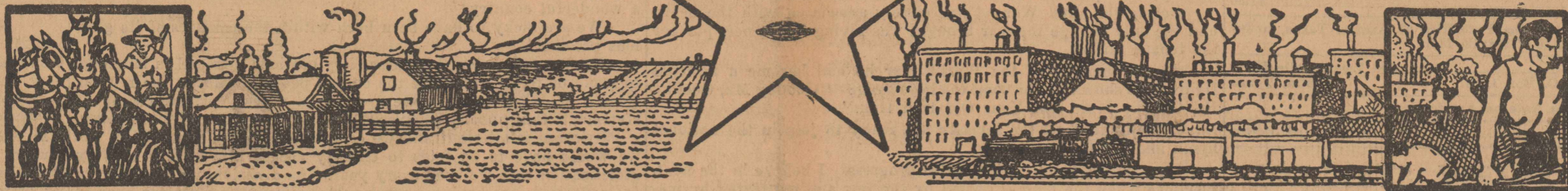


# The Ferguson Forum

WE ARE  
AGIN HIGH  
INTEREST



WE ARE  
AGIN HIGH  
TAXES

Vol. XIV.

AUSTIN, TEXAS, THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 1931

No. 20

## Col. Tom Ball Under Grand Jury Indictment, Charged With Theft of \$223,000.00

HOUSTON, Texas, Aug. 6.—Col. Thomas H. Ball, popularly known in the past as the "father of Port Houston," formerly Congressman and one-time candidate for Governor, was under \$5,000 bond tonight on an indictment charging him with the theft from the Harris County Houston Ship Channel Navigation District of warrants aggregating approximately \$223,000.

The well-known Houstonian technically was under two indictments for the same alleged offense as a result of a typographical error. He was named in an indictment returned shortly before noon Thursday, and a capias warrant had been issued for his arrest when newspapermen discovered a typographical error in the figures contained in the bill. The capias warrant was hastily cancelled and Deputy Sheriff George Andrew, who had departed to serve it upon Col. Ball, was notified by telephone at Col. Ball's law office not to serve it.

A new indictment in which the mistake was corrected, was hastily drawn up and presented to the grand jury, which returned it about 3 p. m.

Criminal District Judge Langston D. King, who had set bond for the former Congressman at \$5,000 on the first indictment, fixed a similar bond on the second.

### Bail Papers Filed

David Ball, son of the accused man, secured a bond blank after he had been informed of the grand jury's action and returned it, filled out and signed by Col. Ball as principal and Frank Andrews and James A. Baker as sureties, to the sheriff's office in the courthouse. It was accepted as the bond on the second bill of indictment.

The indictment was returned following a probe by the grand jury into circumstances surrounding the purchase by Harris County Houston Ship Channel Navigation District of approximately 500 acres of land from the Greater Houston Improvement Company of which Col. Ball was president. The deal was arranged through Col. Ball as president of the company, and title to the land was approved by him as attorney for the navigation district.

When apprised of the action of the inquisitorial body, Col. Ball declined to discuss the land deal. He issued the following brief statement:

"I was greatly grieved to learn of the action of the grand jury. When the facts are ascertained through the regular legal channels, it will be known that the action of the grand jury was not justified.

"I believe it would be improper for me to make further statement at this time."

The indictment on which the State expects to bring the 72-year-old former Congressman to trial charges him with the theft of three warrants of the navigation district aggregating \$222,996.76.

Gov. Ross S. Sterling, former chairman of the port commission, H. S. Cage and County Auditor Charles H. (Continued on page 4)

### Shame On Us

To The Forum  
Jas. E. Ferguson has an essay in Ferguson Forum contains these pathetic words: "The wail is so loud and distressing that we can almost hear the cry of the hungry orphans, the prayers of anxious mothers, the groans of strong men pleading for bread and meat to arrest the approach of death and starvation." These words would have melted the heart of Nero, who does not cuss—Herod for killing those innocent babies under two years of age. Be slow kind reader. Are we who call ourselves Christians doing the same cruel deed, by allowing children in this and other countries to die of starvation, when our graneries are bursting with food. Shame on us—What would Christ the lover of children order us to do if He were in our midst? Where are our public officials whose duty it is to see after the welfare of all our citizens. Have they no hearts for starving children and mothers.  
RAYMOND VERNIMONT  
Denton, Texas.

## Senate Would Let R. R. Commission Settle Their Row

AUSTIN, Texas, Aug. 6.—The State Senate today voted to postpone indefinitely a resolution calling upon members of the Texas railroad commission to iron out their intra-commission "animosities" or resign.

Senator Pink L. Parrish of Lubbock led the fight to postpone and the vote was 15 to 9.

Senator T. J. Holbrook of Galveston, co-author, with Senator Archie Pharr of Benavides of the resolution, addressed himself to it for half an hour from the floor of the Senate. He demanded that the situation in the commission be righted and shouted it was the duty of the legislature not to "sitby," but to see that it was righted.

Senator Parrish said it would be "foolish" to call on the commissioners to resign and said if let alone they would compose their differences.

The resolution charged that "conditions have come about in the conduct of the business of the railroad commission which have rendered its usefulness to the people almost nil.

"Personal animosity and petty jealousy between the members have contributed largely to this condition and if continued will eventually paralyze the commission to such an extent its usefulness will be completely destroyed."

It was to the "best interest" of the people, the resolution went on, that the commissioners "work together in peace and harmony.

"A much better condition would now prevail in the oil and gas industries, which the legislature now is investigating, than now prevails if the commissioners had exercised the powers and authority vested in them.

"It is the sense of the legislature and it so states, that the three railroad commissioners should immediately divorce from their minds these animosities and enter into a whole-hearted and co-operative effort to the end that the commission may function properly.

"Unless the commissioners do this it would be to the best interest of the best interest of the state that they resign."

On the heels of the resolution Pat M. Neff today fired another broadside at the two other members of the commission. Neff criticized his two colleagues for appointing Laten Stanberry head of the gas utilities division in his absence.

## Sen. Jas. A. Reed Asked to Address The Legislature

AUSTIN, Texas, Aug. 6.—A resolution in the House Monday by T. H. McGregor inviting former United States Senator James A. Reed of Missouri to address the Legislature was adopted. A resolution by Sam A. Bryant and Mr. McGregor memorializing President Hoover to call Congress in extraordinary session "again to assume the power, duty and responsibility of controlling the volume and the value of money, restore it to a value approximating its value at the time our debts were contracted, and so regulate it that it may not work a repudiation of debt nor a confiscation of property," was referred to the Committee on Federal Relations.

## Panhandle Wheat 57 Million Bushels

AMARILLO, Aug. 6.—The Panhandle's 1931 wheat crop was unofficially estimated by grainmen Monday at 57,000,000 bushels, of which amount 43,000,000 have been shipped. Movements during the last week were little more than 2,000,000 bushels. Walter Barlow, director of the Amarillo Grain Exchange, said 25 per cent of the crop was still in storage.

## I Be Damned "Agin"

Good manners will perhaps prevent me from making it any stronger. But most of you boys will understand.

Things do move. Following the disclosure of Ross Sterling getting \$300,000 from the Humble Oil Company, about the same time last year that the Houston Chronicle announced Sterling as its candidate for governor, comes the startling dispatches from Houston, that the Harris County Grand Jury has indicted one Thomas H. Ball for a crime of the degree of a felony carrying a penitentiary punishment.

It is alleged that Tom in some way got some money of the Houston Harbor Board, (of which Sterling was the chairman) mixed up to the tune of about \$162,000, which he could not or did not produce.

It is also rumored that the same grand jury is digging into some insurance matters that happened about a year ago. I saw Will Hobby in Austin last week and he looked bad. If anything happens next week I just don't know what the headline will be.

