

THE PRAIRIE

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NUMBER 2

THE SCHOOL TAX AMENDMENT

Salvation of Texas Schools Depends
On Passage of Amend-
ment Nov. 2

On November 2, the people of Texas will express their approval or disapproval of a proposed constitutional amendment which seeks to apply to our system of public education the traditional doctrine of local self government, and which, if carried, will have a far-reaching effect on the education of all the people.

The merits of the proposed amendment may be best understood thru a brief study of three things: 1, The present sources of revenue for public education; 2, The present condition of the schools; 3, The principle involved and the probable effect of the proposed amendment.

1. The fathers of Texas wisely created a permanent state school fund now valued at more than \$72,000,000. This endowment produces a revenue of approximately 2.6 per cent annually, or about \$1,872,000. This revenue becomes a part of the available school fund and is apportioned among the school districts of the state according to scholastic population. The fathers also created a county school fund which is now valued at approximately \$12,000,000, but not all the counties share in the benefits of this fund, and the revenue derived therefrom is relatively insignificant for the most of the counties of the state.

A further source of available revenue for the maintenance of our schools is \$1.00 of each of the poll tax paid, a variable sum, thus far less than \$1,000,000 annually.

To supplement these available funds the state levies an ad valorem tax of thirty-five cents on the one hundred dollars of property valuation. Only about twenty cents of this, however, is used for the support of the schools, the remainder of the proceeds going for the purchase and distribution of free text books.

From these various sources the state last year collected a revenue sufficient to apportion \$8.50 to each child within the scholastic age. By special appropriation of the Legislature the scholastic apportionment this year will be increased to \$14.50, the highest point reached in the history of the state and sufficient to give Texas favorable rank among the states in the amount expended per scholastic.

Foreseeing that the state revenues might not be adequate for the proper support of the schools, constitutional provision was made for their local support up to a maximum of fifty cents on the one hundred dollars valuation of property. Many schools have availed themselves of this privilege of local taxation for the maintenance of their schools, and now supplement the state scholastic apportionment from their own property values.

2. In spite of these various sources of support, however, the public school system, as a whole, finds itself today threatened with utter collapse because of insufficiency of funds. With the exception, it may be, of a few city systems, which operate under special law, there is scarcely a school district in Texas that has adequate funds with which to maintain a creditable public school. It is true that during the past year many communities managed to maintain their standards because they resorted to private subscription, raised property valuation, or went in debt. But many other communities cut short their terms, employed inferior grade of teachers, and otherwise reduced their standards. With a shortage of more than 2000 teachers last year, 50,000 children in Texas did not attend school.

More significant, however, than any of these conditions is the rapid degeneration of the teaching profession. It has been authoritatively asserted that, "About eighty per cent of the teachers in our rural schools are mere boys and girls, and about fifty per cent of the country teachers hold only a second grade certificate. Many taught last season without any certificate, in violation of the law . . . about 400,000 Texas children were taught by teachers whose preparation was not above the eighth grade . . . In the last few years the percentage of men teachers in Texas has been reduced from forty-four per cent to seventeen per cent. Figures obtained during the last few months indicate that about thirty per cent

of last year's men teachers have left the profession permanently."

Not only is the above quotation true, but added to it and intensifying its significance is the further fact that promising young men and young women by the thousands have been turned away from the teaching profession because of the low salaries paid teachers and the general disrepute into which the profession has fallen by reason of lowered standards. Attendance at the teacher-training institutions fell off noticeably last year. The West Texas State Normal College is the only exception to this statement. That our growth here took place in spite of general indifference to teaching is shown by the fact that not a single male student in this school last year would definitely commit himself to teaching as a life work. Drove of young people graduate from high schools each year and rush to all other kinds of institutions of higher learning, many of which are poorly prepared to do good college work, but the number of such young people who do find their way to a teacher-training institution is relatively negligible, and many of those who do come to such schools come with some other purpose than that of preparing for teaching as a career. This unfortunate state of things is immediately due to the disrepute in which teaching is held—a disrepute which is largely due to the lack of money with which to support adequately our common school system. Public education as it exists today in this state is too fortuitous to be attractive to a large number of ambitious and capable young people. Consequently the depletion of the ranks of the teacher constitutes a real menace to the state.

Along with the increase in salaries must go a corresponding increase in the requirements for entering the profession. Standards of preparation must be set up (for admittedly we have none as things are) and the profession of teaching must come to represent real culture, power, and technical skill. Until this shall be done many people will continue to question whether our schools are really worth what they already cost.

3. The proposed amendment looks toward the correction of these conditions. In the first place it seeks to guarantee to each school district the traditional American right of local self-government. By what accepted principle, for example, has the state of Texas the right to say to Amarillo that she cannot spend enough of her own money to support her own schools according to her own standards? As the constitution and law now stand the state virtually says to each district in Texas: "I want you to educate your children, in fact, you must do so, and I will give you \$14.50 per scholastic for that purpose, but you must not add too much to this sum. To be specific, you can only contribute annually only fifty cents of each \$100 worth of property." I submit that this does violence to every purpose for which the state created a public school system and is in direct opposition to our long cherished principle of local self-government.

In the second place, the proposed amendment, in allowing each district to regulate its own tax rate for school purposes, will enable needy communities to maintain their school terms for nine months and without lowering of standards. We should be able to attract a greater number of competent young people to the profession, because the schools would have a more dependable foundation and general teaching conditions would be vastly improved in the course of a few years. To be sure the tax rate would not necessarily be increased, but the potential revenue of the schools would be so enlarged as to give stability to the whole system of public education.

On the other hand, if the amendment should fail, we may expect that the Legislature will cease to make additional appropriations to supplement our available school funds, the per capita apportionment will drop back to its old level of \$7 or \$8. School terms will be reduced in length, salaries of teachers will be reduced, and Texas will become the permanent home of dense ignorance, where political and social corruption will play hide and seek ad libitum.

Vote for the Better Schools Amendment on November 2, and thus array yourself with those who believe in America and who are determined to preserve its institutions, regardless of cost.

