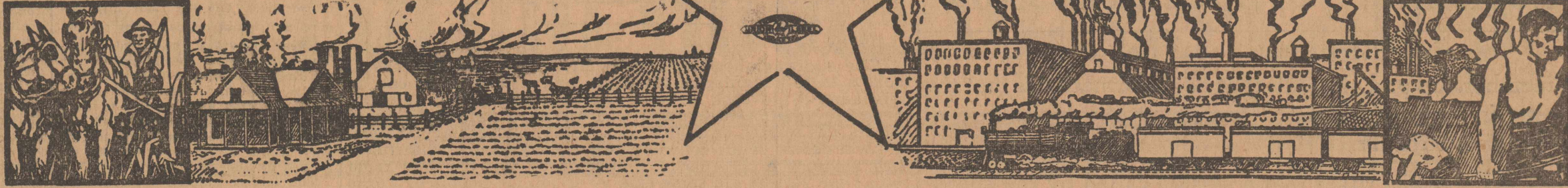


The Ferguson Forum

WE ARE
AGIN HIGH
INTEREST



WE ARE
AGIN HIGH
TAXES

VOL. IX

TEMPLE, TEXAS, THURSDAY, DEC. 10, 1925

NO. 6

Satterwhite Called On to Tell Why Special Session Is Needed and Its Financing Must Be Dark

December 5th, 1925.

Editor of Ferguson Forum:

You will find enclosed copy of a letter which I, a few days ago, mailed to Speaker Lee Satterwhite at Amarillo, Texas. You are at liberty to print this in The Forum if you so desire. In my opinion it expresses the thought of the public Tarrant county.

The Forum is giving the people the information needed and I only hope its circulation may be extended.

Yours very truly,

F. M. BRANSFORD.

Fort Worth, Texas, Dec. 5, 1925.

December 3, 1925.

Honorable Lee Satterwhite,
Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Amarillo, Texas.

Dear Sir:

The daily papers a few days ago quoted you as having said that Three Hundred Thousand Dollars had been underwritten by private sources, which you were not at liberty to reveal, to bear the expenses of the call by yourself of the House of Representatives in case Gov. Miriam A. Ferguson failed to call a special session of the legislature. The highest estimate of a called session, so far as I have noticed, estimated by any one favoring the call, is One Hundred Thousand Dollars.

The people of Fort Worth, as perhaps the people all over the state, are inquiring and would like to know what disposition the members expect to make of this extra Two Hundred Thousand Dollars which is coming from a source which you think it is not wise to reveal. Certainly no members of the legislature who signed the call for this special session of the House of Representatives for impeachment purposes would accept more pay from an individual source, which source cannot be wisely revealed, than he would receive for his services were it paid by the state. Your announcement not only puts you but the members who signed the call in a rather unenviable light before the people of the state.

The people of Tarrant county, outside of Amos Carter, whom the Governor reproved in a motherly fashion a few days ago, and the members of the legislature from this county who have signed the call, seem to think that Dan Moody can handle the situation without the reflection that may be caused by reason of the call being financed liberally by an unrevealed and untraceable source.

Of course those of us who have fought the infamy and the despicable outrages of the Ku Klux in this county understand why the members of the legislature from his county, all of whom voted solidly against the anti-mask bill and all of whom belong to that order, and all of whom voted against the Amnesty bill, save one, favor the call. If you hope to be governor of this state, as I suppose you do, it will not improve your chances any by copulating with the Ku Klux outlaw aggregation. But on the level, Mr. Speaker, just what is the occasion for the call at this time is the question.

Yours very truly,

FELIX M. BRANSFORD.

Former Texas House Member Puts Question As to Extent Bribery Is Permitted In a Special Call

Her Excellency, Miriam A. Ferguson,
Governor of Texas,
Austin.

Dear Mrs. Ferguson:—To what extent is bribery permitted under the present laws of Texas? What is the difference in morals or the law in a candidate for the state legislature accepting money to finance his campaign, before election, under a pledge to certain persons, or "interests," to undertake the passage of special legislation, and a member of the legislature accepting money to finance a special session of the membership pledged to attempt the accomplishment of certain specific acts?

If through political conspiracy and collusion fifty or more duly elected and commissioned members of the house of representatives of Texas, during any lawful session of that body, should accept \$300,000 for extra expense money, and in consideration thereof undertake to enact special legislation demanded by the donors of the \$300,000, it would be idle to ask if that were bribery.

Bribery is bribery, whether it be committed by two persons or by the wholesale, as is now proposed by those members of the Texas legislature who are trying to force a special session, legally if possible, but if denied that then a session of the membership called by the speaker, and who claim to have had promised them for expenses money the sum of \$300,000.

They call it "underwriting," but the correct term is bribery.

I refused that proposition when Speaker Frank Fuller "called" a special session of the house membership. The leaders of the University Club of Port Arthur offered to donate to me \$100 as expense money if I would agree to attend Fuller's "impeachment" session. I spurned their offer of a donation of funds, because I considered it nothing less than bribery.

When the governor finally issued a legal call of the legislature, I borrowed the necessary expense money to journey to Austin, giving my note for the loan and promptly repaid it within two weeks.

Besides, I do not believe the act empowering the speaker to call the members together is constitutional. I voted against it, and if I were a member now I would petition the proper court to enjoin any action the body might undertake. A restraining order of the court would be granted, I am sure. Then I would ask the grand juries of the counties, where representatives accept "underwritten" funds, to bring true bills of indictment against these representatives on charges on bribery.

Sincerely yours,

JAMES T. DENTON,

Former Member of Texas Legislature.

Wister, Okla., Dec. 1, 1925.

Speaker Satterwhite Gets His Answer

Hon. Lee Satterwhite,
Amarillo, Texas.

Dear Sir and Friend:—I am just in receipt of your letter of the 3rd. instant asking my attitude toward a Called Session of the legislature, and particularly with reference to my attitude toward attending such session at my own expense, and I reply as follows:

1. I am able financially to pay my own expense in attending a called session when that becomes necessary, and further, I would be entirely willing to do so, but such session appears to me to be wholly unnecessary at this time.

2. I would be altogether unwilling to attend the session at the expense of private corporations, public politicians or private individuals.

3. If the governor of this state issues an official proclamation calling the 39th legislature in extra session, I, of course, will respond and be glad to do so to consider such matters as might come before the body.

4. It occurs to me from press reports that if there existed any cause for a called session of the 39th legislature, that cause has now been removed by the resignation of the two highway commissioners.

5. The grand jury of Travis county has worked on the highway muddle for approximately five weeks and at adjournment returned no indictments and did not make a report that would in any wise cast any suspicion on any state officer.

6. If it is the scalp of Ex-Governor James E. Ferguson that is desired by the sponsors of the called session movement, then I do not think any session called by the speaker of the house could do anything. He cannot be impeached because he holds no official position.

7. A session of the legislature called by the speaker of the house could not pass any law against the governor of this state receiving advice from others. Ex-Governor Ferguson would continue to "tote wood and water" despite any law passed by your called session.

8. Press reports have never indicated that Governor Miriam A. Ferguson has had anything whatever to do with the apparent highway troubles except to write a few letters to the commission and to the public.

9. I feel certain that no called session would return articles of impeachment against Miriam A. Ferguson since no one has accused her of any wrong.

10. I would not clamor for a called session and attend the same at the expense of any one to sponsor the candidacy of a candidate for governor nor start any more "booms." We have the field full at present, apparently.

11. If any one else is being accused of wrong doing sufficient to warrant the house assembling for impeachment purposes, then I am not aware of the same.

12. Let's all go to work, play less politics, co-operate more with all our officers from constable on up to president of the United States, quit cussing the government and nursing the idea that everything has gone dead wrong, and things will work out all right and adjust themselves in a short while.

Trusting that the above will convey to you my attitude on the matter inquired about, I am,

Your friend,

(Signed) H. H. MOORE,
Floterial Representative,
126th District.

Cooper, Texas, Dec. 5, 1925.

Governor Ferguson Declines To Call Legislature In Special Session

There will be no special session of the 39th Texas legislature under a call from Governor Miriam A. Ferguson in the immediate future. Governor Ferguson on Tuesday, anticipated by two days the "dead line" set in the ultimatum of Speaker Lee Satterwhite and issued a formal statement declining to call a special session and giving her reasons for so declining.

There are 150 members of the Texas House of Representatives and the presence of 100 is necessary under the constitution to make a quorum. The petition to Governor Ferguson asking a call for a special session was signed by forty or more members, three of whom since have withdrawn their names and one has moved out of his district. She says that there are forty-one names left on the petition to her which constitutes barely more than one-

(Continued on Page Two)

Grand Lodge of Masons in Texas Spurns Klan and Denounces All Attempts to Link It With Order

The Grand Lodge of Masons of Texas without a dissenting voice at its annual communication in Waco last Thursday, Dec. 3, declared that the Masonic fraternity is in no way connected with the Ku Klux Klan and denounced any effort on the part of any member or any lodge to inject the klan into the Masonic order.

Action was on the adoption of the committee on grand officers' reports, of which W. Madden Fly of Gonzales is chairman.

Referring to the declaration of the Grand Lodge in 1921, which said that "an effort to build up or sustain the klan or any other organization, is a Masonic offense and should be severely dealt with," the report said:

"We reaffirm this plain declaration and we would add: The order of the Ku Klux Klan is non-Masonic. This Grand Lodge has no jurisdiction over or connection with it. It did not give it birth. It does not vouch for it and has no connection with it."

Following is the report of the committee on grand officers' reports which deals with the Ku Klux Klan, this matter being referred to in the address of Grand Master Guinn Williams in his report at the opening session. The committee report, adopted in full by the Grand Lodge, approves the utterances of the Grand Master:

"The grand master has reported several specific cases of discipline of lodges, which he found it necessary to administer. Because of his great kindness of heart, in many other cases he sought to remedy the conditions reported to you, by admonishing the brethren and giving them sound counsel and advice. Our laws are sufficient to afford a complete remedy for all such conditions. If the officers in charge of a lodge are recreant to their trust and disregard Masonic law and the ancient landmarks of the order, others should be put in their offices to succeed them. Where members of Masonic lodges have been guilty of Masonic offenses, charges should be preferred and the guilty brought to trial and punishment. The lodges are at all times responsible for the acts and omissions of their officers and if they continue to uphold them or have a disregard for law, the charter of such offending lodges should be arrested. True-Masons will ever uphold the great lofty ideals and teachings of our great order, so well emphasized by our beloved Grand Master in his able address. His visitations we believe will bear fruit. But if Masons become lukewarm and prefer to neglect their lodges and to give their activities elsewhere, let them be replaced by other good men and true to carry on the work. Leadership has and will in the future always be available to us. The teachings of Masonry draw their inspiration from the Divine Scriptures themselves and will ever triumph. Masonry will not engage in political or religious discussions in her subordinate lodges in this state.

"Every Free Mason must believe in God, a Supreme Being, and in the Divine authority of the Holy Scriptures, but he may worship God in his own way and according to his individual creed. Our order is composed of good men and true of every country, sect and opinion. If other orders are conducted along different lines, over them we have no jurisdiction. This Grand Lodge does not require membership in or absence of membership in any other order as a prerequisite of membership with us. Our laws are plain as to the requirements of candidates for admission.

"Your committee does not recommend at this time any departure from our ancient landmarks and laws on this subject. Any well informed Mason should know that the use of Masonry for mercenary or business purposes is strictly prohibited.

"As to the Ku Klux Klan, this Grand Lodge in proceedings of 1921, page 85, approved the report of committee on grand lodge officers' reports as follows: 'Your committee condemns in unmeasured terms any statement by anyone anywhere that Free Masonry is in any way responsible for or associated with the Ku Klux Klan. We unhesitatingly declare the use of Masonry in an effort to build up or sustain the klan or any other organization, is a Masonic offense and should be severely dealt with.'

"We reaffirm this plain declaration and we would add: The order of the Ku Klux Klan is non-Masonic. This Grand Lodge has no jurisdiction over or connection with it. It did not give it birth. It does not vouch for it and has no connection with it."

"While this Grand Lodge does not undertake to say whether a Master Mason should belong to any other order or not, it does say that this rests with the Master Mason and his own conscience. In view of the vows he has assumed in this great fraternity his Masonic lodge in which he holds membership, does not lose jurisdiction over him and he ever remains amenable to our laws and edicts. Membership or not in any other order is not the rule by which a Master Mason's conduct is measured, rather his adherence or not, to the laws and teachings of this Grand Lodge.

"No member of the craft should mislead the new initiate but should be careful to see that no act of his should be misconstrued by the inexperienced and misinformed. We also think we owe duty to the public to always clearly define our position and not to give wrong impressions. If a Master Mason, elected or appointed to an office in this Grand Lodge, or even in a subordinate lodge, has connection with or membership in some other order, which will interfere with the proper discharge of all his duties in such Masonic office he should not accept said Masonic office at the hands of his brethren. Our members, and especially our officers should guard against mixing activities of other orders with those of our fraternity to the detriment of Masonry.

"In view of the conditions found obtaining in this state and reported by our outgoing Grand Master, we recommend to our incoming Grand Master that he fearlessly administer the laws, which afford us a clear remedy and whether it be an offense committed by an individual, or officers, or a lodge, that he administer the proper discipline."

Prison Board Shows 9,655 Bales Cotton With 1,000 to Come

Austin, Texas, Dec. 9.—The State Prison Commission reported Monday to Governor Ferguson 9,655 bales of cotton had been gathered on prison farms and that another 1,000 bales will be harvested, the latter to be

of low grade because of the continued rains. The cotton and seed already saved represents more than \$1,000,000 to the State prison system and the 1,000 bales to come will add not less than 150,000.

This puts the State prison system on a substantial financial basis for the first time in many years.

PAY YOUR POLL TAX.

Governor Ferguson Declines To Call Legislature In Special Session

(Continued from Page One)

fourth of the house membership and she adds that her information is that the people of Texas are not in favor of having a session of the legislature at this time with its attendant expense.

Since the attorney general has ruled that a session called by the speaker cannot be privately financed or its expenses underwritten, it will be up to the members to decide whether they will go to Austin at their own expense and serve without pay, trusting to the next convocation of the legislature to reimburse them. A session of the house called by the speaker, and he cannot convene the senate, cannot consider legislation of any kind and cannot appropriate a dollar of state funds, its deliberations being confined entirely to investigation.

