grant this good father many more birthdays.

Misses Jean and Jane Wolfe were week end guests of their aunt, Mrs. Collins, in Waco. Monday their mother, Mrs. H. N. Wolfe, Tom Herbert Wolfe and Mrs. Anna Wolfe went over after them.

PALACE Theatre

FAMILY NIGHTS

Thursday-Friday

BEBE DANIELS

in

"Lawful Larceny"

PARAMOUNT COMEDY

Bring your Family to the Show for the price of TWO Adult Admissions. 15c and 35c.

Saturday Matinee and Night

LON CHANEY

in

"The Unholy Three"

His last and only All-Talking Picture

Don't miss it. Miekie Comedy

Adm. 15c and 35c.

Monday-Tuesday-Wednesday

ZANE GREY'S

"The Border Legion"

RICHARD ARLEN, JACK HOLT and FAY WRAY

A thrilling drama of the Gold Rush days of the West. Paramount Sound News. Adm. 15c and 35c.

A good Theatre, properly run is an asset to your town, but can not be maintained without your patronage. Come to the Theatre.

HEAR

The Hico Band in Concert Saturday evening at 6 o'clock, then see a good show.

An Old Custom
—THAT OF SAYING—

Merry Christmas

—But the age of the greeting takes nothing from its sincerity, and the comparative youth of this business establishment makes the saying no less to be regarded as our genuine, heartfelt wish for you and yours.



We are glad to be connected with the great organization bearing the above emblem, and we are further glad to have the privilege of doing business with such loyal customers as we have enjoyed during the time we have been in business—one year this week.

Hooper & Lynch

Grady Hooper Phone 127 C. L. Lynch Jr.



Just a few more days until Christmas—Don't WAIT! —Come and select your GIFTS from our large assortment of Toys and Practical Gifts.

GROCERY DEPT.

In our Grocery Dept. you will find "Everything good to eat" including Fruits, Nuts, Candies and everything to make the Kiddies' Xmas. cheerful.

Cocoonut in the bulk, lb. 25c
Buy Apples and Oranges by the box

VARIETY DEPT.

10,000 things too numerous to mention, including toys from 5c up, Wagons, Airships, Drums and Everything. Also a nice assortment of—

Practical Gifts for Mother, Dad and all the Family.

FIREWORKS

The most complete assortment of FIREWORKS ever displayed in Hico—at the PETTY BROS. BUILDING on the corner. Also many toys and things there.

DON'T FORGET THE PLACE

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS AND BEST WISHES FOR THE NEW YEAR

N. A. LEETH & SON

"EVERYTHING FOR EVERYBODY"

BUY NOW

BRING PROSPERITY BACK

- EXTRA SPECIALS for FRIDAY, SATURDAY, and XMAS EVE—COW DAY
- 8 Lb. Bucket Shortening, 3 for \$2.70
- 3 Lb. Maxwell House Coffee, 2 for 2.15
- Soda, 10 one pound packages 75c
- Tomatoes, full size No. 2 cans, 12 for 90c
- Corn, full size No. 2 Cans, 12 for 1.25
- Campbell's Tomato Soup, 2 for 15c

THESE PRICES WILL MAKE IT PAY YOU TO BUY NOW

- 48 Lb. Sack High Patent Flour \$1.10
- 10 Lb. Calumet Baking Powder 1.39
- 3 Lb. Box Crackers 40c
- 2 Lb. Box Saltine Flakes 32c
- Cocoonuts 10c
- Large English Walnuts, per Lb. 25c
- Bulk Cocoonut, per Lb. 27c
- Imperial Mince-meat, per pkg. 12c

SEE Our XMAS FRUITS and CANDIES BEFORE BUYING. OUR PRICES ARE RIGHT and will SAVE YOU MONEY.

L. L. HUDSON

"Better Foods For Less"

Cunningham RADIO TUBES



Have your dealer test your tubes.

Pioneers of the air since 1915 with millions of enthusiastic Friends.

CROSLY RADIO

The Shield Co., Inc.
Fort Worth - Dallas - Waco
CUMINGHAM TUBES

Behold the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain. Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts.—The Epistle of James, v. 7-8.

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FROM TEXAS TO THE SOUTHEAST
On sale December 20—
Limit January 4th.

FROM TEXAS TO SOUTHWESTERN POINTS
On sale December 19 to 24, Incl.
Limit January 5th.

FROM TEXAS TO ARIZONA AND CALIFORNIA POINTS
On sale December 16 to 22, Incl.
also Dec. 26th, final limit
January 15.

TO TEXAS AND LOUISIANA POINTS
On sale December 18 to 25, Incl.
also Dec. 30, 31 and Jan 1,
final limit January 7, 1931.

FRANK JENSEN
General Passenger Agent
Dallas, Texas.

A Little Fun--Jokes to Make You Laugh

Just to Be Safe
The president of a small bank had received his appointment more on account of his wealth than his ability, and when dictating was not at all sure of his ground. Turning to his stenographer one day he said: "Let's see, do you retire a loan?" The dreamy stenographer, with her thoughts miles away, answered, "No, sir, I sleep with mother."

Taking No Chances
Grocer (to small customer)—"Willie, would you like to have an apple?"
Willie—"No, sir. I'm afraid to eat 'em."
Grocer—"Why?"
Willie—"Cause my grandfather died of appleplexy."

Irish Ability
An Englishman and an Irishman were one day holding an argument respecting the nationality of the various great men who lived and died.

The Irishman had successively claimed each one mentioned as a countryman of his own, till at length the Englishman, somewhat nettled, inquired: "How about Shakespeare—was he an Irishman?" to which he received the reply: "Well, I can't say he was altogether, but he had the abilities of one."