The news about Tom Ball reached Dallas and some of the boys called on Cullen Thomas to recite those euphonious lines of: "All for Ball, and Ball for all," that he recited all over Texas in 1914, and they say that Cullen has lost his voice.

Now I am really sorry that old Tom is in trouble and at his age of 72 we all should regret his misfortune. I can't think he is wholly bad and I trust that he will come out a wiser man even if sadder. Tom's misfortune is largely the result of conditions. For 20 years Tom Ball, with a full knowledge of every political preacher in Texas has been quietly drinking one way and voting the other. Nobody in Texas has been louder than Tom Ball in demanding a law to send somebody else to the penitentiary for having a quart of liquor on or about his person, while at the same time he was drinking all the liquor he wanted and at the same time shouting prohibition. Although he has done this for years, all the prohibitionists that were prominent in the cause, went out of their way to support brother Ball for office and make him their idol at every prohibition meeting and convention. This thing has gone on so long, that Tom just got the idea that he could do no wrong and that he could not be bothered or questioned. Therefore his disagreement with the grand jury must have been a rude awakening. But anybody that continuously preaches prohibition and at the same time continuously drinks bottled liquor is just in some degree fundamentally wrong and every sane man knows it.

Just take this from me: "Prohibition will never amount to a tinkers dam until the prohibitionists banish the Tom Ball stripe and kind from their ranks."

But let me get back to the legislature and the governor. Although, the governor at the Governor's conference here in Austin last spring announced his approval of market demand and price fixing, for some reason has now changed his mind and serves notice on the legislature that he will have to give any bill the axe that contains these two items.

Now most members of the legislature are saying that if that was or is his view then why did he call the legislature in special session. It has all along been known that present laws are sufficient to prevent physical waste of gas and oil. This being true, it is now evident to the legislature as well as all others who have observed developments, that the passage now of any law that does not give the Railroad Commission the right to take into consideration the market demand for oil in determining waste will amount to nothing and will bring no relief to the oil industry or business conditions, and this session of the legislature has been a waste of time and money. If the governor had declared his position at the beginning of the session when he told the legislature that he had no plan, policy or suggestion to make, the legislature would have promptly adjourned and saved the people the time and money in a special session, which it now appears was on a wild goose chase from the beginning.

Of course, I still think that my plan of a graduated tax on oil production is the only plan offered that will produce revenue, prevent waste and cut down production successfully.

I hope the legislature will pass Milton West's bill on the subject, but I realize that it will be fought bitterly and likely vetoed by the governor. But why he don't see that my plan will produce the revenue that his administration needs so badly and conserve the natural resource of oil and gas, is beyond my comprehension. He certainly is getting some bad advice.

But if I can't get my idea adopted then I would like to see the legislature pass a conservation law that will have teeth in it. Yes, I know it is a price fixing attempt to raise the price of oil and we all want to see it. It will benefit everybody that owns a piece of oil land in Texas. It will save many school district values that will melt if oil is not raised in price and kept from being wasted. Yes, I know it will help the oil companies, big and little if oil goes up and I hope it will so the oil business can continue to pay 56 per cent of all our taxes, which we farmers will have to pay if oil business blows up.

Don't we farmers want a law passed that will raise the price of cotton if we can get it. Don't we want to establish orderly marketing, which is a twin brother to ratable taking by the pipe lines, so that we can boost the price of cotton. I am sorry to see some of our friends in the legislature shying off and voting against market demand because perhaps they think that the people back home might vote against them if they do anything to raise the price of oil. Let me say in reply to such an idea that the people back home are not fools and they are watching this legislature. They are not opposed to oil going up. They want it to go up and they will be glad to see this legislature do something to make it go up, and then maybe they can get the price of cotton up. Nobody knows better than the boys back at home that as long as the price of oil is kept down the price of cotton will be kept down, too. I urge the cotton boys and the oil boys in the legislature to get a little closer together and begin to pool interests and help each other and maybe something can be done yet to help cotton and oil prices.

Don't pay any attention to the fellers who keep howling about it being impossible to change the law of supply and demand.

Yes, everybody knows that. But that does not effect the right to cut down supply so we can create a demand that will bring higher prices. Let us apply the law of supply and demand both ways. Instead of letting everybody run wide open on producing oil and cotton, let us begin to study how to cut down supply and then demand and price will take care of themselves.

Instead of our friends being scared about somebody criticizing them if oil went up, let us meet the issue and do something to raise the price of oil. If oil can be raised to a dollar in the 9 oil states of the union cotton would go up \$10 a bale. Grain would go up 25 per cent. Eggs would go up 20 cents a dozen, hogs would go to 10 cents on foot, and business would pick up in all lines. If the legislature don't put teeth in the oil law then every saphead operator in East Texas that has had more luck than brains that continues to let his durned old well run at 10 cents a barrel, will just destroy the oil business and there won't be two dozen people in all East Texas that will ever get anything out of their oil lands. Instead of going back home and having to tell the people that I

(Continued on Page 3)

## Gov. Murray Makes Good His Threat to Close Oil Wells To Save State's Resources

### Wickersham Wants \$25,000 More To Carry On Study

WASHINGTON, Aug. 6.—The Wickersham commission today coupled a plea for \$25,000 to carry on its incompleting study of the federal courts with a report that preliminary investigation had shown prohibition cases to dominate the entire volume of criminal proceedings in one state.

In a letter to President Hoover, Chairman Wickersham said the commission had thought it "inexpedient to apply to congress" for more funds. He indicated the needed sum, if raised, would be turned over to the American Law Institute.

The report included as a sample a "tentative analysis" of conditions in Connecticut in which it was asserted that "the total increase in the number of crimes has been taken up by prohibition cases."

Warning that the results from one district were not enough to justify conclusions for all, the report said nevertheless that the prohibition law had given rise to "a very special treatment" of its cases in the courts in which fines played a heavy role as compared with actual imprisonments.

In his letter Wickersham informed the president that the Rockefeller foundation had agreed to donate half the \$50,000 needed to carry on the court study, provided the other half would be raised from the sources and the American Law Institute step "into the shoes" of the now disbanded commission.

## Oldest Railroad Succumbs to Motor Truck Competition

WASHINGTON, Aug. 6.—The oldest steam railroad in the country has succumbed to motor truck competition.

The Interstate Commerce Commission Monday authorized the Delaware & Hudson Railroad to abandon twenty-four miles of its Honesdale branch. The road, built about 1829, was the one over which ran the Stourbridge Lein, the first locomotive to pull a train in this country.

The road extends from Honesdale to Lookout Junction in Carbondale, Pa. Monday's order authorized abandonment of all except four miles on the Carbondale end of the line.

The road originally was built to haul coal out of the Pennsylvania hills. It has been operated at a loss for several years and the commission said "the road seems in the main to have outlived its usefulness."

It added that through coal traffic, for which the line was originally built has long moved to the northeast by other channels and "now so much of the other traffic is moving by motor truck that what is left for the railroad is wholly inadequate for its support."

The four miles to be continued serves a group of anthracite coal mines near Carbondale.

Passenger traffic on the line was abandoned several months ago and freight trains have been operated only three times a week.

## Couple Showered With Wheat Given For Marriage Fee

DODGE CITY, Kan., Aug. 6.—Frank Craig Lakin gave probate Judge Richard W. Evans 10 bushels of wheat as a fee for performing the marriage ceremony for his and Miss Faye Marie Rinehard of Augusta, Kan., this afternoon. The county employes then opened one of the sacks and showered the bride and bridegroom.

OKLAHOMA CITY, Ok., Aug. 6.—Gov. William H. Murray late Tuesday issued an executive order shutting down 3,106 prorated oil wells in Oklahoma and establishing martial law for a distance of fifty feet around each well.

The order included all oil wells under proration orders of the State Corporation Commission and excluded stripper wells, which are defined as producing twenty-five barrels a day or less.

