



H. L. Ayers, Jr., New President

Farm Bureau Presidents... Past and Present
Glenn Jones, Retiring President

Photo by Jim Tom Smith

[Editor's Note: The following article appeared in the Tuesday, Dec. 4, edition of The Abilene Reporter-News. It was written by Jim Tom Smith, farm editor for the newspaper. Smith, a 1973 graduate of Texas A&M, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Smith of Margaret. Smith also took the accompanying picture of H. L. Ayers and Glen Jones.]

When 967 delegates filed into the Abilene Civic Center Monday morning to begin to get down to gut issues of the 40th annual Texas Farm Bureau Convention, you can bet they were a unified bunch on the basic issues such as the fuel crisis or fertilizer shortages.

But among the unity there are found different types of people with diverse backgrounds. A young farmer who farms in Foard County, and taught school several years in Knox County while commuting to and fro, perhaps, is an example of what the Farm Bureau meet is all about.

H. L. Ayers, Jr. came to the Abilene meeting as the new president of the Foard County

Farm Bureau. He was accompanied by Glenn Jones, a man who had held the president's post for the past 20 years in Foard County, and decided to step down this year to let a younger man take over.

Ayers has been farming since 1948, though only 38 years old. He now operates a diverse farm and ranch of 910 acres with cotton, milo, cattle, hay, wheat and guar as his main farming enterprises. That is enough to keep most men busy—but until this year when the Gilliland School consolidated with Benjamin in Knox County, Ayers was driving 60 miles per day to teach from eight to 15 students from the 4th to the 6th grade of the Gilliland School. During dry weather, this meant rising before daylight to change irrigation pipes and any other farm chores which had to be done before leaving for school.

While Ayers and Jones were busy attending to convention business, their wives were attending the Women's Luncheon at the Hilton Inn where Judge Barbara G. Culver of

Midland addressed the group. Ayers' wife, Thelma, helps him with his farm activities and drives 12 miles to work at the Crowell State Bank. The couple have adopted three children during the past nine years. Like most rural children who attend school, Mary Susan, 7, and Jerry, 9, get up early to catch the school bus to take them to the Crowell School where she is a second grader and he, a third grade student. Steven Lance, 3, has to wait a few more years before catching the bus. Ayers says that Jerry is more interested in scientific school subjects presently—and Susan, the tomboy, takes the most interest in tractors, or anywhere she can help "daddy" out—particularly if it is where one can get dirty.

AYERS' CHILDREN represent the fifth generation of Ayers on the same land. His great grandfather Nathaniel John Ayers first settled on the land in 1885, building a one room house and a half dug out. His son, John Henry, helped with the construction of the railroad near Harrold and when the train did come through, he would dress quail and rabbits to sell to people on the train.

Ayers' father, H. L. (Roy) Ayers Sr., was a charter member of the Foard County Soil Conservation Service, and remained an active member until his death last April. Ayers' mother, Rose, still lives in the Roy Ayers' home overlooking her son's home and keeps busy gardening, reading, working with civic groups and of

course, happily looking after her grandchildren.

But how are the present issues such as the fuel crisis affecting Ayers in his operation? Ayers irrigates during drier months, usually late spring through early fall, and has one electric irrigation well and one natural gas well.

"I had a notice from my gas company that my present contract would expire January 10," Ayers said. "They informed me my new premium would be \$100 per month—that would be O.K. if I used it 12 months—but the wells only run 3 to 4 months per year."

AYERS SAID that it will cost him \$1,200 per year to keep his contract then he only will be using about \$300 to \$400 worth a year.

"I'll just have to try and negotiate with them some way—I can't afford to operate the wells like that," Ayers said.

Ayers runs two main tractors in his farm operation, a smaller butane tractor for row crops, and a larger diesel tractor for plowing wheat land and big jobs on the land where remains of the 1909 Ayersville School are still hit occasionally by the plow. Ayers couldn't get in the fields last year at this time for a couple of months because of unusually wet weather. But that is what his this year's allocation is



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dependent upon another part. The situation of the 1955 graduate of TEXAS A&M University is much like many all across the Big Country, Texas and the nation. Many husband and wife teams are both working, trying to meet the high cost of production to deliver the increased demand for food and fiber which the entire country must have.

WHEN AYERS moves cattle, he will again need fuel as it is 25 miles from his home to the market at Vernon. But the cattle, which wear the LA brand on their left side, a brand registered in his family in 1893, making it the oldest active brand in Foard County, must have feed. Thus, tractors for sowing wheat pasture and irrigation wells to make feed grow must be in operation. Every part of his operation is

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Opening date near for Copper Break

Austin Bureau
AUSTIN — A Texas Parks and Wildlife Department official reported Copper Breaks State Park, halfway between Quanah and Crowell, should be open to the public around Jan. 1.

Kenneth W. Cline, Parks and Wildlife Engineer, said final inspection on the park will be made in the next two weeks, and by that time it should be 99 per cent complete. "I see no reason why, once we make the final inspection, the park could not be opened — so sometime around the first of the year the park should be open to the public," Cline said.