Bobby—"Say, teacher, has every boy in this country got a chance to be President?"
Teacher—"Yes, certainly."
Bobby—"Willie Billfuzz ain't."
Teacher—"How's that?"
Bobby—"Cause he traded me his chance for two marbles and a fishhook."

Protection That Protects
A negro woman walked into an insurance office and asked whether they dealt in fire insurance.
"We do," a clerk replied, "what do you want insured?"
"Mah husband."

"Then you don't want fire insurance," smiled the clerk, as he reached for another application form. "What you want is a life insurance policy."
"No, Ah don't," exclaimed the woman. "Ah wants fire insurance. Mah husband been fired fo' times in de las' two weeks."

Before Bathing Days
Tom McNeal tells of making a trip through Arkansas about 25 years ago and being obliged to stop at a small town hotel at the end of a hot, dusty day, he asked if he might take a bath. Soon a boy appeared with a cake of yellow soap, a rough towel and a shovel. "But what's the shovel for?" asked Tom. "Oh, you may need that," explained the boy, "to dam up the creek in case the water ain't deep enough for you. It's been powerfully dry here."

The Pied Typesetter
"See here," said the angry visitor to the reporter, "what do you mean by inserting the derisive expression 'Apple sauce' in parenthesis in my speech?"
"Apple sauce? Great Scott, man, I wrote 'Applause!'"

Couldn't Fail
The old lady was quite nervous and finally resolved to ask the conductor: "Are you sure the train will stop when you pull that rope?"
"You bet it will," the conductor assured her. "The other end is tied around the engineer's neck."

And That's That!
Hubby—"I miss the old cuspidor since it's gone."
Wife—"You missed it before. That's why it's gone."

Putting One Over
She: "John, did you mail that letter I gave you?"
John: "Yes, dear. I remember very distinctly mailing it in the first mailbox I came to. You can see for yourself that it isn't in any of my pockets."
She: "That will do, John. I gave you no letter to mail."

Disillusioned
Sambo, a Southern darkey, married Liza. In about two weeks he came to the reverend gentleman who had tied the knot, looking as if he had lost his last friend in the world.

"What's the matter, Sambo; aren't you happy?" the preacher inquired.
"No, suh, pahson. Ah wants a divorce."

"I'm sorry to hear that, Sambo, but you remember that you took Liza for better or worse."
"Ah knows dat, pahson, but she's wuss dan ah took her fo'."

Sex Running True to Form
It happened in a small grocery store, where they kept anything from a two-foot rule to a pearl necklace. Court plaster and sausages were also sold, and, if necessary, you could get a hair-cut or a horse shod in the backyard.

A farmer stopped there to get some liniment to rub the rheumatism out of a cow, and two or three days later he returned with a grievance.
"Look 'ere," he said. "I wish ye would be a little more careful how ye throw yourself about behind that counter. The other day ye gave me some eau-de-Cologne instead of liniment, and hang me if I didn't put it on the cow afore I found out what it was."

"It hasn't hurt her, has it?" broke in the grocer.
"Can't say it has," answered the farmer; "but ever since I put that sweet-smelling stuff on 'er she's done nothing but look at her reflection in the duck pond and sigh."

SANTA, SAINT NICHOLAS AND CHRIST'S BIRTHDAY
Whoever says there is no Santa Claus is mistaken. Santa Claus, like Christ, once walked this earth.

He was a man of great kindness and generosity, with a deep love for children. Such was his hold on the hearts of the people that after he died, December 6, about 1,600 years ago, the date was set as a feast and gift day, in commemoration of his life.

His name was Nicholas. After his death folks called him Saint Nicholas. As the feast and gift-giving day of St. Nicholas spread, the Dutch took it up. The nearest they could come to saying St. Nicholas was Santa Claus.

As time rolled on, December 6, the feast day of Santa Claus, giver of gifts, and December 25, the feast day of Christ, giver of life, became confused in the minds of the people, and eventually the two festivals were combined. Thus the idea became established that on the eve of the birth of the Christ Child there comes out of the frozen north, with sleigh and reindeer, genial Santa Claus, with gifts.

When persons tell children, "Santa Claus brought you this," they are speaking the truth. For the spirit of Santa Claus that still lives, prompted the gift.

Mexican children have what they call a "pinyate," and get as much fun out of it as the children of the United States get out of their Christmas tree. Candies, nuts, fruits and little presents are placed in an earthenware vase which is suspended from the ceiling. Children gather around it. One is blindfolded and given a bat. The blindfolded batter then must find the pinyate and smash it to pieces with a single blow. After repeated blows he finally hits the vase, whereupon there follows a free for all scramble, with every child trying to pick up all the goodies and candy.

HOLLY AND MISTLETOE
Holly and mistletoe, which come to town in carloads between the first of December and Christmas, are associated inextricably with the Christmas festival. No household feels itself complete without them at Christmas.

Nor did the old Druids, from whom the Christian world derives its feeling for such things. Each year, at Yule-tide, the Druids sent their young men around with messages of greeting and branches of mistletoe, which they regarded as sacred—a symbol of peace and good will. When the mistletoe was found in an oak they sacrificed white oxen, and with great ceremony the Arch Druid cut the mistletoe from its parent stem with a golden knife, taking care that it should not touch the ground.

Mistletoe first was hung over the doors of the ancient Britons to propitiate the spirits of ill will, for only happiness could enter with the mistletoe. From this superstition derives the present-day tradition of the kiss, a tradition so deeply rooted that William Hone, a century ago, wrote in his "Every-Day Book": "Girls, although they be ladies, are kissed under the mistletoe."