In refusing to call the legislature the governor did not wait until the last day of grace given in the petition of the legislators which was fixed at noon next Thursday. She acted more than forty-eight hours in advance of the so-called dead line. She gave her reasons for not calling the session. Her statement was comparatively brief and to the effect that the three propositions upon which the petition was based do not warrant a session at this time.

The governor reserves the right to call the legislature in the future in the event a majority of the people desire it. She declares they do not want it now. The document prepared by the governor was courteous and mild. It made no reference to the current highway agitation or political discussions that have been going around. It adhered to the exact subjects of the petition asking her to call the session and that petition made no reference to investigations or highway muddle.

GOVERNOR'S STATEMENT

Text of the governor's statement follows:

"I have decided that I will not call the session as requested for the reason that I do not see any necessity for putting the people to this extra expense at this time, when every effort should be made to hold government appropriations within due bounds of economy. The reasons assigned for calling a special session are:

"1. To provide sufficient funds to carry on effective tick eradication under the law as the same is now in effect.

"2. To provide sufficient funds for the eradication of the foot and mouth disease.

"3. For the purpose of amending the highway laws of this state to such extent as will in the judgment of the legislature sufficiently protect the interest of the people and promote the establishment of an effective system of public highways.

"If there is any other reason for having a special session of the legislature I am not officially advised of the same.

"Assuming that the request is made in good faith to consider these subjects, it then becomes a matter of discussion of what the legislature might do with those subjects if it should be convened in special session.

"So far as the eradication of the foot and mouth disease, I beg to say that the necessity for that reason has long since passed. There has been no new outbreak of this disease in sixty days and the cattle that were taken by the authorities have been appraised at a very liberal valuation and half of the sum has been paid by the federal government and the other half was promised to the owners of the cattle when the legislature meets in regular biennial session in 1927.

"In reference to tick eradication and highway laws I want to call attention to the fact that both of these very questions were considered at length by the legislature and nearly every member whose name appears on the request for the special session voted for the new tick law and the new highway law at the last session of the legislature.

"These laws did not go into effect until the 19th day of June and therefore no one will contend that opportunity has been had to try these laws out in actual operation. Until reasonable opportunity is had to give the laws a chance the legislature meeting at this early date would be without guide in making new changes. Every effort is being made to put the new highway law in full force and effect and to convene the legislature at this time when the atmosphere is surcharged with prejudice and political agitation, together with the prompting of political ambitions in certain quarters would in all probability undo legislation passed after mature deliberation and years of study.

"Should it subsequently appear that there is urgent need for a special session of the legislature, I will not hesitate to take the legislature into my confidence and ask their aid in the solution of any matter involving the public good.

"Since the request for the special session has been filed by the forty-five members three have asked that their names be taken from the request and one of the petitioners has moved from his district, thus leaving only forty-one members on the petition. This is just a fraction more than one-fourth of the members of the legislature and cannot, therefore, be used in support of the contention that a majority of the people want a special session of the legislature at this time. I am very sure that they do not, and for the reasons stated I must respectfully decline to call a special session of the legislature of the state of Texas."

Plea For Justice While Dealing With State Affairs Is Made By Writer Who Recalls Texas History

Editor Forum:

The highway question the way Mr. Moody wishes to see it, looks a little irregular at this time, and it may be he can be persuaded to go back at least one year and a half into the preceding administration and find out how many millions of dollars was wasted on highways and the Penitentiary System, and what some of the contractors got per yard for what roads they made: the statutes of limitation do not bar him from some time yet: he did some fine work for the people of Texas at Georgetown last year, but most any other district Attorney could have done the same thing with the evidence he had, and justice being on his side.

I fear most all the trouble started when the governor did not see fit to follow Mr. Moody's ruling in a certain question that came up in the first months of the present administration.

Governor Ferguson is not a Prophet and cannot talk face to face with God as was done in olden times, so she had to depend upon the belief that such men as the Highway Commissioners were honest men till proven dishonest for they at the time of appointment were looked upon as more than average honest and competent men and if her confidence was defective or misplaced she cannot be justly censured for we know there lived once a Brutus. If Mr. Moody had tried as hard to uphold the Governor's hand as he has tried to cast reflection on her honesty through the appointment of the said Highway Commissioners, Texas would have moved along in the even tenor of its way and much good would have been accomplished and at the end of the present term Texas would have been on a cash basis and plenty money in treasury, but now Mr. Moody through the influence of Mrs. Ferguson's enemies has made Texas a laughing stock of the whole nation.

Now come some of the legislators and throw a wall-eyed fit about the Highway Commission degrading the state out of so many hundreds of thousands of dollars, and they do feel so much interest in the dear state and her dear people, and they want to save all they can for the dear people, yet they would convene the legislature over the protest of the governor, and waste more money than they claim the Highway Commissioners beat the state out of. Who can truthfully say that the state will be financially benefited by the proposed called session? To be sure a called session ordinarily should not cost over sixty or seventy thousand dollars, but they have never been known to convene and get away with the small amount but will not stop short of one-half to one million and the dear people will have to foot the bill. The rank and file of the people are with the Governor and never will forget the good start she has made and will continue to make good if not hampered by spiteful men seeking to keep Texas in an uproar all the time, unless they have their way.

The reason the Governor and her husband are so popular is that they are for the prosperity of the State and the common people know it and will support them at every election. Jim Ferguson is a financier of the first water and is gradually pulling Texas out of the financial troubles she has been in for over six years. The great trouble with some people they want the legislature to do the work that the grand jury ought to do. The grand jury works too cheap. Mr. Satterwhite should remember the sad fate of one speaker of the house of representatives, not over one hundred years in the past, who is just about forgotten by the majority of the people of Texas in excess in disgust. He is not dead but forgotten and Mr. Satterwhite might profit by his fate. Said forgotten man took the hull by the horns and accomplished a hellish design out all to his final sorrow. Jas. E. Ferguson is the soul of honor and so is his wife. To be sure, they, nor any one else, is infallible. The man or woman who makes no mistakes does not live in this age.

Jas. S. Hogg was twice on Governor and was one of the best, but the usury of Texas and some leading newspapers of the state hounded that noble man from 1890 till the day of his death, then they arose and began to shout his praise and crowned him a hero, but it was too late then to soothe the broken heart. Now the same class of men have turned their hellish hounds loose on Jas. E. Ferguson and his noble wife. The state is getting in too good a shape financially and peace is at hand so the enemies and spitefrits want to set the state back like it was from 1919-1925, dead broke and borrowing money and issuing emergency warrants up to \$700,000.00.

The present highway trouble is not a patching to what we have gone through with since 1919. It is so easy for some to forget. Mrs. Ferguson had a fine legacy left for her to take charge of when she assumed the governor's office, some three million dollars debt, was it not? Some of the spiteful surely have forgotten that, or they are grossly ignorant of what was going on during the last two or three administrations.

I say, Mr. Moody be fair, do not be spiteful. If you are called to get on with the governor, give it according to the law in effect at the time you give it, or according to the rulings of the highest courts, do not blame her for and even fall out with her for not taking your advice every time. The governor has access to the statutes and also to the reports of the higher courts and can read as well as others. The calling the legislature together in this highway trouble will do no good, but it will disturb all Texas and make enemies out of good friends and will open up old sores and waste a million or more dollars and we will not be any nearer a solution of the question. Mr. Moody may have made as many mistakes in his official capacity since he has been attorney general as have the highway commissioners, who know unless a lot of lawyers were appointed to go through his office and sum up his official acts it might be found that he was honest but very inefficient in many things. A man that goes into office on a whirlwind may not be as efficient as the one who plods his way into office by the regular or systematic route.

Let the courts settle the highway matter, let the legislature make laws and repeal laws, but let them be sure that they repeal twenty laws to one that they enact, then we may know when we violate a law. The legislature has worked nothing but trouble to this state for six or seven years until the last one this year, which did its work and went home and by so doing it saved many thousands of dollars. Will C. Hogg of Houston is taking an active part in the calling of an extra session of the legislature and no one imagines why he should be so active unless it is because every one with himself has been so accustomed to one special session right after another for seven years that they feel themselves unless the legislature is in session wasting the people's money, at the same time howling about some one else robbing the state.

Jim Ferguson left more money in the state treasury when he went out of office in 1917, and left the penitentiary system in better shape than any Governor Texas ever had and Texas was not up to the constitutional limit either as Governor Ferguson found it in January, 1925. Think the matter over Mr. fair people, and quit cursing Jas. E. Ferguson, the people's friend. Mr. Hogg of Houston should remember what a stormy ocean his dear old father had to sail from 1850 till the day he vacated his office. Some spiteful people accused him of nearly every thing in the category of crime but the great rank and file did not believe them but held up that grand Statesman's hand during all that stormy time and he succeeded in his efforts and when it was too late he was crowned a hero by his enemies. If Will C. Hogg does not remember all the above statements let him turn back to the newspapers from 1890 to 1896 and see if I am not right, then ask himself if he can justify joining the cry of the small minority against the Governor and her husband, Jas. Hogg died fighting for all the people of Texas and Jas. Ferguson will die the same way. Trust Jim to leave all the money and more too than he found in the treasury when his noble wife was inducted into office.

Yours truly,
A Ferguson man from 1914 to December 7, 1925 and ever till they do something that is wrong. (Jim is the Commoner)
H. D. WELCH,
Somerville, Texas.

Engineers Say Texas Waterway Projects Require \$5,317,000

Washington, Dec. 9.—Texas river and harbor projects would have a total of \$5,317,000 for their improvement and maintenance during the fiscal year of 1927 if the board of recommendations of the Board of Army Engineers, sent to Congress Monday is adopted. The report shows that the Texas projects had to their credit a total of \$4,412,543 at the beginning of the present fiscal year July 1, but all of that will be expended by June 30 next year.

The largest amount recommended for a Texas project for next year is \$1,411,000 for the Sabine-Neches waterway. The Houston Ship Channel would obtain \$500,000, Freeport

Harbor \$575,000, Corpus Christi \$975,000, Galveston Harbor \$205,000, Galveston Channel \$200,000, Texas City Channel \$200,000, Port Aransas \$250,000, and Intracoastal Canal \$750,000.

No work has been done on the Intracoastal Canal as last adopted by Congress and there are no funds available and \$700,000 of the amount asked would be used for dredging. Local interests have complied with none of the conditions named in the act adopting the project.

The total recommended by the board of Engineers for river and harbor maintenance and improvement is \$55,000,000, while the Bureau of the Budget will recommend only \$40,000,000, the amount it recommended a year ago, and which Congress voted. In the amount asked by the engineers there is \$400,000 included for surveys.

Behind the Bars at Huntsville

A. R. WATSON, Chaplain, Huntsville Penitentiary

Of course, every body knows that the control and discipline of the inmates of our penal institutions is a matter about which various opinions have been expressed and conflicting methods have been proposed. We should never lose sight of the fact that the penal institution is a necessity. As long as there is a distinction between right and wrong, and as long as people, from accident or circumstance, natural inclination or influence do wrong; that long will the well-being of the offender, the safety of person and property, the perpetuity of the state, and the good of society demand the punishment of the wrong-doer. All just punishment is in proportion to the guilt of the offender and should be administered in a humane spirit, and only after the guilt of the individual has been established beyond a "reasonable doubt." I can not conceive of anything more repugnant to a sense of common justice, or that is more calculated to weaken respect for constituted authority than the infliction of unjust or unreasonable punishment upon one who has been adjudged guilty of some offense. Neither can I think of anything more despicable and cowardly than the conduct of the man who takes advantage of his position to abuse or maltreat any helpless ward of the state. But, while I make a plea for a "square-deal" for the unfortunate, I wish also to enter a protest, earnest, sincere, and un-

compromising, against a certain propaganda that is seeking to poison the public mind with the doctrine that punishment for wrong-doing is never right and that no good can come to the state, society, or the individual as a result of punishment under any circumstance whatsoever.

The fact that God, who is too wise to make any mistake and too good to do any wrong, has ordained punishment for the wrong-doer in this life, and punishment eternal in the life to come for the incorrigible, should be sufficient to settle this whole question, especially with all who accept the Bible as authoritative. God's purpose in punishing the offender in this life is, at least, two-fold—to reclaim the transgressor and restrain the unoffending. If punishment by human authority be wisely and judiciously administered, it also has, at least a twofold objective—the well-being of the individual and the good of society. In all corrective discipline in penal institutions there is necessarily an element of punishment. Of course, every one knows that freedom is a privilege that every sane person prizes above almost everything else, and to be deprived of it is to suffer severe punishment. But while the offender is being subjected to such punishment, his surroundings should be made as favorable as possible for his complete reformation. He should be comfortably clothed, properly fed, furnished with suitable sleeping quarters, given adequate medical attention and be required to render reasonable service when physically able and conform to the rules and regulations of the institution in which he is confined. He should also have access to wholesome reading matter, and be given reasonable time and opportunity to read, attend religious services, picture shows and other entertainments. In short, if he leaves the prison unreformed and bent on a course of crime, he should do so in spite of having had a fair chance to get back on his feet and make a useful citizen. In the Huntsville prison we are endeavoring to make conditions conducive to the well-being of the men entrusted to our care, and I here give it as my candid opinion, based upon months of careful observation, that in every case of corrective discipline in the Huntsville prison since my connection with it, the punishment has been reasonable, and the inmate himself responsible for it.

Big Rum Syndicate to Keep Grand Jury Busy Investigating

New York, Dec. 7.—Enough evidence of rum running and bribing of government officials by the alleged "Dwyer syndicate" is on hand to keep the grand jury which convenes today, busy for a month, United States Attorney Buckner believes.

Twenty members of the "gang" still are sought, although 23 including William Dwyer, widely known sportsman and race track owner, have been arrested. The syndicate, it is charged, is the largest ever found operating on the Atlantic seaboard, its business being said to run into millions of dollars annually.

The steamship Augusta was under guard today for the second time in its career in connection with rum running investigations. The first seizure last July, when it had 4,033 cases of whiskey aboard started the investigation which resulted in last week's wholesale arrests.

Yesterday the Augusta nosed out of the fog off Cape May, N. J., with bare ly enough steam in its boilers of keep moving. A coast guard boat plucked it between rock jetties to a safe anchorage. Investigation started when a sailor boasted the vessel had run 2,000 cases of liquor ashore under cover of the heavy fog and the captain had gone ashore with the money from the sale.