Guardsmen Put on Duty  
Brig. Gen. Charles F. Barrett, Adjutant General of the Oklahoma National Guard, was directed to post National Guardsmen in the oil fields and the guardsmen were directed to establish and maintain military control against all orders except from the President or the Supreme Court of the United States.

The troops, the order said, are to be under direct control "of the commander in chief," who is the Governor.

### Says Order Necessary

Governor Murray, whose demand for a \$1 a barrel crude oil price had been spurned by purchasers of oil, said the order was necessary under "the supreme executive power" granted by Constitution, in order to protect the school children of the State, conserve its natural resources and prevent their exhaustion and waste; protect the rights of taxpayers in and to the revenues from such resource; establish the guarantee of the Fourteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution to independent producers against taking their property "without due process of law," to establish justice and equity for them and to protect citizens from "general monopolistic control of their natural resources by corrupt combinations of capital who produce, transport, refine and sell oil."

Attacks Big Companies  
Praising the independent producers as having made possible development of the State's natural resources, the Governor attacked the Sinclair Oil and Gas Company, the Champlain Refining Company, "and their associates and the pipe line companies," who he said had access to the courts "and have acted upon the assumption that they are superior to and possessed power beyond the sovereign power of the State of Oklahoma and its two and one-half million people."

Protection "by judicial juggling, through injunction," has been denied the independents, Governor Murray said. He asserted these companies have promised to keep men employed while "monopolistic companies have cut down wages and reduced the number of employed. . . which has caused thefts of dynamiting their pipe lines and other destruction of their properties . . . to the extent that continuation of present conditions and markets is liable to produce mob violence unless all these wells are at once closed down."

Quotes Conservation Law  
He quoted the State conservation law to the effect that taking of crude oil, when there is not a market demand at the well at a price equivalent to the actual value of the crude, is prohibited.

He said the State was obliged to conserve income from school lands for common schools and named the Sinclair company, leaseholder of oil producing school land.

"The Sinclair Oil and Gas Company has leased certain of said public school lands for the purpose of drilling for oil and gas, agreeing to pay the State, under contract therewith a certain per cent of the market price of said oil and for lack of market this legacy to the school children is filched by said company," the order said.

### Charges Lobby Maintained

It further charged the Sinclair company conducted a lobby in the last Legislature, and spent many thousands of dollars.

(Continued on page 4)

## "Well, I Be Damned"

Having received orders for more than 10,000 extra copies of last week's issue of the Forum, and not being able to supply this demand, we are reproducing the article "Well, I Be Damned" on page 3 this issue.

# THE FERGUSON FORUM

Published Every Thursday by  
THE FERGUSON FORUM

Subscription Price, per Year \$1.50

Entered as second class matter at the Postoffice at Austin, Texas, under the Act of March, 1879.

Business and Editorial Offices 806 Ewell Nalle Bldg. Phone 9546 P. O. Box 1158 Austin, Texas

Advertising Rate on Application.

JAS. E. FERGUSON Manager and Editor

## GOV. MURRAY—GOV. STERLING

Governor Murray blocked a toll bridge to prevent the traveling public paying the crossing fee when a free bridge was already for use. Governor Sterling blocked the free bridge to compel people to pay the toll bridge fee or stay put while the toll bridge owners and the Texas Highway Department settled a dispute. It is true the toll bridge owners secured an injunction to prohibit the Texas Highway Commission from opening the bridge but Mr. Sterling was just too entirely solicitous about supporting this federal injunction when there is no law requiring state Rangers to thus serve. Since the Texas governor violated no law, injunction or propriety in Governor Murray's removal of approaches on the Texas side it is passing strange he should be so solicitous in the fight of the toll bridge owners who were getting the money as result of a wrangle while his own people, by the thousand, were paying the bill. It is alright to desire order and regularity and to cultivate respect for court orders. But, is also just about as nearly alright to throw governmental forces into service for the public as to rush said forces to the support of private interest wrangles where said interests bleed the public while they wrangle. Let that toll bridge crew collect four times the amount claimed from the public and they would still wrangle and bleed the public if capable of doing so, with no notion of reducing the claim made a pretext for the wrangle. In effect Governor Murray said: "If we can't use our own bridge, you shall collect no toll on your private bridge." Mr. Sterling's actions said: "You shall not use the free bridge until the toll collector is satisfied."

Governor Sterling was head of the Texas Highway Commission and running for governor when he signed that Red River bridge contract with the toll bridge owners. The Attorney General says this contract illegal but the governor goes wonderfully out of his way to serve the toll bridge interests. When Highway Commissioners get in the race for governor they should get out of office in the Highway Department where they control so much public money. Mr. Bly did not sign, it is stated, but Sterling and Johnson did.—Greenville Messenger.

## GOD'S MASTERPIECE

There is a woman in this town and she is also in your town. Just a plain, everyday sort of woman. She goes about her work cheerfully, seldom if ever complains, never slanders or says mean things about her neighbors. Her days and nights are taken up with her household duties, the care of her children, and with helpful deeds to others. She seems to get pleasure out of life and has a smile for you that is not artificial but genuine. Some way you feel better by having met her. Yes, she has known sorrow and been acquainted with grief but it has never soured her disposition and as the joys of life have come to her she has taken the hardships as burdens that must be carried over some parts of life's road. She wears no diamonds and knows little of the luxuries of life. Her clothes are plain and simple her house always well kept but showing no signs of wealth. She makes the funds allotted take care of the needs of the family and has no regrets if the money is not sufficient to provide for the diversions and pleasures sought after by so many. She takes pleasure in attending religious services and endeavors to bring up her children with the highest regard for character and honesty. Some she will go peacefully to rest and hundreds will remember her life with gratitude while loved ones will hold her memory as a blessed benediction over their lives. Perhaps she leaves no great record of worldly achievement but in every footprint made on the sands of time there bloom the fragrant blossoms of love and kindness and whatever reward there is in the life to come will be hers, even as was the love and esteem of all who know her well on earth.—Uvalde Leader-News.

## A GOVERNOR FOR THE PEOPLE

Much has been said about the toll bridge controversy between Oklahoma and Texas. Oklahoma's governor is "up in the harness" and working for the interest of the people. Looks to us like he should get more co-operation from our governor. The toll bridges have been holding up the people long enough and the two states have been to the expense of building bridges to take the place of the toll bridges. These are finished, yet the toll collector continue to practice their toll collecting—or rather did until Murray had the road leading to them from Oklahoma side plowed up. Although Murray has not succeeded in opening all of the bridges on the Texas side, he most certainly has closed the toll bridges and in the long run we know he will win. More power to him and his fight for the right. Now, if we had "Ma" or "Pa" in the governor's chair of Texas—a governor for the people and not corporations—what a relief we could rightly expect; toll bridges would be history, farmers would get recognition, the masses would be benefited and the people would enjoy traveling on the state and national highways without being "held-up" at these toll bridges.—Holland Progress.

## OLD AGE PENSIONS

The essential difference between poor-farm and old age pension is the difference between sentence assessed and honorarium awarded. However well managed a poor-farm may be, it is always shrouded in a cloud of hopelessness. Little self respect and much remorse are the lot of its inmates. The pension detracts not a whit from the recipient's self-respect and he is enabled to live happily among his family and his friends. That the pension system happens to be more economical for the state only adds to its desirability.

When old age pension bills were first offered to the Texas Legislature there were few facts and figures to be marshalled for or against the plan. But now the day of experimentation is past; the recorded experience of more than one-third of the United States testifies to the economy and practicability of the old age pension. It is entitled to the serious consideration of the people of Texas.