A Canyon citizen has reported that he saw a panther in the Palo Duro Canyon. Prohibition enforcement in Canyon should be investigated.

The Interscholastic League

Extract from speech delivered by Joseph L. Duflot, District Director General, at the Panhandle Teachers' Institute, Canyon, Texas, September, Ladies and Gentlemen:

As the District Director General of the Interscholastic League, I desire to speak to you for a few moments upon this subject. We are familiar more or less with the aims and purposes of various leagues—Baseball Leagues, Church Leagues and the League of Nations, but I wish to emphasize at this moment that for our work the most important of all leagues is the Interscholastic League of the Canyon District. While we are proud of the history made thus far, yet the greatness of the League is not in the past but in the promise of the future. The strength of the league lies in the large number of school units taking part in it. The more schools that enter and the more individuals participating the more nearly do we come into the realization of the ideals which prompted its organization. There is an appeal in this program for every individual member of the school and if for any reason a school does not enter into the spirit of the league, it is, in my judgment, the fault of the teacher and not of the league or of the pupils. Sometimes the plea is made that the school is too small and the opportunity for inspiring interest is limited. This is an excuse and not a reason. Our greatest failures are in handling large groups, for we are prone here to take the short cut to success by capitalizing talent practically developed, and thus the latent powers go by untouched. Within a small group the resources of each individual are mined for all his worth and genuine development is made. I sometimes think that in our effort to educate large groups we are attempting that which approaches the impossible. The Savior of Mankind undertook to teach only twelve and after three years of hard labor, it turned out that one of these "busted" on examination. The teacher should count herself a failure if she can't find a point of contact with some of her pupils and interest them in the various contests offered by the league.

We are likely to face some difficulties in working out our programs this year. We may meet with discouragement growing out of a situation like this. In the contest of the previous year your pupils may have met with defeat due to "partiality of the judges," "to the unfairness of some contesting members who got by undiscovered," and several other things of like nature which it is claimed has taken all of the pep out of the children and now they cease to be interested. If you cannot rise to the occasion and succeed in overcoming this lethargy and disappointment, how are you going to be able to inspire boys and girls to meet the varying vicissitudes of fortune and master them? It is fruitless to talk

to them about overcoming difficulties of the future if you slight this one in the present. There never was a contest held but what the defeated could give a good and sufficient cause for the failure imposed upon them. Sometimes the teacher is indifferent because her salary is small and she feels under no obligations to undertake any more than that for which she is paid. I sympathize with the teacher who draws a small salary, but this is not the fault of the pupils. They have had nothing to do with the legislation that has given such slight value to her services. The teacher owes the pupils the same kind of service on a \$50.00 salary that would be expected of her on a \$200.00 salary. No teacher can escape this obligation and I cannot believe that you will resort to strategy to evade it.

We had a successful meet last year; this auditorium was filled with contestants and their parents and friends. Practically every county was represented, but we are making our preparations, based upon information gathered from the teachers, to entertain a larger gathering than that which greeted us this year. If your school is not a member of this league, see that it becomes one by paying the fee in keeping with the nature and size of your school. I am not asking the individual teacher to give the district the fee, but for the time being advance the money and call upon the children to bring their nickels and dimes and pay this fee themselves, for it is their enterprise.

In conclusion, let me urge upon you to answer my correspondence. Last spring, I sent out 142 letters of inquiry and only three persons responded. It is impossible to take care of three hundred visitors when we were led to expect only three. (Laughter) We need the information for which we call in order to care for you properly, so please take the time to answer these letters. In the event you fail to pay the fee while here, then send it to Dr. E. D. Shurter or Mr. Roy Bedichek, Austin, Texas, and they will receipt you and send you the necessary literature.

Second Normal Team Wins From High School

Last Friday afternoon the Normal second team defeated the Canyon High School football team by a score of 24 to 0. The game was well fought throughout, but the tide was with the college boys from the beginning. Key starred for the Normal team by his persistent plunging thru the line.

Lyceum Dates Announced

Dates for three of the Lyceum numbers that are to occur during the year have been determined. The Paulo Gruppe Musical Company will be here on November 11. On November 30 Vice President Marshall will lecture, and Judge Ben Lindsey will be with us on February 7. These three unusual attractions are covered by the blanket tax.

Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. Entertainment

On the evening of October 8th from 7 to 9 o'clock the Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. rendered an interesting program in the auditorium.

Through the presentation of a pageant, "The Spirit of the Blue Triangle," the Y. W. C. A. showed something of its work here and in connection with other organizations.

Following the pageant, three very enjoyable musical numbers were given, a piano solo by Miss Corrie Rankin, a vocal solo by Miss Ada Clark, and a violin solo by Miss Charlotta Cheney. Miss Joye Mills charmingly told one of O'Henry's stories.

Representatives of the Y. M. C. A. showed by panomime the outcome of some of the football games that are to be played during the season. The first game was between Clarendon and Wayland. Wayland was the victor and Clarendon was seriously hurt. Roswell now appeared and another battle was waged in which Roswell vanquished the Wayland team. Roswell was a second time a victor when Clarendon again appeared on the scene. The Canyon team then hurled themselves against Roswell, who would be victor a third time, and completely defeated them.

When this phase of the program was ended, Mr. Dan Sanders, who acted as chairman for the Y. M. C. A., suggested that a Boosters club be organized. Mr. Wesley Allen and Mary Meinecke were elected yell leaders. Under the direction of the new yell leaders, some "peppy" yells were given which showed the student body to be enthusiastic and ready to uphold the team in the coming games.

The assembly then retired to the third floor where refreshments were served.

Normal First Team Defeated by Weighty Hereford Town Team

Canyon opened the football season with a game with Hereford's husky regulars. The score was 15 to 0 in Hereford's favor. Within the first five minutes of the game Hereford carried our men almost to the goal line and then completed the play by scoring two points on a safety. Hereford again crossed the line for a touchdown before the end of the first quarter, but failed to kick goal, leaving the score 8 to 0. During the remainder of the game both sides fought hard and Hereford once more went over for a touchdown and kicked goal, totaling her score at 15.