First Mate Albert Erickson of the Augusta told coast guardsmen neither he nor any of the crew knew the captain's name or whereabouts and that the captain had his own, the ship's and Erickson's papers.

Six of the men arrested last week were United States coast guardsmen and Mr. Buckner declares the incriminating evidence, involving corruption of government officials is yet to be revealed.

Much of the most valuable information in Buckner's hands was contained in a confession given by one of the guardsmen.

Woman Turns Bandit to Escape Husband's Wrath Over Checks

Siox Falls, N. D., Dec. 3.—Fear of a scolding from her husband when she learned of checks she had written causing an overdraft of \$100 in their bank account, prompted Mrs. Catherine Rogers to rob the First State bank at Renner, S. D., last Friday, police said today.

Further questioning of Mrs. Rogers and her daughter, Zera, who are in jail charged with robbery, revealed that last summer the Rogers family was in a fair financial condition, but that Mrs. Rogers had been drawing heavily on the bank account.

Another point was cleared up when Zera admitted that \$90 found in the bottom of a trunk in her home was part of the loot obtained in the hold-up. She confessed, police said, that she was "holding out on ma."

Spurns Nomination as Governor. Yankton, S. D., Dec. 2.—H. K. Warren, of this city, nominated for governor on the Farmer-Labor ticket at the state convention in Pierre, will decline to accept the nomination, he announced today. Such action by the Farmer-Labor party was unauthorized, he said.

Coming to Waco, Cameron, Temple

Dr. Mellenthin

SPECIALIST in Internal Medicine for the past twelve years

DOES NOT OPERATE

Will be in Waco on Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 7 and 8, at the Metropole Hotel, Cameron on Wednesday, Dec. 9, at the Auditorium Hotel and in Temple on Thursday, Dec. 10, at the Martin Hotel.

OFFICE HOURS 9 TO 2

Two days in Waco and one day only in Cameron and Temple.

No Charge for Consultation

Dr. Mellenthin is a regular graduate in medicine and surgery and is licensed by the state of Texas. He does not operate for chronic appendicitis, gall stones, ulcers of the stomach, tonsils or adenoids.

He has to his credit wonderful results in diseases of the stomach, liver, bowels, blood, skin, nerves, heart, kidney, bladder, bed wetting, catarrh, weak lungs, rheumatism, sciatica, leg ulcers and rectal ailments.

Below are the names of a few of his many satisfied patients in Texas.

Mrs. A. E. Roper, Frankston, gall stones.
T. H. Walston, Rosebud, varicose ulcer.
Mrs. C. T. Wolf, Wichita Falls, dyspepsia.
Walter Rannaford, Roscoe, acid stomach.
Mrs. B. A. Purser, Big Spring, high blood pressure.
Henry Jokel, Vernon, appendicitis.
Mrs. H. Turner, Henrietta, gall bladder and liver trouble.
Mrs. Louis Boemis, Converse, rheumatism and obesity.

Remember above date, that consultation on this trip will be free and that his treatment is different. Married women must be accompanied by their husbands. Address: 211 Bradbury Bldg., Los Angeles, California.

Ferguson Forum Good Roads Campaign

Motor Vehicles Are Help to Real Estate Developments

The automobile and the truck are forms of real estate insurance. On them is based practically all of the real estate development of the past twenty years in this country; on them and the roads that they have made necessary and possible.

Without them, the people who live in our cities would be huddled into tenements; the people who live in the country would still be as far out of touch with the modern life as the grandfathers of present day farmers would be if they were running the farms as they did thirty years ago.

With them, city workers may own their homes ten miles from the office building in which they earn their wages. Farmers may bring their produce into a city twenty-five miles from the farm, may bring their families into church and movie, their children into school.

Think back twenty-five years in Texas.

Winter rains tied up the farmer just as completely as Winter snows did the farmers in the far north. Roads became hog-wallows of mud, through which a team of strong mules might make two or three miles an hour, pulling a spring wagon loaded with staple supplies for two or three months. Especially was this true in the black land belt of Texas. Farm lands were cheap; improvements were slow. It was little better for the people who lived in the larger cities of Texas. They lived close to the business district of the town. The outlying districts, the additions we know so well today, were just farms, close to town, but of no particular value in the eyes of the town-dweller. Lots on the edge of towns were cheap; worth little more than farm land was.

Then came the automobile and with it came an improvement in roads. After the automobile came the truck, and with it came still more improvement in roads. Real estate men were not slow to recognize the value of the automobile in the development of their business. They opened addition after addition near the cities. They built roads and paved streets out to them. The nearby farms became residence property. Smaller cities became larger cities; villages became towns; cross roads communities became villages. All of this has happened right here in Texas

with the development of the automobile and the good roads they have made possible. It has had its counterpart all over the United States.

Without the automobile and the good road, real estate men would find themselves in a pretty fix today. Their sales would be almost confined to business property and residence property lying close in. So it is that they may regard the automobile as the finest insurance their business has today, an insurance that they count on in every sale they make.

It has made possible the improved health of many a child. Children who would not live five years in a crowded city can live in a country-like suburb, while their fathers work in cities. It has made possible the building up of great country estates in the north, a movement that will be seen in the south within a few years. It has raised the value of farms beyond the wildest dreams of our grandfathers.

In the sale of farms, as farms, it has played its part, produce has a wider and a quicker market today because of the good road and the motor truck. Farm land is therefore more saleable since it is more valuable all because of the insurance that these modern blessings have brought.

The motor and the good road are today a dominating influence in the political, the social, and the industrial life of Texas as they are in every state in the Union. They have ironed out the boundary lines and the barriers of desert and mountain, river and plain. They have done more to mould the people of the State and the Union into one Nation, socially, politically, and industrially, than almost any invention or movement of modern life.

Practical Value of Highways

The value of a highway—of Texas highways, cannot be adequately estimated. Townships are springing up where the highways leads, land values increase, doubling and tripling in price, while the natural resources develop and commerce and industry make forward passes.

Sections of East Texas and West Texas and South Texas and North Texas highways are under construction. Highways are in course of building,

wornout sections of roads are being resurfaced by the State Highway Department, county road bonds are being voted, and the great highway program in the state goes on, and will continue to go on, a part of the great whole—a National system of highways.

The middle west section of Texas is just now experiencing an intensive and extensive program of highway development. In Eastland, Shackelford, Dickens, Jones and Taylor counties, a highway construction work is in active progress, carrying out the plan of a splendid connected system of state highways.

East Texas, too, has her share of highway development and maintenance, with the gravel resurfacing of old and worn gravel roads, in Shelby, Nacogdoches, St. Augustine, Jasper and Sabine counties.

Resurfacing on a twenty mile stretch of Highway No. 20, in Lee county, and also for a twenty-five miles in Matagorda county, goes to make up a small part of state highway activities now in progress.

New towns are coming into being in the Magic Valley section, and but for highway development and proposed construction in the state, these new centers of activity would not be. With the new towns, comes new enterprises, new industries and new wealth, and more impetus for living.

This Page is a Part of a Series to Promote the Building of MORE GOOD ROADS in Texas, and Is Contributed by the Undersigned Public Spirited Citizens Who Have at Heart the Best Interests of this Great State:

Amiesite Asphalt Co., Dallas
 Brammer & Wilder, Houston
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 Washington Construction Co., Somerville

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JAS. E. FERGUSON President and Editor

JUST A SIMPLE ITEM OF NEWS

One newspaper published December 8 carried from its special Austin bureau the announcement that the Texas Prison system had picked and marketed 9,655 bales of cotton and that another 1,000 bales would be gathered. That much cotton at current prices represents, together with the seed and bonus for classing properly, something like \$2,000,000 all in cash. Even the newspaper whose correspondent thought enough of that news item to send it in published it under an insignificant heading on an inside page which is somewhat in contrast to the glaring "Box-car" headings on the first page when the attorney general by an agreed judgment was given a verdict for \$600,000 of which only \$285,000 was actual cash and the remainder carried the same taint, if taint there is, that attached to so-called excess profits collected by a firm of road contractors.

It has been years since the Texas prison system has been able to show a credit balance, newspapers have howled and cajoled about its management or lack of management under other governors besides Jim Ferguson who made it show a credit balance in 1916-17, which vanished when Hobby entered the governor's office. The returns this year have been sufficient to pay off the long accumulated debts, interest and loans and leave a cash balance in bank.

But a \$2,000,000 profit for the state following years of losses means nothing to the scandal mongers and sensation hunters who use up so much money for telegraph tolls exploiting political buncombe.

Remember, also, pay warrants issued by the comptroller are being paid at 100 cents on the dollar, which is another novelty in Texas.

WHY NOT HAVE THE NAMES?

The Forum is in receipt from Hon. Lea Beaty, of Lockhart of a communication with reference to the holding of a special session of the legislature with private individuals underwriting the cost and looking to the members to "come across" with the kind of action the underwriters want to insure their per diem. Mr. Beaty, who was a member of the legislature in years back when John Garner, John Bailey, Trav Henderson and other stalwart democrats filled seats in that body, is warranted in writing his views of the present situation and he does it in these words:

"If a fund is raised by individuals to meet expenses of a special session of the legislature called by Mr. Satterwhite it is to be hoped each citizen subscribing will write his name opposite the amount subscribed so the public will know them."

"I believe Mr. Satterwhite said, those who were going to donate were not interested. Does any one believe so absurd a statement? I am surprised that he did not say it was Mrs. Ferguson's friends who were putting up the Kale Seed. Stick a pin in them and see how many who want offices, or are with the Kant Kome Klean bunch, will jump. I am anxious to know what those interested are going to do about those three, or more state departments, in which they told the world that irregularities existed. They ought to be required to produce the proof of their statement and remove the cloud of suspicion from those where irregularities do not exist."

IS THE MOB LOOKING FOR ANOTHER VICTIM?

Fletcher's Farming, published at Hondo, is outspoken in its sentiments about the present situation in Texas and puts the question with which this article is headed bluntly to the people of Texas. Farming then continues:

Two hundred thousand Texas voters have not forgotten the damnable conspiracy to crucify Jim Ferguson politically.

It was because they would not forget but stood uncompromisingly for justice that time and circumstance brought to him, in the election of his wife to the governorship of this great state, a sweeter restitution than he could have asked for himself at the hands of the people.

But it seems that the devil-dogs of malevolent malice and vindictiveness will not leave him and his alone.

To a wholly disconnected observer of the highway department muss even at this distance, it has appeared all too plain that there are other and more compelling influences behind it than the unselfish desire to serve the state or see the state properly served.

This judgment of the matter is shared by Joe Burkett who, in tendering his resignation as highway commissioner, used these significant words:

"I feel that political animosities of long standing and of recent coalitions have been responsible for the present attack on the highway commission."

Who could doubt it? Here is another significant circumstance.

It seems to be agreed that the Speaker of the House, with the agreement of 50 members of that body can call a session of the House to investigate any of the departments of the state government, but the body is without authority to appropriate state funds to defray its expenses.

Speaking on this point, Speaker Satterwhite authorized the statement:

"that if he is fortunate to call a special session, its expenses, estimated at \$50,000.00 would be underwritten by certain citizens, who would advance the money and depend upon reimbursement through appropriation by the Fortieth Legislature."

Name 'em, Mr. Speaker—and let us see their labels. Who are these patriots who are willing to risk good money in cooking up political medicine—for that is all your extra session would be, a kind of a war-dance around a witch stew of political broth.

As evidence of that, one of the first acts of the bunch that is now shouting "investigate, investigate"—another way of crying "crucify, crucify,"—was to hold a secret pow-wow from which representatives of the press were excluded.

Since when must honest men engaged in honest purpose have to hide in secrecy to serve the state.

Name your patriots, Mr. Speaker:

And while you are naming them, let us know how many are hangers on from the old bunch of conspirators still snarling under the lashings the people gave them at the polls last year.

How many are disappointed and disgruntled contractors who are sore because they could get no finger in the pie? How many belonged to the Butte-lickin' crowd of yesterday?

And how many still smell of the tar-bucket of ku klux savatory fame?

Meantime, the same people, almost 200,000 strong, who have heard the shouting of the mob before are still unafraid.

Don't forget THAT in the madness of your dance and the intoxication of your witch's brew.

Christmas is near. Have you done that shopping?

Recently a story was sent out from San Antonio about a citizen who claimed that while his folks except him were at church one Sunday he dropped off to sleep and while he slumbered thieves entered the house and stole his son's saxophone and his daughter's ukelele. One Texas editor, evidently of worldly experience, comments thus upon this incident: "Somehow I believe that man is lying. I believe he knows who is the thief."

WHO IS READY TO FOOT THIS BILL?

The Dallas Morning News of Sunday, November 29, 1925, carries an interview with Speaker Satterwhite in which it is stated that "the speaker announced here Saturday that he had arranged for the expenses of a special session, disclosing for the first time that it was through his actions the necessary funds were pledged, in the event the governor will not call the session."

Who are going to hire our legislature to meet and impeach our governor? What obligations would our representatives be under for this employment? Will those who have pledged the funds hereafter expect legislation in their interest? Where does the general public come in for its part in this proposed scheme? Is our speaker playing with fire? Is this enormous expense to be met by the Invisible Empire?

In this interesting interview the reporter also states that "the speaker was interrupted by additional friends, who gathered around him, including Dr. Atticus Webb, of the Anti-Saloon League." Can it be possible the Anti-Saloon League is "chipping in" on this enormous expense? Some explanations should be made now. Hereafter they might become material. Should our representatives accept pay from private individuals or corporations for performing their duties under the constitution and laws of this state? It may now be time to remove the hood. Probably our anti-mask law recently enacted is not sufficiently broad in its scope. Should our representatives accept this employment, other investigations may become necessary. When quasi-political organizations, corporate power, or even individuals with surplus funds, can openly hire a legislature to investigate and impeach a governor or other officer of the state, we will have reached the limit.—Exchange.

"SPECIAL INTERESTS" AND A SPECIAL SESSION

Long years ago when lobbyists swarmed through the corridors of the great granite capitol there were folks in Texas who clamored for their expulsion. This clamor brought the abolition of free passes on railroads, free telephone and telegraph service and all was done under the caption that these were "special interests." Now with a speaker of the house of representatives heralding that he is assured of \$300,000 with which the finance a special session" of the legislature should the governor fall or decline to call one, the query is but natural: "What concern is it of these 'special interests' that a session be called. When a person or company pays the expenses of an agent it is reasonable to assume that the agent will carry out the wishes of his principals.