## HURRAH FOR MURRAY

Hurrah, and three cheers for Governor Murray. For 16, these many years the toll bridge nuisance over the Red River between Texas and Oklahoma has been a disgrace to both states. Governor Murray may not be following all the bypaths and intricate legal mazes, but he seems to be getting results and accomplishing some good. Penny-a-liners can make their wise cracks all they want to about his style and his methods, but let's hope more governors will pattern after Murray.—Duval County Facts.

Grayson County citizens have agreed to secede from Texas rather than live under the penalties of a toll bridge. And one who has been subjected to the high tolls can hardly blame them. If Alfalfa Bill can dig up that little Spanish treaty it may be that after all old Grayson is in Oklahoma.

Governor Sterling may be right in his attitude toward the opening of the Red River bridge at Denison, but he will find most Texans siding with Governor Murray of Oklahoma. And too, Texans will wonder just what authority the highway commission had to guarantee the toll bridge operators certain amounts of money. During the number of years the toll bridge had been operated it has undoubtedly paid for itself many times over and just why the commission should guarantee them additional returns is beyond the public.—Athens Review.

## THE PASSING OF THE MULE

The subject of this sketch is well known to the farmer of the South.

In fact, he has been in the family quite awhile and has played an important part in the development of this country.

Before the Civil War he was closely associated with the negro and the only change the war brought was giving him a new partner the tenant farmer.

At the opening of the World War he had become a national figure as is shown by the song the boys sang: "Goodby Ma, Goodby Pa, Goodby Mule and Your Old Hah Hah."

It seems that all the farmers are ready to join in the national hymn and bid the mule adieu.

I am no pessimist. I believe in progress. I believe in the next. I believe when the land is owned by the few and cultivated by machinery drawn by motor power instead of the mule, that people will still be fed, but I don't know on what terms.

Their bread may be cheaper but their liberties curtailed. He is sure to have to occupy quarters provided by the landlord and may have to feed at the public trough.

It would be somewhat embarrassing to the ordinary American to make three trips a day to the mess hall followed by his children like so many pigs, but he will soon become accustomed to it and enjoy it. But don't worry. Your existence is essential to capital and will be preserved. Even your children that shows genius and skill for machinery will be cared for by the boss like you used to care for the black mealy nosed mule colt and for the same purpose; what he expects to get out of them.

All the small farmer can do is to put off the evil hour as long as possible. This he cannot do by selling his mule and buying a tractor and then putting the garden, cowpen, orchard and yard into the field to lengthen the row for machinery raised cotton.

All that ever made cotton the poor man's friend was it took eyes to pick it.

Talk all you please about co-operative marketing, but when you pick cotton by machinery the little man is out.

The only solution for the little farmer is to hold what land he can pay for, keep his mule and raise something he can eat and let cotton go to the capitalist who has the broad acres and the machinery to cultivate it. The little farmer bears the same relation to the cotton industry that our granfather's way of raising wheat does to the present wheat industry. He cut his with a reap hook and threshed it over a pole.

That is what you little farmers are doing for cotton. Another example is the monopoly the Irish had on ditching in this country a few years ago. Since the advent of the steam shovel what chance has Paddy for a job.

It is only a matter of time that all farming will be done by big business companies, corporations or organizations.

All other vocations have surrendered. The blacksmith, the shoemaker, the miller, the carpenter, all—everything is monopolized but farming and we are next.

We can only boast that we were the last to surrender. When it is too late the farmer will sadly cry "Where's My Mule."

We should fight to the last ditch and that is a garden and a mule to tend it.

J. F. ALSUP, Sr.

Little River, Texas.

## COMMON HORSE SENSE

When any man "hits" you with a piece of common "Horse Sense" listen to him and repeat what he has to say. Will you do that when you talk to your neighbor about printing of U. S. Bonds to be sold to those who want the interest—want to dig the United States taxpayers for interest they get when they buy U. S. Bonds?

Now, Brother, it would take about the same amount of good paper, printing machinery and labor to print several million dollars in actual currency, by our government, and place same in the Federal Reserve Banks, to be loaned out to our FARMERS at from 2 to 3 per cent on LONG TIME LOANS—that it takes to print the bonds and said bonds are sold to the money speculators who draw interest on said bonds from the TAX-PAYING PUBLIC of this nation. Common horse sense tells the most unsofisticated that to print the money and let the farmers have it at low rate of interest, is the sensible way to do it. Farmers and other business men are needing millions of dollars in ACTUAL CIRCULATION, to make the price of all farm products sell at a live and let live price. Why go to the expense of printing bonds and FORCE the tax-paying public to pay interest on these BONDS, when we can use the same paper, the same printing presses and the same labor and print currency to be placed in the Federal Reserve Banks to be loaned to needy farmers and business men at low rate of interest on LONG TIME LOANS? Now, we do not believe in placing too much currency or any other kind of money in circulation, but at this time, when your circulating medium—MONEY—has been reduced to less than half what it was when we had good times, you can see that we are able to put several million dollars in circulation and still not make money too cheap. Again, we say, why print bonds and sell them to the money speculators and pay them interest when we can just as easily print the money and pay no interest whatever?—Claude News.

## LEGISLATIVE BLUNDERS

It does seem that by taking the precaution of having the bills passed on as to their constitutionality before their passage, either by the attorney general, the hired lawyers of the Senate and House, some of the learned lawyer members of either body, the janitors or somebody else, the Texas Legislature could have saved the State the expense of passing and printing some 56 local bills only to have them declared unconstitutional by the attorney general after all the expense had been incurred.

The attorney general very mildly says that these laws are "evasive, vague, illusory, arbitrary and a plain attempt to evade the constitutional inhibition" against passing bills under the guise of general laws, yet they got by all the lawyers hired and elected in both branches of the legislature.

WILL H. MAYS.

## DRUNKEN DRIVERS

A sentence to serve sixty days in the penal farm for an intoxicated driver who injured a young girl in an automobile accident is not a heavy punishment. The offender gets off entirely too easy when one thinks of the suffering which he inflicted. The victim of his incapacity to handle his car is lying in the hospital suffering from a fractured leg. Her parents will be compelled to pay the surgeon's fee and the hospital bill, for it is unlikely that the intoxicated driver carried public liability insurance. A reckless driver is a menace to the safety of other motorists and to pedestrians. A drunken driver is worse still, for his senses are befuddled and neither he nor any one else knows what he will do. The local courts have adopted a commendable policy in showing no leniency to a person who drives while he is under the influence of liquor. The accident in which the girl was injured Sunday might have been a tragedy. It is difficult to prevent intoxicated persons from entering their cars and driving on the streets and highways. They have lost command of their faculties. If a penal farm sentence will serve as a deterrent, it should be imposed whenever a drunken driver is brought into court.—Richmond (Ind.) Palladium.

It's rather hard to understand some things, but the hardest thing to figure out is why with oil selling at twenty cents a barrel, oats selling at 18c a bushel, wheat being poured out in the street for lack of a market, bread at three loaves for 10c, big watermelons for a dime, and clothing, groceries and many other things at almost pre-war prices, that electrical rates, telephone charges and natural gas are still being charged for at the old-time Jesse James prices.—Honey Grove Signal-Citizen.

## OUR NATIONAL EGOTISM

Fourth of July orations are still fresh in our memories.

We are the greatest nation in the world!

Our system of government is absolutely perfect!

We should consider it almost a divine privilege to live in such a wonderful country!

We are lucky to have been born within the confines of its glorious precinct!

We have all listened to these fiery orations, couched in language to make us feel that we are the chosen people. That is the regular Fourth of July bunk that we are fed on every year. Extravagant statements that nobody believes if they have an atom of intelligence.

Patriotism is all right and we cannot acquire too much of it, but we would have to be fools to entirely accept this Fourth of July glorification that we hear every year. As a nation, we are entirely too conceited—we have too much self-assurance—we are too sure of ourselves, and the unpleasant situation from which we are now suffering is, at least partly, the result of fooling ourselves in this manner.

