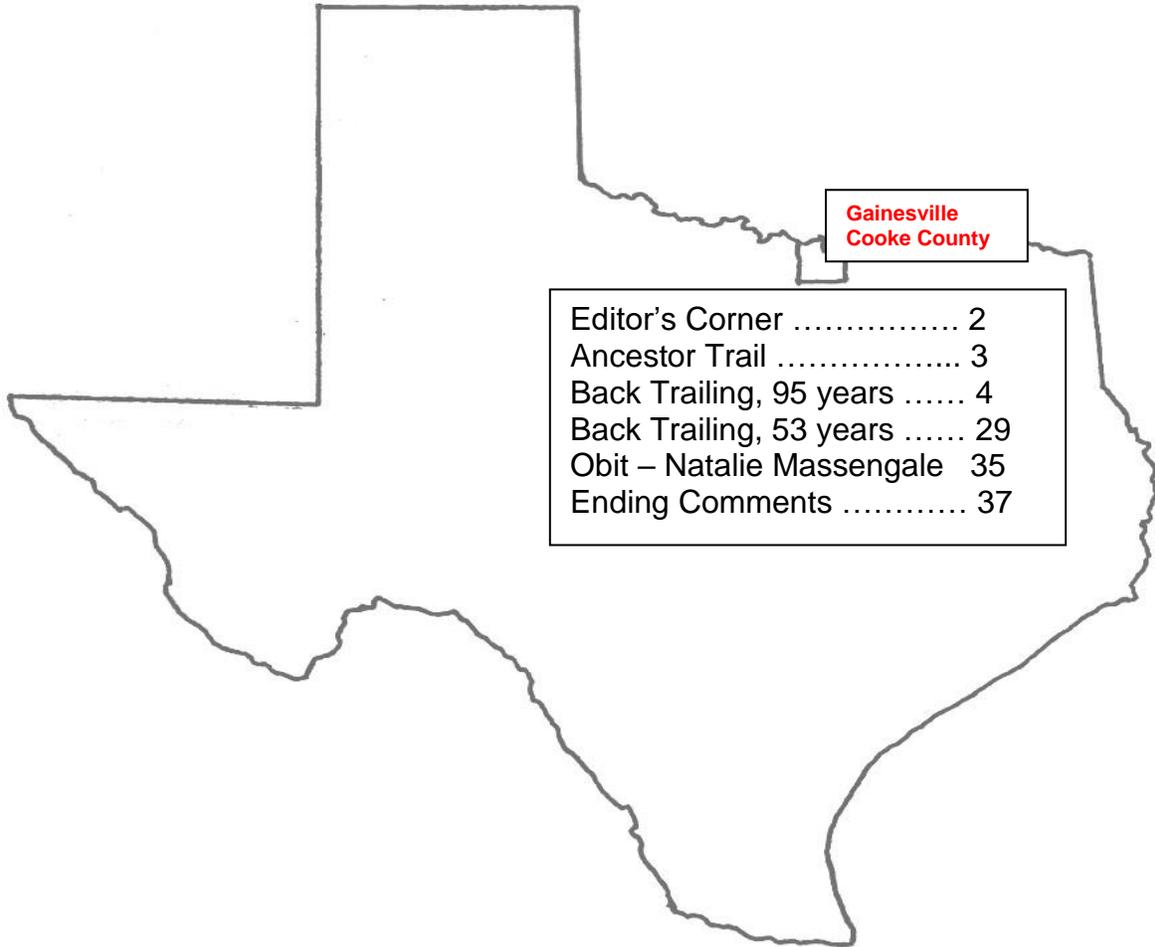


CROSS TIMBERS POST

Editor: Norman L. Newton



Cooke County Website: <http://txgenwebcounties.org/cooke/>

September, 2019

CROSS TIMBERS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF COOKE COUNTY TEXAS
PO Box 197
Gainesville, TX 76241-0197

Cross Timbers Genealogical Society was organized in 1977 to provide a forum for those interested in genealogical research and preserving records for the future generations.

Funds raised by the CTGS are used to research, preserve and publish records relating to Cooke County family histories. As a service to other researchers, CTGS has published several books which are for sale.

For more or additional information, please contact any of the officers listed:

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The Cross Timbers Post is published four times a year: March, June September and December. Subscription is by membership in the Society. Annual membership dues are \$15.00 yearly per household. Memberships run from June 1st to May 30th the next year. All correspondence and material relative to the Cross Timbers Post should be directed to: The Editor, P.O. Box 197, Gainesville, Texas 76241-0197.

Note: The Editor of the Cross Timber Post will not be responsible for the accuracy of material printed herein since no proof is required.

EDITORS' CORNER

Greetings, It has been awhile since I served as Editor but once again I will give it a go.

Our former editor, Colleen Clark Carri needed to refocus her priorities to family and step away.

I wish to thank CTGS President, Ronnie Howser for all the BACK TRAILING history that is recorded in this issue.

As I read and digested all the information that Ronnie recorded from back issues of the

Gainesville Daily Register from 95 and then 53 years ago I am amazed at the history that he was able to record. The year 1924 was a devastating time for the town of Valley View which saw two different fires destroying much of the area around the town square. Then the recordings of 1966 is a time within the timeframe of my memory so how neat is that. How fortunate to be able to read once again the writings of Jack Joyce in his "Picked Up Passing By" column.

I hope you enjoy this issue of the Cross Timbers Post.

Regards, Norman L. Newton, Editor

Meeting Schedules

Our 2019 meetings will meet in the Landmark Bank meeting room, Gainesville, Texas the first Monday each month at 6:00 pm., except for the months of January & July.

If history interests you please contact one of our officers and/or members who would love to speak to you.

Regards, Norman L. Newton

Following the Ancestor Trail:

This page covers research material and research locations in Cooke County.

MUENSTER LIBRARY,
418 No. Elm, Muenster, TX

COOKE COUNTY LIBRARY
200 South Weaver St., Gainesville, Texas
Newspapers, family history, county history, various states, and counties

COOKE COUNTY-COUNTY CLERK
100 South Dixon, Gainesville, Texas (courthouse)
*Death, Birth, Marriage records available.
*You can look up most records yourself. Copies are \$1.00 per page

MORTON MUSEUM of COOKE COUNTY
210 South Dixon, Gainesville, Texas
Historical people in Cooke County, various books

LIBRARY—1525 W. California St., Gainesville

Various genealogy magazines, papers, family information, obits

Church's in Gainesville with libraries and Archives

First Christian Church

401 No. Dixon 940-665-2053
Started May 10, 1874 Open Daily

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

415 E. California St. 940-665-4705
Started August 6, 1885 Open 9 A.M. to 12 Noon Only Look-up's

First United Methodist Church

214 So. Dixon 940-665-3926
Started 1852

First Presbyterian Church

401 So. Denton 940-665-5153
Started 1878 Archives

St. Mary's Catholic Church

825 No. Weaver 940-665-5395
Started 1879

BACK TRAILING – 95 Years Ago (January – December, 1924)

(Contributed by, Ronnie Howser)

Consolidation of Schools Approved Thursday Jan. 2, 1924

The plans of county superintendent **John S. Hardy** of the rural schools, for educational survey, enforcement of the compulsory attendance laws, and the consolidation of schools, has been approved by the County Board of Education in a resolution recently drawn up.

At the conclusion of the school terms for 1923, Mr. Hardy made his report to the board and outlined the work for 1924. The following resolution was drawn up by the board which is composed of **D. J. Enderby**, president; **Sam Briggs**, **A. T. Allen**, **F. H. Dayton**, and Dr. **O. E. Clements**.

Pythians Seeking Larger Quarters Friday Jan. 11, 1924

Various methods of increasing their quarters are being considered by the members of the Knights of Pythias of this city, on account of the greatly increased membership during the next few months. At a meeting of Trinity Patrick Lodge No. 7 held Thursday night at Castle Hall, a committee composed of **Overton Clack**, **J. D. Howeth** and **W. B. Kinne**, who was appointed to estimate on the cost of extending the present building back to Main Street.

A larger lodge room as well as reading room and other conveniences are desired by the Pythians and it is expected that definite measures will be taken in the future to provide additional space for the lodge headquarters.

Large Sale of War Savings Certificates Monday Jan. 14, 1924

The sale of war savings certificates in Gainesville by the post office have amounted to \$38,975, according to Miss **Grace Dickson**, assistant post master of the office. Computing the population of Gainesville at 9,000 there are \$4,333 per capita invested in the certificates by Gainesville people. These figures do not include the sales of the certificate made by the banks of the city.

Health Nurse Is Busy in County Wednesday Jan. 16, 1924

On account of the fair weather Miss **Helen Schoedel**, state health nurse, has been continuing her work in the rural districts and only a short time was spent in the McMurray school. The work of examining the children in the city schools will be resumed again when the roads are in better condition or it is otherwise possible to be out in the county.

According to Miss Schoedel, an outstanding factor in the Fair Plains school is the hot lunch system which will in time prove to be very beneficial to the children by keeping up the standard weight. This was made possible by the cooperation of the teacher, Miss **Tommie Reeves** and patrons of the community and the assistance of Miss **Beatrice Bolton**, home demonstration agent for Cooke county. A fund for equipment and supplies was created by the entertainment and box supper last fall which proved enjoyable and profitable.

As many county schools as possible will be visited and inspected during the state health nurse's allotted time in Cooke county and it is her desire to have as many mothers as possible to attend the meetings and bring the pre-school children with them.

Miss Schoedel expresses her gratitude to the people of Myra for the generous hospitality shown her and Miss **Anderson** while inspecting the school children there; she also appreciates the interest of both teachers and parents and her only regret is that more mothers and pre-school children were not present.

Report of Tests

Below is a report of work done in the schools during the past week:

McMurray School – Sanitary inspections, 1; pupils examined, 76; pupils defective, 72; class talks, 2; underweight (12 per cent or more) 28; overweight (20 per cent or more) 3; deficient hearing, 3; deficient vision, 6; found correct, 2; suspected trachoma and inflamed lids, 17; other eye defects, 1; defective teeth, 41; teeth found correct, 14; enlarged tonsils, 53; found

correct, 6; suspected adenoids, 31; correct, 6; skin eruptions, 1; enlarged glands, 52; orthopedic, 1; speech, 1; gums, 1.

Myra School – Sanitary inspections, 1; pupils inspected, 162; pupils defective, 150; class talks, 3; parent consults, 10; adults examined, 2; pre-school children examined, 5; underweight (7 per cent or more) 85; overweight (20 per cent or more) 5; deficient hearing, 14; deficient vision, 45; correct, 4; suspected trachoma and inflamed eyelids, 44; other eye defects, 5; defective teeth, 76; found correct, 15; enlarged tonsils, 112; found correct, 23; suspected adenoids, 42; found correct, 21; skin eruptions, 4; enlarged glands, 107; speech, 1; gums, 2.

Fair Plains – Sanitary inspections, 1; pupils examined, 12; defective pupils, 12; school serving hot lunches, 1; class talks, 1; parent consult, 1; underweight, 8; deficient hearing, 1; deficient vision, 4; suspected trachoma or inflamed eye lids, 5; defective teeth, 11; found correct, 2; enlarged tonsils, 7; suspected adenoids, 8; enlarged glands, 10; spinal, 1; speech, 1; gums, 1.

Total – Schools visited, 3, inspections, 3; pupils examined, 250; pupils defective, 234; serving hot lunches, 1; suspected adenoids, 81; found correct, 27; skin eruptions, 5; enlarged glands, 169; orthopedic, 1; spinal, 1; speech, 3; gums, 4; parent teacher meetings attended, 3.

Health Nurse Is Exceedingly Busy Wednesday Jan. 30, 1924

Reports are that Miss **Helen Schoedel**, the public health nurse, is busy finding more to do each day. It is hoped that the public is keeping up with her reports of the various schools as submitted in the Register.

