

THE SLATON SLATONITE

VOLUME 8

SLATON, LUBBOCK COUNTY, TEXAS: FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 1919

NUMBER 27

SCHOOL PROGRAM TUESDAY NIGHT HIGHLY ENJOYED

The School auditorium was filled with a big audience Tuesday night that came out to attend the school program which closed with a one act farce comedy play. The program had been announced for last Friday night but on account of the rain had to be postponed.

The entertainment was highly enjoyed from the first number to the last and was given hearty applause by the audience. It opened with a splendid chorus from the fifth, sixth and seventh grades. The songs were "Home Again" and "Liberty Bells," both very popular pieces. The program as given was:

"Somebody's Done Me Wrong" a black face song by Howard Hoffman.

Reading, Addielou Posey. "Story Book Ball," a pleasing anthem in costumes by the girls. "Scout Hike," by the Boy Scouts.

Reading, Virginia Montague. Chorus by the Grades, "Three Wonderful Letters" and "So Long, Mother."

Violin Solo, Virginia Egbert. "Scouts Song," by the Boy Scouts.

Play, "The Simplified Commencement at Jonesville," by High School pupils. This play was a burlesque on the usual commencement exercises and it furnished many hearty laughs for the audience.

The entertainment was pronounced a most interesting one by all, and those in charge of preparation deserve much commendation on its success.

The terminal of the Brownfield and Seagraves branch line railroad has been changed from Lubbock to Slaton, and the trains now go out of this place thru Lubbock and Brownfield to Seagraves. Returning they come thru Brownfield and Lubbock to Slaton. The train crews have moved their families from Lubbock to Slaton. The trains turned around at Lubbock while the road was yet in the hands of the construction company.

The Tahoka News reports that eight inch casing has been placed in the deep well just south of that town and that drilling has been resumed. What the public is interested in is just how deep the drill has gone up to this time. There doesn't seem to be anybody who knows just what progress has been made.

C. D. Haines went to Hot Springs, Ark., the first of the week for treatment. He has been seriously indisposed for some time. His family will make their home in Wellington, Kans., while he is in Hot Springs. They will return to Slaton as soon as Mr. Haines is able to resume his work for the Santa Fe.

Mrs. F. A. Whiteley and the children went to Amarillo last Friday to visit until Monday with her brother. Bro. Whiteley left in the car Monday for Amarillo, and they will travel overland to Danville, Ark., their new home where Bro. Whiteley has accepted a call as pastor of the Baptist church. This family carries the best wishes of a host of friends at Slaton with them to Danville.

Ranch Foreman Killed Himself Monday Morning

Herman Suttle who has been employed as manager on the Swearingen ranch located about twenty miles southwest of Littlefield, committed suicide early Monday morning by shooting himself with a .45 calibre pistol, bullet entering his forehead causing death instantly.

From reports made by his wife, and confirmed by two men employed on the ranch at the time, Mr. Suttle had business in Littlefield Monday which needed his attention, and he had made preparations to go there. He left home in a Buick car about 4.30 that morning without lights on his car, and had gone about five miles when he ran into a wagon, which had been left directly in the road. From indications he apparently tried to go around the wagon, but had gotten so close before seeing it that he side-swiped it. Apparently without stopping he changed plans and turned directly around the wagon and returned back home with the car damaged very badly, and a wound on his hand which he received in the wreck. After reaching the house he informed his wife of the accident, and showed her the wound on his hand. Supposedly Mrs. Suttle went to an adjoining room to get cloth to dress the wound, and hearing him open a drawer to the dresser, she returned, but before she could get to him he had gotten the gun and stepped out of the house and shot himself.

The only reason given for the committal was that of financial affairs and on account of the damaged car which did not belong to him personally.

The body was shipped to Post City Tuesday for interment. He is survived by his wife.—Avalanche.

The Rev. T. C. Willett went to Clarendon Tuesday to attend a meeting of the Conference Centenary Committee of the M. E. Church. The meeting is held in connection with the meeting of the presiding elders of the conference. Bro. Willett will also attend a meeting of the Conference Board of Missions of which he is a member.