Durham did good work at quarter as his first effort. Brown at right end completed a pass by Battenfield which carried the ball within a yard of the goal. Canyon was unable to pierce Hereford's line for a touchdown. At another time Brown completed a 40 yard pass outside the 10 yard limit beyond the goal, and a touchback was called. Our boys fought hard throughout the game, but were unable to cope with the college trained Hereford team.

N. A. BROTHERS IS ADDED TO MUSIC DEPT.

Professional Band and Orchestra
Leader to Take Charge
October 23

Beginning about October 25th, private instruction in Band and wind instruments will be offered. Mr. R. N. Brothers of Dallas has been secured for this work. Mr. Brothers had his early musical instruction in the University of Nebraska and has been a professional teacher and musician for some twenty years, at present being in charge of the music of one of the principal theaters in Dallas. He will have full charge of the College Band, making of it a really strong musical organization, will be associate conductor with Mr. Clark of the Orchestra, and will teach privately any of the wind instruments of the Band and Orchestra.

The College believes itself to be unique among higher educational institutions in establishing this department and feels sure that the response will be satisfactory from every standpoint. The department of music now is as large as its rooming facilities will allow, so we might as well get ready for a unanimous demand for a Music Building in the quite immediate future.

Mr. Brothers will begin work Tuesday, Oct. 26th.

History Club Begins Year's Work

The first regular meeting of the History Club will occur this evening at seven o'clock. The club has recently reorganized, and splendid series of programs for the year have been worked out. The club is conducted under the auspices of the History Department, but any student interested in historical study is eligible for membership. Following is the program for this evening:

Study Subject: The Organization and Methods of Political Parties.

Paper: Origin of Political Parties in England—Lizzie Kate Smith.

Party Struggles in American:

(a) Revolutionary Period—J. J. Powell.

(b) Jeffersonian and Jacksonian Periods—D. T. Tarlton.

(c) Civil War Period—Winnie Mae Crawford.

(d) World War Period—Mody C. Boatright.

Round Table Discussion: Present Day Party Leaders.

Classes Organize

Freshmen

The college freshmen met on Oct. 1, to reorganize. The following officers were elected:

President—Gary Simms.

Vice President—Welton Hawkins.

Treasurer—Louis Helms.

Secretary—Mae Hood.

Representative to Student Council—Robert Hill.

Representative to "Prairie"—Rose Stewart.

Chairman Social Committee—Paul Johnson.

Sophomores

The Sophomores met Wednesday, Oct. 6, in room 211 and organized for the fall quarter. They also elected their representative to the Students' Council. Following are the officers for the fall quarter:

President—Archie Jones.

Vice President—Dan Sanders.

Secretary—Jo D. Pennington.

"Prairie" representative—Ottie Greer.

Representative to Students' Council—Olive Michael.

Junior and Senior

Last Tuesday the Junior and Senior college students organized jointly. Plans are being made for some enjoyable times during the coming year.

The following officers were elected for the fall quarter:

President—Gracie Penrod.

Vice President—D. T. Tarlton.

Secretary—Joye Mills.

Treasurer—Lester Hill.

Press Reporter—Lizzie Kate Smith.

Junior Representative to Students' Council—Joye Mills.

Senior Representative to Students' Council—Sara Thompson.

Prof. Morelock says that every student should occasionally take a course that will keep his nose to the grindstone. Perhaps this accounts for the condition of some of the noses that we see.

Several houses going up in Canyon—Head-line—They are high enough now.



THE PRAIRIE

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Business Manager—Charles Wilson.
Associate Editor-in-Chief—

-----Sara Thompson
Literary Editor-----Ollie Sone
Art Editor-----Carrie Rankin
Exchange Editor-----Ottis Greer
Society Editor-----Frank Hill
Athletic Rep. for Girls-----Mildred Johnson

Athletic Rep. for Boys-----Gary Simms
Clubs and Organizations-----
-----James E. Dockery

Stenographer-----Floyd Golden
Faculty Adviser-----H. W. Morelock

"The Daily Theme Eye"

Persons possessed with "the daily theme eye" are those observant people endowed with the happy faculty of seeing the dramatic features of that ordinary life which to those less gifted seems commonplace and dull; of sensing the vivid, the significant, the suggestive, in the objects which from time to time surround them, and the incidents which they observe, or in which they themselves take part. In addition, those who are granted this clearer vision often have the power to convey to others thru the medium of words the first sharp impression, the poignant mood induced by its exercise.

Under the title "Sketches" will appear from time to time in "The Prairie" such little themes of this nature as students may contribute. Most of these, naturally, will come thru the channels of the English Department; but all students are welcome to contribute. Are you so sure that you have no literary talent? If you cannot compass "fine writing," so much the better. What we wish is a simple series of little themes picturing everyday life in a pleasing way. Try thru the subtle power of suggestion to set forth what daily life means to you.

We are beginning with purely descriptive sketches, but may later enlarge the field a bit, to include little personal essays and descriptions presented by means of narration. The sketches should range from one to three hundred words. Cultivate your daily theme eye, and try your hand.

Inter-Normal Debates for Girls

Why not have an Inter-Normal debating organization for girls? Since women are entering into political life, don't you think that they need to study about, and discuss the great political questions of the day? There are great issues that women are to vote upon, and if they vote unthinkingly or unwisely, they can do great harm to our political life. For a thoughtless vote is as dangerous as an unscrupulous vote. Inter-Normal debates between the girls would create, and stimulate an interest in political questions, and in this way would be an intellectual organization. These debating contests would also give the girls training in making impromptu speeches, in correct platform appearance, and in the organization and collection of subject matter.

—O. W.

Traffic Cops

Why not observe some of the traffic laws in the corridor? During the intermission periods, the corridors are sometimes so congested that one can hardly get from one class room to another in the allotted five minutes. Especially is this noticeable directly after chapel. Let us see if we can't keep to the right and move on without the aid of a traffic cop.