According to Miss Schoedel a public nurse is very badly needed in Cooke county, not only in the schools but in the poorer homes and with pre-school children. Children's defects should be corrected before entering school, thus giving them a better chance for advancement and saving the time needed for overcoming these handicaps. A full time county nurse would do all this and it is Miss Schoedel's plea to the public to get a permanent nurse for Cooke county.

Four months is Miss Schoedel's allotted time to remain in Cooke county and she is visiting as many schools as possible for free. The state will also help the county a permanent nurse is placed here later. Anyone desiring to know more about this subject is requested to phone or call in person at the Chamber of Commerce any Saturday morning from 9 to 12 o'clock and receive that information from Miss Schoedel.

Following is a report of the schools inspected last week:

East School – Pupils examined, 50; pupils defective, 48; class talks, 2; parent consult, 1; underweight (20 per cent or more), 16; overweight (20 per cent or more), 1; deficient hearing, 2; deficient vision, 6; suspected trachoma and inflamed lids, 20; other eye defects, 1; defective teeth, 30; teeth found correct, 2. enlarged tonsils, 25; normal tonsils, 2; suspected adenoids, 19; normal adenoids, 2; skin eruptions, 1; enlarged glands, 40; nervous, 2; speech, 2.

Spring Creek – Pupils examined, 48; pupils defective, 47; class talks, 2; parent consult, 1; underweight (7 percent or more) 17; deficient vision, 12; deficient hearing, 3; suspected trachoma and inflamed lids, 21; other eye defects, 1; defective teeth, 12; correct teeth, 1; enlarged tonsils, 32; suspected adenoids, 9; enlarged glands, 39; nervous, 1; speech, 2.

Leo – Pupils examined, 89; pupils defective, 80; class talks, 5; parent consult, 24; adults examined, 10; infants and pre-school, 6; underweight (7 per cent or more) 32; deficient hearing, 1; deficient vision, 15; correct, 5; suspected trachoma and inflamed lids, 15; correct, 3;

defective teeth, 25; correct, 5; enlarged tonsils, 63; correct, 3; suspected adenoids, 29; correct, 1; skin eruptions, 3; enlarged glands, 62; nervous, 4; spinal, 1; speech, 6; other, 2.

Westview – Pupils examined, 9; pupils defective, 9; class talks, 1; parent consult, 2; underweight, 4; suspected trachoma and inflamed lids, 1; defective teeth, 3; enlarged tonsils, 8; suspected adenoids, 4; enlarged glands, 5; speech, 1.

Oak Valley – Pupils examined, 52; pupils found defective, 49; class talks, 2; parent consults, 5; adults examined, 1; infants and pre-school, 2; underweight, 14; overweight, 1; deficient vision, 71; suspected trachoma and inflamed lids, 10; other eye defects, 1; defective teeth, 20; correct, 2; enlarged tonsils, 31; correct, 1; suspected adenoids, 15; correct, 1.

County Receives \$78, 000 State Aid Thursday Jan 31, 1924

Cooke county is entitled to \$78,057.65 aid on the highways of the county, according to statistics published in the 1924 edition of the Texas Highways Bulletin. There are 56 miles of state highway in the county, with 31 miles completed or under construction. Cooke county had 2,973 automobiles registered in 1923. This report shows fees returned to the state amounting to \$19, 906.75. Also this report shows that the area of the county is 902 square miles, the population 25, 677 and the assessed valuation of real property is \$11, 427, 420. Bonds amounting to \$375,000 for roadwork were voted during the period beginning in 1917 and ending in 1923 the statistics indicate.

Keel & Son Suffer Big Fire Loss Here Thursday Jan. 31, 1924 Property Valued at \$40,000 Burned Late Friday Night Here

The large grain elevator and hay barns belonging to J. Z. Keel and Son, and located on the Santa Fe railroad property near the termination of North Dixon street, were completely destroyed by fire Friday night. The blaze was discovered about 9:30 o'clock and the fire department battled the flames for hours before they were able to control the fire. It had gained such headway that this was accomplished only after the building had been consumed by the devastating flames.

The origin of the blaze is unknown. **J. Z. Keel** was attending the revival meeting and his son, **Virgil Keel** was visiting at the home of a friend when they were informed of the fire. No watchman is kept at the elevator, and the flames were discovered by persons living nearby after the grain building had been partly burned.

The fire is believed to have started in the frame building just east of the main elevator, as it had been burned almost completely when the fire department arrived, and the other structures were built of sheet iron.

Several Building Burn

In addition to the frame building which served as offices, and the main elevator, several other buildings used for the purpose of storing grain and the shed housing the scales were completely destroyed. Only a small house in which a quantity of oats were stored remained unharmed when the fire was brought under control.

While no definite figures have been obtained on the loss sustained by Keel and Son, the elevator and machinery were valued at \$30,000, and the total loss is estimated at about \$40,000. The company carried about \$11,000 insurance on the elevator and machinery, while the grain which was lost was partially covered by the insurance.

In addition to the buildings, about five thousand bushels of oats and sixty tons of hay were burned in the fire.

Many Onlookers

The buildings burned steadily after the fire had gained some headway, and the leaping flames could be seen in all parts of the city, the entire northern skies being lit up with a red glow. The revival meeting was dismissed when the fire was at its height, and thousands of persons who had attended the services rushed to the scene of the blaze.

The shower of sparks resulting from the flames threatened damage to much property in the vicinity, and volunteer firemen were stationed on the roofs of all buildings within a large area to protect them from catching fire. A number of oil tank cars, which were on sidings in the vicinity of the fire were also hastily removed by switch engines from the Santa Fe yards.

Trains Delayed

The north bound Santa Fe passenger train no. 6 arrived on time at 10:46 o'clock when the fire was at its height, and while the buildings near the main track were on fire, the train was delayed for a short time until it was safe to proceed past the blaze.

This is the first disastrous fire experienced in Gainesville for several months and the first of any consequence during the past year. The city has been very fortunate indeed during the past few weeks. In the twenty six days of this year, only two previous fires were reported in the city, and these did little damage.

While there is no clue into the cause of the fire, Fire Marshal **John McCarty** surmised that the blaze was originated by tramps who are said to frequent that part of the city.

Consolidated School Is Built Thursday Feb. 7, 1924

It is reported that the Coppers Consolidated schoolhouse is nearing completion and will be occupied the latter part of this week. This school was made possible by the consolidation of Brushy Elm and Winterfield districts. The building is new throughout and modern in design, being built according to the latest state plans. **Pinor Griffis** is the secretary of the school board and has been in charge of the construction of the building. The community in general will be delighted with the new structure since they have had to use a private residence for classes up to the present time.

School Districts to Hold Elections for Consolidation Saturday Feb. 16, 1924

Four common school districts will hold elections to determine on consolidation within the next few weeks following action taken on petitions for the elections by the commissioners court at its February session at the court house this week. An order calling for a consolidation election in Districts 19 and 20, or Woodbine and Nelson Grove, was made, February 16 being set as the election date. **J. R. McDaniel** was named presiding officer at Nelson Grove and **O. D. Mask** was assigned similar duties at Woodbine.

An election to determine on the consolidation of Rosston and Prairie Point districts has been called for March 8, **Sherman Bewley** appointed to preside at Rosston and **P. W. Ford** at Prairie Point. Petitions for the election were presented from both districts to the commissioners this week. At the same time, it was ordered that an election to determine whether or not the school tax should be raised from 50 cents on the \$100 valuation and not exceeding \$1 on the \$100 valuation, shall be held at Prairie Point.

Cooke County Schools Active Wednesday Feb. 20, 1924

Miss **Ethel Bennett**, teacher of Six Mile school, south of Gainesville, has purchased a phonograph for the school and will enter the Music Memory contest at the interscholastic school meet to be held in Gainesville each month.

The trustees of the Dexter school presented a petition this week to the school patrons of Dexter community for the purpose of calling an election to raise their tax from 50 cents to 75 cents on the \$100. The Dexter people have derived much benefit from state aid over the years and are determined to qualify again next year for such aid.

The people of Coesfield and Walnut Bend are considering a consolidation proposition soon. A large crowd assembled last week to hear the county superintendent take up the proposition in detail.

The County Board of Education met in the office of the county superintendent last Saturday and transacted their first business for the new year. The following trustees were appointed: **J. N. Reeves** for Mt. Olive, **Grover Weatherman** for Six Mile, **John Thompson** and **F. C. Norman** for Freemound, **C. J. Young** for Sivells Bend. **Forrest Gilliland** was transferred from the Prairie Point school to Rosston for high school purposes. A questionnaire sent out by the State Survey Commission was presented to the board by president **D. J. Enderby**. Every question was fully considered and answered in a manner that would promote better rural education in Cooke county. The secretary read a letter signed by three trustees of Whaley Chapel school requesting that a 60 acre tract of land now belonging to Whaley Chapel district be transferred to the Oak Valley district, since the Oak Valley district had always claimed the tract. The board took no action on the matter but deferred it until the next meeting and instructed the county superintendent to summon **E. E. Wiggs** and Tax Assessor **John Cox** to testify at the next meeting before permanently making the transfer in the school records.

Lester Linn, principal of Hays school, reports that his class is going to give a school play on Friday night Feb. 22. He has asked the county superintendent and **Frank Stanford**, past commander of the American Legion to be present and appear on the program for a short address.

The results of the consolidation election of the Woodbine and Nelson Grove Districts were brought in Monday by Mayor **Ware** and **O. D. Mask**. The proposition overwhelmingly carried in both districts, Woodbine voting 36 to 1 and Nelson Grove 31 to 3 in favor of consolidation. Judge **Dayton** will possibly be called to prepare an election for the consolidation of this new district and Hopewell, a small district just east of Woodbine. If this proposal goes through it will mean the people east of Gainesville are going to have a new and modern consolidated high school.

Mrs. **Wilson**, teacher at Spring Grove school, is preparing a George Washington program for Friday night, Feb. 22. On the same date Miss **Jessie Smith** will also have a similar program at her school at Johns Branch.

On Friday night Feb. 22 Miss **Tommie Reeves** will have a pie supper at her school four miles south of town at Fair Plains for the purpose of raising funds to continue the hot lunches.

Miss **Thelma Moore**, teacher of the Coppers Consolidated school reports that she is planning to have her first open house program in the new school at that place on Friday Feb. 29.

Miss **Helen Schoedel**, county health nurse, has returned from Austin where she was called to attend the Nurse's Institute and is visiting this week the schools of Wolf Ridge, Callisburg, and Valley View. Her program for next week beginning Monday Feb. 25, will be as follows: Monday and Tuesday, Hays; Wednesday, Burns; Thursday morning, Rosston; Thursday afternoon, Lemmons; Friday, Rock Creek.

Happenings of The Day: Local Rodeo Stars to Appear in Fort Worth Monday Feb. 25, 1924

The **Griffith** Trio, Curley, Toots, and Dick, well known local rodeo stars, who have gained nationwide renown as exceptional rodeo performers at the Shrine Rodeo in Washington D. C. and in other productions throughout the country, have entered the rodeo of the Southwestern Exposition and Fat Stock Show at Fort Worth next month. The largest number of well known stars ever seen in Fort Worth has been working regularly during the winter and is prepared to present some new stunts at the Stock Show.

Much Interest Is Shown in Effort to Combine Schools Thursday Mar. 13, 1924

Much interest is being shown to the consolidation of various schools in Cooke county and this movement is receiving the enthusiastic support of the majority of the rural school patrons who are interested in educational advantages for their children.

At a mass meeting of the citizens of Era, Bermuda, Center Point, Buck Creek, and Flat Creek held in Era Tuesday night the possibilities of consolidating these five schools was discussed. In the event the consolidation is decided upon, a \$19,000 modern brick school building will be erected and a free transportation system maintained.

One of the outstanding features of the movement is that excellent roads lead to nearly all of the five communities surrounding Era. The modern school would enable the citizens to gain educational advantages. This would be a tenth grade school and would be affiliated by state funds.