Mrs. Guy Nix of Fort Scott, Kan., came to Slaton this week to visit with her parents until her husband is discharged from the hospital.

OIL IS FOUND IN IOWA PARK TEST AT SHALLOW DEPTH

Iowa Park, Texas, March 8.—The Quadruple Oil Company's No. 1 on the Kemper tract, 300 yards northwest of the Watkins well, came in Tuesday with an initial flow of 180 barrels daily. This well is in at the same depth as the Watkins well and has caused considerable activity in this district. The Beirne Oil Company's No. 1 on the Lawrence farm, one and one half miles northeast of Iowa Park, came in Wednesday afternoon and is estimated at 60 barrels at the 660 foot sand. This well opens a new shallow territory, being about three miles from the Zink wells, and is also at a shallower depth, the Zink sand being found at 779 feet. Two new wells have been brought in on the Zink farm during the week.—Star-Telegram.

The Quadruple well No. 1, 300 yards northwest of the Watkins well, is about 300 yards south of the Wichita Slaton well now drilling; it is just about half way between the Watkins well and the Wichita Slaton tract.

More Rain for the Scoffers

Rain fell at Slaton last Friday evening to the amount of a little over half of an inch. Reports from north of the canyon place the precipitation at an inch there. This rain with the season already in the ground makes the crop outlook here for 1919 very promising. Just to remind those editors who are inclined to make light of our weather talk, this is on the thirty day period, and is also six months from the time the moisture period started in September. Recalling the rain in October; six months from that should bring rain in April; six months from the snow in November should bring moisture in May when the lakes should all fill up.

"Old Timer" Adds His Prophecy

Slaton, Tex.
Mar. 11, 1919.

Dear Mr. L. P. Loomis:

My twenty years of experience in this country coupled with close data has led me to form a rule of my own. That is: "Three months from a fog or snow in the fall it will threaten rain, but six months from the same fog or snow it will rain." Of course there are exceptions to all rules, but this a pretty good one. If we will only remember, the 6 10 of last September we had some damp foggy weather; three months from then we had a shower followed by a fog Dec. 11; six months from Sept. 6 10, a light rain on March 8.

Oct. 27, we had a blowing snow. Three months later, Jan. 27, we had a wet snow; six months will be April 27, at which time we may look for rain.

Nov. 20 30 a snow storm; three months later, Feb. 20 30 we had several good fogs; six months will be May 20 30, when we will get some more good rains.

Dec. 11 rain followed by fog; three months, March 11, we are due a shower but will be light if it comes; six months, June 11, we are likely to get a few thunder showers.

Dec. 19 31, a blizzard; three months will be Mar. 19 31 at which time we may get some rain, at least we will have some disagreeable weather, a kind of weather breeder.

But take notice: six months will be June 19 30, and take my word for it, if we don't get enough rain between June 19 and July 4th to fill some of these old lakes deep enough to swim a

saddle horse, I will confess I don't know anything about it. Respectfully,
Old Timer.

Officials of the Lubbock Slaton Oil Company report that drilling on their lease actually started last week, and the well is now on its way down to the Burk oil sand.

Enough West Texas Potash to Banish Supply in Germany

So called "alkali lakes," the bane of West Texas cattlemen, are to be given an opportunity of proving their real worth.

Some of the lakes contain epsom salts, glauber salts used in glass making and also potash, badly needed in Texas as a fertilizer.

Fort Worth laboratories are investigating a West Texas lake, one of the many controlled by the Nitrate Products Company. This lake, it is said, contains enough potash to keep Texas from asking for German potash during the next hundred years. During the war the scarcity of potash caused fear that it would greatly hamper agricultural products.—Star Telegram.