What wishes have the unrevealed financiers who propose to guarantee the expenses of a special session? Does the state need their charity? Are they concerned with visiting their wrath upon political foes or are they really trying to do something beneficial for the state.

The attorney general has given Speaker Satterwhite an opinion in which he holds that financing of a "special session of the legislature by what might have been 'special interests' is opposed to public policy and lacks legality."

That's that. In this connection the Houston Chronicle adds: "Like some other public men, Speaker Satterwhite seems to have overlooked the attorney general at a rather critical time. If the speaker had asked advice of the attorney general before issuing his ultimatum, he might have found less embarrassment in the present situation. In the meanwhile, the governor is issuing election proclamations to fill vacancies in legislative districts and seems to have a special session in mind."

MONEY MAY BE SCARCE BUT YOUR POLL TAX IS WORTH THE PRICE. PAY IT!

WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE TO AN HONEST EDITOR

The veteran editor of the Baird Star, W. E. Gilliland, takes the view that members of the Texas legislature accepting their pay from privately underwritten funds are accepting bribes. He maintains that such a session, so financed, will not and could not hold the respect of the people of Texas. Editor Gilliland puts his views this way:

"Any called session of the legislature of Texas, which is financed by private individuals, will not command the respect of the people of Texas, that it should. We don't see how any self respecting member can accept money under such conditions. It looks too much like a bribe to do something such individuals desire in a political way."

Read the Forum and don't be fooled. The Forum gives you the truth.

Subscribe for the Forum and be sure you will have good reading and all the truth.

MONEY MAY BE SCARCE BUT YOUR POLL TAX IS WORTH THE PRICE. PAY IT!

It looks as if there must be a new plan evolved for an autonomous session of the legislature.

Shop early and include a \$1.00 subscription to the Forum until next September in your shopping list.

The great Jim Hogg fought his political battles for principles and never gave time or thought to personal attacks.

Read the Forum offer of \$1.00 for the Forum until Sept. 1. It will prove good reading and a truthful report of things as they are.

The Texas Aggies won the Southwestern Conference football championship amid an unusual exhibition of "enthusiasm" by one of their supporters.

Did you read that special offer sent out by the Forum of \$1.00 for this paper until September 1? You will find it worth the money. Subscribe now.

The busy politicians are talking about the Forum. They all read it. We want all our friends to read it, therefore we have made a special rate of \$1.00 until September 1.

A careful reading of the reasons given by Governor Ferguson will disclose that there is no necessity at this time to burden the people with the expense of a special session. Of course, a few booms may will through delay but the people will save money and trouble.

It seems some people talk stronger outside of Texas than when they are within the state limits. If Lee Satterwhite believes what he says in Washington and St. Louis then why impose upon the taxpayers of Texas a special session to discover the status of Jim Ferguson? Jim hasn't dodged any of the missiles hurled in his direction.

Another wild guess on cotton production has sent prices down. If the cotton industry is to have reports on prospects and acreage it seems reasonable that the cotton growers will profit by paying the cost of estimates and relieve the government of that burden. The balance then will be in favor of the producer and not the speculator.

Appropriate gifts are engaging the attention of Christmas shoppers. How about Stone Mountain half dollars? These historic coins are now being offered for sale in Texas at \$1 each. Every purchaser will help rescue from oblivion the memory of great events in the history of the nation and at the same time will have a part in paying tribute to those heroes of the sixties who for four years kept a rendezvous with death and who lost all save honor in a titanic struggle. No greater honor than the Stone Mountain Memorial has ever expressed itself in chiseled granite.

Ma Ferguson Says:

THE SAME OLD GANG.

(Copyright Captor Syndicate)

I am up against the same old gang. I use the word gang, because I am fighting gangsters. I use the term gangster because I am fighting a crowd—a crowd that does not fight fair.

Political thugs and character assassins are leading the fight for my impeachment. Let anybody who wants to know the facts investigate the real facts in Texas, and it will be seen that not one man among this whole crowd against me has done anything for the state.

Not one of them has ever been identified with any reform or constructive legislation. No sir, they have been doing the hollering on the sidelines—ready when they got a chance to pick somebody to bite; ready to join the hue and cry; past-masters at destructive legislation, destructive journalism, destructive speech-making.

I have been in office eleven months and not one charge have they dared make against me, personally. But they have gone about beating the bushes as hard as they can, trying and trusting that some chance blow will hit me.

They say I should not take advice from my husband. They say he helps me too much. It looks to me, sometimes, as if they are mad because he did not leave home when I was elected. If they are envious because they cannot give good advice to their wives, I see no reason why they should make such a howl because my good husband is willing to give me and the state the benefit of his experience.

They say—these fellows who are leading in the talk against my administration—that they will not be deterred in their schemes because I am a woman. I am willing to believe that admission. There are men in that crowd who would impeach their own mothers or defame the Virgin Mary if they thought it would help their political fortunes. It is only too evident that they would rather impeach a woman than a man. It would be more blood-thirsty—and they are looking for political blood. Besides, think what a blow it would be to woman suffrage! They could back their own gang against all the women, and declare they had proven the first woman governor of Texas to be a failure!

Since my husband rose from the ranks of the business world to public life, a great crowd of ambitious and disappointed politicians in this state has been nursing a grudge against him. He was elected governor of Texas without their help—and they have hated him bitterly ever since. They drove him out of office; they disqualified him from holding office again.

But—they never conquered him. They have never been able to come between him and the people. He has had the best and truest friends that ever followed the fortunes of any leader. He beat the same crowd that is fighting me—the crowd that chortled in glee when they thought they had him where he could never lift his hand against them and their control of the Texas political situation again. They shouted to each other that they had the political situation of Texas once more for themselves and their own private gains.

When I first announced for governor, they laughed at the idea. They said "She can't run, because she is a woman." Scores of these politicians who had been using the good woman for voting purposes and making loud pretensions for woman suffrage all at once changed their tune and began shouting their horror at a woman holding high station in Texas.

But I persevered—and the women of Texas, by their prayers and their influence and their votes, helped me. My husband went out before the people; he talked and he wrote and our friends in all parts of Texas rallied to us. In one of the bitterest campaigns that Texas ever witnessed—a campaign in which the men who had been using the women's vote for years, the men who had been telling of their strong democratic principles for years, the men who had rallied to the standard of the hooded emperor of Atlanta joined forces against me—in such a campaign I was elected by a majority of more than 100,000 votes.

That is the crowd against me—a crowd still mad at a woman, and a Ferguson woman at that, who could defeat them in their own game.

They are afraid to take another chance at the polls. No, it is much easier to discredit my administration, they think—easier to put me out and to help their own crowd and their own political futures.

It is a wild, frantic, desperate bunch. They have money—and they will use it against me just as they used it against my husband. They now boast that they can raise private funds to pay the members of the legislature whom they want to sit in my case as my jurors.

I do not believe any honest member of the Texas legislature will take such dirty money—yet I know the crowd that will try to get such a plan accomplished. I do not underestimate their ability. I saw them work when they forced my husband to resign his office in 1917.

And while I realize what I am up against and the character of enemy that I must meet, yet I am fore-warned and therefore forearmed. The people cannot be deceived again. Thank God, this is a different legislature—and I do not believe that the same crowd can put over another impeachment outrage.

My immediate opposition in Texas can be traced in almost every case to one of three causes. First: some man wants to be elected governor and his friends are fighting me for that cause; second, some interest or firm did not get a road contract from the state or their materials are not being used freely in road construction; third, county officials who have heretofore had complete control of highway funds are mad because a new law has cut them out of a fertile field for graft by turning control of the highway funds over to a state highway commission.

These latter, in particular, blame me for what this new law has done to them. They want the funds of the state highways again in their hands. In other words, my administration has turned the road rascals out and turned the people in—which is stating briefly the whole of the highway scandal of Texas.

They have told ten thousand lies about this highway commission. Yet the grand jury, sitting for five weeks here at the seat of government, hearing all witnesses called by an un-friendly attorney general (a gentleman who has camped on my trail since the first day I entered office) failed and refused to find any violation of the law in the highway department.

The attorney general has obtained an agreed judgment for \$600,000 against a road contracting firm who contracted with the highway commission appointed by me, and his friends think he has made a great name for himself that will land him in the governor's office. Temporarily, he and his friends are in high glee.

But this judgment obtained by the energetic attorney general has permitted the road company to quit their job when it is just half done. As soon as the people of Texas learn the facts, the attorney general's boom for governor will blow up and I will be relieved of that opposition.

In fact, it is blowing up now. It will not be long before he will be on the run, and as soon as the people get the facts of this case, the attorney general will be standing on the defensive side of the fence.

MIRIAM A. FERGUSON.

Suits against the Ku Klux Klan for various and sundry kinds of debts and forfeited obligations appear to be popular just now. Evidently the flow of Kash is not now so strong as it has been. The former Texas grand klegale wants some \$9,000 for services rendered and a Dallas merchant is suing for \$4,463.80 an alleged unpaid balance due on 6,000 robes for the woman's section at \$2.50 each. The klan apparently has come upon lean days.

Financing a special session of the legislature with an avowed purpose in view was a little too much for the brilliant young attorney general and he drove a stunning solar plexus blow into the speaker of the house.

Forty New Chairmen Appointed for Sale of Memorial Coins

Austin, Tex., Dec. 9.—With appointment of approximately forty additional community chairmen, prospects are bright for success of the Stone Mountain Confederate Memorial campaign in Texas. Lon A. Smith, state chairman, said.

Among the new chairmen are J. K. Beretta, Bexar county; Charles Norton, Gladewater; Mrs. J. E. Fisher, Methis; C. H. Britain, Mesquite; Mrs. Mae Curry, Apple Springs; the Rev. J. H. Tate, Fluvanna; Dr. I. D. Easley, Seymour; M. C. Caudle, Dorchester; E. K. Herring St., Mount Calm; H. E. Faubion, Marble Falls; Mrs. A. E. Probst, Thrall; M. H. Stallings, Marjorie; B. R. Wall, Grapevine; M. M. McLeland, Brookland; J. R. Hart, Mt. Pleasant; Mrs. R. E. Dickson, Spur; J. F. Hacker, Campbell; John C. Selbert, Danville; Mrs. Kate Parker, Richland; W. W. Ferguson, Howe; T. J. Stovall, Rusk; Stella Wolters, Shiner; H. B. Speakman, Robstown; Joe H. Downs, Edgewood; Jack Barbes, Celeste; T. Wesley Hook, Gordon; W. H. Woodruff, Path; G. L. Haley, Frost; E. B. Furlong, Broad Oak; J. C. Alcorn, Bangs; F. N. Reach, Crawford; Miss Leona Frnk, New Ulm; Grace T. Grant, Lela Lake; A. J. Flowers, Pharr; C. A. Galbraith, Kirkland; D. O. Sholars, Joaquin; Miss Antha Bell, Carthon; Miss Cecile Baxter, Howland; Hugh O. Davis Mertzon, and H. B. Greser, Fayetteville.

Warning of Danger in Carbon-Monoxide From Health Board

Austin, Texas, Dec. 9.—Do not close your garage when working on your car with the engine running, is the advice given by the State Board of Health, who issues the following warning concerning carbon-monoxide poisoning. "Running a gasoline engine in a small closed space for any considerable period of time is extremely dangerous and should not be done. Even if the weather is cold, do not neglect opening up the windows or doors of your garage when doing repair work on your car."

"In tests of the exhaust of a small 25-horsepower automobile engine, it has been found that it discharged approximately 25 cu. feet of gas per minute, samples of which gave an average of 6 per cent carbon monoxide, or 1.5 cu. feet of deadly carbon-monoxide gas per minute. This is sufficient to contaminate the air of a small closed garage to the danger point in about 3 minutes."

"An attack of carbon-monoxide poisoning comes on insidiously and consciousness is gradually lost. Even though the victim may become aware of the danger, he is often unable to escape from it because of the quick loss of motive power. Death comes from respiratory paralysis."

"This is also the time of year when we begin to hear of deaths caused by asphyxiation, which are due to carelessness in the care of gas stoves. Everyone would do well to remember that gas is extremely dangerous to life if inhaled, and that artificial gas creates a double hazard, as carbon-monoxide is an important component that makes a leak in pipes or stove considerably more dangerous to human life."

"All gas heaters should have exhaust pipes to insure ventilation, and rubber tubing should never be used for connections. If metallic tubing is used, extreme care should be used to see that all connections are properly soldered, and it should be tested often for leaks. It is preferable to have connections to gas stoves made of standard gas piping."

"Before setting down to a winter of gas warmth, have all gas heating devices and pipes tested, to be sure that ventilation is afforded and that no leaks exist."

Girls Are Invited to Enter Stone Mountain Appreciation Contest

Invitation is now being issued by the Stone Mountain Confederate Monumental association to eligible young ladies to enter its widely-heralded appreciation contest, which will culminate in highly notable events and unusual rewards for the winners.

Those desiring to enter the contest should either make application to the local chairman of the harvest campaign or write directly to contest department, harvest campaign, Stone Mountain Confederate Monumental association, Room 8, Capital Building, Austin, Texas.

Number of Auto of Governor Ferguson to Be Either 1 or 2

Austin, Tex., Dec. 7.—The license for the automobile of Governor Miriam A. Ferguson for 1926 is to be either No. 1 or 2, as she desires. Eugene Smith, secretary of the state highway commission, said. The license will be issued this week. Her car will be registered as a Bell county car, this being her home county.

LOVER, MY LOVER.

Lover, my Lover,
Man law cast you aside,
Weakness paid, was heides,
Yet, strength dwells too,
Lover, my Lover,
In the soul of you,
Lover, my Lover,
Were your blue eyes blind,
So tender, so kind;
Saw they not that Ye'd rue,
Lover, my Lover,
God understands; I too,
Lover, my Lover,
Yes, I will wait the years
Close by the gate
With prayers and with tears,
Lover, my Lover,
Until "God pardoned" you rate.
CATHERINE GRIERSON,
Galveston, Texas.

Prevention of Colds With Advice From State Health Officer As To Treatment of Persons Afflicted

By Dr. H. O. Sappington, State Health Officer.

Colds are of such a common occurrence that naturally almost everyone regards them as of very little consequence, this attitude of the public towards colds being largely responsible for the many serious results attributable to what was at first considered an unimportant ailment.