Professor **Hilliard** of the Era school is very active in the movement and delivered an excellent talk on the subject, while **A. W. Drake**, resident of near Era, Judge **George Dayton** and County School Superintendent **Hardy** also gave instructive talks regarding the matter.

Happenings of the Day: Virgil Keel a Premier Rider Thursday Mar. 20, 1924

Virgil Keel of Gainesville was without doubt the premier performer at the Fat Stock Show held recently in Fort Worth. A list of Mr. Keel's winnings establishes his supremacy over all of his opponents. During the show, Mr. Keel rode for the **Fred Weeks** stables of Wichita Falls, and his accolades included twenty-two first prizes, six second prizes, three third prizes, one open championship, and one grand championship.

This is Mr. Keel's fourteenth year as grand champion of the southwest, and he has more prizes than all of the other riders combined. During the show, one of the fine-gaited horses belonging to Mr. Weeks and exhibited by Mr. Keel, was sold to a party in Houston for a large consideration.

In commenting on the 1924 Fat Stock Show, Mr. Keel stated to the Register reporter that it was one of the greatest shows he had ever attended and competition in the saddle horse class was very keen.

Prairie Point to Raise School Tax Thursday Apr. 8, 1924

Price Penton, prominent farmer of the Prairie Point community, was in the city Tuesday and reported that in the election held in the Prairie Point school building last Saturday, the property owners of that district no. 52 voted to increase the school tax to \$1 on the \$100 valuation.

The proposal to consolidate the Prairie Point school with the Rosston school was also voted on in the election and the issue carried by a large majority Mr. Penton stated.

Liberty Hill Has Progressive Club Tuesday May 15, 1923

A communication has reached The Register office from a subscriber in the Liberty Hill community, several miles east of the city, telling of the community home demonstration club organized there in September of last year. Outstanding among the achievements is the preservation of a total of 1,170 cans of beef, mostly in three pound cans.

This club was organized the second Friday in September 1923 by Miss **Berile Bolton**. At the initial meeting there were thirteen members; but growth has been rapid and now have an enrollment of twenty-seven. Officers were elected at the first meeting, the following being chosen: Mrs. **Maude Ayers**, president; Mrs. **Neal Sims**, vice-president; Miss **Orbozine Chancellor**, secretary. The following committee members were appointed: Mrs. **Neva Winger**, Mrs. **Robert Sims** and Mrs. **Mae Winger**. Plans were also made for the next meeting.

The next meeting was held with Mrs. **Mollie Stubblefield** on the second Friday in October, Miss Bolton demonstrating millinery and several hats were made. Later a meeting was held with Mrs. Neva Winger, Miss Bolton supervising the canning of a beef and 31 cans of chili, 21 steak, 4 soup, 6 stew, and 13 roast for a total of 75 cans of meat products conserved.

Since the first day in January the club has canned fourteen beeves for the various members, making a total of 1,170 cans, most all of them in three pound cans.

The meeting on the second Friday in December was held at the home of Mrs. Mae Winger and it being close to Christmas, eight different kinds of candy were made.

In January the club met with Mrs. Neal Sims and a gardening program was given by Miss Bolton while the February meeting was devoted to poultry with the home demonstration agent speaking on that subject.

On account of the inclement weather, the bread making demonstration was not held in March and the club hopes Miss Bolton will be able to give this lesson the second Friday in April at Mrs. Mollie Stubblefield's residence. We will probably plan a definite program at this meeting as we are endeavoring to learn how to can corn, English peas, and all kinds of fruit this summer as well as make useful items for the household.

Bones of Extinct Bison Found in Cooke County by Sivells Bend Man Wednesday Apr. 16, 1924

The treacle vertebra of an extinct bison known as the bison occidentalis was found recently by **J. H. Bailey** of Sivells Bend on the bank of Red River near his home. The immense bone was brought to Gainesville by Mr. Bailey who believed it to be that of an elephant and it was sent to Texas A & M College by County Agent **Jack Shelton**.

Mr. Shelton has received a letter from Dr. **Mark Francis**, head of the veterinary department of the college stating that the bone was of an extinct bison. Mr. Francis is an authority on prehistoric animals and has established a large museum devoting his time to the study of the animals as a hobby.

Health Nurse Has Inspected Schools: Many Defects Among Ward Schools Are Found

Thursday Apr. 24, 1924

Miss **Helen Schoedel**, Cooke county public health nurse, has given below a report of the inspections in the Gainesville city ward schools. Only the first four grades were examined as time in the city was limited. Miss Schoedel wishes the parents to read of these defects not only in their ward schools, but also in the others. Underweights should drink and eat more of the proper foods which furnish more nutrition; each child should drink at least a quart of milk every day, eat at least one form of fruit, and if possible two vegetables. Encourage the drinking of more water and less tea and coffee; in fact the two latter beverages should be eliminated. In case of overweights (20 per cent or more lbs.) the diet should decrease in quantity, but not in quality.

As to defective hearing, this is usually traced to abnormal tonsils along with mouth breathing, snoring, and other abnormal conditions or shapes of the mouth.

Deficient vision is very often caused by children reading and studying when confined to bed with children's diseases. Particular attention should be stressed as to absolute rest and a darkened room for children having measles, etc., as any physician can tell you of eye strain in a case of measles. Inflamed eyelids, granulated lids, and suspicious trachoma should have the best of attention and your family physician's advice. The eye is a very delicate organ and very easily defected.

Temporary teeth should be filled when small cavities appear to promote a good sound straight regular set of permanent teeth. Deformed arches and irregular sets of teeth are sometimes caused by the temporary teeth coming in during the formation of good teeth.

Enlarged tonsils make the child more susceptible to colds, sore throats, and contagious diseases. An antiseptic gargle is beneficial but when the child is constantly being bothered with abnormal tonsils, the most advisable treatment is having them removed. In many cases diseased tonsils have retarded the child's physical development, mental alertness, and general appearance.

Scabies, eczema, and other skin eruptions should be watched for. If you do not care for the your own child's sake, think of the many other mother's children who come in contact with your child daily. Enlarged glands are usually the result of some childhood disease, and if troublesome, consult your family physician.

Nervousness may possibly be caused from partaking of tea and coffee, both of which contain elements detrimental to children's health.

Diseased gums are very dangerous and very easily treated. If your child is taken to your family dentist every six months for a "teeth cleaning" both diseased gums and decayed teeth can almost wholly be extinguished.

Here are some of the most important health rules for the benefit of those who wish to have them:

1. Drink at least six glasses of water each day, taking one glassful before breakfast.
2. Take a bath at least twice every week.
3. Brush the teeth twice every day or more.
4. Sleep at least ten hours every night. (School children)
5. Have at least one window open in your bedroom every night.
6. Drink a quart of milk daily; one fruit and one vegetable should be eaten daily.
7. Stand and sit erect.
8. Exercise daily and take deep breaths.

The report is as follows:

McMurray School - Pupils examined, 124; pupils defective, 110; class talks, 4; underweight, 45; overweight, 4; deficient hearing, 7; deficient vision, 17; corrected, 3; suspected trachoma and inflames eyelids, 30; other eye defects, 2; defective teeth, 66; corrected, 20; enlarged tonsils, 83; corrected, 11; suspected adenoids, 37; corrected, 10; skin eruptions, 3; enlarged glands, 93; orthopedic, 1; speech, 1; gums, 1.

East School – Pupils examined, 119; pupils defective, 110; class talks, 4; underweight, 32; overweight, 3; deficient hearing, 7; deficient vision, 18; corrected, 3; suspected trachoma and inflamed lids, 35; other eye defects, 3; corrected, 1; defective teeth, 68; corrected, 12; suspected adenoids, 43; corrected, 12; skin eruptions, 4; enlarged glands, 93; nervous, 6; speech, 2; gums, 4.

North School – Pupils examined, 130; pupils defective, 125; class talks, 4; underweight, 21; overweight, 3; deficient hearing, 11; deficient vision, 22; corrected, 2; suspected trachoma and inflamed eyelids, 18; other eye defects, 4; defective teeth, 56; corrected, 8; enlarged tonsils, 103; corrected, 12; suspected adenoids, 27; corrected, 12; skin eruptions, 6; enlarged glands, 57; nervous, 7; speech, 3; gums, 8.

Central School – Pupils examined, 164; pupils defective, 151; class talks, 5; underweight, 62; overweight, 5; deficient hearing, 5; deficient vision, 30; corrected, 2; suspected trachoma and inflamed eye lids, 11; other eye defects, 3; defective teeth, 88; corrected, 9; enlarged tonsils, 111; corrected, 15; suspected adenoids, 13; corrected, 10; skin eruptions, 2; enlarged glands, 35; nervous, 4; speech, 7; gums, 4.

South School – Pupils examined, 109; pupils defective, 94; class talks, 4; underweight, 47; overweight, 1; deficient hearing, 3; deficient vision, 6; corrected, 3; suspected inflamed eye lids, 4; other eye defects, 1; defective teeth, 59; corrected, 15; suspected tonsils, 43; corrected, 19; suspected adenoids, 7; corrected, 19; skin eruptions, 3; enlarged glands, 52; nervous, 3; speech, 4; gums, 4.

Catholic School – Pupils examined, 38; pupils defective, 35; class talks, 8; underweight, 17; deficient hearing, 5; deficient vision, 12; corrected, 3; suspected trachoma and inflamed eye lids, 8; other eye defects, 2; defective teeth, 26; corrected, 6; enlarged tonsils, 26; corrected, 9; skin eruptions, 1; enlarged glands, 18; nervous, 2; orthopedic, 1; spinal, 1; speech, 2.

Common Schools Seek Higher Tax Thursday Apr. 24, 1924

Many Petitions for Elections Presented to Commissioners Court

Petitions for elections in common school districts to increase taxes for school purposes and issue bonds for the construction of school buildings occupied the attention of the commissioners court in session here Wednesday. Returns of several school elections were also received.

The election to determine whether or not school districts nos. 51 and 52 should be consolidated, resulted in a defeat for the issue in one district, while consolidation carried in the other. In district no. 51 the vote was 28 for and 33 against consolidation, while in district no. 52 the vote was 32 and 21 against consolidation. The election to determine whether or not school taxes in district no. 52 shall be raised carried, 26 voting for the increase and 25 against.

In district no. 71 an election was held on April 5 to determine whether or not the school tax shall be increased from 50 cents to 75 cents on the \$100 valuation and the increase carried by a vote of 14 to 9.

An increase from 50 cents to 75 cents on the \$100 valuation was voted in district no. 9 in the election held April 5, all ten votes cast being in favor of the raise in taxes.

Decrease Desired

In district no. 43 the citizens voted to decrease the taxes from \$1 to 50 cents on the \$100 valuation at the election held April 5, 17 voters favoring the decrease and one person opposing it.

In district no. 73 an election was held April 5 to determine whether or not the taxes would be raised from 50 cents to 75 cents, and the result was 12 for and 5 against the increase.

District 25 registered a vote of 13 for and 4 against an increase from 50 cents to \$1 on the \$100 valuation for school purposes in the election held April 5, returns presented to the court show.

In district no. 21 the results of the election to determine on consolidation resulted in 13 for and 12 against consolidation with another school.

An election was held at Leo on March 20 to determine whether or not the tax of district no. 50 would be increased from 50 cents to 75 cents and the result was 40 for and 27 against the issue.

Petitions were presented to the court from districts nos. 16, 35, and 66 for the order of election to determine whether or not the taxes in these districts be increased from 50 cents to 75 cents, and in each instance, the petition was granted and the elections ordered held on April 26.

District no. 10 applied for an election to determine whether or not the tax be raised from 50 cents to \$1 on the \$100 valuation and the election was ordered held at Walnut Bend on April 26. A similar request was made by district 79 and April 26 was also set as election day in this district. District 7 asked in a petition for a similar change in tax rate, and the election for that district was ordered held on May 10.