These lakes are south of Slaton, in Lynn and Terry counties. The gentlemen investigating them made their headquarters in Slaton and in conversation they assured the Slatonite editor at the time that they considered the discovery of these lakes a valuable one. The lakes are truly one of nature's wonders. One we have in mind, and there are many similar ones, covers about four sections of land. It lies in what is known as a level prairie and you can't discern it until you get right up to it. The sides are quite abrupt and the bed of the lake is perhaps fifty feet below the surrounding land. The water usually stands about a foot deep over the entire four sections of lake bed, and it is salty or alkaline, while the springs that feed into it thru ravines are fresh water springs. Wells dug in that vicinity get bad water.

The Dedicatory services at the First Baptist Church of Slaton last Sunday were observed according to the announcement. The Rev. L. L. F. Parker of Tahoka preached the dedicatory sermon. The church announced that every cent it owed was paid at that time and this leaves the church in the best possible condition to procure a pastor to succeed Bro. F. A. Whiteley who resigned to accept a pastorate at Danville, Ark.

M. Olim was in town Wednesday on business. He went from here to Clovis, N. M. Mr. Olim reports that his wholesale business in Amarillo is growing rapidly and that he is well pleased with the new venture. He also stated that Slaton is one of the best towns in West Texas, and he knows this from selling goods all over the Plains country.

The power plant at Tahoka has been out of business for several days and until repairs for the machinery arrive the citizens will have to use lanterns and kerosine lamps.

Clyde Cockrell of the printing firm of Russell & Cockrell of Amarillo was in Slaton Tuesday and made a fraternal call at the Slatonite office.

The election Saturday on the special road tax resulted in a victory for those opposed to the tax.

Our Ladies Ready-to-Wear Department



is Now Replete in All Models that Are New

New Line of Skirts arrived this week.

Ladies Oxfords and Pumps in white, black and mahogany brown are here;

Also new line of Black Cat Hosiery to match.

See our new line of Men's and Young Men's Suits in Hart Schaffner & Marx and Curlee Clothes Company clothes.

ROBERTSON DRY GOODS COMPANY

The Store of Quality and Dependable Merchandise

The home of Hart Schaffner & Marx clothes



EXPERIENCE WITH A BANK ACCOUNT SHOWS that it is a great time as well as worry and money saver. If you have an account at the First State Bank you can count your money once when you make up your deposit and that ends it. Open an account and save the time that others waste.

THE FIRST STATE BANK of Slaton

J. S. EDWARDS, President J. H. BREWER, Cashier

Jose Peres, a Mexican boy eleven years of age, died last week of illness following influenza and he was buried in the Slaton cemetery Thursday. His grave makes the 116th grave in the Slaton cemetery. A very large number of the graves are infants.

Missionary Society Program

Leader, Mrs. McCann. Topic, Making Democracy safe politically. Bible Lesson.

Prayer, Mrs. S. S. Forrest. Democracy, its true meaning, Mrs. Proctor. A Democracy Politically safe, Mrs. Willett. An Unsafe Democracy, Mrs. Adams. Prayer, For America that she may realize the true brotherhood of man, Mrs. Brewer. Closing song.

—Publicity Supt.

Your choice of the best candy and cigars at "TEAGUE'S."

"BY THEIR WORKS YE SHALL KNOW THEM."

THIS BANK POINTS with pride to the fact that it keeps its funds loaned up closely to its patrons. This is the crucial test of the value of a bank to its customers. Let us serve you.

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A New Line of MATTRESSES

on which we can make a better price than heretofore. Ask to see them.

NEW FURNITURE ARRIVING ALL THE TIME

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Redcross Service Garage

We carry a full line of Oils, Supplies and Accessories, and will handle all car work promptly. Your patronage is solicited. We sell GASOLINE at 27½c

J. G. MAYBIN & SON
PROPRIETORS

ANSWER TO CHARGE THAT Y.M.C.A. MEN AVOIDED DANGER

General Dickman, Hero of Chateau Thierry, Issues Order on Conduct—Free Supplies.