This may be the best government in the world—and it may not. The only way we could learn the truth would be by a series of prolonged investigations. Merely shouting from the housetops and "blowing our own horn" is not entirely conclusive.

We are a great nation and we are rightly credited with truly marvelous achievements, but we are suffering right now from serious defects that should be recognized and effectively attacked sometime in the future. But if we are so blind that we refuse to recognize our imperfections, they will never be remedied.

Overweening egotism is a serious fault in an individual, and it is just as bad in a nation. In fact, it is much worse. National egotism blinds us to our shortcomings. We go on suffering, generation after generation, because of our inability to see them. There are many outstanding defects in our governmental system today and no intelligent citizen would have trouble in recognizing many of them.

One of our greatest transgressions at the present time is the craze for lawmaking. Every legislator in state and federal government wants to be credited with putting a law in the statute books. The public is blinded by these endless enactments; they confuse judges and juries.

And our politics! But few of our citizens would have the temerity to boast about them! They are unspeakably rotten in many sections of the country.

But there are our railroads, our tall buildings, our huge manufacturing interests—we have become the greatest commercial nation in the world—no other nation can compete with us, etc., etc.

While visiting in foreign countries, the writer has often listened to his boastful American brethren. Whatever they would see in Europe, a comparison was made to the disadvantage of Europe. That may be the right spirit if one will apply it intelligently, but when it is quite evident that prejudice and flaming national egotism is the guiding influence, one is inclined to be disgusted. We can learn much from Europe—there is much they do over there that is better done than here.

And Europe can learn as much or probably more from us; but there is no reason why we should belittle everything European just because it is outside of our own country.

The habit of patting ourselves on the back can be carried too far. It is a bad mistake to over-estimate one's own value and importance, individually or nationally.

The ability to learn from criticism is an invaluable characteristic. The independence that we won, and which we celebrate on the Fourth of July, gave this nation marvelous opportunities. We have profited by them gloriously!

But why not keep an open mind and learn from every possible source? It is all right to make up our minds that we are the best people on earth; but it is foolish to refuse to listen to every argument that might prove otherwise.—Liberty Weekly.

## WOULD MAKE PROPOSED OIL COMMISSION ELECTIVE

From Dallas News

Our Legislature now in special session for the sole purpose of solving the harassing proposition of regulating the production and distribution of crude oil in this State has turned its attention to an investigation of the facts. Among other things, it is proposed to appoint a commission to plan and execute such orders as will preserve the oil from waste and conserve the best interests of a great industry in which the whole people are in some vital measure interested.

The experience of the ages in government by commissions and boards appointed by the executives has taught us that government by proxy is a dangerous shirking of responsibility.

Not so many years ago Jim Hogg waged a battle for the people against corporate wealth, out of which came our great Railroad Commission. Of course, it was first appointive, but the great friend of the people and a staunch believer in the rights of men as compared with the rights of property had the Legislature to make the members of the Railroad Commission elective. In his wise statesmanship he discerned the dangers lurking in leaving this great commission appointive.

No charge of scandal, graft or corruption has ever been lodged against this honorable body. The people are vitally interested in the work of this proposed new commission and should have the privilege of selecting its personnel.

This is simply a battle royal by the big oil companies to continue to dictate the price of crude oil, as well as its products, waged against a bunch of men termed independents, who are earnestly seeking to develop the natural resources of our country and thereby help to supply the pantry of hundreds of families.

H. M. WADE.

Rockwall, Texas.

## UNDIVIDED ALLEGIANCE

In the state senate's quest for information preparatory to the enactment of oil legislation, among other witnesses before a committee of that body was R. C. Holmes, president of the Texas Corporation, who was subjected to a rather searching examination.

Against the manner and method of questioning Mr. Holmes, Senator Walter Woodul, of Houston, entered a vigorous protest, chiding one of his colleagues for "not permitting the witness to answer questions fully." This paper would be the last to attempt any defense of the insultingly belligerent manner assumed by some of our friends of the legal fraternity, but in this particular instance one cannot help but take cognizance of the source from which the defense of Mr. Holmes came. For years and years General Wolters, and presumably his law firm, of which Mr. Woodul is a member, has represented the Texas Corporation. In saying this we intend no reflection on Mr. Woodul, whom we believe to be a man of unquestioned integrity, yet at the same time we believe it contrary to the public interest to have any man, however honorable he may be, to represent Harris County in the legislature of Texas, and at the same time, either for himself or his senior partner to represent any individual, firm or corporation whose interests may at any time conflict with the interest of the public. In saying this, we also disclaim any intention to reflect on our great and public-spirited local concern, the Texas Co. Indeed, we, along with all other citizens of Houston, take a pardonable pride in the greatness of that corporation, but at the same time, in the very nature of its bigness, it is inconceivable that its interests and the public interest should not sometime conflict, and when such occasions arise, then our representative should have no divided allegiance—no master but the rank and file of Harris County's citizenship.—Houston Labor Journal.

Federal Prohibition Commissioner Woodcock announces he will prosecute anyone selling grape essence if there is proof that it is to be used for making wine. Wonder what he thinks they want with it, to use it for—shampoo or furniture polish?—Lockwood Luminary.

## Grasshoppers Eat Feathers Off of Flock of Turkeys

DES MOINES, Aug. 6.—Sere, brown fields, cut down as by a giant fiery blast, tonight bore testimony to a scourge of grasshoppers in Iowa, Nebraska and South Dakota.

In Nebraska 63 of the state's 93 counties have been infested. In one South Dakota field of 1,600 acres, Iowa State Entomologists found not enough remains to feed a single animal. In Iowa, state officers are seeking an appropriation of \$50,000 to fight the pests, moving relentlessly in battle lines from the Missouri River eastward.

Prayers and poison were resorted to as weapons. More than a thousand Union County, South Dakota farmers knelt on the spot where 60 years ago their fathers knelt, and asked divine aid in a special mass against the scourge. One Pierre, S. D., farmer, hearing that turkeys would eat the grasshopper, sent his flock into the fields. He said they came back featherless.

R. D. Springer, traffic commissioner of the Sioux Falls Chamber of Commerce, said the Milwaukee Railroad has promised to lower freight rates to help farmers who have been reduced almost to poverty by the insect invasion, drouth and low prices of products.

While state officials said Iowa has not felt the loss occasioned by Nebraska and South Dakota, plans were being made tonight for a meeting of entomologists and agricultural leaders to discuss means of combating the horde.

Old residents recalled the extensive damage done by a similar invasion in 1874 to 1877, when a large section of Northwest Iowa was hard hit.

A. B. Funk, Iowa industrial commissioner, in telling of the widespread damage in those years, said that then, as now, "the grasshopper came from no one knows where. When they had done their thorough work of depredation, they disappeared, no one knows where—or why. They deposited their eggs years before, in mild winter and cold.

"They came mysteriously, and they left, with havoc behind them, in the same unaccountable fashion."

In Lyman and Kennebec Counties, South Dakota, county agents have said that more than half the farmers there are dependent now for income on butter and eggs—their field crops ravaged by the grasshoppers.

In many sections of Nebraska total loss of small grain crops has been reported, while in others application of poison has averted extensive damage.

## Fell Off Street Cars For Living, Given Two Years

KANSAS CITY, Aug. 6.—Edward R. Vanden, whose business, he confessed, was falling off street cars, received a sentence of two years in the penitentiary today from Judge A. Stanford Lyon.

Vanden was apprehended in Des Moines while he was negotiating with the Des Moines Street Railway Company of settlement of a personal injury claim. He confessed he had been "injured" in Denver, St. Louis, Houston and Kansas City, each time because a sudden start of the car caused him to lose his balance. Each time he obtained a settlement of \$25 to \$200.