Bond Issue Wanted

District no. 87 of Lois presented petitions asking for an election to determine whether or not the tax rate be increased from 50 cents to \$1 and also to determine whether or not a bond issue be made. The bond issue would consist of \$4,000 in bonds of \$200 each and would be issued for the purpose of building an addition and constructing a school building.

A petition was presented by district 10 asking for an election to determine whether or not 25 bonds of \$100 denominations shall be issued for the purpose of building an addition and from district 24 for an addition ordered held on April 25.

Petitions were presented by district no. 39 for an increase from 20 cents to \$1 tax on the \$100 valuation and from district 24 for an additional tax of 15 cents for school purposes.

Scholastics in the County Increased Thursday May 1, 1924

The scholastic census for Cooke county which has just been completed shows a slight increase in the number of children within school age according to figures of County Superintendent of Schools **John Hardy**. In 1923 there were 6,313 children between the ages of 7 and 18 years of age, an increase of 122 for the year with the greater increase among the rural schools than in Gainesville. The city has 127 scholastics in 1923 while this year there are 1985, a gain of 58. Last year in the county exclusive of Gainesville, there were 4,326 children of school age. This year there are 4,400 an increase of 74. These figures include independent districts of the county.

School Districts Ask for Elections Tuesday May 13, 1924

Several petitions in addition to those granted Monday were cited by the commissioners court in session at the court house this week and in such instances, elections for increases in school tax or for the purpose of issuing bonds in school districts of the county were ordered.

A petition from Woodbine Consolidated District No. 20 requested that an election be held to determine whether or not bonds in the amount of \$6,500 and in denominations of \$450 and \$200 be issued for the purpose of constructing a wooden school building. The election was ordered on May 31, with **E. G. Kerr** acting as presiding officer. Another petition from the same district requested an election to determine whether or not a tax of not exceeding \$1 on the \$100 valuation be levied to support the state school fund and this election was also ordered held May 31, with Major Ware presiding.

Rosston District No. 30 was granted an election to be held May 24th for the purpose of deciding whether or not the maintenance tax be increased from 50 cents to \$1 and **J. F. Steele** was appointed to preside.

A petition from Oak Hill District No. 93 asked for an election to decide on an increase from 50 cents to 75 cents in the school maintenance tax, and the election was set for May 31 with **L. R. Davis** appointed to preside.

Schools Increase Maintenance Taxes Thursday May 15, 1924

The maintenance taxes of six common school districts were increased by the ballots of the citizens recently, according to the canvass of the votes by the commissioners court in session at the court house this week.

The results of the elections for the increase in taxes were as follows:

District No. 7, for increasing, 24; against increase, 12

District No. 10, for increase, 27; against increase, 6

District No. 16 for increase, 8; against increase, 0

District No. 35 for increase, 15; against increase, 8

District No. 66 for increase, 29; against increase, 20

District No. 79 for increase, 42; against increase, 14

In district no. 10 a bond issue for the construction of a new school building also carried by a vote of 27 to 6, the canvassing shows.

School Elections Ordered in County Thursday May 15, 1924

Several school elections were ordered by County Judge **George W. Dayton** with the approval of the commissioners court at its May session which began Monday morning.

A petition was presented by the citizens of District No. 38 Mount Olive requesting an election to determine whether or not the school maintenance tax be raised from 50 cents to 75 cents. The election was ordered held May 31, with **I. N. Reasor** acting as presiding officer.

Two petitions were presented by the people of Lois, District No. 37, one requesting an election to determine whether or not the maintenance tax be increased from 50 cents to \$1 and another to determine whether or not bonds amounting to \$4,000 and in denominations of \$200 each be issued for the purpose of financing the building of a frame school house. Both petitions were granted and the election ordered held on May 17, with **W. H. Stinson** and **J. D. Aurghty** presiding.

District No. 24 requested an election to determine whether or not a tax of 15 cents be levied to supplement the state school fund, and the election was set for May 17 with **W. H. Mask** appointed to preside.

Tax Increases Carry in County Tuesday June 10, 1924

Elections for increases in school maintenance taxes in a number of common school districts have been held in the past few weeks and according to the returns made to the commissioners court which began its regular monthly session here Monday, tax increases were ordered in almost every instance.

The results of the elections in the various precincts are as follows:

- District 24, for increase, 15; against 4
- District 38, for increase, 11; against 10
- District 93, for increase, 11; against, 1
- District 87, for increase, 14; against 16
- District 20, for increase, 66; against 10

In districts 20 and 87 bond elections were also held, the bond issue carrying in district 20 by a vote of 65 to 13 and failing to carry in district 87 by a vote of 16 to 14.

Marysville District No. 70 petitioned the court to grant an election to determine whether or not bonds in the amount of \$3,000 be issued for the purpose of building a school house and the election was ordered held on June 21, with **J. W. Honssinger** presiding. An election to decide on an increase in school maintenance tax from 50 cents to \$1 will also be held on that date with **W. L. Young** acting as presiding officer.

Judge Dayton granted permission to Fairview District No. 12 to hold an election on July 5 to determine whether or not the school tax be raised from 25 cents to 75 cents. **W. L. Houser** will be the presiding officer.

A petition for the Elm Grove District No. 41 for an election to determine on an increase from 50 cents to 41 in school taxes was presented and the election ordered held on July 1, with **W. H. Harper** presiding.

Writes About Customs of Our Pioneer Days Thursday June 19, 1924

I have had letters from all over the country asking me to write more about early days in Texas, how the women dressed for example. Housewives spun the cloth. Thus they put it on the quilting frame and quilted the cloth and made it up into sheets and hoods for the young women. They wore cowhide shoes and home spun dresses down over their shoe tops.

There were no tainted ladies in those day. Calico was 50 cents a yard then and the women wore it to church. The shoes were blackened ready for Sunday and the family went to church. Some walked, others rode in an ox cart; but all went to church in the early days. They brought their religion with them from other states.

The food was all prepared on Saturday and the Sabbath day. They used to sing with all their might "On Jordan's Stormy Banks I Stand", "Rock of Ages", and "For a Thousand Tongues to Sing."

They used to eat Johnny cake and corn meal bread. Those were the good old days when they wore warm clothes, ate good solid food, and were healthy.

May the time come when styles will be changed and we shall live the religion of our fore fathers. Grandma, a Cooke county early pioneer.

Old Time Printer Visits Gainesville Monday June 23, 1924

J. D. Jolley, printer who was a resident of Gainesville for several years back in the eighties, was here today meeting many of his friends of the long ago. Mr. Jolly resides in Los Angeles, Calif., where he has lived for the past 20 years and owns and operates a commercial job printing business. Mr. Jolley married in this city some years ago, his wife being a Miss **Noland**. He left this afternoon for a visit with his brother-in-law, **Jasper B. Wells**, residing in the southwest part of the county. Mrs. Wells is a sister of Mrs. Jolley, the latter being deceased. Her death occurred last February.

Happenings of the Day Friday July 25, 1924

Old Timer Is Visitor in Gainesville

James A. Scott of Fort Worth, chief clerk of the Second Court of Civil Appeals, is in the city today and is being greeted by many local friends and fellow associates of the long ago. Mr. Scott is a son of Dr. **George L. Scott**, now of Marietta. He was reared in Cooke county principally in the Dexter community. He spent several years of his early manhood in Gainesville, being a deputy in the county clerk's office. Mr. Scott has been clerk of the Civil Court of Appeals at Fort Worth for the past eighteen years and is still on the job, hale, hearty, courteous and clever as of yore.

Who Killed the Last Buffalo in Cooke County Thursday Aug. 26, 1924

One of the most interesting stories relative to the early history of Cooke county that has come into possession of The Register for some time is the one printed herewith, coming from the pen of Mrs. **Mollie Gilbert Holmes**, wife of Judge **H. S. Holmes**. It concerns the question of "who killed the last buffalo in Cooke county?" Mrs. Holmes was prompted to write her

reminiscences following the reading of a story in the Fort Worth Star Telegram last Sunday, relating to the killing of the last buffalo in Jones county, Texas.

“The thought came to me that perhaps very few people knew who killed the last buffalo in Cooke county and that it might be interesting to give that information,” says Mrs. Holmes.

“In my family it is conceded by all that my father, **Newton D. Gilbert**, killed the last buffalo on his ranch 18 miles west of Gainesville, just south of where Muenster now stands. I was too young to have remembered the circumstances, but have heard it all distinctly. It was about the year 1866. My father did some farming, just enough for his own use, as there was no market or means of getting things in market. His principal business was stock raising. He also was a great hunter and as there were no close neighbors, Indians and other 'wild animals' roamed over the prairies causing the people to form a habit of scanning the landscape often, for fear of danger. One could see for miles over the beautiful grassy prairie dotted with the vari-hued flowers for which Texas was famous.”

“Father always rode on horseback. On this particular morning he saddled his horse and brought him to the front of the house. Father thought he saw something moving toward the house from some miles away. He stopped at once to see what it was. All the family came out to see if they could determine the nature of the moving object. Mother and Uncle **James T. Coursey**, who was at that time a young man living with us to help with the cattle, and “Ross” the negro helper took a look. My brother Clinton and myself were there and much excited thinking it might be Indians. Finally, some one said, “It’s a buffalo, a buffalo coming right to the house.” All was excitement. He had his head down and it was plain to see that he was mad. He was an immense buck.

Charged Headlong

“Father put the family in the house, shut the door, pulled down the windows, and put out the fire” I suppose, for that is what they always did on the frontier when danger was near. He took his gun from the rack over the mantel, got on his horse, and stood a distance where he could get a good view of the buffalo as he came on. The animal looked neither to the right or to the left, but charged straight ahead toward the house as was the habit of the buffalo when he was excited. Father leveled his gun over the horse's head. The horse was an old hunting animal that had been ridden for years by my father, in those days everybody hunted more or less (father more).”

“They said the horse seemed to sense his part of the fight. When the buffalo was near enough, father fired. He saw the buffalo fall, then looking at his horse he saw the bridle falling off. The bullet passed so near the horse's head it cut the head strap in two.”

“It is supposed that the buffalo either wandered away from the herd and got lost or that he was separated from the herd by hunters. There was a herd being hunted in Montague county at about that time.”

“We think that was the last buffalo killed in Cooke county. Others passed through later but none were killed. I would be glad to hear if anybody else knows of a buffalo being killed at a later date.”

Editor's Note – If any reader of this paper can furnish information on this subject, kindly address the information to The Gainesville Register, Gainesville, Texas and it will be published.

Marysville Man Says Last Bufflo Killed Here in 1870 Tuesday Sep. 2, 1924

To Editor of Register

Marysville, Texas, Aug. 31, I notice in the last issue of the Weekly Register an article headed "Who Killed the Last Buffalo in Cooke County" and it was stated to have been in 1866. There was a buffalo killed some four years later than the one the lady wrote about. The one I refer to was killed in January 1870 about 8 miles west of Marysville in Cooke county. Half a dozen men chased a buffalo from about 6 miles above Bulcher and finally surrounded it in a thicket half a mile south of the **Sam Roach** farm on Little Mountain creek.

I do not remember the names of all the men in the chase but Mr. Roach and a man named **Huff** were two of them. I arrived at the scene a few hours after the buffalo had been killed and I believe the animal was the largest of its kind I ever saw; also believe it was the last one killed in this county. The person who fired the fatal shot is not known to me but I do know it was killed about the time stated as I saw the buffalo a few hours later.

John Scantlin was an old timer here and he told me that most of the buffalo left this country about the year 1858 but stragglers passed through for many years after that, and that they were plentiful in Clay and Jack counties until about 1871.

Some members of Mr. Roach's family are still living that remember the circumstances regarding the killing of the buffalo on their farm. **D. H. Sapp**

Six Brick Buildings And Two Warehouses Destroyed Late Sunday Afternoon by Blaze

Monday Sep. 8, 1924

Volunteer Firemen from Denton, Sanger and Gainesville Assist Citizens in Fighting Fire Which Threatened Entire Town

The most disastrous fire in the history of Valley View occurred Sunday afternoon when six brick buildings, two of which were two-story structures, and two metal warehouse were completely wiped out, resulting in damage amounting to \$100,000, the loss being practically complete, very little insurance being carried by the owners.