Spread upon the records of the Third division, A. E. F., and just brought to the attention of the National War Work Council of the Y. M. C. A., is a general order issued by command of Major General Dickman, which "Y" officials have hailed as an emphatic answer to charges that Red Triangle workers had avoided the danger zones in France and had wrung exorbitant prices from the soldiers for the comforts which the association had sent overseas. General Dickman directed that a copy of the order be sent to every one of the thirty-four men and six women who went with the division through the fighting at Chateau Thierry and along the Marne, to St. Mihiel, and later into action north of Verdun and along the Meuse. The Y. M. C. A. has made public General Dickman's order along with a communication from Col. J. C. Rhea of another division which was in the St. Mihiel fighting. Colonel Rhea gave figures showing the large amount of

supplies which were distributed in his division by "Y" secretaries without charge. The order of General Dickman, who is now in command of the Army of Occupation in Germany, is as follows:

"The commanding general desires to make of record in the general orders of the part taken by the members of the Y. M. C. A. who have been attached to this division and actively carried on their work in all its phases during the time that this division was in contact with the enemy from May 31 to July 20.

"During the days beginning July 14, when the enemy made their attack and for days and nights afterward, the Y. M. C. A., through its faithful members at their posts of duty, not only with chocolate and cakes and tobacco cheered our soldiers, but were of efficient assistance to our medical staff in caring for wounded. Hot chocolate was served, in many cases free, both day and night to the wounded and ambulance drivers.

"While the men of the Y. M. C. A. were with the troops in the front line the young women of the Y. M. C. A. were detailed with the hospitals and the medical staff of this division bear testimony of their most efficient help during these two weeks of great strain.

"The conduct of these self-sacrificing and brave men and women who have so unhesitatingly given their services to their country, establishes a standard of prestige, exceptional

courage, devotion and resources which the commanding general particularly commends."

Colonel Rhea, chief of staff of the general staff of one of the divisions which helped to straighten out the St. Mihiel salient, wrote to the Y. M. C. A. overseas headquarters in Paris as follows:

"The division commander directs me to thank you in the name of the officers and men of this division for your great work in having distributed gratis to this division, between September 10 and 18, a total of 147,908 packages of cigarettes, 67,540 bars of chocolate, 29,900 packages of cakes, 3,320 pounds of hard candy, and hundreds of gallons of coffee, chocolate and bouillon.

"It is impossible to express to you the appreciation of the officers and men of the pleasure and comfort you have brought to them when each one was struggling under the greatest hardships, to do his duty toward his country. You probably realize better than can be expressed the appreciation of your kindly work."

FIVE "Y" MEN GET CROIX DE GUERRE

Of Two Latest to Receive Great Honor, One Wounded by Shell.

According to a cablegram from France Henry Wharton of Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia, Pa., the president of a coal company in that city, and Benton V. Johnson, a real estate man of Detroit, Mich., both Y. M. C. A. workers in France, have been decorated with the croix de guerre. General Petain himself presented them. Their decorations increased to five the number of Y. M. C. A. workers receiving the croix de guerre.

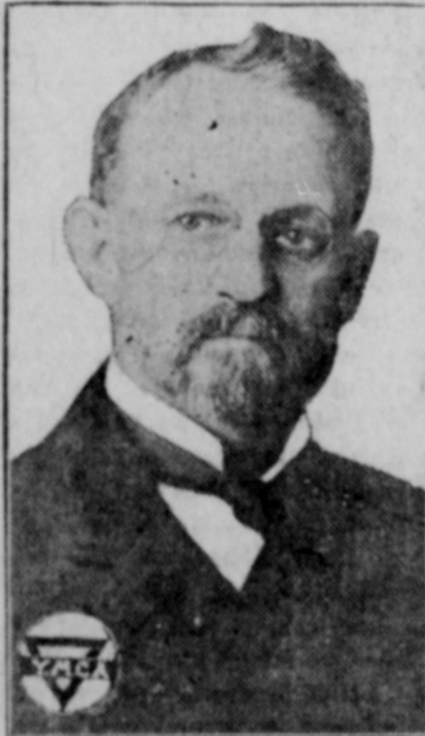
Their citations, which were given to them at general headquarters, commended the two for their work under shell fire with the Twenty-sixth division, and especially mentioned their "zeal and devotion in carrying aid to the wounded under a very violent bombardment."