## Ship 12 Cars of Pop Corn From Harlingen

HARLINGEN, Texas, Aug. 6.—About twelve cars of popcorn are expected to be shipped this season from 300 acres in this area, on which yields range from 1,500 to 2,000 pounds per acre. The crop was contracted to a firm which furnished the seed and is paying 2½ cents a pound. The first car was shipped on the car, but the others will be of shelled corn. While returns probably will be higher than for cotton, popcorn is not likely to become a staple crop, growers say, as demand this year was above normal because of the drouth in other sections.

## FORUM CLASSIFIED

CLASSIFIED RATES

Rate, 2 cents a word for each insertion—cash with order. No ad for less than 50 cents. Each number sign or initial counts as a word. Count your ad multiply by 2 covers the cost one or each insertion.

Buy, sell and exchange through the classified column of the Forum. Forum subscribers are in the market for every thing, and have everything for sale. 2 cents a word.

WELL I BE DAMNED

To supply orders for more than 10,000 extra copies of last week's issue of the Forum, we are reproducing the following article that created the demand for that issue.

When in 1917 I borrowed \$150,000 from men who were engaged in the brewery business and paid it by the conveyance of some 1300 acres of land in Central Texas then worth \$125 an acre the "Holler Than Thou" crowd in Texas held up their hands in holy horror and shouted from the house-tops that it was just awfully awful and dishonest and corrupt and the same pussilanimous aggregation of newspapers of Texas that we still have in Texas belched forth in full page headlines on two or three pages of the same issue and howled and growled all about what a bad man Jim Ferguson was, although I had done nothing but borrow money which I paid.

But time rolls on and chickens come home to roost. Last week in the legislative hearing in Austin the president of the Humble Oil Company, which is owned and controlled by the Standard Oil Company, testified under oath that said company had in 1930 loaned R. S. Sterling, now governor, and his lawyers \$400,000 (one-fourth to the lawyers and three-fourths to Sterling) on a 1500 acre lease which had a well on it and it was not thought to be wise to develop the field further and by agreement and the payment and loan of the \$400,000 the well was shut in and has not been developed yet. A \$400,000 known wild cat well forms the basis for a \$400,000 loan from the subsidiary of the Standard Oil Company to Sterling in January 1930 just a few months before he announces for governor and less than six months before the first democratic primary.

If there ever was a news story and a big head line item this was one. But did they? No, no, the juicy fees of full page and double page political advertisements for cash in last year's campaign was yet to green on memory's page for them to publish anything that might cause a discussion of the governor's relation with those seeking special legislation. The old San Tone Distress never mentioned the testimony. The old Houston Boast, now owned by the governor, never chirped even in small type about their chief and his \$400,000 deal with the Standard Oil Company. The old Dallas News printed about 8 lines on the item and placed it away over in an isolated column of Jew dry goods and jewelry and sore eye treatment advertisements but never a head line but all in the small reading type. The Fort Worth Star Telegram that also ran their big political advertisements last summer at several hundred dollars an issue just scuttled the whole item in one paragraph on a page of false teeth and rat killing advertisements and ignorant cartoons by ignorant cartoonists.

Oh, you news fakirs ought to pull down your signs and brags about publishing the news and send everybody their money back. If this had been me instead of Sterling everybody in Texas knows that you dam hounds would have been yelping and headlining yet about the awful doings of Jim Ferguson.

This is the same crowd that sprung all them crooked claims in big head lines about three years ago about the amendments all carrying 3 to 1 in big first page head lines on the first page when in fact all the amendments were beat to a frazzle.

Now frankly, I think Sterling is a better man than these newspaper magnets. He knows that they can be gotten and he goes and gets them and that is all there is to it.

The main thing that I blame Sterling for is the way he has treated his friends. Bill Parrish who testified that he had been a close personal friend of Sterling for many years and that he succeeded Sterling as President of the Humble Oil Company in which Sterling says he owns stock in trust for other people. I think that under these conditions Sterling ought not to have out-traded his friend Parrish and unloaded that 1500 acre wild cat lease and that worthless well on his old time friend for \$400,000. It just don't seem right for him to do this when he knew that his friend Parrish didn't know any better. Since the thing came out some people are criticizing the governor and I don't think it is the thing to do. Let us give him a chance maybe he will make two or three trades like that for the State and make enough to wipe out the overdraft that Dan Moody wiped off on him. If he can skin the other oil companies like he put over the Humble and let us in on it he will soon get us out of debt. I am for him.

I have been thinking about this bill in the legislature on oil proration. In light of the Federal court decision last week it looks like the thing may not be constitutional. It looks like the boys in the House and Senate are about equally divided on the question, especially on the question of a new conservation commission. The question of market demands which is a half brother to price fixing is also troubling the boys. The item of overproduction is messing up the cards mightily and the records has been flooded with dope that proves anything you want, but don't prove anything for sure. Lots of the boys are saying that they don't want to see crude oil go up to a dollar a barrel and gasoline go up to \$10 a barrel. They say they can't explain it when they go back home and ask for re-election.

The governor is dead set, if not hell bent on a proration law. He is as equally strong for a separate conservation commission to be appointed by him. He thinks if he is given a free hand he can do good—even raise the dead oil business. So here we are. I have discussed the matter with several of our friends. What shall we do?

I have come to the conclusion after looking the situation over and giving the matter some thought, that if I was a member of the legislature and was not goaded too much with constitutional conscience, I would just pass the buck up to Mr. Sterling by voting for his entire program of proration, separate commission and all. In other words, I would give him his baby and tell him to raise it. He has a mighty sick child—I don't believe even oil and salts will get even a howl passage. But if he can let us wish him well, yea, let's help him!

If our friends block the governor in his move to clear up the oil trouble and defeat his law and wishes, then when the situation blows up as it is sure to do, then the governor and his friends will sibi out of it by saying that the opposition stood in the way of progress and accomplishment and they will actually make a lot of people believe that we killed cock robin. Let us give him and his friends no such opportunity. Let us take his medicine and if it don't cure then we can rest assured that the people will give them some medicine that will move things out.

We have a desperate situation in nearly every oil field in Texas. The wail is so loud and distressing that we can almost hear the cry of the hungry orphan, the prayers of anxious mothers, the groans of strong men pleading for bread and meat to arrest the approach of death and starvation. We who may feel like opposing Governor Sterling and who may think his plan is illegal and unworkable must remember we are not in power and we can do nothing, however much we would like to do something. He is in power and his friends are in the legislature. They have the power to do something. Let us make them use it. Let us fall in line and make them shoulder their responsibility without let or hindrance from us.

Not that I believe in or approve the Sterling programme, but under the desperate needs of the hour it is no time for an argument. So Mr. Governor stick the feather in your hat, mount your steed and lead the charge. We are behind you to follow to the fray and hold up your hands.

JAS. E. FERGUSON.

PRORATION, CONSERVATION AND TAXATION

To The Forum:

If the legislature had adopted Jim Ferguson's suggestion on cotton and the output on oil, it would have cut down over production of both cotton and oil and raised some revenue. It would have covered the matter of proration, conservation and taxation—it would have helped the little man and held back the big devil. No bill now before the legislature on these subjects are worth a ram's skin with the wool rubbed off. Jim Ferguson's proposition is the correct solution—adopt it, adjourn and go home. Not for God's sake, but for the people's sake.

LEE BEATY.

Lockhart, Texas,

I Be Damned "Agin"

(Continued from Page 1)

did nothing I had rather take my chances on telling them that I had tried to do something to raise the price of oil in the hope that it would raise the price of cotton and other farm products as well as preserve the taxes for the schools.

Let the legislature fearlessly meet the issue and do its duty and put the issue up to the governor and let him assume responsibility for what he does.