The fire was discovered about 4 o'clock in the grocery store of **J. F. Lowe & Company** on the east side of the square. There was no one in the building at the time. Though it is not known how the fire started, defective electric light wiring is suspected.

The flames spread with such rapidity through the building it was impossible to save anything. Fanned by a strong breeze, the flames quickly spread to the adjoining buildings, destroying them one at a time, despite the heroic efforts of volunteer firemen.

When it was seen, shortly after the fire spread from the Lowe & Son building, that the group of volunteer firemen would be unable to control the situation, help was sought from Denton, Gainesville, and Sanger.

Gainesville Sends Help

The fire alarm was sounded in Gainesville about 4:15 o'clock, and members of the local fire department rushed to the Central Fire Station to ascertain the cause of the alarm. When the news that "Valley View is burning up" was spread, automobiles were loaded with fire extinguishers, chemicals and other fire fighting material, and the cars rushed to the scene of the holocaust. The report spread rapidly and within a few minutes time, hundreds of automobiles lined the highway leading to Valley View.

Upon the arrival of the local firemen in the little town, the fire had consumed about half of the block. One fire truck had arrived with chemicals from Sanger, and although Denton

attempted to respond to the alarm, the truck dispatched to Valley View broke down before reaching its destination.

It was readily seen that the entire block would be enveloped in flames, and all attention was directed to a metal warehouse in the rear of the block. However, as the flames advanced upon the building, the heat was so terrific that the firemen were unable to combat the flames, and the building had to be abandoned.

Bucket Brigades

After destroying every building on the east side of the square, the flames leaped across the street to a small warehouse on the north side of the square. As the town has no fire fighting apparatus, bucket brigades had to be formed, and by this means men fought the flames against heavy odds. Men stood side by side passing buckets of water and throwing them on the flames until they became exhausted. When they dropped out of line, unable to stand on their feet or handle a bucket, their places were taken by others, only too anxious to continue the uneven fight.

The building on the north side of the square went rapidly, and about ten bales of cotton on the vacant lot back of the structure caught fire. These were extinguished; however, more than a hundred bales standing on the lot were moved to safety.

Save Residences

The most effective work done by the bucket brigades was on a two-story frame residence building just east of the First Guaranty State Bank building. Located less than fifty feet from the bank which was enveloped in flames leaping high in the air, it appeared certain the house would go before the ravenous fire. Its destruction might mean that more than a dozen adjacent residences would be destroyed.

A group of about thirty-five men formed a line from a well in the yard near the house and the fight started. The heat was so intense that the men nearest the blaze wrapped themselves in quilts soaked in water. Although this offered some relief, they were able to stand it only a few minutes at a time. The work continued until the bank building had burned down and the flames had moved up the block, giving assurance that the house was safe.

Property Loss

The property destroyed and approximate loss is as follows:

J. W. Leazer, hardware, furniture, dry goods and undertaking supplies, brick building and metal warehouse, \$40,000. Partially insured.

Valley View Hotel building, owned by **J. F. Lowe**, \$6,500, partially insured. Kitchen equipment owned by **T. G. Brownlee**, \$500. The hotel furnishings were saved.

J. M. Carver & Son, groceries, \$4,000, partially insured. The building was owned by **J. F. Lowe**, loss \$3,000 with no insurance.

Farm Labor Union, feed and produce, \$2,000. Building owned by Dr. **C. H. McCuiston**, loss \$3,000.

Lowe & Son, \$8,000 loss on building and stock, \$2,000 insurance.

First Guaranty State Bank, loss on fixtures \$2,500; partially insured. Lower floor of building owned by Dr. **C. H. McCuiston**, loss \$3,000; The Masonic Lodge owned the second story of the building and the loss on the building and fixtures was \$3,000; insurance amounting to \$1,000.

Miss **Edna Overshiner**, garage and warehouse, loss \$1,000

At one time it was feared the telephone exchange would be consumed, the flames being within half a block of the building, and Mrs. **R. E. Solomon**, the Sunday afternoon operator,

was begged to quit the room. But she declined saying she was expected to remain on duty until the last minute. She was the one who put through the long distance calls for volunteer firemen who succeeded in preventing the spread of the flames.

This is the third heavy fire loss suffered by Valley View within the past two years, three grain elevators, two warehouses, and a Santa Fe station having been destroyed.

Unusually Strong Core of Teachers Will Grace Cooke County Schools Coming Term

Wednesday Sep. 10, 1924

Large Number of Them Have College Training

With the selection of an unusually strong core of teachers, the rural students of Cooke county will have the opportunity of securing a more extensive and thorough education this year. A large number of instructors in rural districts have college training and this term promises to be one of the most successful in the history of the county.

The majority of the schools will begin their sessions October first or soon thereafter, the opening date depending upon the progress of cotton harvesting. Although there are eight new consolidated schools either completed or under construction in the county, only the Rad Ware Consolidated school will open under the consolidated schedule, the others being delayed on account of incompleteness or other readjustments until a later period.

The following is a list of the chosen teachers and their assignments for the school term:

Misses **Elizabeth Carrico** and **Bertha Pierce** - Delaware Bend

S. H. Cantrell, Misses **Virginia Wesson**, **Naomi Bowls**, and **Nelly Dill** - Dexter

Ray Conaway, Liberty Hill

A. E. Barnes and Miss **Grace Daggan**, Bethlehem

Misses **Maurice McKinney** and Miss **Ruby McKinney**, Hibbitt

W. Clint Wilks, Misses **Maud Williams**, **Violet Neal** – Walnut Bend

Mrs. **Henry Dutton** – Mineral

Miss **Fannie Haberman** – Fairview

Frank Riley, Miss **Monia Findley** – Callisburg

Miss **Mildred Blake** – Union Hill

Miss **Jessie Smith**, Miss **Lena Smith** – Spring Grove

Miss **Glenise Mathis** - Concord

Mrs. **Jewelle Turner**, Miss **Margaret Beck** – Oak Valley

W. F. Brown, Miss **Worthye Boswell**, Miss **Irene Watters**, Miss **Nannie Nash** – Rad Ware

School

Mrs. **Lester Owen**, Miss **Mattie Osburn** – Dye

Clifford Donnelly, Miss **Madge Donnelly** – Rock Creek

Sam Briggs – Elliott

Mrs. **Pearl Blankenship**, Miss **Annie Beck** – Whaley Chapel

Mrs. **Florida Hendrix**, Miss **Ruby Smith** – Canaday

H. W. Dawson – Six Mile

Boyd Monk, Miss **Marie Battenfield** – Prairie Grove

Miss **Fira Brooks** – Salem

Miss **Jessie Davis** – Burton

Miss **Vera Saling** – Oak Dale

Miss **Pearl Thomas** – Lemons

Miss **Lydia Roberson**, Miss **Avis Osburn** – Burns
 Miss **Lena Newton** – Walling
 Miss **Ione Conner**, Miss **Thelma Hafford** – Mt. Springs
 Miss **Iris Baker** – Bloomfield
 Miss **Ora Lee Payne** – Mt. Olive
 Miss **Lelah Morrow** – Breedlove
 Miss **Bessie McGlothin** – Lone Oak
 Miss **Ruth Clark**, Mrs. **T. J. Clark** – Elm Grove
Clyde Davis, Miss **Lois Smoot** – Downard
 Miss **Katherine Dornwell** – Mt. Pleasant
D. Otto, Miss **Gladys L. Moore** – Spring Creek
 Mrs. **H. A. Canarian** – Bermuda
 Miss **Lillian Enderby** – Buck Creek
 Mrs. **Ray Batson** – Flat Creek
 C. Cox, Miss **Onita Piott**, Miss **Theo Massey** - Leo
 Mrs. **Myrtle Potts** – Rosston
N. A. Lipscomb, Miss **Tommie Reeves** – Prairie Point
Roy Montgomery, Miss **Ruth Bugg** – Linn
 Miss **Lela Maud Kiser** – Freemound
 Miss **Dolly Harris** – Bailey
 Miss **Margaret Crawford** – Coppers
 Miss **Ida May Hatcher** – Tyler Bluff
 Miss **Lois Bugg**, Miss **Laconia Colwell** – Center
Edgar Cochran, Mrs. **Edgar Cochran** – Valley Creek
 Miss **Viola Cross** – Brushy Mound
Lester Linn, Miss **Claire Holland**, Mrs. **Lester Linn** – Hays
 Mrs. **Fulton**, Miss **Eva Hocker** – Marysville
William Miller, Miss **Ora Dayton** – Mt. Hope
 Miss **Cora Kerr** – Warrens Bend
 Mrs. **Jewel Richey**, Miss **Frankie Mathes** – Hicktown
 Miss **Violet Leverett** – Fair Plains
John J. Cosgrove, Miss **Mary Feuerbacher**, Miss **Margaret Fette** – Muenster
 Miss **Myrl Margaret Noble** – Center Point
 Miss **Mabel Barentine** – Melvin
 Miss **Opal Skelton** – Hemming
 Miss **Geneva Durham**, Miss **Pearl Kelley** – Lois
 Miss **Margaret Noble** – Johns Branch
 Miss **Winnie Rigsby** – Red River
David Morrow – Oak Hill
Joe Potts – West View

Independent Districts

Valley View – **F. J. Clement**, **J. Houston Allen**, Mrs. **John Sparkman**, Mrs. **G. W. Cunningham**, Mrs. **Charles Peery**, Mrs. **Este Leach**, Miss **Vannie McCrosky**
 Myra – **W. Allen Ward**, Miss **Ruth Lambert**, **C. T. Crouse**, Miss **May Rigsby**, Mrs. **Millie Blanton**, Miss **Gladys Moore**

Era – **C. L. Hilliard, Clay Kirby, Miss Tosha Bowls, Miss Grace Baker, Mrs. C. L. Hilliard Hood – Hugh Masters, Miss Enod Grundy, Miss Lilly May Porter, Miss May Dosier**

Buffalo Killed 1874 or 75 South Dexter, Texas Wednesday Sep. 10, 1924
J. M. Summy Says Man by The Name of Teeter Fired Shot

Dexter, Texas, Sept. 8 – I see in The Register where the last buffalo was killed in Cooke county. My father **J. M. Summy** moved here from eastern Texas in December 1873 and he remembers a buffalo being killed a few miles south of here in the spring of 1874 or 75, having forgotten the exact year. It is claimed a man by the name of **Teeter** fired the shot that killed the buffalo.

Now who knows of a buffalo being killed in Cooke county later than this? Miss **Agnes Summy**

Story of Early Days of Cooke and Montague Counties Is Told by Sterling P. Strong of Dallas Tuesday Oct. 21, 1924

“My father, **James A. Strong**, came to Texas from Missouri in 1844, settling in Collin county.

“My grandfather, **Martin Strong** and my grandmother, came to Texas with him. In 1846 they were all three baptized by the Rev. **D. Polly**, a noted pioneer minister of the Christian church in North Texas. The following year the family returned to Missouri and in 1849 father joined the overland rush to the gold fields of California. After spending six years on the coast he went back to old Missouri, but was not satisfied. He still had Texas on his mind. But the Civil War interfered with his plans and it was not until 1870 that he set out on his second trip to Texas. This time he made his first stop in Denton county, six miles west of Pilot Point. Not soon thereafter he moved to Montague county, where in 1872, he built the first cotton gin erected west of Gainesville.