Both men have followed their division, which has been in the thickest of the fighting, to several fronts. They worked as stretcher bearers in the Toul sector, at Chateau Thierry and in the Argonne woods. Their job was to carry the wounded through the trenches, often several hundred yards, until it was possible to leave the trench for the road, where they put them on stretchers and carried them under fire to the dressing station.

While engaged in this work last summer Mr. Johnson was wounded by shell fragments and forced to spend two weeks in the hospital. He received his former citation for his services at this time.

HAS A SMALL ARMY OF MEN UNDER HIM

Supreme authority over a small army of men has been vested in H. H. Simmons, Executive Secretary of the Southern department of the Army Y. M. C. A., known officially as the National War Work Council of the Y. M. C. A.'s of the United States. Mr. Simmons is a prominent business man of Hillsboro, Tex., and is well known over Texas as a member of the state board of the Y. M. C. A. Up until the time of the signing of the armistice



H. H. SIMMONS, Executive Secretary, Southern Department, Army Y. M. C. A.

the personnel of the Army Y. M. C. A. in the Southern military department numbered approximately 1,050, but it is being cut down rapidly now along with the general demobilization of the camps, almost three hundred and fifty "Y" men having been honorably discharged up to February 1. The Southern department headquarters of the Army Y. M. C. A. is located in San Antonio, Tex., and it is from that point that the organization's activities in the camps of the six states in the department are controlled.

LARGEST "Y" HUT.

The largest Y. M. C. A. "hut" in the world is the Hudson Hut, Hoboken, New Jersey, which takes care of 5,000 men daily. In addition to the usual hut conveniences, the "Y" has provided a barber shop, tailor shop, bookblack, shower baths, locker room, a theater, game room with twelve billiard tables, a soda fountain, hostess room, library, and seven fireplaces. The 10-cent shaves and 25-cent haircuts, and with the officers, the 15-cent puttee and shoe shines are immensely popular.

Order That New Easter Suit Today

We have a splendid line from the leading tailors. Come in and see them and select a new Spring Suit before the lines are broken. Be the First. Set the style for this vicinity. We can surely save you money on Tailored Clothes.

De Long

THE MERCHANT TAILOR

CALL ON US NORTH SIDE SQUARE SLATON, TEXAS

FIGHTING PARSON

There have been many war heroes, but there is certainly no more conspicuously heroic figure than John H. Clifford, Baptist minister in time of peace, but real fighter in time of war, who has been awarded the croix de guerre for extraordinary heroism in action.

John Clifford, as a Y. M. C. A. worker, braved the red wrath of war. He has been in the firing zone as much as the hardest infantryman and was decorated for a most unusual exploit. He was one of three men who braved incessant enemy shell fire



DOC 'CLIFFORD.

while rescuing Col. Albertus W. Catlin, commanding officer of the Sixth regiment of marines. The trio carried the colonel to safety on a stretcher.

Mr. Clifford went over the top many times and came near being killed on several occasions. He is fifty-one years old and was born at Oxford, England, and has preached the gospel in many parts of the world. When given a chance to serve with the Y. M. C. A. in France he knew that it was a good thing, and he jumped at it. His home is at Tucson, Ariz.



"Splitting Headache"

There is no illness that is a source of greater discomfort than headache. Women, men and children alike are afflicted by this unpleasant affliction. To secure relief from Headaches, Backache, Neuralgia, or any severe aches or pains, DR. MILES' ANTI-PAIN PILLS have no equal.

"There is nothing in the world any better for Headache than DR. MILES' ANTI-PAIN PILLS. I surely advise all who suffer from any ache or pain to take these pills."

MISS JESSIE McMILLAN, Connellsville, Pa.