Few things in a world of change remain so persistently the same as Christmas. On Thursday morning, December 25th, a hundred million people and more in the United States, not to speak of millions more in Great Britain, will greet each other with the words, "Merry Christmas!"

The greeting in Greece Christmas morning will be: "Kalla Christogenna!"; in Sweden, "Luklig Jul!"; in Germany, "Froliche Weihnachten!"; in Holland, "Prettig Kerstfeest!"; in Lithuania, "Linkmois Kaledos!"; in Norway, "Gledelig Jul!"; in Italy, "Buon Natale!"; in Serbia, "Sarbatore Fericeite!"; in France, "Joyeux Noel!"; and in Poland, euphoniously, "Westloch Swiat!"

LONG-LIFE GOODNESS

Their quality is put into them with infinite care. That's why they live so much longer.



PLATING Established 23 Years
Silverware Repairing—stinting—Gilding—Any article made of metal Plated in Gold, Silver, Bronze, Brass, Nickel.
Southern Plating Co.
226 Fourth St., San Antonio, Texas.

The most famous Christmas celebration in the world is held yearly in Bethlehem, on the spot where Christ is believed to have been born. The Church of the Nativity is built over a great natural cave where is supposed to have been the manger where Jesus lay. Pilgrims go there to kiss the silver star set in the marble pavement which represents the exact spot.

When You Could Ride

from Fort Worth to Cheyenne and Nege See a Fence...
—from then right till today, you can tell a real cattleman by the brand on his bootstraps! Here's the boot that grew up with the cow country. Tough as a cattle rustler's conscience, comfortable as a feather bed. We'll send you these boots or you can buy from your dealer's stock. If he can't sell you Justins, write direct for foot-form chart, style sheets and prices.

H. J. JUSTIN & SONS, INC.
FORT WORTH, TEXAS
322 SO. LAKE ST.

Poultry Facts

By F. W. KAZMEIER
Poultry Breeder, Bryan, Texas

Selecting the Breeders
It is not too early to be making preparations of selecting your breeders. Surely you are not going to breed from your entire flock. Select the most promising individuals for your breeding pen. If you are trapnesting, you are going to place the best layers in your breeding pen. Even among good layers it is necessary to discard such individuals as do not measure up to their respective breed standards. A Barred Plymouth Rock, otherwise the bird must be discarded regardless of trapnest records. Breed characteristics must be maintained at all cost.

Vigor and Vitality
Vigor and vitality are important requirements in the breeding pen. The chick is no better than the parents; weak parents will produce weak baby chicks. The male bird that can crow the loudest and longest, can put up the best fight, is the most gallant, of good size, type and color is a desirable bird to head the breeding pen. He must be healthy, strong, well developed and vigorous. He should also, if possible, come from an equally as good hen, with a high egg record. In the case of breeds like Leghorns use males from hens with records of 240 on up. In the case of Rocks and other similar breeds use a male from hens with records of 200 and up. Remember heavy laying hens do not come about by accident. Remember you must first breed egg-production into a flock before you can hope to feed it out.

How Many Eggs Are You Getting?
That may be a mean question to ask of any one right now, still it is an all important question. You breed egg-production into chickens like you breed speed into horses. If you have some real top notch layers, place them in the breeding pen.

Breed from hens that possess some of the following characteristics:
1. Are late moulters, moulting as late as November and December, this in reference to hens, not pullets.
2. Do not go broody often, or better not more than twice a year.
3. Laid at least 20 eggs in January, as pullets, and started to lay early, say when not more than six months old.
4. Lay eggs of good size and color, average at least 24 ounces to the dozen.
5. Are winter layers and as pullets laid right on through December and January. One good way to get winter layers is to hatch from hens that lay in the winter time.
People will soon be rigging up their small

incubators, or be planning on taking some eggs to a nearby custom hatchery or public incubator. It does not matter which plan of incubation you will follow you are going to be interested as to whether the eggs are to hatch or not.

The care of the breeding flock is to a large extent responsible for the hatchability of the eggs. Use only strong, vigorous hens and males in the breeding pen. Allow the entire flock free range, if your lawn and garden will not do well with the chickens walking and scratching on it, then fence the lawn and garden, but allow the chickens free range.

As a general rule we recommend mating one male to 10 or 12 females in the case of Barred Rocks, and other breeds, similar in size and weight. In the case of such small breeds as Leghorns, Anconas, etc., we recommend one male to every 15 to 18 females. Do not use male birds more than two years old.

Green Food
A flock in order to produce fertile eggs and strong chicks must be fed a liberal supply of succulent green food daily. In North Texas and Oklahoma barley and wheat may be sown for winter pasture. We also provide a large collard patch from which we are gathering each day, loads of green collard leaves. When all these fail, it is necessary to resort to sprouting oats, which takes time and is troublesome, yet green food is absolutely necessary for the production of fertile hatching eggs.

Direct Sunshine
Often poultry raisers have trouble getting eggs with good shells on them, many soft shells being produced. This is an indication of a lack of lime in the ration or a lack of direct sunshine. It is best to allow direct sunshine to strike the hens for several hours each day. On sunny days be sure to give the flock an opportunity to enjoy the sun to the fullest extent. Direct sunshine will do much to help produce fertile eggs and vigorous baby chicks. It is also a good idea to keep a box full of oyster shell before the flock all day. This is important and oyster shell is cheap.

Milk in Ration
If you have any surplus milk, such as sour milk, skim milk or buttermilk, be sure and feed it to your hens. Milk fed to breeding hens will do much to increase both fertility and hatchability of the eggs. We do not know exactly why this is, but we do know that those flocks getting plenty of milk to drink, always produce better hatching eggs. Even if your pigs need the milk, experimental data proves you can make more money feeding this milk to your hens. Some poultry raisers think so much of milk, they buy either semi-solid buttermilk or dried milk. Both are commercial products and offered for sale.