“Building a gin in those days was not the easy thing it is today. The machinery for Father's gin was manufactured by **R. K. Chatham & Son** at Bryan and was transported by ox wagon to Montague county. It was a fifty saw gin, horse power with a wooden screw for press. The ginhouse was on stilts, with the sweep for the horses under it. Nor was it a negligible item to secure the timbers for a gin building. Just any old scrub post oak trunk would not answer. For the timber father and three men in his employ ransacked the woods for suitable trees and even after, the timbers had to be assembled. Father ginned all the cotton produced around the army posts in Wise, Jack, Young, and Montague counties, and in Red River bottom in Indian Territory. After it had been ginned the cotton was wagoned to Dallas, the nearest railway station. Dallas must have had an immense wagon trade for a few years after the advent of the railroad in 1872 and 1873.

Breaking New Ground

“While building and operating his gin, father opened a farm in the woods eight miles east of Montague town, now Dye Mound. Twelve years later he sold his gin and farm and bought land, again in the woods three miles northeast of Montague thus giving me a second opportunity to familiarize myself with the details of opening a farm in the woods. You begin such work by deadening the trees. When the sap ceases to flow you burn the trees and the second year break the ground. I retain a very vivid memory of breaking new ground in the stumps with

oxen. I worked a yoke of native steer, which were eighteen hands high – Buck and Broad. Broad's horns were six feet from tip to tip, and that was why we dubbed him Broad. It was a great vexation to have the plow strike a foot every ten feet. But, in spite of this, I got along fairly well until my oxen took a notion to go to a shade tree or to the creek. I was powerless to stop them as a single soldier should be to stop an army tank. Sinking the plow into the ground up to the beam did not seem to slow them a bit.

“With this same team I hauled logs from our farm eight miles to the saw mill at the head of Elm.

Massacre of The Huff Family

“Getting back to cotton growing **Ike** and **Hiram Waincott** built the second gin in Montague county in 1874, the year the **Huff** family, parents and six children, were murdered in August. At that time the Comanches and the reservation at Fort Sill would make a foray into Texas during the light of the moon almost every month. They usually came down Elm Fork and crossing the prairie west of Gainesville, returned by way of Denton Creek. We lived on the divide between Elm Fork and Denton Creek, and consequently were ten to fifteen miles out of their way. The Huff family lived in the timber on Denton Creek, right in the path fifteen miles from us. The Huffs had been neighbors of ours in Missouri, but we had preceded them to Texas. I do not remember enough about the massacre to undertake to relate the details. I know that the settlers went in pursuit of the Indians, and that they did not overtake them. The Comanches did not fear the United States soldiers, who were rather lenient with them; but, when the Texas rangers, or a posse of Texas citizens got after them, they fled in the utmost terror, for they knew the latter would kill them with short shift or none at all.

“To the best of my recollection the Comanches never raided in Texas much after they murdered the Huff family. The reconstruction period ended in Texas with the election of Gov. **Richard Coke**. Soon after going to office Governor Coke took measures to reorganize the rangers. When the Comanches got wind of this, they were afraid to venture into Texas for they knew the rangers of old.

Story of Early Days of Cooke and Montague Counties Is Told by Sterling P. Strong of Dallas Wednesday Oct. 22, 1924 (Continued)

“After we settled in Montague county one buffalo was killed between our house and Gainesville. At that time it was about a days ride to where buffaloes appeared in vast herds. For several years we lived on buffalo meat, venison, and wild turkeys. Texas was full of cattle which went over the trail to the north in great droves, one right after another. Head of Elm was on the trail. Often when Red river was up herds spread four or five miles apart, extended all the way back to Clear Creek, a distance of fifty miles, waiting for the river to run down. I never made a trip over the trail, but I worked several years on the ranch of Bearfoot and Bryant in Indian Territory, and several times went with cattle as far as Red river.

A properly directed herd of cattle present a fine sight. At the bank the cowboys point them, that is, let only a few at a time take the water, in order that they may not be too many of them abreast. The currents in the river carry them down, making curves or waves in the string of swimmers.

Settlers Exterminate Wild Horses

“In early days Texas was full of wild horses and they were the wildest of all animals. They would run as long as they could see a man. They were of the original Spanish stock. The term

Mustang applied to them meaning I believe a grazing animal. The chief objection settlers had to wild horses was that if a workhorse ever got among them, it soon got wilder than the rest. When I moved to Plainview in 1880 wild horses were so numerous on the plains that the settlers made drives to exterminate them, precisely as they did for coyotes and jack rabbits. There were thousands of them. It was interesting to see the colts run: the youngest of them, still wobbly on their legs, being able to keep up with the older horses at top speed in the wild fight. Capt. **Merrill**, a pioneer who made it a business to catch and break wild horses, told me that he caught them by running them down using relays of men and horses. But he said they really never did become domesticated. If they were turned out for a couple of days, they became as wild as ever. Wild horses ranged from twelve to fifteen hands in height and were mainly bays and blacks. With their long flowing manes and tails some of them were perfectly beautiful. The settlers in making drives used to run them into Palo Duro Canyon, where there was a sheer precipice of 290 feet. In order to get away from their pursuers, these horses did not hesitate to take the plunge to certain death over this precipice. I saw wild horses on the upper plains as late as 1892.

Little Log Schoolhouse

"I rode behind father to a meeting held for the purpose of locating the first school house in our settlement. Most of the sites proposed were objected to on the ground that they were too far from the homes of some of the children. The site finally selected was four miles from our house. The terms of school did not extend beyond two or three months out of the year. In this schoolhouse I learned to read and write and mathematics. The teachers lacked a sign of being witches as instructors, though they were the best to be had, and I readily gave them credit for doing the best they could. When I was 19 father told me that if I would convert the tree tops on one of his clearings into cord wood he would give me the proceeds of the wood. I cut 150 cords of wood, sold it to the mill and gin at Montague town and delivered it at the rate of three cords a day. With the proceeds of the wood and of thirty head of cattle and two horses which I had acquired, I went to Poughkeepsie, N. Y., and took a course in Eastman's National business College. Returning to Texas I served as deputy in the county clerk's office of Montague county and in 1886 was elected county clerk. I was engrossing clerk in the state senate in 1889, during the first session of the legislature held in the present capitol building. Before the end of the session I was appointed county and district clerk of Hale county, with Swisher, Lamb, Hockley, Cochran, Bailey and Lubbock counties attached for judicial purposes and in 1900 I was elected to the office by the people. In 1902 I went on the road as traveling salesman for Clark & Courts of Galveston, covering the territory between the Texas & Pacific and the Fort Worth & Denver railroads. In 1898 I was again elected county clerk of Montague and held the office six years. In 1904 I organized the national Bank of Bowie and became cashier of it. In 1908 I took charge of the campaign for statewide prohibition and remained at the head of the movement until the saloons were closed in 1913. Now I am Texas state agent for a Kansas City firm with several traveling salesmen under me."

Consolidated School Opens Doors Monday Tuesday Oct. 21, 1924 **Woodbine Has Modern Building for Coming Year**

The Rad Ware Consolidated School located at Woodbine, nine miles east of the city, was formally opened Monday morning with appropriate exercises in the building, and a day's program of activities in celebration of the founding of this new educational institution. Hundreds

of people inspected the new school during the day, the structure being the most modern in the county, and one in which the citizens of the three common school districts should be proud.

Among the speakers on the program for the opening Monday morning were County Judge **George W. Dayton**, **John S. Hardy**, county superintendent of schools, **Frank I. Kidd**, Boy Scout executive, and Miss **Lena Mae Ownby**, county home demonstration agent. In addition to the speeches, a radio program was enjoyed, the radio set having been purchased by the school. It is also planned to purchase a piano.

The school is situated about one fourth of a mile south of the town and was built at a cost of about \$6,000. It has five spacious class rooms, with new desks and other school equipment, and three of the class rooms may be thrown together, forming a first class auditorium, not equaled in any Cooke county rural school.

In addition to the class rooms there is the traditional room where classes in home economics and manual training perform their work. The Rad Ware School is one of the five rural schools in Cooke county which are introducing manual training and domestic science this year. The workroom is well equipped and complete in every way.

Prof. **W. F. Brown** is superintendent of the school, and four teachers are employed to conduct the classes.

Elm Grove Has School Opening Thursday Oct. 30, 1924

The Elm Grove school opened Monday morning with full attendance. The trustees and many of the patrons were present to inspect the building and equipment of which they are justly proud.

This school is located between Valley View and Sanger on the highway and has been built and equipped at a cost of about \$5,000. It has concrete sidewalks and fountain in the schoolyard and electric lights will be installed later.

The teachers are Miss **Ruth Clark** and Mrs. **T. J. Clark**, primary.

Besides the two large classrooms, library room, and cloak room, the building contains work rooms, which are furnished with built-in cabinet features, running water in the kitchen, tool chests, and book cases.

The Elm Grove school is a model rural school built according to the up-to-date plans furnished by the State Department of Education and the patrons and teachers of the school invite interested patrons throughout the county to stop and visit them when passing between Valley View and Sanger.

The school board is composed of the following members: **W. R. Harper**, **W. E. Olden**, and **C. D. Smith**.

Ex-Slave Tells of the Period Before Civil War Thursday Nov. 6, 1924 by Bryan C. Smith

An interesting story of the early days in Marysville and Cooke county is told by Aunt **Betty Clemens**, ex-slave, who resides with her two grandchildren in a neat little cottage in the eastern part of Marietta, Okla. She does not know how old she is, but from the stories she can tell of days before the Civil War she is no doubt over ninety years of age.

Betty was born on the plantation of **John Cummings** in Missouri near Cassville. She was given to Mr. Cummings' son, John Jr. as a wedding present when she was only 12 years old. He later sold her to **Dick Corn**, the man who later founded Marysville, Texas.

Betty had always gone by the name of Mary until Mr. Corn bought her and as his wife was named Mary, he suggested that she be called Betty. Mr. Corn did not remain in Missouri very long after purchasing Betty. He and his family came to Sherman, Texas, then a frontier town, where he remained for some time and then set out for Cooke county.

Betty says that she rode a horse from Sherman to Gainesville, while her master and mistress rode in the wagon. There were three or four houses in Gainesville at the time and one of them was a small store where the people that lived in remote parts of the county got such things as gun powder, salt, spices, nails etc. Mr. Corn's party stopped for a few days in Gainesville while he went into the country. The Sivells Bend community was the place selected, and the family moved to that locality where they resided for several years.

It was while living in Sivells Bend that Betty came near being caught by the Indians. She had gone to Mr. **Potter's** to play with the young people and after staying until the evening was well spent, Mrs. Potter told Betty that she had better not wait until late to go home as a report had come to look out for the Indians. Betty decided to go home at once. She had gone a half mile when she looked off to one side and saw a large band of red men riding at a swift gait. She broke for home and made the distance safely in a short time. Betty says the same evening she saw the Indians riding over the prairie and capture two women and a child. These women and the child were carried off and it was some time before the white settlers were able to get them back. When they were returned, they told of how the Indians made the little child walk on red-hot embers because it wanted to go to the wigwam where its mother was. Betty could not tell who the people were.

It was not long after the Indian raid that Mr. Corn moved to the locality where Marysville now stands. They had not been there long when an ox mill was planned, and Mr. Corn's brother-in-law built a small store. When Mr. Corn finished the mill, someone suggested that a town be started. It was named in honor of Mrs. Mary Corn – Marysville. People came from far up in the Indian Territory to the Marysville mill and traded at the store. As far as Betty knows the mill at Marysville was the only one in the county.

Mr. Potter, **Marion Savage**, and a man by the name of **Sapp** were among the settlers that were there at the time when Marysville was started.

The country was so thinly settled that many of them had to go for miles to church. As Marysville was a very prominent place, large camp meetings were held near the old mill. Game was plentiful and Betty says that she was kept busy helping the women cook and prepare food for the people while the camp meeting was going on.

Besides Marysville, Pecan Springs which is about three miles north of Marysville, was another location for camp meetings. Betty says there was a race track near Pecan Springs and many of the men and boys spent quite a lot of their time at horse racing.