These wonderful little tablets contain no habit-forming drug—nor produce ill after effects. When used according to directions they produce almost instant relief. Ask your druggist for DR. MILES' ANTI-PAIN PILLS—these effective tablets have been growing in favor for more than 30 years. Cost only a few cents a box.



(P-3)

DR. MILES' Anti-Pain Pills
FOR RELIEF OF PAIN

ENTERTAINMENT

To be Given at the High School Auditorium
Friday Night, March 13th, at 8 o'Clock

- Song "Wake Up." Miss Grace Faust.
- Song "Smiles." Miss Grace Faust.
- Reading "Raggedy Man." Miss Grace Faust.
- Selections from James Whitcomb Riley.
 - Out to Old Aunt Mary's.
 - Pap's old Sayin'.
 - The Preacher's Boy.
 - Milo Jones' Wife.
- Song "When the Shadows Fall." Miss Grace Faust.
- Popular Address "Jean Valjean" A. E. Faust.
- Song "The Holy City." Miss Grace Faust.

This "Outline Story" of Jean Valjean has been given to a number of High Schools and has always given good satisfaction among lovers of literature.

Under the Auspices of the Slaton High School

Admission 15c and 25c

The General Public is Invited to Attend

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NEAR THE FAMOUS

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This is a very choice investment

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It is too good to be on the market long

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Address the Secretary at Lubbock for Descriptive Literature

SLATON SLATONITE

Issued once a week on Friday morning at Slaton, Lubbock Co., Texas

L. P. LOOMIS Editor and Publisher

SUBSCRIPTION, THE YEAR \$1.50

Entered as second class mail matter at the post office at Slaton, Texas, on Sept. 15, 1911, under the act of March 13, 1879.

SPEAR OF ITHURIEL WAS BROKEN AT CHATEAU THIERY IN THE YEAR 1918

Answering the Star-Telegram and All Others Who Would Rule by Might and Weapons, and Drag Forth Whitened Bones to Destroy Plea for Rights of Modern Economic Democracy.

The esteemed Fort Worth Star Telegram of last Thursday devoted its editorial page to a review of the growing sentiment for a division of the state, under the title, "A Proposal to Divide Texas."

It seems that the publicity over the project is becoming widely spread, for the Star Telegram quotes an editorial in the Salt Lake Tribune of Salt Lake City, Utah, on the subject, and then devotes considerable attention to West Texas papers who favor a division of the state, paying particular attention to the Slatonite because of the article which we prepared on the question.

The Star-Telegram did not take a position on the question, seeming to be content with a general review of what might be done should the question come seriously before the entire state. Aside from references to the Slatonite's article, no attempt was made to answer it. But the Star-Telegram did go back to the ante bellum days and quote from an impassioned orator in the Texas legislature in 1857 when the question of a division first came before the people. The speaker in a burst of emotion loosed a flood of oratory that was neither logic nor wisdom; it was neither sense nor statesmanship but was merely a pedagogic bombast, a sophistry, an appeal to prejudice and sentiment. We will acknowledge that it was a very pretty little figure in rhetoric, but like a soap bubble when it burst there was nothing left of it but a flitting fancy. It was what we in this day would call a space killer, a camouflaged attempt to earn mileage and per diem.

It is quite possible, Mr. Star-Telegram, that Mr. Aycock—the 1857 orator—was eminently correct in 1857. But it is a long step from 1857 to 1919. In order to make that speech Aycock probably rode to the legislature astride a horse or perchance in a two-wheel cart, maybe drawn by oxen. It's like trying to bring Rip Van Winkle's grandfather back to tell us how to drive a Super Six or pilot an airplane. If Aycock could come back out of the dim distant past and see even a little Ford go galloping by it would scare all such oratorical outbursts out of him, so it is hardly worth dragging whitened skeletons out of the closet to present a modern question.