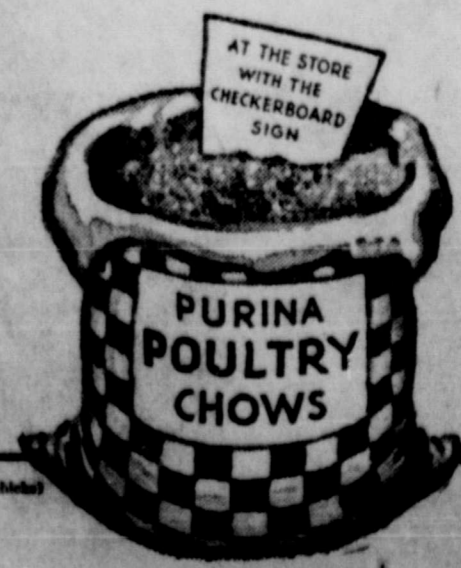
A CHRISTMAS PACKAGE for You!

THERE'S a Christmas package awaiting you... in your town... at The Store With the Checkerboard Sign. It's there... hidden in a bag of Purina Laying Chows. A Christmas package that's yours when you take Purina Laying Chows home with you.

In this package are 42 eggs... 42 more eggs in every bag of Purina Laying Chows than in the average bag of more than 125 other feeds. One bag of Purina Laying Chows costs an average of 37c more than the average bag of these other feeds. That's 42 eggs for 37c. So say figures which come from thousands of poultry yards like yours. These are figures gathered in the 1929 national survey of 3,007,718 hens... a survey covering 48 states... a survey conducted by 870 men... a survey still going on.

When you buy feed for your layers you are buying eggs in a bag. Consider, then, what a bargain you get in a 100-pound bag of Purina Laying Chows... 239 eggs... almost 20 dozen... all in 100 pounds of feed. 42 of these eggs are extra... 42 eggs which cost 37c... less than 12c per dozen... that's your Christmas package!

Glance at today's price of eggs. Compare it with eggs at less than 12c per dozen. 42 eggs for 37c... that's your Christmas package. One that comes in every bag of Purina Laying Chows. Let this Christmas package become your year-around package... your year-around bargain... by making Purina Laying Chows your year-around feed. Remember, it's waiting for you at The Store With the Checkerboard Sign. Raistona Poultry Company of Texas, Inc., 1522 East First Street, Fort Worth, Texas.



THE PURINA POULTRY CHOWS	CHICKEN CHOWDER (each... for eggs)	STARTENA CROW (each... for chicks)
	LAY CHOW (each... for eggs)	CHICK CHOW (each... for chicks)
	HEN CHOW (each... for eggs, for growth)	GROWING CHOW (each... for growth)

Texas Farm News

Frank Merka, a farmer-dairyman of Brazos county, was told that he could not grow his own dairy feed, but he believed that he could and acted upon his belief. This year he grew his own dairy feed and is delighted with the results. He produced satisfactory yields of hegari, corn and other feed stuffs and finds that he can grow his feed at a much lower cost than he can buy it. He has twenty-six cows and his records show that in producing his own feed-stuff he has reduced his feed bill from about \$240 a month to about \$70. In addition to his home-grown feed he finds that four pounds of cottonseed meal per day makes up a balanced ration. He uses improved machinery, including tractor, row binder disc harrows and feed mill in the production and preparation of his feed stuff.

The Surinam toads, from the Barbadoes, which were introduced into Porto Rico by the United States Agricultural Department a few years ago, and have proved so valuable as insect destroyers, may prove of great help to truck farmers of the coast country of Southeast Texas. A number of these toads were received at Beaumont, and some of them were released in that vicinity, and others are being held at the agricultural station, where a study is being made of their habits and an accurate check is being kept on them by competent workers. The toads are twice as large as the native American toad, are very active in their habits and will attack any live insect. They are proving very valuable in the destruction of male crickets, roaches, beetles, caterpillars and flies.

Lyt Pape, a 4-H Club boy of near LaGrange, Fayette county, probably holds the record for high corn production in Texas for the present year. Young Mr. Pape grew 138 bushels of yellow dent corn on a measured acre of creek bottom loam, which had been in alfalfa the five previous years.

A winter blue grass, believed to be adaptable to Texas' climatic conditions, has been introduced into the State by H. M. Madison, agricultural agent of the Southern Pacific Railroad. The new grass bears the scientific name of *Poa bulbosa*, and is known as the "Lost Grass of Palestine." It is said that some years ago, when U. S. agricultural agents were introducing into this country figs from Smyrna, in Asia, the grass seeds were brought from Palestine. The figs and grass seeds were planted in California, but the grass was lost sight of until recent years, when a small patch of it was found in Oregon. It was cultivated and later identified as the lost grass of Palestine. The grass is being introduced into Texas to see what it will do toward providing a winter grass.

Recently the Texas Feed Conference Board, which was in session at A. & M. College, recommended the substitution of ground wheat for ground corn, milo or kaffir in the laying mash for hens, and of ground or rolled whole wheat for hominy feed, milo chop or ground barley in certain dairy feeds. This action was taken after due consideration and many experiments had been made. On account of the general interest at this

time in the use of wheat in feeding rations because of its relatively low price as compared with other grains, the recommendation was received with much interest. Substitutions for dairy feeds were listed as follows: (1) Nineteen per cent protein dairy feed with limestone—ground or rolled whole wheat may be substituted for hominy feed, milo chop or ground barley in amounts not to exceed 20 per cent of the mixture, provided that not more than one of these ingredients shall be reduced to less than 5 per cent. (2) Carbohydrate supplement with limestone for cows—ground or rolled wheat may be substituted for finely ground milo heads, hominy feed or ground barley in amounts not to exceed 20 per cent of the mixture, provided not more than one of these ingredients shall be reduced to less than 5 per cent.