Betty stayed with her master and mistress for many years after the war. She met a colored man by the name of **Ben Clemens** who lived in Indian Territory and after a short courtship, they married; but, she remained with her master and mistress for some time after her marriage. When she left them, she and her husband moved to the bayou country near Burneyville and resided there until 12 years ago when Ben died and she moved to Marietta where she now resides.

Betty says that she has been a Baptist most of her life and gets lots of pleasure thinking of the world to come, but she can't read a word of her Bible. She thinks that women should wear long dresses and hair. She likes watermelon, but can't stand the taste of opossum.

She says that she is well acquainted with **Bob Scott** of Gainesville and would like to see him and talk of old slavery days. She did not know Bob was still alive. She is interested in old times and enjoys telling of the long ago, is hale and hearty, able to do her house work, and walk about the town when not at work.

Woman Carries to Her Grave Secret of Child Thursday Nov. 27, 1924

Mrs. Will Weaver, Former Gainesville Citizen, Buried Here Tuesday, Figured in Sensational Fort Worth Case

Mrs. **Agnes Darrah Weaver**, wife of **Will Weaver**, former Gainesville cafe owner, was laid to rest in Fairview cemetery here Tuesday morning at 11 o'clock, beside the grave of one of her children. Rev, Father **Brady** of St. Mary's Catholic church officiating. Internment was in charge of Undertaker **S. W. Gibson** of this city. Services were held at Fort Worth Monday, Rev. Father **Murtaugh** of St. Mary's Catholic church there officiating.

The pall bearers were: **John McCarty, William Hodgkinson, Dick Blackburn, Robert Cearnal, Nova Lucas, and William Wingert.**

The simple ceremony at the grave was witnessed by a number of local friends of the deceased. Mrs. Weaver's death ended the possibility of the solution of the mystery of the whereabouts of the "bargain baby" of Mrs. **Zelma Adams** of Fort Worth, as she alone knew the secret and refused to tell. The case was tried in the courts of Fort Worth some years ago and received wide publicity.

Fort Worth. Nov. 25 – Mrs. Agnes Darrah Weaver, central figure in the Zelma Adams missing baby case, died early Monday morning at her home on 1915 Travis Avenue, carrying to the grave her secret of the identity of the Adams child.

Will F. Weaver, her husband, said at noon Monday that as far as he knew his wife never told where the Adams baby was and who are the foster parents.

A woman known to have performed many unheralded acts of charity, Agnes Darrah always contended that Mrs. Adams baby was in the hands of good foster parents and that she would die before breaking the foster mother's heart by causing her to lose the child.

During the investigation Agnes Darrah served several days in jail on a contempt charge in refusing to tell where the baby was, but was later released on giving the name of a woman in California as being the foster mother. The contempt order was issued in the habeas corpus suit in which Mrs. Adams made an unsuccessful attempt to recover her child.

Appeared on a Stretcher

Several times Agnes Darrah appeared as a witness in court and was brought into court on a stretcher each time. She was a bedridden invalid who at that time knew she could never get well. On every occasion her testimony was given dramatically.

Mrs. Adams' fight to regain her child, she charged, was taken away from her at the baby's birth in a local maternity home four years ago, ending in habeas corpus proceedings in Dallas more than a year ago. At that time, Mrs. Adams sought to obtain from Mr. and Mrs. **Rene Gillis** a pretty, curly haired girl of three years, who Mrs. Adams said she was confident was her missing child. The court refused her custody of the child.

Searched Here Several Weeks

Mrs. Adams quest for her child continued for weeks in Fort Worth and was in the courts several times. At one point an effort was made to obtain the custody of Baby Ruth, Mrs Darrah's foster child, who was later said to be Mrs. Darrah's own child.

Rather than lose Baby Ruth, Agnes gave up the Maxwell Hotel on lower Main Street, where she had been landlady for years and moved into the residence section. She died with Baby Ruth at her side.

Agnes Darrah's body will be laid to rest at a cemetery in Gainesville by the side of one of her children who died years ago. Throughout her life the mother grieved over the loss of this child and at one time became mentally unbalanced temporarily when her grief overpowered her, according to officers.

Never Recovered from Blow

Time after time the mother would visit her child's grave at Gainesville, where the baby is kept in a vault. Mrs. Darrah declared that she had kept the grave arranged so that she could see her dead baby. Her friends declare that the mother never recovered from the blow of the child's death.

BACKTRAILING - 53 Years Ago (January – December, 1966)

(Contributed by Ronnie Howser)

Archeologists Dig Into Past in Moss Lake Site Tuesday Jan. 4, 1966

Pre-Historic Indians by Ralph Cole

The prehistoric past is being turned up in Moss Lake near Sivells Bend.

Archeologists from Southern Methodist University are studying artifacts found in the area in recent weeks. And, the digging is continuing.

Eight workmen are carefully searching every particle of dirt in the area to find markings of the past. So far, eight pieces of Indian pottery, small cutting tools, and arrow points are the main finds.

Mrs. **Dessamae Lorrain**, research archeologist from SMU, is in charge of the diggings. She describes her work as strictly salvage.

Mrs. Lorrain isn't sure just which tribe of Indians she is working with at the present time. "We may never know which tribe lived here," she said. This is because all of the objects found so far are pre-historic. They fit no pattern of other Indian tribes of the region.

Several homes sites have been found in the Moss Lake area, and Mrs. Lorrain said five sites are being excavated at the present time. One of the sites is inside a hen house formerly owned by **Rufus Lynch**.

Artifacts are being found close to the surface. Some of the diggings are less than two feet below ground level.

Archeologists from the Dallas university have found eight sites in Moss Lake. "We never find all of the sites," Mrs. Lorrain said. "In fact, we find only 10-50 per cent of them."

Sites to Be Inundated

The Cooke County work is being financed by the National Park Service and all salvage found here will be catalogued and a report submitted to the department. SMU started its Cooke

County department Nov. 28, and expects to complete the work in about three weeks.

All of the areas found thus far will be covered with water when Moss Lake is completed. This is one of the reasons work has been carried out in a minimum of time.

"We usually stake an area a year before the work is started," Mrs. Lorrain said. "But due to the emergency time limit of completing this lake, we staked and dug it in the same year".

The Cooke County work is not the same as that being carried out in the Spanish Fort area of Montague County at the present time. That work is being conducted on the Wichita Indians, and is financed by a grant from the National Science Foundation. It too, is being conducted by SMU archeologists.

Animal bones are being found in the area. Most of them, 90 per cent of those are deer. The other 10 per cent belong to buffalo, Mrs. Lorrain said.

Home sites are being excavated at the present time. None of the sites have their floors remaining, but several hearths have been found. These usually contain pieces of broken pottery. "Some of this pottery was big enough to hold 10 gallons," Mrs. Lorrain said.

Charcoal found in the area is being examined carefully. Through chemical tests it can be determined when the charcoal formed, thus giving the SMU archeologists some hint as to the date of the diggings.

Home Sites Found

Mrs. Lorrain doesn't know when the Indian tribe lived in the area, but guesses about 500 years ago. "That could be off several hundred years either way," she noted.

Two home sites have been found on the banks of Fish Creek and are the deepest of all findings. Most of the sites, however, are near the former home of Rufus Lynch, just off the Sivells Bend Rd.

Test pits were dug in the area to allow archeologists to determine the soil structure before actual digging began on the home sites. When workmen first started digging, every shovel full of dirt was carefully screened. With the finding of several home sites, this has stopped and workmen are now using small cement trowels to carefully scrape away each particle of dirt. The dirt is then hauled off in a wheelbarrow.

There haven't been the usual curiosity seekers in the area and Mrs. Lorrain is happy the sites haven't been damaged by souvenir hunters.

While workmen hand carry particles from the site, others are busy hauling several yards of dirt at a time in construction of Moss Lake dam. When the dam is completed the mystery of Cooke County's latest Indian find will be buried under tons of water.

Picked Up Passing By by Jack Joyce Tuesday Feb. 1, 1966

The Register "30 Years ago" column Friday brought back vivid memories to Mrs. **W. T. Fenley**, 1103 N. Howeth. "Yes it told how I burned down the old Brushy Mound School," she laughed. "I walked down to the one teacher school near Bulcher," she recalls, " and started a roaring fire in the stove, so the building would be warm when the children arrived." The next thing Mrs. Fenley knew, flames burst out of the ceiling from a defective flue.

"The snow was six inches deep and I ran uphill about a half mile to the home of Mrs. **Sally Kidd**, where I was staying," she said, "But it was too late when help arrived."

75th Anniversary of Valley View Church Set Friday Mar 4, 1966

Dr. **C. Wade Freeman** of Dallas, director of the division of evangelism of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, will be speaker for morning and evening worship services of Valley View's First Baptist Church Sunday.

The 75th anniversary of the church is being observed with a dinner after the service. Former members and the eldest members will be recognized.

The Rev. **Robert Maples** invites the public and all former members of the church to attend the 10:30 am and 8 pm programs.

Miss **Jan Bertram** and **Danny Bob Smith**, students at Dallas Baptist College formerly Decatur College, will sing.

The church was organized in 1891, but its records were burned in 1927. However, a copy of the minutes as far back as Oct. 27, 1900 is in the church office. The first recorded transfer of membership to the church was **D. L. Humphries** from Camp Creek, N. C.

At that time the Rev. **S. R. King** was pastor and **W. E. Bowen** church clerk. Minutes record that Mr. King's salary was \$75 per year.

Since 1900 some 40 pastors have served the congregation. For many years the church has been served by students attending Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth. The present pastor, the Rev. Robert E. Maples, is also a student there.

The church has 350 members with an operating budget for 1966 of over \$11,000. The present auditorium was begun under the leadership of the Rev. **T. D. Lide**, now retired and living in Pensacola, Fla. It was completed while the Rev. **G. J. Crossland** was pastor in 1929. A new education building was added in 1960 when the Rev. **Bill Coffman**, now missionary in the Dominican Republic, was pastor. Total value of the church property was \$50,000.

Historical Group Delays Razing of Old City Building Monday Mar. 21, 1966

Work on dismantling a city owned building at the northwest corner of Dixon and Pecan Sts. was halted this morning on order of City Manager **Henry Thomason**.

Thomason issued a hold-up order after a Sunday meeting of members of the Cooke County Historical Society. The group is seeking to preserve the building as an example of early days construction.

The city council had given Thomason the green light on wrecking the structure – used as a store room only – in preparation for selling the lot by bid. According to the city manager two persons have indicated an interest in purchasing the lot.

Thomason said today the demolition will be held up until the Society can meet the Council and a decision is reached.

The building was one of the first constructed in Gainesville and formerly housed the city's horse drawn fire wagon. It is reported today as being in extremely unsafe condition.

Picked Up Passing By by Jack Joyce Tuesday April 5, 1966

Betty Lynn Buckley, named Miss Fort Worth in the annual Miss Texas Pageant Saturday night, is the granddaughter of Mrs. **Mary Diltz**, former Gainesville resident who recently moved to Fort Worth. The honor climaxed a big week for Miss Buckley, a TCU sophomore who has had lead singing roles at Six Flags Over Texas. She was named a TCU cheerleader Wednesday. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. **Ernest Buckley** of Fort Worth.

City Files Suit on Lake Project Wednesday May 18, 1966

The City of Gainesville has filed a condemnation suit against the “unknown children if Mrs. **Minnie Lynch** et al.” The legal action involves the city's future water reservoir – Moss Lake in Sivells Bend. The suit was made necessary after it was discovered that the city had not included all of the necessary parties in its original suit filed Dec. 18, 1964, seeking acquisition of the Lynch land.

County Judge **William Carroll** Tuesday appointed three condemnation commissioners to hear the case. They are **Van Knight**, **Jim J. Hatcher**, and **Wendell Proffer**.

The commissioners will hear the case July 13.

Picked Up Passing By by Jack Joyce Wednesday June 29, 1966

The Annual Reunion of former members of Civilian Conservation Corps Co. No. 856 and their families will be held July 10 at Old Settlers Park in Sherman. A hickory-smoked barbecue lunch will be served beginning at 1 p. m. Peace Justice **Carl Burchfield** of Gainesville is a member of the former company organized for conservation projects during the 1930's.