American Youths Going to College

American youths entering college have increased in numbers at a record rate during the last six years and if the proportionate growth is continued to 1950, there will be 1,138,000 students in 210 institutions where 294,000 were enrolled last year. These figures compiled by the Institute for Public Service, have raised the question of where the money needed to educate these larger groups will come from.

Julius H. Barnes, chairman of the institute, found in a study of the figures compiled that this year's increase in the number of students enrolled in the colleges has set a new record.

Colleges which in 1914 had 187,000 students and last year 294,000, will enroll 471,000 in 1930 and 831,000 in 1950, if they continue the same number increase each year, a report of

the institute states. But, if they grow at the average percentage rate of the last six years, they will have 659,000 students in 1930 and 1,138,000 twenty years later.

Taking the lower estimate for 1950 it "means finding facilities for more than three times the total for 1920 at six or seven times the salary cost," said the report. "It means adding 644,000 students, or 200 colleges the size of Yale last year.

The institute asks, "Will the money to provide education for the increased number of students come from taxation, endowment, private gifts and larger fees? Must present universities grow or more universities be built?"

In numbers, the largest increase in six years is credited to the College of the City of New York with a growth of 6,800, followed by the University of California with 6,200 increase and Boston University with 4,700. Yale was one of the four institutions which had fewer students than six years ago, its decrease being eighty-one, the institute reported.

Concluding his observations, Mr. Barnes said there is "Reason to believe that in any future democratizing of opportunities for higher education, afternoon and night classes at colleges and extension classes away from colleges will be needed to give the elasticity which the demand requires."—Dallas News.

The Call of Business and the Call of the School

By H. T. Musselman, Editor of Texas School Journal.

The call of the business world has come into the ears of the school teachers of the land and the music thereof is very seductive. The background of the call is spread with the glitter of gold and the strains which tell of freedom from petty pedagogical dictation are among the most pleasing notes of the call. The cry of the school for "they that be teachers" to stay by the children of the land is slowly but surely being drowned out by the louder and more musical call of the business world. These are the facts in the case; what are we going to do about it?

First of all, it will do no good to expatiate on the glory of teaching in an age that is given over to the spirit of profiteering in every other field of endeavor. When barbarian motives and standards control in ninety per cent of the actions of a people it is idle to preach the glory of sacrifice to men and women of red blood in the teaching profession. Right or wrong, dollars and cents are the arguments of the hour and when the business world asks a \$1500 high school teacher to take a position for \$3000, and if he makes good still more it takes more religion than the average high school teacher has to stay by the "cause." When a filing clerk in a business office can afford to wear silk stockings at six dollars a pair and an elementary school teacher can scarcely buy a pair of "half and half" at two dollars it is wasting words to talk about the beauty of the feet of those that render service simply for the "love of Mike."

Now, let one go off and say that I do not believe that the glory of the work of teaching should not be held up before those who would teach. It is my honest belief that most teachers that are real teachers who stay in the teaching work, stay because the greatness of the work appeals to them, but what I am saying here is that it is idle in an age like ours to talk about this glory until we have talked about something more substantial. Teaching at the present time is not a respectable profession either in the eyes of the world at large or in those of the teachers themselves and the reason for this is that it is not an economically respectable profession. No work ever becomes respectable until it is put upon a comfortable living wage basis. The first step, therefore, in bringing the cry of the school unto the ears of men and women of brains is to put the work of teaching upon an economically respectable basis. When we have done this then we can talk about the glory of the game in comparison with some of the other work games of the day. In all life the economic instincts are primary and before we can talk honestly about sacrifice and service the elementary economic needs must be taken care of. If one is born with an economic competence we might well hold up the opportunity for human welfare work offered by the school but the rank and file of human beings must fight the battle for bread and while man does not live by bread alone he cannot live at all without it. A nation that really believes in carrying on its school work with men and women of brains will first make provision for the bread of its teachers and then hold up the glory of the work as being the very rockbottom work of the social order. Pale face pedagogues with pinched abdomens are not fit to be the edu-

cators of the citizenship of any nation.

For twenty-five years the cry of the schools has been in my ears and for twenty-five years I have been at work in this and that line of educational work. My pay has been more than four times the average pay of the American school teachers and yet in comparison with men of average brainage in other fields I have worked for a pittance. Sheer love of the game in all its parts has kept me in the work. The upturned eyes of the hungry life of a little child appeals to my soul as nothing else on God's green earth. To work with these little ones or with those who are being trained to work with them is to me the greatest work on earth. And there are thousands who feel just as I do and feel that way when they heed the call of the business world; they heed this call because the elemental needs of the economic instincts are not satisfied—the good wife needs a new dress, baby needs some new shoes and the next door neighbor, who is a plumber by trade, has bought a car.

In the face of the success of the call of the business world to the teachers of the land what is the cry of the schools for teachers bringing to our school work? Cheap people, with two by four brains, by the thousands. Shall I say it—it is the God's truth: More cheap people have entered the teaching profession than any other work on earth save that of what we call the common laborer. And there will be more of these same cheap ones in the next few years than ever before. There is no way out of the situation for the immediate present. The increase of pay that is being made all over the land will not solve the problem at once. The fact is that many a teacher (so-called) is going to be repaid more than they are worth in this good year of our Lord 1920 and the next few years. That is the price we will have to pay until we can get the teaching profession on a respectable basis and people of brains are attracted into it as a field of service worthy of the use of their time and energy. Meanwhile may Heaven pity the children in many a community of this good land of America. Thousands of them will cry out for intellectual bread and scholastic stones will be given them. Many of them will hunger for the enlightenment of knowledge and their little souls will be swamped in the fields of ignorance. For them the golden days of development will be lost to all that is highest and best in the world. Verily, the cheap school teacher is the most costly human being on earth.

Misses Vivian Gattion, Gladys Francy, Ethel Duff and Roxie Knox visited home folks in Happy during the week end.