A survey of the results of using lights for winter egg production at thirty-one experiment stations in the United States and Canada indicate that this practice is very profitable. In Oregon it was found that 400 pullets would yield an excess profit of \$81 over cost of lights. At the Iowa station winter lighting on a culled flock increased production to 50 per cent in two weeks and held at 50 per cent over a two-month period. The records of 750 Ohio calendar flocks show lighted flocks produced 20 per cent more than unlighted ones from October to March, and 9 per cent for the year.

U. T. Utts, of Van Zandt county, reports a profit of \$94.65 above actual feed cost from feeding ten pigs 104 days. At the age of 153 days the pigs weighed 1,965 pounds and sold for nine cents per pound, after consuming 2,400 pounds of corn, 1,200 pounds of shorts and 400 pounds of protein supplement.

Sudan pasture cut the average cost of butter fat more than one-half over what it was when the herd was not on pasture, is the report of E. F. Jones and Eston Galloway, of Stonewall county. The average cost per pound when no pasture was available in January, February, March and April was 33.8 cents. While the herds were on Sudan in May, June and July the cost was 14.3 cents.

Reports from Cameron county say unusual vegetables and vegetable delicacies are threatening to replace many of the old standard crops in the Lower Rio Grande Valley production. In the last three years many of these so-called "high-pay" crops have become important sources of revenue. Unusual vegetable shipments last season included two cars of dill, one car of mymisher, 32 cars of escarole, 33 cars of anise, 20 cars of chicory, 61 cars of dandelions, five cars of endive, 10 cars of radishes, 537 cars of parsley, and 17 cars of egg-plant. The returns from the parsley shipments alone were \$537,000. Most of the new types of Valley crops were introduced four years ago by the Gill Brothers, who started growing them on their farm in Hidalgo county to supply the Italian colonies in Eastern cities.

In 1929 there were 2,575 cars of potatoes shipped from Texas. Up to October 1 of the present year 5,269 cars of potatoes had been shipped from Texas. Watermelon and tomato shipments from the State each increased 50 per cent over last year.

Harvesting seed instead of two crops of alfalfa hay from twenty-six acres on the farm of W. L. Brush, in Hale county, brought a total gross return of \$139.00 per acre, and a net profit of \$91.15 per acre. Total seed produced was 19,716 pounds, which sold for 20 cents per pound. An early crop of hay grossed \$12 per acre.

Moses Speight, farmer of Limestone county, is a convert to the value of planting cotton in wide rows, his conversion being due to experiments made this year. He made 192 pounds more of cotton per acre by planting six-foot rows than by planting every row, and 183 pounds per acre more by planting two rows and skipping one.

Many cases have been reported this year of turkeys proving very valuable in the cotton fields in the destruction of leaf worms and other destructive insects. Jeff Parchman, of Franklin county, really didn't have as many worms as he wanted in his cotton field after finding what fine feed they made for his turkeys. He had a flock of 70 turkeys that got rolling fat cleaning out the leaf worms on thirty acres of cotton. Not only did the turkeys clean out the leaf worms, but they gave attention to the boll worms also. The turkeys got fat, and Mr. Parchman couldn't find a worm in the field after the turkeys had spent a few days in it. He says he either had too few worms or too many turkeys, and he had to provide other food for the turkeys.

Another triumph for Experiment Station varieties of seed is recorded in Collin county, where W. H. Clark, of Frisco, harvested 26 bushels of Denton wheat per acre against a yield of 20 bushels on nearby land. Mr. Clark also had a yield of 85 bushels of Nortex oats per acre, compared with 55 bushels per acre on neighboring farms using ordinary varieties.

One of the largest sales of registered male hogs ever made in the South was made recently by J. R. Oliver, of Grayson county, to the Texas Penitentiary System. Mr. Oliver is a nationally known breeder of Duroc Jersey hogs, and sold to the penitentiary system sixteen registered boars. He says he has frequently sold that many gilts, but never before so many males, nor has he heard of such another large sale of males in the South. The manager of the penitentiary is stocking the penitentiary farms with good hogs and expects to produce all the meat needed by the entire penitentiary system instead of buying it from the packing houses. At the Red River Valley Fair, held this fall at Sherman, Mr. Oliver's hogs won every ribbon and prize offered on Duroc Jersey hogs.

Electricity has already worked wonders in farming, in a small way, and no one dares predict how important a part it may play in the farming of the future. A Cornell University professor recently forced a cabbage plant to produce six heads by keeping the plant at high temperature over a period of months. In Italy a new electric plow is pulled across a field by a cable which winds up on a drum, greatly reducing plowing costs. In New York a fifteen-acre field was plowed by an electric gang plow which impregnated the soil with a current of 103,000 volts, which seemed to destroy weeds, bacteria and grubs, and in addition to restore the fertility to the soil without the use of fertilizers. Corn planted in the electrically treated soil came

up in five days, in comparison with fifteen days required on untreated soil, and beans and potatoes also showed speed in sprouting in the electrified soil.