Funeral Homes Go Out of Ambulance Business Today Wednesday July 6, 1966

Twenty East Texas funeral homes will go out of the ambulance business because of federal wage provisions, they announced in joint statement today.

The funeral homes in Marshall, Kilgore, Longview, and Henderson had their statement published in newspapers of their four cities, declaring after midnight Sept. 30, 1966 we will no longer be able to render ambulance service. “This action is necessary because of a recent ruling by the Federal Wage and Hour Division of the U. S. Department of Labor that funeral home employees who operate an ambulance are working in interstate commerce and must be paid according to the provisions of the federal Wage and Hour Law.

“The cost of a 24-hour basis under these provisions is prohibitive. This change has been forced upon us,” the statement continued, “according to this ruling of our federal government, we have no choice: we must discontinue emergency and invalid transfer ambulance service.”

The announcement by the East Texas funeral homes followed by several days similar statements from ambulance operators in Fort Worth, Lubbock, and other cities.

The Labor Department in Washington last week said that its ruling was issued last Sept. 15. It reiterated that ambulance drivers of firms owned by funeral homes are subject to the Wage-Hour Law and that this applies nationwide.

The ruling said further that funeral homes would have to sever ownership relationship with ambulance firms if exemption privileges from overtime provisions were sought.

Remains Dug Up at Lake Tuesday July 19, 1966

Moss Lake workmen made a grisly discovery Monday afternoon. While digging out an area below the dam site, the men uncovered the remains of what is believed to be two Indians.

Only about 50 yards off Farm to Market Road 1201, two complete skeletons were discovered. One of the skeletons was destroyed during the digging, but workmen managed to

extract the other almost intact. They were found under several feet of hard-packed dirt and pieces of pottery, broken arrow heads, and other Indian artifacts were uncovered near the remains.

Tom Mobley of Sivells Bend said he wasn't sure what dispositions would be made of the skeleton. He indicated, however, that it will be donated to the area school.

Picked Up Passing By by Jack Joyce Tuesday July 26, 1966

The Daily Register lost one of its most faithful and dedicated correspondents today with the resignation of **Laura Lynch**, our longtime representative in the Woodbine community.

"It isn't old age," Mrs. Lynch hastened to assure us. "It's just ill health that forces me to give up my job. The years go by so fast, you just don't realize it until they're gone," she reminisced this morning as she closed out 35 years of service with the Register. "I'd be a writer if I had it all to do over again," she emphasizes. "It's a wonderful life and I hate to give it up."

She believes that the compiling of the history of the Woodbine community for the Register's edition in observance of the 100th anniversary of Cooke County was perhaps the most exciting assignment she had . . ."I met so many interesting people," she commented.

Mrs. **Dean West**, whose husband is a contract pumper, will take over the veteran correspondent's duties with the Register.

Mrs. Lynch, widow of **Francis Lynch**, has sold part of her place at Woodbine and has moved into town at 506 ½ Ritchey St.

The Woodbine community will always be close to her heart. She's still a member at Mt. Lebanon Baptist Church, which she joined some 60 years ago.

Prize Possession Wednesday Aug. 24, 1966

Mrs. **Pearl Myers**, who resides near Davis, Okla., proudly displayed her prize possession recently while visiting her Cooke County cousins, **Henry** and **R. D. Hobbs**. She is the caretaker of a 96 year old commission officially appointing her late father, **Isaac M. Hobbs**, a sheriff of Cooke County in 1870. The document bears the signature of Gov. **Edmund J. Davis**, Republican chief of state during the reconstruction period following the Civil War. Sheriff Hobbs served four years before moving to Indian Territory (Oklahoma) in 1881 and played an important role in the early day history of Cooke County.

Picked Up Passing By by Jack Joyce Wednesday Aug. 24, 1966

Retired Federal Judge **Ewing R. Thomason** of El Paso and Mrs. Thomason were honored in the White House Thursday night by President **Lyndon Johnson**.

Thomason, native of and former Cooke County attorney, was in the capitol for the unveiling of a portrait of the late Speaker **Sam Rayburn**, with whom the judge and President Johnson once served in the house.

Judge Thomason is the brother of **Milton Thomason** of Hood, district clerk in Cooke County.

Compress Adds Valuable Revenues to City's Economy by Richard Harp Nov. 2, 1966

While cotton is no longer king in Cooke County, its revenues today are pumping financial plasma into Gainesville's economic blood stream. And literally squeezing out these revenues is the North Texas Compress & Warehouse Co.

Some 75 employees at the facility on N. Dixon St. have the plant humming like a beehive as they efficiently make little bales out of big bales of cotton.

The story of the North Texas Compress & Warehouse Company has an international flavor as its compressed bales of cotton are sold in foreign markets throughout the world.

Soon this firm and Gainesville will be featured world-wide as an 8 mm color film depicting the entire plant operation will be completed. It is destined to be shown to both domestic and foreign cotton buyers and representatives of the spinning industry.

Boyd & Breeding Studio in Gainesville is producing the film and the Gainesville Chamber of Commerce will work with the compress company in its distribution.

Family Enterprise

The Eugene B. Smith and Co., Inc. of Dallas own and operate the Gainesville plant. This organization purchased the facility in 1952 and has completely updated it. This year some \$10,000 in improvements were made.

Eugene B. Smith Jr. is serving as president of the corporation and comes from an old line of cotton men. This is a family business with extensive overseas interests.

E. C. White of 817 Moran St. serves as local manager of the compress. He is also a cotton family man and full time booster of the plant and its future in Gainesville.

White proudly points out that the facility has 75 "happy" employees as it is operating at its peak season – September to January. "We add about \$75,000 per year in pay checks, plus operating expenses to Gainesville's economy and all of our revenues are derived from interests, such as gins and farms, outside of the city," he says.

At present 18 women and 57 men are employed as the 1966 cotton crop is pouring into the plant. Some 25 men are maintained year round, including four night watchmen.

Going Full Blast

The women work in the office, operate the fast moving lift trucks, and perform other light work. The heavier duties are performed by the men.

During the busy season, the facility operates almost 24 hours a day. Over 75 per cent of the cotton bales are received after dark as ginners prefer to gin during the day and ship at night.

White points out that the compress draws its business from a 100 mile radius of Gainesville. Ginners and farmers ship their bales here by truck and railroad, then the compressing begins.

As the large bales, which average weight 500 pounds, are unloaded the women workers grab two bales at a time with their speedy lift trucks and wheel them to the compressing machine.

This giant machine uses steam generated by two natural gas -fed boilers to apply 125 pounds of pressure to the large bales. In one operation, the bales about four feet wide – are compressed and strapped in seconds. When the regular bales arrive, between 30 and 40 are loaded in a single car. Under the high density compression, they are pressed into midget size of only 18 inches wide. Standard compression will reduce the bales to about two feet in width.

Space Saving Technique

A great savings in shipping and storage space is realized by compressing the regular size bales. About 170 of the high density bales can be shipped in a single box car. This space saving technique is important to foreign buyers who purchase the cotton for overseas shipment in cargo vessels.

The North Texas Compress & Warehouse Co. expects to receive between 50,000 and 60,000 bales of the 1966 cotton crop this year. Its storage facilities are government approved and all possible precautions are taken to protect the stores of cotton. The plant has its own water tower to provide adequate water pressure for its sprinkler and fire protection system. Four night watchmen and two German Police patrol dogs keep a constant vigil on the entire plant area.

White predicts a bright future for the plant despite the fact that cotton production in Cooke County only faintly resembles the crop production of past years. Government control with its allotment program during 1965 resulted in approximately 3,500 bales of cotton produced on about 5,000 acres. And in 1966 about 30 per cent less acreage was planted in cotton, he pointed out.

Picked Up Passing By by Jack Joyce Tuesday Nov. 22, 1966

Theodore Cheslee Stone, Gainesville native and internationally known baritone, recently received the distinguished Steinway Award in recognition of his important contributions to Chicago's cultural life in the field of music. **John H. Steinway**, vice president of Steinway and Sons, piano manufacturers, presented the award to Stone.

Previously the first American Negro singer to study at the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki, Finland, Stone is first vice president of the national Association of Negro Musicians and currently is in his 11th year as president of the Chicago Music Association, Branch No. 1, National Association of Negro Musicians.

As a concert singer he has appeared as a recitalist in principal cities in the U. S. and Canada, the Scandinavian and Balkan countries. He is editor of music at the Parkway Community House School of Music in Chicago.

Stone is the brother of **Samuel W. Stone**, 1521 E. Pecan St.

The CTGS family was saddened with the death of our Vice-President, Natalie Newton Massengale on April 11, 2019. Natalie was a long time member and had served as our President in recent years. She was a passionate genealogist and was a historical contributor to not only Cooke County but also Denton County where she lived for many years.



Natalie Katherine Newton Massengale

February 14, 1943 - April 11, 2019

Natalie Katherine Newton Massengale, 76, of Valley View, Texas passed away April 11, 2019 in Denton, Texas. She was the wife of Gene Massengale, sharing 44 years of marriage together. Natalie was born February 14, 1943, in Gainesville, Texas to Charles F. and Ruth Coffey Newton. She grew up the oldest of six, on her family's farm in Valley View. She graduated one of twenty-two from Valley View High School in 1961. Shortly after graduation, she moved to Denton, and in her lifetime worked for Zales Jewelry, Moore Business Forms, Dr. Norton, DDS, Presbyterian Synod of the Sun, and FEMA. However, the job she was most proud of was that of wife and mother. As a mother of a child with disabilities, she worked tirelessly and fiercely for his rights and privileges.

Her community was important to her, and over time she belonged to the ARC and served as their president. She was also active in the Shakespeare Club Chapter of the Denton Areal Club, and forged lifetime friendships as a member of the Torchbearer PI Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi for over 45 years. She was active in the Valley View Senior Center and the Valley View High School Alumni Association. Natalie was also a member of Eastern Star and Colonial Dames.

Her love of family led to a passion for genealogy. Natalie was a proud member of the Mayflower Society, Cross Timbers Genealogy Society, the Daughters of the American Revolution, and the Lucy Holcomb Pickens Chapter of the Daughters of the Confederacy. She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Denton, Texas for several decades and transferred membership to First Presbyterian of Gainesville when she and her husband returned to Valley View in 2005.

Family was the most important thing in Natalie's life. She is preceded in death by her parents, Charles F. and Ruth Coffey Newton; grandparents Frank K. and Bessie Keel Newton and

Homer L. and Lillie Kate McIntosh Coffey.

Natalie is survived by her husband Gene Massengale of Valley View; Children Jami Stroud of Aubrey, Michael Stroud of Denton, and daughter Jennifer Peace and her husband Kelly of Corinth; sister, Nora Ellen Wheeler of Valley View; brothers Nathan, Norman, and Nelson, of Valley View, and Nicholas Newton of Dallas; Aunt Mary Alice Redding and Cousin Jean Burke of Aubrey. Grandchildren: Trinity, Joely, Jack, Rachel, and Megan.

(Partial obituary from the Gainesville Daily Register.)

The Cross Timbers Genealogical Society has been the host for Cooke County on the TXGenWeb Project for the past 11 years. I have served as the coordinator/webmaster for Cooke County during that time. I am sad to report the loss of Shirley Cullum who has served as the State Coordinator of Texas for the last 13 years. Shirley was always a positive influence and certainly a mentor to me 11 years ago when I became the coordinator for Cooke County. She fought and lost a hard battle with cancer. RIP Shirley.

Ending Comments;

There will be a historical marker dedication for the Gainesville State School on Tuesday, October 1, 2019 at 10:00 am. As a member of the Cooke County Historical Commission I plan to attend. Will hopefully be able to provide a report about it in the next newsletter.

Till next time.

Norman L. Newton, Editor