SKETCHES

Our Room at Crossroads

We were alone in a large, bare room, which the landlady said was to be ours. Had there been anything other than a set of hard looking springs, on a white knotty, iron bedstead in one corner of the room, I should have fallen across that lone object and cried from sheer disappointment. This room had nothing in it that could become the little room my "pal" and I had planned. All of our embroidered and lace trimmed pillow cases could not relieve the cheap appearance of a two dollar and a half bedstead. We loaded down the large, brown second-hand dresser with ivory mounted toilet articles and other useful and decorative appurtenances, arranged as artistically as possible, but these things could not distract one's attention from the missing knobs or handles, which had once adorned this ancient thing. In still another corner of the room stood a small, decrepit, square table, containing only a lamp and a box of matches. The emptiness was not relieved by a single curtain, nothing but ugly green blinds decorated the windows, and the stiff straw matting did not help to produce an impression of softness or coziness.

We removed all the calendars but one from the walls and covered the torn places in the paper with clusters of photographs. Even pictures from magazines helped to cover the holes. One salient feature of that room, not the least of the memories which cluster around its image in my mind, was a tin sign placed over a flue, with this inscription: "Those interested in Land in this Locality, see Mr. Bob Smith, Crossroads, Texas," written in large, unmistakable letters.

—H. C.

The Swimmin' Hole

Every summer the most frequent haunt of the boys was the swimmin' hole. It was about a mile back up in the breaks of the pasture. It was horse-shoe shaped, the curved sides being screened from view by trees and vines, while across the open part on the north, a high rock embankment had been built. At one end of this dam a spill way was constructed so that the water would be kept clean and fresh. Near the dam the water was clear and deep, and no spring board was necessary for the turns in mid-air that were made by the joyous swimmers. A tall reedy water grass protruded through the crevices of the rocks in the dam and grew in the shallow water on the west side. On the south the water was less than two feet in depth, and there the tired boys often sought refuge in the cool shade of the big old cotton-woods.

—J. D. P.

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INTERESTING

Nothing is more interesting to us than our friends and acquaintances. Confidence is the dynamic substance by which our social and financial existence is made possible. Confidence, if merited, comes from acquaintance. To be alone among strangers is, indeed, depressing. To discover old friends when among strangers is a great joy. To make new friends is storing new joys for yourself. **Lets Get Acquainted.** Make our store your store and tell us your wants.

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RANDALL COUNTY NEWS
(We print The Prairie)

WE CORDIALLY INVITE ALL STUDENTS AND CITIZENS OF
CANYON

To shop in our Amarillo store when in need of Dry Goods, Clothing, Shoes and Ladies' Ready-to-Wear Garments.
The same Low Prices prevail as in all our 297 stores. The magnitude of our purchasing power enables us to underbuy and undersell.

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297 STORES

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An opportunity for College Girls to buy
Suits, Dresses, and Millinery

AT 20 PER CENT DISCOUNT

Ready-to-wear at \$119.50 for ----- \$95.60
Ready-to-wear at \$98.50 for ----- \$78.80
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Best Home Dressed Meats

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DURING THIS SALE
20 PER CENT REDUCTION
ON OUR READY-TO-WEAR
MONTGOMERY BROS.

AMARILLO

Premier Boot Store

THOMPSON HARDWARE COMPANY

Invite you to examine their line of SHELF and heavy Hardware, Silverware, Cutlery, China and Cut Glass.

CANYON, TEXAS

Sesames

A very enthusiastic meeting of the Sesame Literary Society occurred on Friday evening, Oct. 1. The membership committee has been doing excellent work; and as a result seventy-five new members were admitted. By vote of the Society it was decided to allow eighth and ninth grade Training School girls to come into the Society as little sisters.

The following were elected honorary members: Miss Edna Graham, Miss Haines, Miss Watkins, Mr. Shirley and Mr. Hill.

Officers elected for the fall quarter are:

President—Ollie Sone.
Vice President—Mae Hood.
Secretary—Mary Isaacs.
Treasurer—Clara Rush.
Sergeant-at-arms—Amy Daniels.
Yell Leader—Thelma Black.
Assistant Yell Leader—Vera Williams.

At the regular meeting of the Sesames on Friday, Oct. 15, thirty-five new members were initiated into the society. Initiation ceremonies for the remaining new members will occur Oct. 22.

Program for the Sesame Literary Society, Oct. 22.

Theme: Friendship.
Alma Mater—Society.
Roll Call: Quotations on Friendship
Vocal Solo—Bess Prichard.
Reading—Joyce Mills.
Influence of School Friends.
Piano Solo—Helen Croson.
Yell Practice.

Antler-Elaphian Meeting

The Antlers and Elaphians met in joint session Thursday evening, October 7th in room 105. Every number of the following program was greatly enjoyed:

Opening address—Lyman Johnson.
Reading—Miss O'Connell.
Piano duet—Misses Brewer and Rice.

Round table discussion: Resolved, That man should be required to pursue a course in Domestic Science.

After very heated discussions by Misses Ruth Thompson, Sache Simms, Mrs. Montfort, Messrs. Tarlton, Bacon, and Robert Hill, Mr. Dan Sanders turned the tie in favor of the affirmative by relating some of his personal experiences in a domestic capacity.

The program having been rendered, a social hour was begun with a grand march, directed by Miss Miriam Anderson. Among the most exciting forms of diversion were folding chair and necktie relay races. Mr. Floyd Trowbridge and Miss Louise Simpson starred in the necktie relay race. At the close of the evening's entertainment, we parted feeling that we were better acquainted and more able to work together as companion societies.

—Elapheian Reporter.

Exchanges

Roger Williams (colored) College, Nashville, Tenn., with 102 students, raised \$519.50 toward the Nashville Intercollegiate Y. M. C. A. in a recent financial campaign.

—The Intercollegian.