R. F. McFatrige, county agent of Gaines county, says it takes laying mash and skim milk to make hen profits go up, and this fact the people of the county are rapidly learning. Mr. McFatrige says where the hens got two to three pounds of mash per month, and one-third to three-fourths gallons of skim milk, the profits per hen have gone better than 18 cents per month. In flocks that were shy on these important feeds the profits dropped to 14 cents per month, and in some cases lower. In one flock of White Leghorns where the production dropped to 45 eggs daily from 138 hens, the egg basket was filled with 86 eggs per day within ten days of the time the owner, J. J. Green, started feeding a wet mash at noon. Mr. Green said the hens wouldn't eat enough dry mash.

G. O. Peterson, a Grayson county farmer, reports a profit of \$38 an acre from vetch seed. Mr. Peterson had a five-acre pasture demonstration under the supervision of his county agent. Besides his nice profit of \$38 an acre from the sale of vetch seed, he got a lot of valuable grazing and great benefits to the soil. Austrian field peas, hairy vetch, oats, barley and sweet clover were seeded more than a year ago under the supervision of the county agent. Throughout most of the winter three cows, five mules and about twenty hogs were pastured on the plot, with the vetch lasting until late spring and sweet clover coming on in the early summer. The vetch was raked in July and yielded 1,600 pounds of cleaned seed, which Mr. Peterson sold at 12 cents a pound.

The Federal Texas corn estimate on Nov. 1 was 90,576,000 bushels, 4,449,000 bushels more than last year.

Brunswick and Vocalion Dealers Have the Latest Records

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ALABAMA WOMEN BLUES LEROY CARR
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FISH HOUSE BLUES
KANSAS CITY KITTY AND GEORGIA TOM

Latest Vocalion Records

- 1546 IF I COULD BE WITH YOU
Fox Trots with Vocal Chorus
PIG MEAT STOMP
ALABAMA WASHBOARD STOMPERS
- 1543 JUST A SPOONFUL—Vocal with Guitar
TWO STREET BLUES CHARLEY JORDAN
- 1541 SLOPPY DRUNK BLUES—Vocal with Piano and Guitar
HARD TIMES DONE DROVE ME TO DRINK
LEROY CARR
- 1540 YOU RASCAL YOU—Fox Trots with Vocal Chorus
SHE CAN LOVE SO GOOD
TAMPA RED'S HOKUM JUG BAND
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MOONLIGHT ON THE COLORADO
JIMMIE NOONE'S APEX CLUX ORCHESTRA
- 1519 BABY YOU DONE PUT THAT THING ON ME
Vocal with Piano
I KNOW THAT I'LL BE BLUE LEROY CARR
- 1515 DON'T GIVE IT AWAY—Fox Trots with Vocal Chorus
FUNNY FUMBLE HARRY DIAL & HIS BLUSICIANS
- 1512 I'M GONNA BAKE MY BISCUITS—Vocal with Guitars
MISTER TANGO BLUES MEMPHIS MINNIE
- 1511 BIG FOUR BLUES—Vocal with Guitar
KEEP IT CLEAN CHARLEY JORDAN
- 1508 YOU GOT THAT STUFF—Vocal with Piano and Guitars
THE DOCTOR'S BLUES
KANSAS CITY KITTY AND GEORGIA TOM
- 1500 THAT FAULT YOU FIND OF ME—Parts 1 and 2
Vocal with Guitars MEMPHIS MINNIE
- 1476 BUMBLE BEE—Vocal with Guitars
I'M TALKING ABOUT YOU MEMPHIS MINNIE
- 5468 MIDNIGHT WALTZ—Fiddle and Guitar
JUNE ROSE WALTZ STRIPLING BROTHERS
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ASLEEP AT THE SWITCH
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Latest Brunswick Records

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THE RED HEADED FIDDLERS
- 469 DREAMY ROCKY MOUNTAIN MOON
Vocal Duet with Orchestra
THE CHURCH BELLS ARE RINGING FOR MARY
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- 468 POLKA FOUR—Fiddle and Guitar
LITTLE BROWN JUG KESSINGER BROTHERS
- 466 DOWN THE RIVER OF GOLDEN DREAMS
Vocal Duet with Mandolin and Guitar
THE HILLS OF CAROLINA
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- 463 HONOLULU STOMP—Old Time Orchestra
THREE O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING
H. M. BARNES AND HIS BLUE RIDGE RAMBLERS
- 460 THE FATAL WEDDING—Fiddle, Guitars and Mandolin
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- 443 RED WING—Harmonica with Guitar
OVER THE WAVES W. W. MACBETH
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I'M YOURS NICK LUCAS
- 4959 THREE LITTLE WORDS—Vocal with Guitar
WASTING MY LOVE ON YOU NICK LUCAS
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I'LL STILL BELONG TO YOU—Fox Trots, Vocal Chorus
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THE beauty of a peach-bloom complexion may easily be yours—if you just give your skin this simple care each day:



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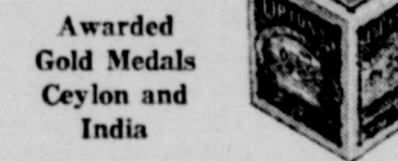
First, for thorough cleansing, pat Pond's Gold Cream over your face and neck, with upward and outward strokes, waiting to let the fine oils sink into the pores. Then wipe away all cream and dirt with Pond's Cleansing Tissues, soft, absorbent... Next, briskly dab your skin all over with Pond's Skin Freshener to banish oiliness, close and reduce pores. Last, smooth on the daintiest film of Pond's Vanishing Cream for powder base and sure protection against sun and wind.

(At left) Pond's famous Two Creams, Cleansing Tissues, Skin Freshener.