It is quite probable that in 1857 when the population of the entire state was only about 300,000 that there were not enough white, civilized people in Northwest Texas to organize a quorum at a constitutional convention. The entire country was considered of such little value that over 3,000,000 acres of it were bartered away for a song, almost, twenty years later.

But the reel has changed since Mr. Aycock hung his hat on the moon, and cast myriads of stars about into the azure blue. This magnificent commonwealth of Northwest Texas now has a population of 500,000 people and an assessed valuation of \$500,000,000 without counting our oil districts, which are worth a billion dollars. The day of bossism has passed. Kaiserism belongs to the archives

of history. It is inconceivable that the political bosses of Texas can longer keep their feet on the neck of the people of West Texas and demand toll and homage; can keep them as vassals to supply the pie counters of East Texas, just because the districts of the bosses have the balance of voting power.

It takes \$20,000,000 a year now to run the government of Texas, many times more than that of other states. We pay more taxes than the people of other states pay. Texas is years and years behind the progress and development of other states, yet is itself one of the oldest States. It is not practical to operate a state government over such a cumbersome area. Texas is facing a crisis in trying to maintain its state government without bankrupting the people on taxes. Something will have to develop soon or the state will have to divide itself to keep from going bankrupt. It would be to the good of ALL of Texas to divide the state and bring the government closer home to the people.

A division of Texas is a pertinent question and our leading periodicals had better prepare for it. But please don't go dragging any more Aycocks out of their graves; this is a live question, and a question of today and tomorrow and tomorrow's needs. We fear you might hunt up Ponce de Leon and claim that Texas is still a part of Spain. Let the dead past bury the dead. We are in the todays, and it's great to be alive and full of hope and anticipations and ambitions.

The editor of the Plainview News is just a wee bit skiddish over the oil question. It isn't the fact that he is liable to drop a little newspaper profit put in promotion stock in an oil company that hurts but it is the loss of confidence in his own judgment. To think that he, a newspaperman, ace of the windjammers art, would fall for the prate of an inferior and invest as much as \$10 in an oil project is a shock to his professional pride. He says the salesman assured him that he would be a millionaire in a short time, and it is beyond the human mind to think that an oil stock agent would fib or exaggerate in any way; it is even worse for a personal friend who has your confidence to ring you in on a dry one. It begins to look like most anybody could sell oil stock to Adams. But we are curious about Adams' recent trip to Arkansas. Oil stock down there is too new a thing for the people to know anything about; the only thing the natives are interested in is for an economical way to make moonshine. Or was Adams trying to teach them how to extract the kick from buttermilk. After he gets the kick out he throws the buttermilk away and utilizes the kick for irrigation purposes.

Mrs. Daniel Entertains

Mrs. J. J. Daniel assisted by Miss Marie McDonald entertained Saturday afternoon honoring her daughter, Maurine's, fourth birthday. The afternoon was spent in playing games, after which dainty refreshments were served.

Those present were, Claudia Anderson, Josephine Adams, Ella Loyse Gentry, Wilson Lott, J. C. and Anita Hardy, C. S. and Cecil Greer, Florence and Madge Hysell and Kennett, Maurine and Geraldine Daniel.

Markus Clem, call boy for the Santa Fe, has been promoted to the shops to learn the trade of machinist. He has made a good record as call boy for a year and will no doubt make good as an apprentice.

Mrs. J. D. Haney went to Mississippi Tuesday in response to a message that her mother was seriously ill and not expected to live.

IS HIT BY SHELL WHICH KILLS FOUR OF UNCLE SAM'S MEN

Y. M. C. A. Man Returns With Story of Finding Huns in French Uniforms.

Under shell fire and gas for three weeks, the buildings in which he ran his canteen hit six times, and finally knocked out by a shell which killed four men, wounded thirty and put him in a hospital for two months, Guy A. Willis, a Grand Rapids lumberman, has returned on crutches from France with some evidence of the zeal with which the Y. M. C. A. canteen men worked with the troops in the St. Mihiel and Argonne drives.