According to statistics from the Department of Education at Austin, there were more than 50,000 children deprived of school privileges last year on account of lack of teachers. That, indeed, was a serious affair, but a more serious one is that the scarcity of teachers is greater this year than last. Besides, we are told that the Normal schools, which are the chief sources of trained teachers, are failing to get many of their graduates to enter the teaching profession. Low salaries seem to be the hammer beating against educational progress. People who are qualified to teach school are also qualified to do many other things. But we must have schools, so what are we going to do?

—The Motley County News.

What has become of the old-fashioned nickel that used to be worth five cents?

—Twin Falls Time.

Birds of a Feather

The man was weary, and tired, and alone as he traveled along the great highway of the Hereafter. Towards nightfall he encountered a number of animals—some beavers, an otter, and two or three seals, all shivering, though the climate, to say the least, was mild.

"What has become of your skins?" the traveler asked of them, as he noticed their shining bodies.

"We were skinned for your wife's furs," they exclaimed civilly, upon observing his perplexity.

He broke into a long, loud, hysterical laugh.

"So was I!" he quoth; and sat down and shivered with them.

Few faculty members and instructors seem to realize that there is a World Series going on.

Patronize The Prairie Advertisers

Tolleson-Allen Wedding

"Sweet is love's young dream" and sweeter still the fulfilling, when, with hearts beating as one and hands clasping in trusting faith, two young lives are blended.

Mr. Henry Easton Allen and Miss Mary Ella Tolleson, two of our Normal children, consummated their young dream; in marriage on Thursday evening, October the fourteenth. The home of the bride's Aunt and Uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Hunt, was beautiful with flowers and ferns, and friends and smiles.

As Miss Helen Croson played the wedding march, Misses Leona Sumner and Louella Tate carried ribbons making an aisle to a bower of green under which awaited Rev. Mr. Shaw. The groom was attended by his brother, Mr. Harper Allen, followed by little Miss Lucile Davault who bore the ring hidden in a beautiful pink chrysanthemum. Then came the bride with her maid of honor, Miss Kathleen Jennings.

A solemn hush hovered over the assembled friends as the impressive ceremony was said and Easton and Mary Ella each gave into the others keeping his and her life and happiness.

Congratulations were extended after which punch was served by Misses Blanche Croson and Ollie Sone. Many beautiful and useful presents showed the love and interest which follows Mr. and Mrs. Allen into their new home. They left immediately for Tulsa where Mr. Allen is Principal of the High School.

On last Monday afternoon from 3:30 to 5:30 o'clock, a miscellaneous shower was given at the home of Mrs. John Guthrie in honor of Miss Mary Ella Tolleson, who is soon to become the bride of Mr. Easton Allen. Each guest upon her arrival was asked to register and to write out a recipe for the bride-to-be. Pleasant entertainment in the form of musical selections and readings was enjoyed.

The crowning event of the afternoon came, however, when Miss Tolleson opened the many packages containing the gifts. The gifts proved to be of varied kinds, some beautiful in the form of linens, china and silver; some homely in the form of muffin tins, wooden spoons and mixing bowls; but all were useful and appropriate.

Delicious punch was served by Misses Sone and Dodson at the close of the afternoon. The guests departed wishing for Miss Mary Ella the very best things of life.

A Teacher's Reward

"We have just learned of a teacher who started poor twenty years ago and has retired with the comfortable fortune of fifty thousand dollars. This was acquired through industry, economy, conscientious effort, indomitable perseverance, and the death of an uncle who left her an estate valued at \$49,999.50."—Seneca Vocational School.

A Card of Thanks

To all those who in any way by thoughtful deed, loving words and prayers, helped to make my father's going less hard, these words are lovingly dedicated.

FRIENDSHIP

We have heard since days of childhood.

That a friend who's a friend indeed, Is the friend who is a friend When another friend's in need.

When pleasures like the flowers spread

Making our pathways fair,
We seldom stop to take account
Of what true friends are standing there.

But when the shadows gather,
And the way seems dark and deep,
And the pathway up life's mountain
Is more rugged and more steep.

Then they come, they've just been waiting

With a word of hope and cheer,
A flower, hand clasp, or a tear drop,
And we know who's standing near.
And so may we add a rosebud
To the garland on Friendship's brow.
A friendship that's akin to Heaven,
Making a wee bit of Heaven of the "now."

—Vera Davis Shinn.

Taylor Texas.

Blaine Returning to Canyon

H. W. Blaine has resigned as secretary-manager of the Amarillo Automobile Association and will remove his family to Canyon. His health has been very bad the past few months and the doctors advised him to quit office work in order to be out of doors. Mr. Blaine has rented the Harris residence west of the Shirley home and will move here soon. Until last fall Mr. Blaine was a teacher in the Normal. The friends of Mr. Blaine in this city regret very much to hear of his ill health.

Miss Ruby Houston, a former student, was here from Abernathy the latter part of last week visiting.

Meet Your Friends at the CANYON CAFE

YOUR PATRONAGE HIGHLY APPRECIATED



Our house has just been thoroughly Remodeled, Repapered, and Recleaned thru-out.

We are more than pleased to offer you our services upon all occasions.

RATES:

Meal ticket, \$5.00.
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We give weekly and monthly rates.

TIME OF MEALS:

Regular Breakfast, 6:00 to 9:00.
Regular Dinner, 11:00 to 1:00.
Regular Supper, 5:00 to 7:00.
Short Orders at all hours.

Come and see us about our weekly or monthly rates.

CANYON CAFE

Chase Condrey, Mgr.

We cater to the W. T. S. N. C. Students and the people of Canyon.

"Business is Good."

CANDY AND

SELECTED stock that none can knock, as pure as the snow.
COLD, luscious, melt beneath your belt, just before you go.
RIGHT flavoring, the flowers of spring were robbed to give it tone!
ESCAPE the heat and land the treat that's in each golden cone.
ASSEMBLE here for high-class cheer, our soft drinks are a dream;
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You can get the benefit of all market declines by trading at the Canyon Supply Co. We took the advances, now you get the declines. Trade with us. We want your business.

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Where Will You Land?