If you have a cold, treat it with respect, for no time can a cold be classed as a trivial matter. It causes inconvenience, suffering, economic loss, and is often the forerunner of more serious diseases, such as influenza, pneumonia, and many of the infectious diseases of children.

Another disagreeable thing about a cold is, that to have one does not make you immune from another attack. In fact, as a general thing, the fellow that is easy to catch cold, is the one that is continually catching cold, this being due to lowered bodily resistance.

Exposure to cold and wet, drafts, etc., used to be looked upon as being responsible for colds, but it is now believed that these factors weaken the body's protective forces making one more susceptible to disease organisms. Fatigue, loss of sleep, insufficient food, over eating, and work in overheated rooms, also lower bodily resistance and make one easy to catch cold.

There are many kinds of colds and they are transmitted from one person to another by direct or indirect contact. Just what causes colds is not definitely known, there being probably several causative factors.

As a cold is a communicable disease, it would be well if it could be handled as other communicable diseases, isolating the patient suffering from it from contact with others. However, owing to the commonness of colds, it is impracticable to use such methods, but always avoid one suffering from this disease as much as possible.

When one is suffering from cold, stay at home if possible, and avoid large gatherings by all means. It is especially a menace to others. If it is necessary for you to be around others in attending to your business while a cold has you in its grasp, use every precaution to protect them from infection. Of course, everyone is too polite these days to spit in public places, but quite a lot of people have yet to learn that coughing or sneezing unless one holds a handkerchief over the mouth and nose, evicts particles of infective material into the air that is passed on to others near them.

Persons who take cold easily should strive to improve their physical condition, as the strong, healthy, robust man, woman or child is seldom bothered with a cold. Improper ventilation and heating of rooms are contributory factors to colds. Too often children are crowded together in school rooms, especially in rural districts, which are both improperly or not sufficiently heated and ventilated. Children in rural dis-

tricts also often walk long distances to school through all kinds of weather, and with cold or wet feet, and damp clothing, sit the greater part of the day in this condition. As this causes the blood to be chilled, the disease fighting forces of the blood cannot so successfully fight any invading disease organisms that chance to be present, consequently children thus exposed, usually take cold, as the infective material causing colds is very commonly found in many well individuals, seemingly waiting for a lowered bodily resistance to get in its deadly work.

The temperature of a room should be kept around 68 degrees Fahrenheit, and never over 70 degrees. The old fashioned fireplace has the advantage over many modern methods of heating, in that it affords ventilation of a room at all times. There is too great a tendency at the present time of heating rooms in a way that takes all the moisture out of the air.

The normal secretions of the nose possess antiseptic and bacteria-destroying qualities that are destroyed in the dry air of a superheated room. Not only does such an atmosphere irritate the nose and throat, but it also causes increased evaporation from our bodies, and is largely responsible for catarrhal conditions so common during the winter months.

The power of air to absorb and contain heat depends a great measure upon the amount of moisture or water vapor it contains. Consequently more fuel must be consumed in a room the air of which lacks moisture to give the same sensation of warmth and comfort than in a room which has sufficient humidity. Therefore, when a stove is used for heating purposes, it is well to keep a vessel of water on the stove all of the time in order that evaporation will keep sufficient moisture in the air, and that less fuel may be used.

Take plenty of outdoor exercise, and keep the body in a good physical condition as possible. Dress so as to keep warm, but not in a cumbersome manner. Avoid sudden changes of body temperature, as this lowers the resistance powers of the body.

Room temperature in winter should never go above 70 degrees Fahrenheit. If it should go above this, throw the windows open for a few minutes and let in plenty of fresh air. Do not sleep in closed rooms, but open the windows, preferably from the top.

Nourishing and easily digestible food should be eaten in moderation. An overstuffed stomach is a drain on the resistance powers of the body. As the infective material that causes colds is often carried on the fingers, wash your hands well before eating. Also keep your hands and fingers away from your nose and mouth.

If you meet a friend that has a cold, give him the military salute, but do not shake hands with him. In fact, shun everyone suffering from colds as much as possible.

Joe Burkett Praised By Maintenance Men at San Angelo Meet

San Angelo, Tex., Dec. 8.—The closest co-operation in highway maintenance exists between west Texas counties and the highway forces, county judges and commissioners and maintenance workers declared this afternoon at the first session of the Texas Road Maintenance association since organization of that body at Sweetwater in August.

Following adjournment of the session for the day, many of the 150 persons attending subscribed to a fund started by C. W. Graham of Albany, maintenance superintendent, to present Joe Burkett of Eastland, recently regred highway commissioner, with a token of their appreciation of his efforts in behalf of good roads in west Texas.

Burkett's defense of his record as a highway commissioner and his attacks upon Dan Moody and Lee Satterwhite featured today's session. "There's nothing wrong with the law governing the state highways if you just abide by it and it does not need revision," Mr. Burkett said. "I was passed while I was in the senate. With able advice, I wrote the bill in 1923 and the first commission for a year got along fine under it. So did the commission of which I was a member until politics got in and destroyed its efficiency. Under the law now in effect, you can build a system of highways that will be second to none."

Mr. Burkett charged that most of the newspapers had refused to present the highway commissioner's side of the question, taking no notice of good work done and refusing to publish letters from county judges commending maintenance, but featuring criticism.

Report to Coolidge Is Against Separate Air Service Bureau

Washington, D. C. Dec. 8.—Expansion of military and naval aviation, but without drastic change in the present organization was recommended today by President Coolidge by the special board appointed to investigate the condition of the American air power.

The board's report, concurred in by all of the nine members, emphatically opposed establishment of a department of national defense or a unified air service proposals made by Colonel William Mitchell whose public criticism of the war and navy department air services preceded the board's inquiry. The board's recommendations include:

- Creation of three additional assistant secretariats to handle aviation problems.
- Special representation of aviation on the army general staff.
- Representation for naval aviators in the office of the bureau of navigation.
- Designation of the army air service as the army air corps.
- Adoption by the government of a continuing aviation policy to encourage better commercial aircraft development.
- Elimination of governmental competition with civil industry in aircraft production.
- Assistance to commercial aviation through the establishment of airways and air ports.
- Continuation of flight pay for all aviators and the conferring of temporary rank upon air officers commensurate with the duties assigned them.

The report took cognizance of the aviation "controversy that has gone on since the war" and asserted that the "conflict is one between the old and the new, emphasized by sharp adjustment required in a period immediately following a great war." In opposing combination of the government's military and commercial air activities under one head, the board observed that peace-time activities in the United States "have never been governed by military considerations."

In presenting its recommendations, the board said "no solution at this time can be lasting and it is most important to lay emphasis on the best method of achieving the desired result."

Donnell Thinks all Legislators Should Pay Their Own Way

(From Temple Telegram.) J. R. Donnell, representative from this district, is in favor of the legislators paying their own expenses and is willing to pay his at a special session but is not in favor of private subscription of funds for the session. He said yesterday in a letter to the Telegram. His letter, written from Hillsboro, Tex., said: "Being away from home, I have not received the letter yet but read in the daily papers that speakers Satterwhite had written each member of the legislature asking if they would pay their own expenses should he call a special session. "I would hope, of course, to be reimbursed by the fortieth legislature. "I am writing this to you for publication in the Telegram so that my constituents may know my sentiments on the question. "I will be in Hillsboro until Christmas. "Yours truly, "J. R. DONNELL."

Seven Children Found Dead in Hospital Room

Lemgo, Westphalia, Dec. 7.—Seven children aged from 10 to 13, were found asphyxiated in the children's hospital today. Death was caused by coal gas.

Increase in National Efficiency During Period of Five Years Is Shown in Report Made by Hoover

Washington, Dec. 2.—Progress made by industry in the United States toward the elimination of waste is bringing about "one of the most astonishing transformations in economic history," Secretary Hoover declared today in the 1925 annual report of the Commerce Department.

The attainment in this direction through the standardization of articles and the betterment of processes, in which officials participated was co-operative rather than administrative, he treated as of more far reaching importance than any of the routine conduct of government placed under his direction. Such attainments, he held, made possible the upholding of American standards of living for the whole population—laboring, farming and distributing.

"What the country as a whole has accomplished during the past five years in increased national efficiency in these directions is impossible of measurement," the report said. "That movement is the result of a realization by every group—business men, industrial leaders, engineers and workers—of the fundamental importance of this business of waste elimination."

"In addition to elimination of waste we have had the benefit of notable advances in science; improvement in methods of management, and prohibition."

The secretary cited labor department figures indicating that whereas in 1920 the wage rate was 99 per cent above pre-war and the wholesale price level 126 per cent above pre-war, in 1924 the wage rate had risen to 123 per cent above pre-war, while the wholesale price level had dropped to 50 per cent above pre-war.

"While wages are higher than in 1920, wholesale prices are lower," he explained. "We thus have the highest real wage in our history, and we have had three years of remarkable price stability. "The philosophy that underlies the campaign for waste elimination has but one purpose; that is, to maintain American standards of living for both workers and farmers, and to place production on a more stable footing. "The activity of the commerce department in this field of waste elimination was recorded in the fact that since the work was launched on a large scale in 1921 some 900 group conferences have been held under the auspices of the department, practically all at the request of the industries themselves while upwards of 200 committees are now at work in co-operation with the department on various phases of the program."

The secretary introduced into the report accomplishments during the past five years as reported by his various associates in the department.

These noted greater efficiency of the railroads, a sixty per cent increase in electric generating capacity, wide provision of business statistics as a stabilizing influence reducing speculation in commodities, the expansion of industrial research, the extension of the building season in the construction industries, and millions saved through "simplified practice."

Eugene S. Gregg, chief of the department's transportation division, cited remarkable improvement in railroad transportation, with car shortages practically a thing of the past. Since 1921, he said, the average weekly car loadings had increased from 693,533 to 936,475, the number of miles per car per day from 22.4 to 26.9 and the average trainload from 656 to 731 tons.

The department's interest in waterways improvement was outlined by Paul S. Clapp, special assistant to the secretary, who urged completion of the Mississippi system of waterways at the earliest possible time. He also told of an economic study being made of the St. Lawrence project, and of great strides in the electrification of the country, and in the generation and distribution of power. This was being accomplished, he said, not only with an enormous saving of fuel, but with large increases in productivity, reduction of physical effort and labor, and added comfort in the home.

William M. Stewart, director of the census, told how statistics have been put to work to enable the business community to avoid the extremes of the business cycle.

The bureau of standards had likewise lent a hand to the industrial improvement by waste elimination. Dr. George K. Burgess, its director, pointed out ways and means of better utilizing raw materials had been

found and the improvement of manufactured articles had been brought about. In the construction field, where Secretary Hoover has for two years facilitated efforts to reduce seasonal operation through a committee of building leaders, much accomplishment was described by John M. Arles, a division chief assigned to assist its progress.

"Activity of a large number of contractors on operations throughout the country averaged about a third greater during the three winter months of 1924 than in previous years," Mr. Gries said. "During the past year the total amount of construction reached a value of more than \$6,000,000,000, the highest in our history."

This enormous construction program was executed with no marked labor shortage or serious pressure upon the building material, manufacturing, or transportation industries, he said, and prices of most building materials actually decreased. Ray M. Hudson, chief of the bureau of simplified practice, contributed a series of estimates as to annual savings made in industry by the reduction in types of articles produced, and general standardization. These were said to amount to \$1,000,000 in paving bricks; \$2,400,000 in sheet steel; \$4,500,000 in steel reinforcing bars; \$5,500,000 in range boilers; \$10,000,000 in builders' hardware; and as much as \$200,000,000 in lumber.

\$500,000 Fire in Michigan. Mount Pleasant, Mich., Dec. 7.—Fire of undetermined origin early today destroyed the main building and library of the central State Normal school here with an estimated loss of \$500,000.

Travis Grand Jury to Continue Inquiry of Official Affairs

Austin, Tex., Dec. 7.—Complete investigation of all officers "from the governor to the justice of the peace, was urged today by Judge J. R. Hamilton in charging the Travis county grand jury. He charged the body to take up and continue "all unfinished business from the last grand jury." Included in the "unfinished business" is the voluminous record of a two months investigation of the state highway department.

Judge Hamilton's charge was short. "This charge is largely an abbreviation of the charge I delivered to the last grand jury, which I charged to investigate the activities of every public officer, from the head of the state to the constables," he said.

The judge sharply rebuked those who regarded a public office as a private snap, declaring "a public office is a public trust, and when men look into public offices as private snaps they are betraying their trust. A public officer should handle the business of the public as carefully as he would his own, weighing every consideration with the utmost care. When officers fail to regard a public office as a public trust, our government cannot function properly."

Four farmers and one ranchman are included in the personnel of the body that will continue probe of a highway imbroglio that has attracted national attention and caused an investigation by the United States bureau of public roads. Two brokers, a printer, a collector, a glinner, a brick manufacturer and a tobacco merchant complete the body.

The grand jury personnel follows: W. P. Connelly, Austin, foreman of the jury; printer; August Nelson, Elroy, farmer; W. A. Miller, Manor, glinner; J. A. Johnston, Daffin, farmer; William Bratton, Round Rock, farmer; W. J. Morris, Austin, collector; A. L. Skelley, Austin, bond broker; Arthur Shaw, Delvall, farmer; Abe Frank, Austin, tobacco merchant; A. V. Riley, Austin, cedar broker and T. J. Butler, Austin, brick manufacturer.

SAYS TAX CLUB PROGRAM IS DOOMED TO FAILURE

Austin, Tex., Dec. 8.—Failure of the program of the Texas Tax club was predicted in a letter from Representative John N. Garner of Uvalde, made public here today. Garner declared that the question of state's rights, raised here at the recent meeting of the tax club, has no foundation and that those in the United States supporting the movement to repeal the tax laws have a campaign fund of \$1,000,000.

Dry Law Attracting Much Attention Now On Part of Congress

Washington, Dec. 8.—With the new congress only a few hours old, the Volstead act and its parent law, the Eighteenth amendment already have drawn a flood of proposals for amendment and repeal.

While the preponderance of these are "liberalizing" proposals from the wet side, the dries have nearly balanced the scale with their measures for tightening up prohibition enforcement.

The house first felt the agitation with the pouring of more than a score of prohibition bills into the hopper at the opening session, but Senator Edge, Republican, New Jersey, moved today to bring the senate into the question.