Willis was attached to the Three Hundred and Fifty-fifth regiment, Eighty-ninth division. In the Toul sector, which the division held until the St. Mihiel drive began, Willis' Y. M. C. A. outfit had a canteen near Mont Sec, at Beaumont, and one of his pleasant jobs was to drive almost daily around the famous Dead Man's curve on trips to get supplies for his canteen. Willis entered Benny, in the St. Mihiel drive, three hours after the Germans had been thrown out of it.

In a shell-wrecked building he found a German kitchen with three big cauldrons. For several nights he made cocoa—hundreds of gallons a night—which was rushed in cans, shell cases,



GUY A. WILLIS.

palls and whatever else came handy out to the boys. Three times shells crashed through what was left of the roof of the building in which the Y. M. C. A. had set up shop, but they kept on at their work and ran the canteen there for three weeks, until they were shifted to the Argonne.

While at Benny Willis was busy in the canteen one night when two offi-

cers entered. They wore uniforms of the Fiftieth French artillery. The canteen was full of doughboys getting cigarettes and chocolate, and the Frenchmen, who seemed in a great hurry, picked up several pieces of chocolate and started to go out. Then they hesitated and turned back toward the counter. As they did so a doughboy heard one of them say to the other, "Wie viel? (How much?)."

A group of eight or ten doughboys entered at that moment, and in the crowding and jostling and dim light the soldier who had heard the remark lost sight of the officers for a moment. When he looked for them again they had vanished. Headquarters was telephoned that spies had been in the canteen, but the pair made good their escape in the darkness.

In the Argonne drive Willis was at work in a first-aid station when Captain Baker was wounded in the barrage. Willis went back through the barrage, serving as a litter bearer, and helped carry wounded down through the mud for four kilometers to the ambulances.

Two days before the last drive in the Argonne Willis went back into the village of Romagne to get supplies for a first-aid station. As he entered the town the Germans opened up on it with a battery of 88s, and the second shell sent over landed in the street within twenty-five feet of him. The shell killed two soldiers on a truck, setting fire to the gasoline tank and cremating one of the men. Two others were killed and thirty wounded, one of whom was Willis, a piece of steel being driven through his foot.

The field hospital to which he was taken had been shelled ten minutes before he arrived, and four hospital attendants and several engineers had been wounded. A few minutes later some German airmen came over and bombed the place, one of the bombs ripping a piece of cloth from under the head of a doughboy two stretchers away from the Y. M. C. A. man. The doughboy was not even scratched.

SOLDIER BOY KICKS AGAINST Y.M.C.A.

Serves it on Toast With a Garnish of Scotch Blessings, but the Captain "Stumps" Him.

"If every kick and knock against the Y. M. C. A. service overseas could have been handled as an American captain I know treated one case in his company there would be more in the air of what the 'Y' did and less of what they failed to do," said John M. Currie of Melrose, Mass., who is just home from operating Red Triangle huts in the Calais and Ypres sectors.

The censor one evening came across a letter from a boy to his folks back home, in which the "Y" was panned and served on toast with a garnish of all the Scotch blessings and reverse English the boy had on hand. Now the censor is a pretty tired man, and I should not have blamed him if he had let that letter go. But there was an extra strong touch of exaggeration in it that roused the censor's sense of justice.

So he sent the letter to the captain of the boy's company and the captain called the boy in. "This is the conversation that followed:

"Did you write this letter?"
 "Yes, sir."
 "Read it over—is there anything there you'd like to change before it is sent?"
 "No, sir."
 "Then there was a short pause, in which the captain studied the boy and the boy set his jaw stubbornly. Finally:
 "Where did you get this letter?"
 "The 'Y,' sir."
 "Who gave you the paper?"
 "The 'Y,' sir."
 "It's warm and cozy, and something like home there, isn't it?"
 "Yes, sir."
 "Where do you get your cigarettes, candy, etc.?"
 "The 'Y,' sir."
 "You're always sure of finding what you want there?"
 "Yes, sir."
 "You go to the movies and a real

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