An expert says: "Most individuals spend money the same way a dog jumps over a fence. They do not know whether they will land in a fox trap, a bee's nest, or close to a juicy bone."

In other words they spend their money and take chances. It pays to save money and keep it in a reliable Bank, like ours. Then when investments are to be made our entire banking facilities and banking experience are at your disposal and you need not take a leap in the dark. We carefully safeguard every dollar entrusted to our care.

First State Bank of Canyon
Canyon, Texas

Foy's Tailor Shop

Better Clothes

Less Money

High Class Tailoring. Ladies Wear a Specialty. We handle laundry at old prices. All work called for and delivered.

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THE BEST SUIT

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That's the question every man asks himself.

Here's the Answer

Kirschbaum, Stein Bloch, Collegian

THE PRICES

\$25.00 Suits less 33 1-3 per cent	\$16.65
\$35.00 Suits less 33 1-3 per cent	\$23.35
\$40.00 Suits less 33 1-3 per cent	\$26.65
\$45.00 Suits less 33 1-3 per cent	\$30.00
\$50.00 Suits less 33 1-3 per cent	\$33.35
\$55.00 Suits less 33 1-3 per cent	\$36.65
\$60.00 Suits less 33 1-3 per cent	\$40.00
\$65.00 Suits less 33 1-3 per cent	\$43.35
\$70.00 Suits less 33 1-3 per cent	\$46.65
\$75.00 Suits less 33 1-3 per cent	\$50.00
\$80.00 Suits less 33 1-3 per cent	\$53.35
\$85.00 Suits less 33 1-3 per cent	\$56.65
\$90.00 Suits less 33 1-3 per cent	\$60.00
\$95.00 Suits less 33 1-3 per cent	\$63.35
\$100.00 Suits less 33 1-3 per cent	\$66.65

Joe Killough & Company

514 Polk. "Where your dollar does its duty
AMARILLO, TEXAS

School Days Begin Again

Another school year opens, and we welcome the Teachers and Students on their return to work.

Students will find us always ready to advise them on money matters without charge of any kind.

Teachers are invited to make use of our helpful banking facilities. Courteous attention is ever accorded.

Students and Teachers alike should feel that they have a good friend in the

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CAPITAL and SURPLUS, \$100,000.00
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C. D. LESTER, President E. H. POWELL, Cashier
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We Test Eyes Without the Use of Drugs
And if you need glasses, we grind them in our own shop; you don't have to wait. Send us your broken glasses for repair. Any lens duplicated from the pieces; no prescription necessary. Eight years in Amarillo. References, any business house in the city.

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Exclusive Optometrist and Opticians
Corner 7th and Polk

Introductory Sale

OF WOOLTEX COATS AND SUITS

Owing to delayed shipments of Wooltex garments, we are offering all Wooltex Coats and Suits at generous reductions.

\$65.00 Garments now priced at	\$48.75
\$79.50 Garments now priced at	\$59.63
\$94.50 Garments now priced at	\$70.88
\$97.50 Garments now priced at	\$79.63

There are other prices not listed here—all at specially reduced prices.

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700 Polk St. Amarillo, Texas

Service Car

Call J. M. Anderson, Phone 233

Will meet trains. Trips to Amarillo and the Palo Duro Canyons a specialty.

The Perjurer

Jim Carden frequently found it necessary to discipline his son Jule. As Jim explained it, "Jule don't take after his daddy much," and he was afeared that he never could learn him nothing. Jule was always getting "fool notions" in his head, and sometimes a great deal of pounding couldn't get them out.

Jule was twenty years old. He had grown up in the mountainous district in Georgia, as had his father, devoid of book learning and ignorant of the great world beyond the "ridge." Indeed, only once in his life had he peeped over the great ridge and got a glimpse of the big world outside. But that glimpse had never been effaced from his mind. The great buildings in Macon, the railways, the factories, the hundreds of fine people hurrying about—he wondered what they all meant. But what he remembered best of all was a high school that he had passed. There he saw boys with shoes, and fine clothes, with books under their arms. They would doubtless grow up to be great men. Then he thought of his own inability to read. Longings came surging into his bosom.

There was a night school twenty miles from his home. But to his son's first mention of the night school, Jim Carden replied with stern words, and to his subsequent interrogations on the subject with vigorous action. "You don't need no learnin' fer your business, Jule," he would say. "Night's the time when I've got to hove you anyway. Don't ye know there's prohibition officers in the kentry?"

Then at night Jule would sulk away to the woods with his Winchester to keep watch while his father tended the still.

One night as he lay thus, he heard the tread of horses. He looked and listened intently. Now he could see the forms of six men on horseback, making their way up the path that led to the cave in which the still was concealed. He had many times been instructed what to do in such a case. The men were in plain view now. He raised his rifle. His sights were quickly aligned with the foremost rider. But somehow he couldn't fire. When he was very small he had seen a revenue officer shot down by his father. The hideous image of that event haunted him. He hesitated until the men had disappeared around a cliff. Then occurred to him the dangerous situation of his father. He would be taken unawares and captured or killed. He had missed his opportunity. Perhaps he could yet reach the still before the fight was over. He abandoned the pathway and took the shorter route thru the rocks and underbrush. He had not gone far when he saw a human form crouching in the briars, only a few feet away. Jim Carden rose up and seized his son by the collar and began shaking him vigorously, and reproving him in an undertone. "It's a fine watchman, ye air. You an't worth a d— since I let ye go to Macon. They've found the still and I reckon they'd a took me fer all ye'd done." Jule hung his head in shame and weak submission to the reproof and the punishment that he knew was to follow.

The next morning Jim Carden was arraigned before court to explain the presence of a still on his land. In his testimony he denied any knowledge of such a still. He stoutly maintained this position thru the most grilling cross questioning. Then Jule was placed on the witness stand. "To tell the whole truth and nothing but the truth"—what did that mean? But he raised his hand and answered in the affirmative as he had seen his father do.

"Do you know of a still on your father's land?" asked the attorney.

"Yes."

"Did you ever see your father at the still?"

"No."