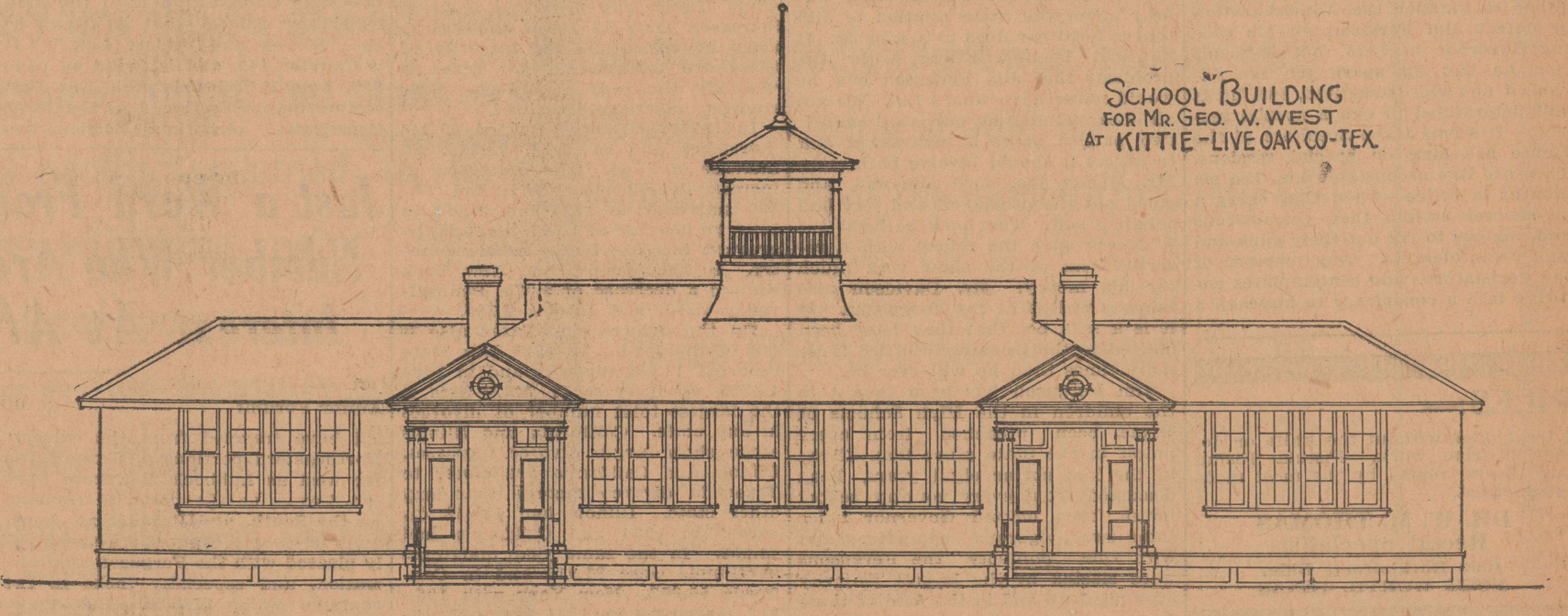
The New Jersey senator had two proposals, one of them to increase the legal alcoholic content of beverages from the present maximum of one half of one per cent to 2.75 per cent in weight. This was the strength of the wartime beer fixed by presidential proclamation. He would further amend the Volstead act by repealing existing restrictions against physicians prescribing more than one pint of liquor for a patient during a period of ten days.

The Edge bills were referred to the judiciary committee which will also have before it later in the session other measures for amendment of the Volstead act and still other bills sponsored by the Anti-Saloon league designed to tighten up prohibition enforcement.

Senator Edge and several other senators have long held view that the Volstead act as it now stands cannot be enforced and if present conditions are to be improved there must be a "liberalization" of the prohibition laws. Legalization of light beer and mild wine in line with the Edge proposal in the senate, also is the object of a number of house proposals.

Western Union Cuts Melon. New York, Dec. 8.—The annual dividend rate on the capital stock of the Western Union Telegraph company today was raised from \$7 to \$8 a share when directors authorized a quarterly payment of \$2. Dividends had been maintained on a \$7 yearly basis since 1919.

Bishop of Wall Street Dies. New York, Dec. 7.—The Rev. Wm. Wilkinson known as "the bishop of Wall street," died at noon today after a long illness. News of his death was flashed immediately to the stock exchange.



DEEP TEST OIL WELL ON GEORGE W. WEST RANCH

In addition to building cities, establishing schools, furnishing hotels and constructing bridges and modern highways as part of his program for transforming his great ranch of some 65,000 acres into community settlements and farm home tracts George W. West, veteran trail breaker, is going after oil. With the same pioneering spirit which prompted him to break a trail from lower Texas to within 100 miles of the Canada border, further than any Texan or any other citizen up to that time had driven, he is going deep into the earth whereas in the early trail days he went far across country.

A recent news notice says that George B. Pickett and his associates are drilling at 1,380 feet on the George W. West ranch in Live Oak county. The derrick is several miles southwest of Kittie, the pretty town which the "Old Chief" George W. West, has named for his wife.

The test promises to be one of major importance because it is rigged up capable of drilling a mile deep and is coring at frequent intervals and testing all formations that give any indication of being productive of either oil or gas.

Mr. Pickett, formerly a mining engineer and geologist, came to San Antonio from the Mexico field to which he went from the Rocky Mountains. He developed some shallow gas wells in the Crowther field in the northeastern part of McMullen county and has drilled a total of about 10 wells in Live Oak and McMullen. Associated with him in the test is E. M. Thomasson & Company of Denver, Colo.

Due to the danger of high pressure gas all through that territory and the frequent blowouts which have resulted in the loss of wells the No. 1 George West was arranged with every precaution. The derrick platform is seven feet above the ground and above the large gate valve on the 210 feet of 12 1/2-inch casing that was set and cemented is a blow-out preventer. The 112-foot derrick is built on the platform and the rig are such as are capable of drilling a mile deep if found advisable.

Land sales from this famous ranch are being made every week by J. H. Kohut Land Company, with main offices at George West and a branch office at 408 Gunter building, San Antonio. Several purchasers have increased their holdings and are improving their lands. Among these is Rev. John Schiller, formerly of Sealy, who after buying 160 acres and building him a modern home has bought another 80 acre tract. Under the terms of sale no purchaser is permitted to buy more than 320 acres. This limitation is to insure actual settlement and home building.

Former Governor Jim Ferguson has bought 160 acres and is negotiating for additional acreage. He has had a splendid farm home built and will have his lands cultivated next year.

Around Kittie 5,000 acres has been cut into eighty acre tracts and surveyors completing their work a few days ago. The prices will be about the same as for the lands around the town of George West, which range from \$15.00 to \$20.00 per acre on terms of one-fourth cash and the balance ten years with 6 per cent interest due on or before final expiration date.

Of the 5,000 acres around Kittie fully 2,000 acres is black waxy hogwallow and the remainder black sandy loam prairie land.

We are ready to show you. We invite you to look at the best home owning proposition in Texas. Our man is always at George West ready to show you around.

For further information address, but we prefer that you come.

J. H. Kohut Land Company

Main Office, George West, Tex. Branch Office, 408 Gunter Bldg., San Antonio, Tex.



Business of State Hampered By Attack of Attorney General and Speaker on Ferguson Writer Says

Editor Forum:

I notice in the papers some startling accusations and admissions. A Waco paper carried an article stating a large majority of the people want Jim Ferguson removed from his activities in the State's affairs.

In another article Mr. Satterwhite admits that he did not expect to find any indictments by the Travis County Grand Jury and did not expect any dishonesty in the Administration to be found.

PILES:

I treat piles without the knife or detention from work. Fistula, Fisher and Ulcers treated by the most modern method.

DR. W. M. THOMAS Rectal Specialist 1006 Burk Burnett Bldg. FORT WORTH, TEXAS

Lawyer's Directory

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W. L. WARD DAWYER 1010 Western Indemnity Building

LEE P. PIERSON ATTORNEY-AT-LAW Has moved his office to Dallas where he is associated with

PIERSON & PIERSON 508 Santa Fe Building DALLAS, TEXAS

Hotel Directory DALLAS

Jefferson Hotel Cafe Our Motto: QUALITY, CLEANLINESS, SERVICE

THE JEFFERSON Centrally located for all City Activities

HOUSTON "THE BENDER" Houston's Popular Hotel, Rates \$1.50 and up.

SAN ANTONIO GUNTER HOTEL Internationally Known

AUSTIN The Driskill European Plan Is the Hotel AT AUSTIN

Divorce and Marriage Both Show Large Gain in the Texas Reports

Dallas, Texas, Dec. 7.—Texas divorces and marriages are increasing at a greater ratio than the average for the entire United States.

This state leads all others in marriage increase and stands fourth in the total number of divorces.

For every nine marriages throughout the country there is one divorce. In Texas the ratio is five marriages to one divorce.

These facts are disclosed by statistics released today by the United States department of commerce.

Marriages in the United States in 1924 totaled 7,178,206, and in 1923, 1,223,924, a decrease of 45,718.

Divorce totaled 170,867 in 1924 and in 1923 they were 165,096, an increase of 5,771.

While the country at large was showing a decrease of more than three per cent in divorce between 1923 and 1924, this state reported an increase of exactly five per cent, but during the same period marriages increased four per cent here while they decreased three per cent in the country at large.

The report shows that despite the fact that this state has no alimony law and that married women still are under the disabilities of the common law, the marriage institution is flourishing here as nowhere else in the country.

New York, Pennsylvania, and Illinois, which are the only states ahead of Texas in marriages, each shows a decrease between 1923 and 1924, while Texas was reporting a great increase. Only 12 states show marriage increases and the majority of these are western states.

In 1923 this state reported 69,243 marriages and in 1924, 79,956, an increase of 12,743. The next state in increase is Florida, which reported 17,355 marriages in 1923 and 18,539 in 1924, an increase of 1,248, perhaps the greatest increase in the whole country.

On the divorce side Texas also is far in the lead. In 1923 this state reported 14,632 divorces and in 1924 15,375, an increase of 743. This is the largest total number of divorces in any state.

Stenographer Dies of Poison. Dallas, Tex., Dec. 8.—Miss Pansey Peck, 32, stenographer at a Dallas hotel, died here at a hospital last night from the effects of poison.

New Members of State Highway Board Named by Governor Enter on Duties of Position at Once. Austin, Tex., Dec. 3.—Governor Miriam A. Ferguson, who returned to the capital today after a two-day visit in Temple, appointed two members of the highway commission.

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Search and Seizure Law Based On Constitution Is Argument Given By Hon. J. J. Stephens, of Gilmer

Editor Ferguson Forum:

At one time in the history of this country there were thirteen British colonies along the Atlantic seaboard. As these colonies began to grow in strength and prosperity Great Britain began to pass laws in her parliament to oppress them.

The question arises in my mind, if the Constitution is right isn't the law right? Again, if the Constitution is wrong would it not be proper to abolish that part of the Constitution before condemning the law?

In my opinion that, in a nutshell, and those who stand for such things are responsible for its passage. The law may be amended some time so as to enable officers more effectively to prevent the escape of bootleggers and other law violators.

J. J. STEPHENS, Gilmer, Texas, Dec. 7, 1925.

Just a Word From One of Large Number Who Are Looking on With Interest At Affairs At Austin

Editor Forum:

I have traveled from the extreme Northeastern portions of Texas to as far west as Lubbock and from Denton, Texas, on the north to Houston on the South, and I find that thousands of people everywhere are highly pleased with the Ferguson administration, and especially those in the common walks of life.

Mr. Moody will lose many of the votes that he received in the last campaign, and will have to look to the triple K's for his support if he expects to be Governor of the Lone Star State.

Many thousands of Texas people are very much opposed to the calling of a special session of the State Legislature for the purpose of further investigating the present Highway situation which has and is still being looked into by court procedure.

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of the law makes it "unlawful for any person or peace officer, or state ranger, to search the private residence, actual place of habitation, place of business, person or personal possessions of any person, without having first obtained a search warrant as required by law."

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J. J. STEPHENS, Gilmer, Texas, Dec. 7, 1925.

Count Salm Gets to New York and Finds Wife Is in Florida. New York, N. Y., Dec. 2.—Count Ludwig Salm von Hoogstraeten, who arrived yesterday from Europe to see the infant son of his countess, the "400,000,000 Rogers heiress," is trying to decide whether to follow her to Palm Beach.

The former Millicent Rogers was not at the pier with her young son to greet her nobleman husband and his mother. His brother, Count Otto Salm and customs officials were the only persons to welcome him.

"I have no knowledge of rumors in reference to a divorce," said the count. "But if it should develop that a permanent separation is necessary I shall certainly demand the custody of my infant son."

The count has never seen his son, and explained that his mother, the Countess Adolphine Salm, had come to the United States to see her grandson.

"Whether my wife will accompany me on my return to Europe, and whether I shall return there, depends upon future developments," he said.

He added that he and his wife had been amicable until her return to America, when she was "subjected to influences beyond my control."

Cupid Puts End to Girl Hiker's Trip to Sunny Florida. Senatobia, Miss., Dec. 2.—Hiking has lost its charm for Catherine Webb, pretty young St. Louis girl.

Miss Webb left her home city a month ago with the intention of walking to Tampa, Fla., by Christmas. She halted for a few days here and obtained a position. She also met Luther Butler, a young business man.

When Miss Webb resumed her journey Luther also started, overtaking Miss Webb at Grenada. After a consultation the hiking was called off and they were married by Mayor J. B. Snyder of Senatobia.

Just Another Word. To the Editor of the Chronicle (Houston.) Will thank you very much if you will publish the following:

I happened to be over in another county last Saturday night and heard a political sermon preached over KPRC. The preacher's name is Claud L. Jones of Houston, Texas.

to breakfast, which he no doubt did before she was elected Governor.

Let's grant everything the reverend said is true, but who is to blame for the election of Mrs. Ferguson? I for one never voted for Jim Ferguson in my life, but when the Kluckers tried to put a Klucker in the governor's chair I was like many thousands of others, couldn't do anything else but vote for her.

Ma Ferguson in my opinion, has done more than enough for this great state of ours to offset all the mistakes she has made. Now, I want to ask this good political preacher that gets his bread and butter from those people that hired him to preach the Bible, whether or not he voted for that fighting attorney general, Dan Moody, who sent those midnight face covered cowards at Georgetown to the pen?