Old Alcalde Roberts, the greatest judge that Texas ever had always said that, "the facts of the case are always the law of the case."

Let an aroused people in the oil business and the farm business stand together in a demand and a struggle for their existence and nobody need fear that the courts won't correctly construe the constitution and nobody need be afraid.

In all kindness and with all due respect I want to suggest that the legislature is taking fright and is running away from the issue and too much attention is being paid to those who are appealing to unfair prejudice to divert the minds of the members from the grave issue and responsibility that now rests on the legislature.

Let the law be written so as to give the railroad commission power to consider market demand, economic conditions and physical conditions in determining whether oil and gas is being wasted. Physical waste and financial waste are inseparable anyway. If there is physical waste there is bound to be financial loss which is economic or financial waste. And likewise if there is financial waste there must of necessity be physical waste or the loss could not take place.

Yes, I know most of the big companies want it, but they don't want it one-tenth as bad as the poor people of this country need it. If this legislature adjourns and don't pass this law designed to raise the price of oil, then this winter when the poor hungry children of the unemployed oil workers look over the fence and see the children of the farmer dragging that old cotton sack down a 5 cent cotton row to keep from starving and freezing then the people will know who were their friends and who were not.

Say boys, pull this old legislature out of the hole. Pull up your pants, take up the slack in your suspenders, take a fresh "chaw" tobacco and prorate this trouble and meet the issue and Sallie and the babies will be powerful proud of you when you go back to them.

I just believe you are going to do it. Yes, I knew you would. Thanks. Parson please pray.

JAS. E. FERGUSON.

June Livestock Movement Larger

AUSTIN, Texas, Aug. 6.—Texas' June shipments of all classes of livestock, except swine, were above the same month last year, but were less than shipments in May, 1931, reports the bureau of business research, University of Texas. Receipts of all classes were below those in June, 1930, and those a month ago, the report shows.

Cattle shipments totaled 85,892 head, compared with 62,634 a year ago; calves were 31,950, against 28,302; swine were 16,530, against 19,159, and sheep were 111,411, against 58,010 last year. Receipts were: Cattle 20,126, against 24,253; calves 7,101, against 12,441; swine 11,717, against 12,404, and sheep receipts were 7,564, compared with 20,525 head received in June, 1930.

Shipments of eggs from Texas stations totaled seventy cars during the month, including thirty-three intrastate shipments and thirty-seven interstate. Seventy-five cars of dressed chickens and fourteen of live chickens were shipped interstate, and two cars of live chickens were shipped to points in the state. Receipts were forty-four cars of eggs, twenty-three from within the state and one car of live chickens.

Penny for Dozen Kansas City Price on Roasting Ears

KANSAS CITY, Kans., Aug. 6.—One cent was the price of a dozen ears of sweet corn here today.

The hot dry weather has matured the "roasting ears" rapidly, making an abundance of corn available for market. One merchant bought an entire field so cheaply he was enabled to retail his wares at the record low price.

Trench Silos Cheap Feed Storgae

COLLEGE STATION, Texas, Aug. 6.—Trench silos, of which there are believed to be less than 100 in Texas, cost little and are fairly satisfactory method of preserving feedstuff, according to M. R. Bentley, farm engineer in the extension service of Texas A. & M. College. These silos are usually 12 1/2 feet wide at the top, 10 1/2 feet wide and 9 1/2 deep, length varying according to amount to be stored, figured on the basis of one cubic foot of ensilage weighing 25 pounds. Wastage averages about 5 1/2 per cent, a survey shows, but agents believe it can be reduced by building concrete walls or making dirt walls smoother.

Advantages of these silos are their low cost of construction, convenience of filling, wind, fire and frostproof features and the ease of removing ensilage. Complete details for building them can be obtained from county agents or from Bulletin MS-78 "Trench Silos in Texas," distributed by the Extension Service at College Station.

PALESTINE.—Four cars of watermelons were shipped this week from Anderson County, the first carload from Palestine selling for \$110.

Make Farming Pay

KAUFMAN.—Both town and farm women in Kaufman County are canning large supplies of vegetables. Some will can small beaves in the fall.

LULING.—More than 400 acres in Caldwell County were terraced last year through the work of W. H. Avery, vocational agriculture teacher.

CLARKSVILLE.—Red River County farm women have bought twenty-two sets of canning equipment in the last two months and will buy more than 100,000 tin cans, in addition to glass containers, from local firms to meet their canning needs, County Agent C. M. Knight estimates.

WOODVILLE.—On poor sandy land that has been terraced and made fertile by turning under legumes and rotating crops, Ben Best of Tyler County made a net profit of \$80.00 on one acre of tomatoes and now has hegari growing on the same land.

BRADY.—More than 50,000 bushels of stored wheat and barley have been treated to control weevil and a total of more than 800,000 bushels will be treated, James D. Prewitt, county agent, estimates. Four pounds of carbon bisulphide are used over every 1,000 cubic feet of grain in a tight bin. The gas is inflammable however, and must be used carefully, he says.

COLORADO.—Mitchell County 4-H club boys have found that they get from 80 to 368 pounds more of milo maize heads per acre from pure line seed than from ordinary seed.

FLORESVILLE.—Shipment of a crop of about 625 cars of watermelons from Wilson County is almost completed. Prices paid growers are the lowest in years, thirty-pound melons selling at 12c to 15c per 100 pounds in carlots, with bidders scarce. Quality is good.

CLARKSVILLE.—Elberta peach movements began this week in Red River County, with Amnona the only point making carlot shipments. Yield is fair to good and quality above average.

MOUNT PLEASANT.—Peaches started moving last week from Titus County at 75c per bushel for the best quality fruit. County production estimated at more than forty cars.

YOAKUM.—Because of prices as low as 10c each for watermelons, no shipments have been made this year from the heaviest production ever made in this section.

Pickers Not Needed

KARNES CITY, Texas, Aug. 6.—The directors of the Karnes City Chamber of Commerce passed a resolution advising cotton pickers not to come to this section expecting work. Last year the county grew a bumper crop and many pickers from other drought-stricken sections found work here, but this year's crop will likely not exceed one-half of last year and can be gathered by the local labor. County Judge Thomas Smiley, who is in close touch with conditions throughout the county, concurred in the action of the local business men.

Farm Activities

MIDLAND.—More feeder calves than ever before are promised by West Texas ranchmen for exhibit at the State Fair of Texas this year, John M. Gist, local cattleman, says after a tour of that section.

MERIDIAN.—Meridian's third annual diversification display, including exhibits of cattle, cotton, small grains, poultry, turkeys and other diversified products, as well as of 4-H club products, will be held Oct. 22-24.

LAMESA.—Powdered milk, recommended as a preventive for pellagra, is being sold in retail stores in this section by the local milk plant.

LIBERTY.—Farmers are taking advantage of wet weather to plant considerable acreage in sweet potatoes in Liberty County, expecting to make a fair late crop.

BRYAN.—A total of 280 farmers in Brazos and Madison Counties attended night schools conducted by vocational agriculture teachers at College Station. Twenty major farm problems were discussed.

MIDLAND.—Division of a 64,000-acre ranch in Winkler County was completed last week. The ranch was bought by Ben Jenkins, Edd Cole and Waddell Brothers.

BASTROP.—Disease has reduced the turkey crop in this section considerably in the last ten months.

WACO.—Pecan case borers have damaged the McLennan County crop from 25 to 50 per cent. R. S. Miller, county agent, estimated. Infestation is practically completed, however, and no further damage is expected unless a second infestation occurs.

PLAINS.—Recent rains have aided crops greatly in Yoakum County and ranges are in good condition. Cattle are fat, but demand for calves is light. Farm produce prices are low, eggs selling for 7c per dozen.

BALLINGER.—The mesquite bean crop is excellent in Runtless County and will provide feed for many cattle. The crop is spotted throughout West Texas and late in places.