"Do you know who operates the still?"

"Do you mean who runs it? Yes, sir, I've been running it for six weeks and the ole man ain't found it out yet."

The trial soon came to an end, and the jury brought in the verdict—Jim Carden acquitted; Jule Carden, two years' hard labor.

Miss Grace Caudle a former student of this college, was in town Sunday. She is teaching in Tulia this winter.

N. A. Badwin of Lipscomb spent the week end here with his daughter and son, Rita and Earnest.

Miss Mary Dockery spent the week end in Tulia.

Owing to the fact that so many of the boys were helping in the fields this week-end, there was not so great an improvement in the attendance of the Sunday Schools as we had hoped. The student attendance was as follows: Methodist; boys 28, girls 73. Baptist: boys 25, girls 74. Presbyterian: boys 9, girls 34. Christian: Boys 8, girls 20. Church of Christ: boys 3, girls 20.

News Items

Mack Cunus, a former student in the Normal, was a visitor in Canyon week before last.

The Normal Orchestra began practice on Wednesday the 5th inst., with quite a number of members.

Blake Bolton, an old Normal student and now a school teacher, was here Monday and Tuesday, the 5th and 6th of this month.

President Hill spent Saturday in Plainview in the interest of the school tax amendment.

Mr. Morelock spoke at the Teachers' Institute in Carlsbad, N. M., last week.

The truck, which was recently issued to the Normal by the U. S. Government, arrived last week. It will be used to do the heavy hauling to and from the College, and to improve the driveways on the campus.

Mr. L. G. Allen went to Fort Worth on Friday of last week on Normal business.

About twenty of the football boys went to Amarillo last Saturday to witness the game between Amarillo High School and the Clarendon College second team. Amarillo High won by a score of 20 to 0.

Louise Shanklin, niece of Mrs. J. A. Hill, is attending Tilton Seminary, Tilton, New Hampshire, this year. She attended the Training School of the Normal last year. Her home is in Porto Rica.

The dairy barn of the Agricultural Department is nearing completion.

The house of Miss Mary Morgan Brown, teacher in the Expression Department, is nearing completion. It is located just east of the Guenther residence.

About forty-five members of the Christian Endeavor were entertained last Monday evening at the home of Miss Bernice Parker. After two hours of games and other entertainments, punch, fruit salad, sandwiches, and cakes were served.

If you had happened to pass by Huntleigh Hall on the night of Saturday, the 9th, strains of Jazz music would probably have reached your ears. For about thirty couples slowly and gracefully moved across the floor from 8 to 12 p. m. to the music of Jess' Orchestra from Amarillo.

The tables and rockers have arrived for Cousins Hall. The iceless refrigerator has also arrived and is being installed.

Ernest Atkins, who received his degree from the West Texas State Normal College last summer, holds a fellowship in the University of North Carolina this year—another Normal student succeeding.

Mr. Travis Shaw, Secretary of the Normal, is visiting with his family in Detroit, Michigan.

President Hill has accepted an invitation from the State Executive Committee of Better Schools Campaign to make speeches the last two weeks in October in the interest of the tax amendment to be voted on November 2.

The enrollment in the Normal has reached about 500. There are 245 students in the Training School, making a total of 745 students receiving instruction in the Normal building daily. The enrollment, before the end of the year, is expected to exceed 600.

A Cousins Hall girl was undecided as to how she would spend the time from Saturday to Tuesday and in despairing tones asked another girl, "What must I do with my week-end?" The quick reply was, "Put your hat on it."

Misses Louise and Bessie Simpson spent Sunday and Monday with their home folks at Plainview.

Miss Mary Cooper was the guest of friends in Tulia Sunday.

Miss Mable Barnhart, accompanied by Miss Loyd McDuff, visited her home in Hereford Sunday.

Miss Edna Wells spent the week-end with her sister at White Deer.

Miss Margaret Hawkins was at her home in Claude during the week end.

Miss Fannie Mae Barnes visited at her home in Hale Center from Sunday and Monday.

Rev. Mr. Lang was here to visit his family the last of the week and preached a very interesting sermon at the Presbyterian church Sunday evening.

Everett Key, a former student, who is teaching at Farwell spent the week end with home folks. He says he has a good football team and expects to play the Normal.

Mrs. Witt, the matron at Cousins Hall, gave a get-acquainted party Saturday evening. The time was spent in playing games, after which fruit punch was served.

Misses Dessie May Steele and Gertrude Hines spent Saturday and Sunday at Miss Steele's ranch home near Groom.

Lucy Dean Hamilton and Charlotta Cheney spent the week end with the latter's parents in Amarillo.

Messrs. N. A. Baldwin, Earnest Baldwin and Nay Hale, and Misses Mildred Keffer, Iva Hill and Reta Baldwin spent Monday in the canyons.

THE STAR BARBER SHOP

All first class barber work done. If not satisfied whiskers refunded.

"Try Us Out"

West Side Square B. B. Cluck, Prop.

LADIES AND GENTS—Your fine dress shoes will be given our special attention. Our flexible sewed soles and neat trimmed heels will make your shoes as new. Dyeing shoes a specialty.

CANYON SHOE SHOP
R. A. Eastwood

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Everybody says therefore we have the reputation of being in the lead for everything in our line. We call your special attention to our

NEW SODA FOUNTAIN

one of the latest makes for dispensing all kinds of good cold drinks. Our Drug Department leads in quality and in low prices.

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We cater to the requirements of teachers and students of all grades, and are especially prepared to supply materials for higher literary, technical and art classes.

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LADIES' READY-TO-WEAR
DRY GOODS AND NOTIONS
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THE NORMAL BARBER SHOP

Offers first-class Barber and Laundry work. Ladies' Shines, Shampoos and Massages are our specialties.

Come in and give us a trial.

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A GOOD PLACE TO EAT AT THE

CRYSTAL CAFE

ONE- HALF BLOCK OF PICTURE SHOW
SHORT ORDERS AND FAMILY STYLE MEALS

CASEY JONES, Cook

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