Now I presume this preacher will say that I am a bootlegger, an anti-prohibition or a gambler. If he does I can furnish the proof that I have always belonged to the Baptist church, never tasted intoxicating liquors, always voted the prohibition ticket and don't know one card from the other. Sincerely yours,

A. B. SAMSON, Brookshire, Texas.

Huge Sum Assured to Red Grange in Deal With Film Magnates

New York, Dec. 7.—Red Grange signed a motion picture contract, today under which he received at once a flat guarantee of \$300,000 for his first screen performance.

Grange's movie agreement, involving what was said to be a record sum for the first film appearance of any individual was the high spot of an astonishingly profitable 24 hours following his sensational performance with the Chicago Bears in a professional football game against the New York Giants at the Polo Grounds yesterday.

Grange according to his manager C. C. Pyle, received \$36,000 as his share of yesterday's gate receipts. Afterward he endorsed various articles of merchandise for a total return of \$40,000, bringing his total earnings since leaving Illinois and turning professional to close to \$500,000.

Grange signed the movie contract through Pyle who negotiated the agreement with W. E. Shallenberger of New York, president of the Arrow Pictures corporation. It was announced that the former Illinois star would begin work on his first picture here about March 1, 1926, after completing gridiron contracts.

The picture contracts was said to cover a long term agreement, but the financial details concerning work subsequent to the first picture were not made public. It was indicated that success of Grange's first appearance would determine this. The check for \$300,000, covering only the first picture, was handed to Grange immediately after he signed the contract.

The money value attached so far to Grange's name and fame puts him far above rivals in professional athletic ranks and eclipses even the unusual earning powers of Babe Ruth.

Last night and today Grange and Pyle were besieged at their hotel by agents of business firms seeking Red's endorsement of articles ranging from sweaters to sweaters. Pyle said that \$12,000 was received for endorsing a sweater, \$10,000 for the use of Grange's name in manufacturing a football doll, \$5,000 for a shoe and \$2,500 for a cap.

Count Salm Gets to New York and Finds Wife Is in Florida. New York, N. Y., Dec. 2.—Count Ludwig Salm von Hoogstraeten, who arrived yesterday from Europe to see the infant son of his countess, the "400,000,000 Rogers heiress," is trying to decide whether to follow her to Palm Beach.

The former Millicent Rogers was not at the pier with her young son to greet her nobleman husband and his mother. His brother, Count Otto Salm and customs officials were the only persons to welcome him.

"I have no knowledge of rumors in reference to a divorce," said the count. "But if it should develop that a permanent separation is necessary I shall certainly demand the custody of my infant son."

The count has never seen his son, and explained that his mother, the Countess Adolphine Salm, had come to the United States to see her grandson.

"Whether my wife will accompany me on my return to Europe, and whether I shall return there, depends upon future developments," he said.

He added that he and his wife had been amicable until her return to America, when she was "subjected to influences beyond my control."

Repeal of Dry Law Amendment Proposed; Referendum Sought

Washington, D. C., Dec. 7.—The first blow in the annual battle of the wets and dries in congress was struck today by Representative Hill, republican, Maryland, who proposed what he said would amount to a popular referendum on prohibition.

He presented a resolution for the repeal of the 18th amendment, with a provision that the action of each state on the proposal be taken through a state convention of delegates elected by popular vote.

Representative Hill also proposed a bill to let each state define "intoxicating beverages" for itself, one to legalize 2.75 per cent beer and one to transfer prohibition enforcement to the attorney general.

CLASSIFIED ADS

RATE—2c per word each insertion. Minimum charge 50c. Initials and each group of figures count as one word. Short lines seven words—Capitals double.

NEW CROP Thresher run Spanish peanuts, \$5 per 100 lbs. A-1 shelled peanuts, \$10 per 100 lbs. Catalog best fruit trees grown, free. T. I. FITZGERALD, De Leon, Texas 12-19-3

PLANT NOW—Leading varieties cabbage and Crystal Wax Onion plants, by express, 6,000, \$7.50; postpaid, 1,000, \$2.00; 500, \$1.25. Bermuda Onions, express, 6,000, \$6.00. Postpaid, 1,000, \$1.50; 500, 90c. Dealers get quantity prices. The Sewell Company Inc., Station A., San Antonio. 12-3-4

TANNING simplified. Formula free tools materials furnished agents wanted. R. N. Gilley, Carlton, Texas. 12-10-4

BABY CHICKS—I am hatching every week in the year. I have for sale pullets and hens. Pedigreed and utility cockerels, produced from eggs laid by my own hens. This new blood will build up your strain. Write for catalogue and prices. The Original, the Oldest Johnson Poultry Ranch, in Texas, Wolfe City, Texas. 12-10-4

GET prices on your complete house bills direct from mill. C. Shank, Winona, Texas. 12-10-4

WANTED—A German or Bohemian girl to do housework and cook in my home. A good place for a good girl. T. H. McGregor, Austin, Texas. Phone 3731. 12-10-4

HOME SPUN TOBACCO; Chewing—5 pounds, \$1.50; 10 lbs., \$2.50. Smoking 5 lbs., \$1.25; 10, \$2.00. Mild 10, \$1.50. Free when received. F. G. Gup-ton, Bardwell, Ky. 12-10-4

RED INDIAN—Large, sweet, juicy, clingstone peach we knew when we were boys. Four-foot tree \$1. R. G. Martin, Stephenville, Texas. 11-12-1

WE SEND POSTPAID anywhere for only \$3.25 2 Red Indian Peach Trees, 2 nice Holly, 2 old Fashion Bridal Wreath Plants, 2 Magnolia Trees, 1 Sweet Bay Tree, 1 Concord Grape Vine. Double above collection for \$6.25. Order today! EVERGREEN NURSERIES, Woodville, Texas. 12-10-1

HALF AND HALF COTTON—The Georgia, stock direct. I am offering planting seed from cotton picked before the rainy weather set in, state tested and free from damage of any kind. Prices \$1.75 per bushel, \$5.00 per 100 pounds. This means freight paid, to your station. I will allow 10 per cent discount from farmers who live in the drought stricken area of Texas. ED TAYLOR, Queen City, Texas. 12-10-4

ALL KINDS high grade Fruit Trees and Nursery Stock. Low prices. Free Catalogue. Southland Nursery Company, Box 591-G, Tyler, Texas. 11-12-10

"MA" IN MUSIC—Have you a copy of the latest musical hit? "Ma We Are Satisfied With You." Words and music by Mr. and Mrs. Scarborough, Jr. dedicated to Mrs. Miriam A. Ferguson, Governor of Texas. Our local music dealer does not have any on hand have him order a few copies, or send fifty cents and a copy will be mailed you by return mail. The cover is attractive and is alone worth the price. You quartette boys need this. You will find plenty of harmony. Send in order to JIM S. SCARBOROUGH, JR., P. O. Box 797, Kingsville, Texas. 12-10-4

CERTIFIED PLANTING SEED—Place your order now for Allentown Acala cotton seed. Quickest to mature a heavy yield. Staple 1-1-3 to 1-2-16 inches always brings splendid premium. Buy your seed from a reliable Registered cotton breeder and be sure of getting pure, high-grade seed of highest vitality. All my seed grown out of drought area from cotton making three-quarters bale per acre, and staple bringing three cents premium and better. Supply half sold now. Write quick for prices, stating amount of seed wanted. Special prices on car lots. Jno. D. Rogers, Registered Cotton Breeder, Navasota, Texas. 10-15-1

100 ENVELOPES and 200 6-1-2 by 8 1-2 Note or Lettersize, printed with your name and address and post-paid to you, \$1.00. Send \$1.00 for one years subscription to our farm and home journal and 25 cents extra to pay postage and get a trial box of stationery free. Send cash with order to Fletcher's Farming, Hondo, Texas. If you prefer, send two dollars and get both Farming and the Forum for a whole year without the stationery. 10-15-8

Ferguson Forum "Builders of Texas" Campaign

TEXAS TOBACCO

Tobacco was introduced into Texas with the earliest settlers, the Spanish, who were allowed to grow it only under the very strict supervision of the central government, but who found it profitable, nevertheless. Later, when the horde of Anglo-Americans came trooping in, they found that they could at least supply their own needs, which they did by producing only enough for home consumption. It grew in the eastern part of the state with very little cultivation and expense, but the amount did not seem likely to increase to commercial proportions until after the time of Reconstruction when a man by the name of Pearlstein made an attempt in 1879 to produce a high-grade Cuban tobacco in Montgomery County. He was successful in his own efforts, but did not arouse any enthusiasm among others to join him in a larger effort, and soon after this time, he went to Mexico, and the rest of the people in that vicinity were content to leave matters as they stood until 1891 when John Blum revived the culture of Cuban tobacco in the same place, and by 1899 there were 1,500 acres under the cultivation of that plant near Willis, Texas. Factories were built up, and there seemed to be every prospect of a flourishing business when the Spanish-American war

came on, and in addition to the fact that interest was turned in another direction, the price of tobacco dropped to an amazingly low figure, and all interest in the production of that plant as a commercial product seemed to have reached the vanishing point. Small patches for local consumption have continued to be grown, however, and there is a possibility that in the future, a great development may take place.

The acreage which has been proved to be suitable for the production of tobacco in East Texas by the limited efforts of the past almost reaches the half million mark, and there is no doubt that some as yet untested will prove equally good. The proven area is found in the following counties:

County	Acreage
Orange	1,500
Jasper	5,000
San Augustine	60,000
Anderson	100,000
Nacogdoches	150,000
Houston	20,000
Montgomery	25,000
Cherokee	50,000
Upshur	25,000
	436,500

The average production of tobacco per acre has been found to be about 1,000 pounds in the open field, and 1,100

in the shade, which has often been sold for as much as twenty-five or thirty cents a pound, depending on the quality of the leaf. With favorable market conditions, then, there is no reason why Tobacco growing should not become a valuable part of the agricultural life of Texas.

That TEXAS is the only state in the United States which has been declared by agricultural experts to have the soil and climate which is suited to the growing of a tobacco equally as good as that of the famous Vuleta Abajo in Cuba, is a fact which is known only to a few people in Texas, but it is a fact, nevertheless, and it behooves us as Texans to see that it is better known, and to do our parts to bring our own state into her own with this product as well as others. Following is an extract from the report of the United States Secretary of Agriculture, made after a trip through the Southern States in an effort to see where the best land for tobacco was to be found:

"The following out of this line of policy resulted in finding the soil which will grow the finest kind of tobacco. So far, we have found the best of this tobacco land in East Texas. The soil we have analyzed is identical with that of Cuba and the other countries which grow the very best qualities of the aromatic cigar tobaccos."

The article here published is part of a series to advertise the Resources and Industries of Texas; and are contributed by "Builders of Texas," who made possible the Growth and Development of Texas. Other articles in this campaign will deal with the varied industrial, agricultural and mineral interests and their progress and development in Texas. Read each article of this series. It will be worth your while.

New Federal Revenue Bill Sent to Congress Makes \$325,736,000 Slash in Taxes Levied for 1926

Washington, Dec. 7.—The new revenue bill, proposing a slash of \$325,736,000 in taxes during the next calendar year and providing relief for virtually every federal taxpayer was reported to the house today as the first legislative business presented to the new congress.

In presenting the report of the ways and means committee, which drafted the measure during a seven weeks pre-congress session, Chairman Green, served notice that he would ask the house to take it up tomorrow under the plan to send it to the senate before the end of the second week of the session.

A saving of \$193,575,000 to income tax payers on taxes payable next year is the principal relief proposed by the bill and leaders of both the house and senate have set March 1 as the goal for enactment of the measure into law so that this benefit may be taken advantage of in the payment of first installments of the income tax due March 15.

Although unanimously ordered reported to the house by the ways and means committee, the measure reported on the bill contained separate statements of "additional views" by Representatives Rainey of Illinois and Hull of Tennessee, democratic members of the committee.

Chairman Green's report for the committee explained in detail the revisions made in the tax rates as well as the administrative provisions of the law, and set forth the principles which guided the committee.

On none of the votes taken in the committee on provisions of the bill did it divide on partisan lines. Mr. Green said, and in this respect he declared the bill "sets an excellent example for future financial legislation."

Both Mr. Rainey and Mr. Hull praised the general provisions of the measure, but both took exception to the provision increasing the personal

those engaged in the operation of a farm as well as those engaged in the cultivation. The change would place Government land banks on the same loan terms with joint stock land banks.

Representative Wurbach of the San Antonio district introduced a large number of bills, one of which provides for retirement of emergency officers of the World War for disability as a result of service, such retirement to be on 75 per cent of the active pay at the time of retirement.

Representative Briggs of the Galveston district offered a bill giving the Secretary of Commerce authority to permit the establishment of free zones at ports.

The old Choctaw-Chickasaw leased district claim is again before Congress in a bill introduced by Representative Carter of Oklahoma. This claim involves the value of something like 3,000,000 acres in Western Oklahoma, including Greer county, but not what was formerly the Cheyenne and Arapahoe reservation. The bill asks the Government to pay the Choctaws and Chickasaws at the rate of \$1.25 per acre, and that the sum be disbursed per capita to the members of those tribes. The Indians claim a deception on the part of the government in respect to this area, which the former say proved to be a "purchase" for \$300,000, whereas the understanding was it was a lease. The Government never even completed payment of the \$300,000, the Indians assert.

Wife Says Man Shot By Husband was Her "Spiritual Adviser"

Fort Worth, Texas, Dec. 9.—W. O. Whitley, 45, who shot and killed Robert Edward Oatts, 23, here Sunday night, did so in the belief that he was protecting his children, officers were told. Oatts, on the other hand, was termed by Mrs. Whitley, the "spiritual benefactor" of the Whitley family, including the mother, 43, and her six small children. Oatts had been rooming at the Whitley home for about a week. A charge of murder has been placed against Whitley.

"Daddy, don't shoot him," Milus Whitley, 14, is declared by W. F. Young, eye-witness to the shooting, to have begged his father as Young came upon the scene. The boy scuffled with the father as Oatts staggered across the street, he said.

"Well, let him stay away from my folks then," Whitley is alleged to have said.

In Oatts' pocket was a religious pamphlet on which he had written "the saddest thing that befalls a soul is when it loses faith in God and women." He had been boarding at the home of Mrs. Whitley, who filed suit for divorce last week on grounds of cruelty. Mrs. Whitley declared at the office of her attorney that her husband had been earning \$200 a month but sent her only \$80. They were not separated.