To Triumph as a Hostess

Serve LIPTON'S TEA

The perfect hostess is perfect because she is careful in detail. Careful to see that the tender, tiny, crisp tea leaves that come only from the famous yellow labeled Lipton package fill her tea pot. Awarded first prize and gold medals by the experts of Ceylon and India as the finest tea grown, Lipton's naturally excels in those "graces of taste"—bouquet, piquancy and flavor. And in popularity, too—Lipton's has the largest tea sale in the world! Always ask for Lipton's—it costs no more.



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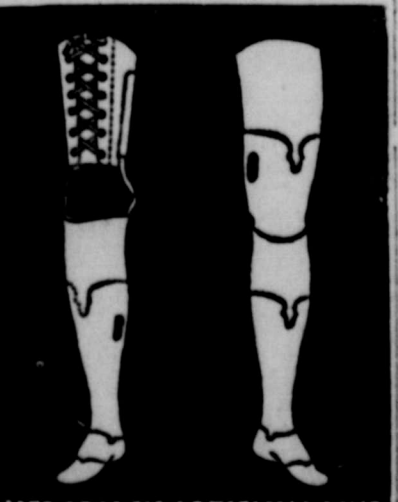


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TEXAS HAS MUCH SPENDABLE MONEY

According to figures gathered and published by the Dallas Chamber of Commerce, citizens of Texas have a total of \$3,152,005,000 spending money income yearly in the latest report, while only one other State in the southern part of the country exceeded \$1,000,000. This was Oklahoma, which was a poor second with \$1,180,599,000. Of the other Southwestern States Louisiana is next with 776,903,000, and Arkansas is fourth with \$547,797,000. Of the States of the Southeast, Georgia is first with spendable money income of \$949,5543,000. Alabama places second with \$739,898,00, and Florida is third with \$668,674,000. Fourth place is held by South Carolina, fifth by Mississippi and the last by Tennessee. Comparison of the spendable money income of the Southwest and Southeast shows that the Southwest has \$5,657,304,000, while the Southeast is far below with \$3,811,204,000.



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The Woman's Page

By MRS. MARGARET STUTE

TO you, my dear reader, I wish to say over and over, "Merry Christmas and Happy New Year." I hope you will have the happiest Christmas of your entire life. This should be true of every Christmas, however, because life is not worth living unless we can brighten and make happier each recurring year. Nor is life worth living unless we make others happy. Pity the man or woman who mainly seek selfish happiness; Christmas means nothing to him or her. But it means much to the unselfish and the thankful. I thank the kind Lord on the anniversary of His Son's birthday for the good and tender mercies He has shown me. On the New Year Day I shall pray for wisdom and



humility to guide me through another year. Primarily I wish to thank all the readers of the Woman's Page for the kind suggestions (direct and indirect) they have sent me. It is only because of your help and encouragement and the hope that I may bring a little good into some life that I can go on month after month with my work as editor of this page. Write me your needs and the needs of your neighbor; it will guide me in my efforts to make the Woman's Department of some value to all our women readers. Thanking you sincerely, and with Merry Yuletide Greetings, I remain, ever your friend, (signed) Mrs. Margaret Stute, Box 1012, Fort Worth, Texas.

SOME DAUGHTERS THAT ENTERTAIN

If you have a daughter who is old enough to be a hostess in her own right, encourage her to do so. There is nothing that will add to a girl's natural poise and grace like entertaining. If a wise mother will "help" her daughter to plan the party beforehand and then discreetly stay in the background during the party, she will go far in making her daughter a "natural entertainer."

If a girl's home is in the country, one of the best ways to assure her city guests a real treat is to invite them to a coasting, sleighing or skiing party. Or, if there is an ice pond near the home, skating would be enjoyed by some of the guests. Then there is the old-fashioned but very popular "hayrack ride;" with plenty of sweet-smelling hay, warm blankets and a good team, the most blase city guest will relax and "have a good time." Rather than serve guests at the dining table with the snack that must follow such an expedition, serve them on card tables arranged near the fireplace. By grouping the tables attractively and using those adorable paper luncheon covers, that can be purchased so reasonably, with appropriate decorations centered around burning candles, the effect is quite enchanting. Refreshments over, the jolly group can pop corn and eat apples as a crowning event to the party.

The fire, popping corn and soft candle-light, will lend a fragrant, cozy atmosphere. The first attempt at "hostessing" may be made so successful that young people will be more inclined to "stay at home," for their parties and good times instead of forever trying to go out and "take in something."

For the girl whose home is in the city there are, in addition to outdoor parties, the always popular card games, luncheons, as well as watch parties and dancing. All these afford an excellent opportunity for visiting and providing a good time for everybody.

The kind of food served will depend on the local market, the purse, and the size of the crowd. As a rule, the quickly prepared and daintiest dishes are the most desirable. If the entertainment should be out-of-doors, most of the food can be prepared beforehand. For example: Eggs may be stuffed, sandwiches sliced and wrapped in oil paper or in sandwich bags, salad ingredients made ready for combinations, snow pudding, fruit sauce and the drink—all can be prepared well in advance.

Herewith are a few choice recipes that may give you some ideas for entertaining and some

DEVELOPED HAM AND PEANUT BUTTER SANDWICHES

Serve on toasted bread or better still toast the sandwiches in a hot oven after you have spread them with the following mixture: One-fourth cup deviled ham, one-fourth peanut butter and one-fourth cup ground sweet pickle, thoroughly mixed and rubbed together. Add one tablespoon mayonnaise or more if desired and spread on butter toast or bread.

SURPRISE SANDWICHES: One-half cup chopped dates and one-half cup chopped nuts held together with grape and currant jelly and spiced with one-fourth teaspoon cinnamon; spread on toast (do not try to toast sandwich). This makes most delightful and unusual sandwich.