QUITMAN.—In spite of low milk prices, home-grown feed brought \$20 a ton when marketed through grinding and feeding to Jersey cows, James F. Taylor, Wood County, found. Rations consists of ten pounds of ground hegari boulders, six pounds of Bermuda hay, five pounds of peanut vines and two and one-half pounds of cottonseed meal daily.

BRADY.—Harvesting of the largest oat crop ever grown in McCulloch is getting under way.

BRYAN.—A market center has been opened to enable Brazos County farmers to dispose of their diversified farm products.

LOCKHART.—Prospects are good for a large pecan crop in Caldwell County. Figs that were killed to the ground by freeze two years ago will make a good crop this season.

BEEVILLE.—A. A. Huesler & Son will erect a modern turkey dressing plant with three cold storage vaults.

CORPUS CHRISTI.—Two acres of beets planted last October by A. M. Stone of Nueces County completely fed 110 hogs and were used in feeding forty dairy cows, fifteen sheep and four mules during April. A total of 3,000 pounds of beets was fed.

Lightning Returns Voice of Alabaman

ROGERSVILLE, Ala., Aug. 6.—W. C. Page, 40, spoke today for the first time in six years on recovering consciousness after being struck yesterday by lightning.

Large Texas Yam Crop Is Forecast

WASHINGTON, Aug. 6.—Texas' 1931 sweet potato production is forecast at 4,830,000 bushels from an acreage of 69,000 acres and a condition of 68 per cent of normal on July 1. This compares with production of 3,570,000 bushels last year from 51,000 acres. Forecast for the entire United States is for 74,067,000 bushels from 871,000 acres, compared with 62,230 bushels from 722,000 acres last year.

Irish potato production in Texas in 1931 is estimated at 5,328,000 bushels from a condition of 76 per cent of normal on July 1, and 67,000 acres planted. This compares with 5,012,000 bushels last year from 57,000 acres. Texas' fall production is estimated at 210,000 bushels, lower valley early production estimate is 996,000, and production in second early areas, including 1,091,000 bushels in the Eagle Lake-Sugarland-Wharton area, is 1,706,000 bushels. United States production forecast is 396,451,000 bushels from 3,506,000 acres, compared with 348,236,000 bushels from 3,167,000 acres in 1930.

Farm Board Will Not Donate Wheat

WASHINGTON, Aug. 6.—The Farm Board has received a variety of suggestions from many sources that the 200,000,000 or more bushels of stabilization wheat be turned over to private agencies for distribution to the poor and needy. However, it has no authority under the law to adopt any of them.

Only Congressional action would enable the use of the wheat for relief purposes. The agricultural marketing act specifies that the grain stabilization corporation shall exert every effort to realize a profit from its operations. Therefore it is considered unlikely that the wheat would be sold to private or state relief agencies at a low cost below the price paid for it.

Last winter the board was besieged to distribute the wheat to the unemployed through the Red Cross and also to starving Chinese.

More Texas Hogs Fed From Self Feeders

COLLEGE STATION, Texas, Aug. 3.—Hog feeding by means of self-feeders is increasing in Texas and most county agents include this in plans for feeding demonstrations, says E. M. Regenbrecht, swine specialist of the Texas A. & M. College extension service. Tests show this method gives the most economical gains where corn or grain sorghums are fed free choice with a protein supplement of equal parts of cottonseed meal and tankage. Grains can be fed economically unground if a self-feeder is used and hogs digest a larger percentage of the grain, a pound of grain being mixed with three and three-quarters to four pounds of feed.

The type of feeder recommended is four to six feet long, three or four feet high and one foot wide, with a feeding trough at the bottom twelve inches wide, covered with wooden flaps. The walls are perpendicular allowing the feed to settle down more freely than in the "V" type feeder.

Meat Ring Keeps Farmers Supplied With Fresh Beef

CUERO, Texas, Aug. 6.—Nearly 850 DeWitt County farm families never lack fresh beef during the summer and fall, as sixteen "meat rings" are in operation, some of them having operated continuously for nearly forty years. For twenty-four weeks, beginning May 1, a beef weighing not less than 200 pounds or more than 315 pounds, exclusive of soup bone, is killed each Saturday and divided into twenty-four numbered portions. The numbers are rotated so that each member receives a different cut each week and receives all of the cuts during the season. In addition, each receives a soup bone one week and a piece of neck the next week. Members must kill a yearling as their allotted time comes.

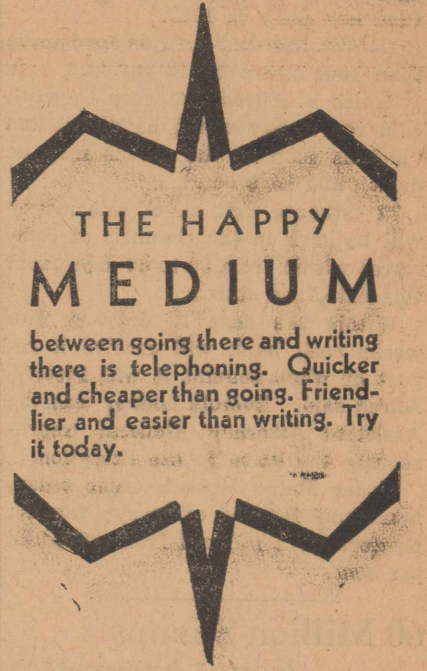
Del Rio Picked by Sheep, Goat Men

SAN ANGELO, Texas, Aug. 6.—T. A. Kincaid of Ozona was re-elected president of the Sheep and Goat Raisers' Association at the closing session of their convention here today. Del Rio was selected as next year's convention city.

A resolution asking that handling charges at stockyards be reduced 25 per cent was approved today. The agricultural marketing act was also approved by resolution.

PELLAGRA

Have you these symptoms? Many people are unaware that they have Pellagra because in its early stages it may be so mild. If you are tired and drowsy, feel lazy, have headaches, suffer from depression, have dark and rough skin, skin eruption, sore mouth, trouble with your stomach and bowels, short breath, giddy feeling, loss of weight—no doubt you have Pellagra. Herrington's Rx 139 gives relief. Hundreds vouch for complete treatment. Write for testimonials, 30-day treatment reduced to \$5.00. Herrington's Laboratories, Texarkana, Texas. Try your drug store or order direct.—Adv.



666 LIQUID OR TABLETS Relieves a Headache or Neuralgia in 30 minutes, checks a Cold the first day, and checks Malaria in three days. 666 Salve for Baby's Cold.

Hotel Directory

Austin The Driskill EUROPEAN PLAN Is the Hotel AT AUSTIN

NO NEED TO WAIT SIX MONTHS TO GET THE NEW LAWS PASSED BY THE LEGISLATURE. Order a Set of Ray's Advance Session Laws. The Legislature (Regular Session) adjourned May 23rd and Ray's Advance Session Laws have been off the press for SIX WEEKS or longer. Mr. Ray is always the first to publish the laws, always far in advance of the State or any other publishing medium. EDITED AND COMPILED BY A LAWYER, who understands the law and KNOWS HIS CONSTITUTION. In RAY'S LAWS the effective dates, the vote in each house and the information regarding each law is ACCURACY published. Issued in FOUR VOLUMES, three of which were published BEFORE THE LEGISLATURE ADJOURNED. Price of the FOUR VOLUMES, all well bound in a SINGLE BOOK, for permanent use, \$10.00. These laws are in use by over 1000 of the best lawyers and law offices in Texas, and have been for many weeks. Only a few of these books are left. Get them NOW so that you will have the laws bound like your other law books in PERMANENT and ATTRACTIVE FORM. Address: WORTH S. RAY, Attorney (of Dallas, Texas). Temporary address for orders: ALAMO HOTEL, Austin, Texas.