"I met Oatts a short while ago, and we went to church together," Mrs. Whitley said. "He came to help us out, and he had done more good in our home than anything else that ever came into our lives." She said she had been in strained circumstances in trying to care for the children while her husband was away. She and her son, Milus, said Oatts was accustomed to read to the Whitley children, and hold family prayer in the home. Mrs. Whitley denied Oatts had been anything other than a spiritual adviser to the family.

Whitley's attorney said bond would be sought for him.

Oatts was an oil company employe. A new twist entered the case with the appearance of Mrs. Mabel Oatts, who said she was the wife of the dead man. Oatts left home about a week ago, presumably to go to Dallas to work, she said.

Sharp Words Heard as Baptists Shut J. Frank Norris with His Delegates Out of State Meeting

Mineral Wells, Tex., Dec. 3.—Declaring that it was no occasion for parliamentary language, Dr. S. P. Brooks, president of Baylor university, Waco, declared in the afternoon session of the Baptist General convention of Texas that it is not true that any institution which accepts money from the general educational fund, New York, is compelled to depart from fundamentalist teachings.

Dr. Brooks pointed out other schools in Texas and in other states that accept money from the general fund.

The university head declared that the failure to receive funds due Baylor university under the \$75,000,000 pledge was responsible for the grave financial situation facing the school. He told of rebuilding the burned library at the university and of valuable book collections housed by the library.

The convention swung into the second day of its seventy-seventh meeting comparatively smoothly, only a short interlude being devoted to dispute of efforts of J. Frank Norris, pastor of the First Baptist church at Fort Worth, to gain a hearing before the body. Appearing at the front platform, the pastor, whose delegates had been refused seats in the convention the past two years, was denied the opportunity to ask "a question of information." President O. S. Lattimore of Austin, silenced him thrice with the gavel before he ceased efforts to be heard.

Dr. Norris was told that if he desired to seat his messengers he must present a petition to the secretary.

H. E. Bridge, court reporter taking stenographic record of proceedings for Dr. Norris, said he thought the Fort Worth pastor would not present such petition.

Dr. Norris, however, did file the petition and later it was refused consideration by the convention upon motion of F. M. McConnell, Bonham, whose objection was sustained by a rising vote.

The Norris messengers were J. T. Pemberton, B. F. Bouldin, H. Keaton, William Ebleins, J. Frank Norris, J. J. Mickle, Mrs. J. M. Gaddy and Mrs. J. Frank Norris.

The morning devotional was featured by the address of L. L. Johnson, Brazil Missionary, reports of Doctor E. C. Routh, Dallas, editor of the Baptist Standard, and by Doctor Harold Major, Dallas, who reported on the book store venture deficit and an address by Doctor L. J. Vanness Nashville, secretary of the Sunday school board of the Southern Baptist convention, who described the progress made by southern Baptists in launching the book store chain. Doctor Vanness declared any effort to set the country church against the city church and pointed out that Southern Baptists have the largest rural membership of any denomination. He also outlined the importance of public confession, declaring the great mistake Harry Emerson Fosdick, New York, who he said, tried to establish a great church on people who would not confess faith.

Progress made by Burleson college, Greenville, was outlined at the afternoon session by President Harry L. Durham, who declared that raising of the standards of the school had increased instead of decreased attendance which had gained 100 per cent the last four years. The dormitory destroyed by fire last year is about rebuilt, he said, at a cost of \$75,000.

Pointing to large state and denominational schools in northeast Texas, Dr. Durham said, "If Baptists intend seriously to go into the school business in the Burleson college territory a quarter of a million dollars would be necessary."

over-production that would end in complete collapse.

"However attractive this proposal was at first thought, careful consideration of it has led to much opposition on the part of farmers. They realize that even the United States government is not strong enough, either directly or indirectly, to fix prices, which would constantly guarantee success. They are opposed to submitting themselves to the control of a great bureaucracy. They prefer the sound policy of maintaining their freedom and their own initiative as individuals, or to limit them only as they voluntarily form group associations. They do not wish to put the government into the farming business.

"If the prices fixing tariff revisions do not seem to be helpful, there are other proposals that do promise improvements. For financing the farmer, we are developing the farm loan and immediate credit banks. These have put out about \$1,200,000,000 of loans at moderate rates to about 350,000 farmers. In addition there is the general banking system, national and state. All of these agencies need to give more informed attention to farm needs. They need more energy in administration. They should be equipped to supply not only credit but sound business advice, and the farmers to a much better extent should learn to use all these facilities.

More Orderly Marketing.

"For a more orderly marketing calculated to secure a better range of prices, the co-operative movement promises the greatest success. Already they are handling \$2,500,000,000 of farm produce, or nearly one-fifth of the annual production. The disposition of surplus produce has been discussed. If by this is meant the constant raising of a larger supply than is needed, it is difficult to conceive of any remedy except reduced production in any such commodity. But there are, of course, accidental surpluses due to more favorable weather conditions, which are unavoidable and which ought to be managed so that they can be spread over a year or two without depressing prices.

"The initiative of the farmers themselves, with such assistance as can be given them by the government without assuming responsibility for business management, through financing and through the co-operative movement, would appear to be a wise method of solving this problem. Of course I should be willing to approve any plan that can be devised in accordance with sound economic principles."

Wintry Weather Is Bringing Decrease in Automobile Mishaps

Chicago, Dec. 7.—Wintry weather with attendant interruption of automobile travel lowered the number of deaths in nine mid-west states last week. Ohio had 33 of the section's total of 84 as against 28 Buckeye state fatalities and a total of 110 the previous week.

Deaths in other states during the week were Illinois 14, Indiana 9; Michigan 9; Texas 9; Oklahoma 6; Minnesota 3; Missouri 1, and Kansas none.

Minnesota added five deaths indirectly due to cold in the weeks end's fatality total. Two men died in St. Paul of heart disease induced by over-exertion in shoveling snow. Four died in Chicago rooming houses and a negro in a railroad bunk car.

An itinerant horse trader and his three children were asphyxiated by an oil stove in a covered wagon near Springfield, Ill. A girl in Chicago, watching wreckers clean up the remains of a damaged freight train stepped into the path of an express train and was fatally injured.

Airplane crashes killed two and seriously injured two others. One death occurred at Toronto, California, where two motion picture employes plunged to earth in their plane and a lieutenant was killed and his passenger hurt in a crash near St. Paul, Minn.

Don't Put Holiday Greetings in Mail Short of Postage

Washington, Dec. 2.—"Don't detract dignity from Christmas and New Year's greetings, prepay proper postage," is the warning being circulated by Third Assistant Postmaster General Robert S. Regar, who adds:

"To send greetings short-paid detracts their purpose; so prepay the postage fully."

This warning will appear in all postoffices with the information that such cards require two cents postage.

United States Makes Protest to Mexico On New Land Law There

San Antonio, Tex., Dec. 3.—The United States government has protested the new Mexican land law which affects American and other foreign interests in Mexico, according to advices received here today. James Sheffield, American ambassador to Mexico, visited the foreign office Wednesday and tendered in a diplomatic note the protest of the American government. This law is under discussion in the Mexican senate, having passed the house.

Connally Serves Notice He Favors Inheritance Taxes

Washington, Dec. 7.—Replying to a telegram from certain citizens of Waco, Texas, demanding repeal of the inheritance tax, Representative Connally, democrat, of that state, served notice today that he favored the principle of this tax.

"It is well known that I favor the inheritance tax to make large estates bear a fair share of taxation and to tax the great private fortunes that are a menace to economic freedom and to permit the reduction on income and other taxes," he said. "Our telegram suggests that unless I vote contrary to my views, strong opposition will develop and mass meetings will be held throughout the district. To do so would be to abandon my convictions and to yield to political pressure; that I cannot and will not do."

Texas Members Offer Many Bills On the Opening Day of Congress Covering All Kinds of Subjects

Washington, Dec. 9.—About 4,000 bills were introduced by members of the House of Representatives Monday, which marked the opening of the Sixty-Ninth Congress. No bills were offered in the Senate, but the large batch received by the House ranged all the way from many public building measures to those appropriating large sums of money. It is thought the President's message will reveal the administration's wants this session to be comparatively few.

The Texas members offered many. In addition to his proposal of \$1,000,000 to be spent in ascertaining the extent of potash deposits in Texas and other States, Representative Hudspeeth asked in another measure for \$3,000,000 for the Red Bluff Irrigation project on the Pecos and for the construction of a dam and a reservoir as the means of bringing hundreds of thousands of West Texas acres under irrigation.

Mr. Hudspeeth also wants \$100,000 for the establishment of a Government park in the Davis Mountain country of Jeff Davis County and which would be connected with one of the interstate highways through Texas. Another bill calls for establishment of fish hatcheries at San Angelo and Del Rio, while still another asks an appropriation of \$300,000 for a new immigration station at El Paso.

The authority of the Interstate Commerce Commission to pass on the construction or abandonment of interstate lines of railroad would be repealed by a bill offered by Representative Jones of the Amarillo district. The repeal would not affect the commissioner's authority to pass on projects of an interstate carrier. A similar bill is to be offered by Senator Mayfield of Texas. The provision was adopted as a part of the transportation act five years ago by a narrow margin. In discussing the measure, Mr. Jones said it is justifiable, probably, for the commission to require proof of the solvency or financial responsibility of any organization which undertakes construction of new lines, but he believes this should be the limit of its authority.

Representative Lanham of the Fort Worth District asks for \$2,300,000 for a postoffice site and new building at Fort Worth and another bill would appropriate \$18,000 for a fish hatchery at Lake Worth.

The House would be reduced to a total of 308 members, in place of 435, as at present, by a bill introduced by Representative Blanton of the Abilene district. Texas would be reduced from eighteen to thirteen members. The Texas member says his bill would reduce the expenses of Congress about \$1,500,000 annually.

Another bill by Mr. Blanton proposes to limit national banks in the interest charges to the rate allowed to State banks by State laws. A third bill by him would limit the payment of mileage to members of Congress to actual expenses, provide for only one trip to a session of Congress and such payment would also include the member's immediate family.

Mr. Blanton's fourth bill would deny a Federal pension to any person not living within the territorial confines of the United States.

A bill by Representative Black of the Clarksville district would repeal the law requiring two Government cotton estimates each month during the marketing season and would provide for but one such Government report a month, beginning Sept. 1 and ending Jan. 1 of each year. Another bill by Mr. Black would require the cotton gin reporter in each county, when gathering statistics after Oct. 1 each year, to ascertain what part of ginnings are of snapped cotton and bollies, which are usually of such grade as to be unmarketable on contracts and the amount of which varies with the seasons.

An amendment to the Federal farm loan law is proposed by Representative Sanders of the Canton district which would make loans available to

taxable wealth of Texas \$100,000,000 ahead of last year

Austin, Texas, Dec. 9.—Indications are there will be an increase of at least \$100,000,000 in taxable wealth of Texas for 1926, according to tabulations now being made by the comptroller's department. This, however, is not considered an abnormal increase when it is taken into consideration that the 1924 taxable values in Texas reached a total of \$3,500,000,000. The comptroller's department has now received the 1925 tax rolls of all but two of the smaller counties of the state, which show that most of the counties held their own this year, while several of the larger counties show material increases over 1924.

The decreases came principally from the counties formerly included as oil producing counties, and where the values have had to be reduced because of the cut in oil production.

When the tabulation has been completed the table is to be included in the annual report of the comptroller's department. This report is expected to be completed within the next few weeks. The report will not show any appreciable increase in the railroad mileage in Texas. The total mileage now is slightly over 16,000 miles.

Taxable Wealth of Texas \$100,000,000 Ahead of Last Year

Indoor Comfort of Country Club May Be Given Congressmen

Washington, Dec. 8.—All the indoor comforts of a country club are provided on the blue print for a new office building for members of the house, submitted today by a group of architects acting at the request of congress.

A gymnasium, swimming pool, lockers and a lounge are included in each of two alternate plans. One plan provides for expenditure of \$5,500,000 and the other for \$7,800,000. The plans were drawn up as an approach to relief from congestion in the office space and a few large hearing rooms.

President Takes West Message Of Encouragement and Helpfulness In His Address To Farm Bureau

Chicago, Ill., Dec. 7.—President Coolidge called middle-western farmers today with a message of encouragement and help.

Addressing the annual convention of the American Farm Bureau federation, he predicted that in spite of past and present adversities, agriculture will lead industry in future prosperity. Assailing legislative proposals, favoring of paternalism, he promised to approve any agricultural relief plan "devised in accordance with sound economic principles."

"I propose," he declared, "actively and energetically to assist the farmers to promote their welfare through co-operative marketing."

Tonight the president was on his way back to Washington.

Surplus Land Exhausted.

"I believe that the past history of the relative trend of prices between farm products and other commodities is of tremendous significance," he told his audience, made up of representative farmers. "The surplus lands of the country are exhausted. The industrial population is outstripping the farm population. Manufacturing is expanding. These must come to the farmers for their food and their raw materials. While we can produce more, the markets for food are increasing much faster than present farm productivity. The future of agriculture looks to be exceedingly secure."

Referring to the co-operative movement of late years in the agricultural field and emphasizing the crop surplus problem as a vexing factor in the farm price situation, Mr. Coolidge expressed the opinion that with the economic information furnished by the department of agriculture, with better warehouses and storage facilities and a better credit structure, much can be done to take care of the ordinary surplus.

Sound Business Basis.

"With a production influenced by information from the department," he continued, "with adequate storage, supplied with necessary credit and the orderly marketing effected through co-operative action, agriculture could be placed on a sound and independent business basis. While the government ought not to undertake to control or direct, it should supplement and assist all efforts in this direction.

"The leaders in the co-operative movement, with the advice of the department of agriculture, have prepared what is believed to be an adequate bill embodying these principles, which will be presented to the congress for enactment. I propose actively and energetically to assist the farmers to promote their welfare through co-operative marketing."

Coolidge Sees Peril.

As to proposals for the organization of corporations through which the government would directly or indirectly fix prices or engage in buy-

Connally Serves Notice He Favors Inheritance Taxes

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The Houston Chronicle's Christmas Offer Is—

\$5.00	By Mail Only in Texas and Louisiana	\$3.50
Daily and Sunday Regular Rate, \$9	Rate in Other States: Daily and Sunday, \$12.00; Daily Only, \$9.00	Daily Only Regular Rate, \$8

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