CHRISTMAS CRISP: Cream one cup shortening and two cups sugar until smooth. Add three beaten eggs and mix thoroughly, then add the juice and rind of one lemon. Measure and sift in three cups of sifted flour or enough to make a dough that may be rolled thin. Roll and cut into fancy shapes. Bake in a hot oven for ten minutes. Serve with hot chocolate or coffee.

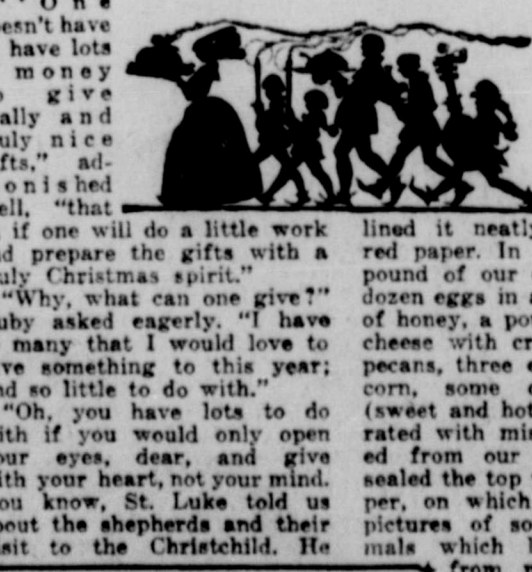
HOT GINGERBREAD: Hot gingerbread is a most delightful treat. If you will have the ingredients measured and ready to mix it does not take long to bake. Some prefer to bake gingerbread and warm over "for the spread." Whichever you prefer to do, the following recipe will prove a delight:

Cream together 1/2 cup shortening and 1/2 cup sugar. Add 1 egg, well beaten, and cup of molasses. Sift together 2 1/2 cups flour, 1 1/2 teaspoons soda, 1 teaspoon each cinnamon and ginger, 1/2 teaspoon cloves, 1/2 teaspoon salt, and add to first mixture. Add 1 cup of hot water and beat until smooth. This makes a very thin batter; but if baked in a moderate oven 35 minutes the results are delightful. Bake in a well-greased and floured pan.

Decorations for "daughter's party" should carry out the holiday spirit. In the South, where there is so much mistletoe and winter green vines, simple, inexpensive decoration can be achieved with a little planning. We like to tie our mistletoe with bright red ribbons; by bunching it and adding a few red Christmas bells, the house may be made to vibrate with the Yuletide spirit. Give daughter her "chance" to become the sort of hostess that everyone admires—that tries to keep her guests happy and entertained but does not impose too much of her own personality.

CHRISTMAS GIFT SUGGESTIONS

Nell's Christmas Gifts
"How discouraged I am this year," said Ruby one day to her chum Nell. "I really hate to see Christmas come. I have so little to give."
"Oh, you should really be thankful for good health, and your share of happiness," replied Nell.
"Well, I am thankful for that; but I would like to be able to give some really and truly nice gifts this year, but I simply do not have the money."
"One doesn't have to have lots of money to give really and truly nice gifts," admonished Nell. "That is, if one will do a little work and prepare the gifts with a truly Christmas spirit."
"Why, what can one give?" Ruby asked eagerly. "I have so many that I would love to give something to this year; and so little to do with them."
"Oh, you have lots to do with if you would only open your eyes, dear, and give with your heart, not your mind. You know, St. Luke told us about the shepherds and their visit to the Christchild. He



didn't tell us one thing about the Wise Men and their costly gifts. I believe that is because he was a physician and knew the real hearts of the people. We don't have to give costly things to have them appreciated; but rather give them from the heart. I will tell you some of the things I gave last year and I am still being thanked for them."
"Oh! I would so much love to hear, Nell. Tell me at once."
"Here are the things I gave: To some friends in town I sent a real country basket. First of all, I took a half bushel basket and lined it neatly with heavy red paper. In it I packed a pound of our own butter, a dozen eggs in a carton, a jar of honey, a pound of cottage cheese with cream, a jar of pecans, three ears of popping corn, some dried peppers (sweet and hot), and I decorated with mistletoe gathered from our own trees. I sealed the top with white paper, on which I pasted the pictures of some farm animals which had been cut from magazines. On the handle I tied a pretty Christmas ribbon, in the center of which I stuck a piece of mistletoe."
"To another friend that was very dear I sent a similar basket, only to her gift I added a dressed chicken."
"A friend who just 'batched' I sent a little basket which contained only a jar of honey, half a pound of butter and a loaf of home-baked

Something NEW in Christmas Gifts!

This year you'll want to give "her" something different from the usual things that change hands at Christmas—something that will be a personal gift, yet a gift that she wants and needs. And now you can give her just such a gift—a Frigidaire to which is affixed a beautiful sterling silver medallion on which we will inscribe her name or any sentiment you desire. What a happy solution you'll find this to be! And how happy she'll be that you found it! Come in and ask for full details today.

FRIGIDAIRE Aristocrat of Christmas Gifts

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HALF MILLION DOLLAR DAM AT SWEETWATER

The \$500,000 reservoir on Bitter Creek, near Sweetwater, has been completed and turned over to the city.

Thou believeth that thou is one God; thou doest well; the devils also believeth and tremble. But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without words is dead?—The Epistle of James, III, 19-20.

Make dresses bright as new!

DIAMOND DYES are easy to use; go on smoothly and evenly; NEVER a trace of that faded look when Diamond Dyes are used. Just true, even, new colors that hold their own through the hardest wear and washing. Diamond Dyes owe their superiority to the abundance of pure anilines they contain. Cost more to make. Surely, But you pay so more for them. All drug stores—15c.

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