IN A PUBLIC hearing on construction plans for a combination interpretive center and headquarters building for the park, Cline said bids will open Jan. 17 in Austin for the \$175,000 facility.

The interpretive center will be located on a hill overlooking the park (which has yet to be constructed) will depict areas in the history of the area surrounding the park. Cline said it will display and narrate the flora and fauna of the region, the history of things as ranching and display on Comanche. **THE CENTER** part of the headquarters building for the park, to be about 6,000 square feet building will have a room, an information room and a receptionist, restrooms. Exhibits in the interpretive center, located in the building, will be \$100,000.

Copper Breaks State Park is located 13 miles west of Quanah, contains over 100 acres, Cline said.

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Sunday School10:00 A. M.
Morning Worship10:50 A. M.
Sunday Evening Service7:00 P. M.

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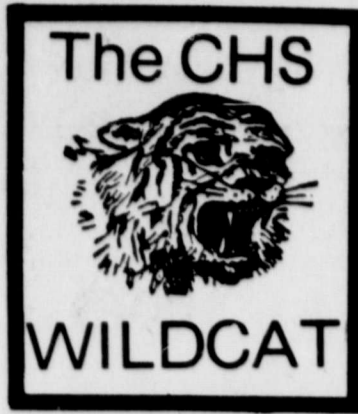
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WEEKLY SCHEDULE
DEC. 10-14
MONDAY—Girls play Electra at Crowell, 6:30 p.m.
TUESDAY—Picture retakes of Seniors and organizations
WEDNESDAY—
THURSDAY—Through Sat. Knox City tournament.

THE ENERGY CRISIS
STUDENT SOLUTIONS
 Everywhere you go these days the one topic you are sure to hear about is the "energy crisis". People talk about it around the stove, on the street

corner and over coffee. Many solutions have been suggested from citizens in various walks of life, but we feel that some of the most interesting ones have come from C.H.S. students. Therefore, we wanted to share some of their views on the question, "How can the energy crisis be solved?"
 Steve Setliff—Require all school teachers to form carpools.
 Gary Glover—Dismiss all schools during the winter.
 Mike Winters—Design a Presidential jet, powered by rubberbands.
 Kathy Shirley—Everybody ride bicycles.
 Harold Myers—Ask everybody to slow down.
 Ricky Hammonds—Cut out any activities that require energy.
 Richard Naylor—Use windmills for power.
 Stacy Garrett—Everybody stay home.
 Rocky Glasscock—Everyone wear thermal underwear so we can turn down the thermostat.
 Chris Thompson—Stay in bed

where it is warm all day.
 Carlos Hudgens—What energy crisis?
 Jill Myers—Cut down on homework so that students wouldn't use up electricity studying at night.
 Willy Bachman—Make everybody help build a pipeline to Alaska.
 Christy Shaw—Save the bus gas and let everybody ride a horse to school.
 Rita Hodges—Let everybody huddle together on a cold night.
 We can not guarantee that our suggestions would be the most logical way to conserve fuel, but they do all sound very interesting.
SENIOR SPOTLIGHT
 The brown-haired, blue eyed senior in this week's spotlight is Joe Haynie. He is the 17 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Warren Haynie. The 5'9" senior was born on December 18, 1955.
 Joe attends the First Baptist Church of Crowell.
 His favorites include: Food, steak; song, "The Most Beautiful Girl"; actor, John

Wayne; subject, V.A.; hobby, riding horses.
 Joe was elected freshman guy his freshman year, has been on Student Council 2 years, FFA member for 4 years, and presiding as president this year, and has been on the livestock judging team.
SENIOR NEWS
 Monday night the Wildcats traveled to Electra for a win with Cheryl Branch scoring 30 points for the girls team.
 Tuesday December 3, the senior girls took the Betty Crocker test in the homemaking cottage. Monday and Tuesday a Chemistry test was given.
 Again, Tuesday, the Wildcats traveled away to Chillicothe for another win! Congratulations! Cheryl Branch sunk in 24 points for the Wildcats.
 Thursday seniors wrote a theme in class for English. Preparing for college.
 Thursday began the Crowell Tournament with a lot of team participation.
 High pointers for the boys team were: Steve Graves, and

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 Crowell, Texas, Dec. 13, 1973
 Jackie Eavenson scoring 14 points each. Cheryl Branch scoring a total of 32 points for the girls.
 Saturday, Remelle Marlow and Mrs. Brown traveled to Stephenville for an area FHA meeting.
JUNIOR NEWS
 The Junior Class met Tuesday morning to discuss and plan for the Junior-Senior Prom and Banquet. Everyone is eagerly waiting to order our Senior rings.
 In English, we have to give an oral book report Friday. In history, we have been having discussions on current events. These have proved to be informative and interesting.
 Congratulations to the basketball teams on winning the Crowell Tournament. Everyone played tremendously!
SOPHOMORE SCOOP
 The English II classes are studying debates. The first day

we all discussed and argued about school rules. The hair code, dress code and open school was discussed. Freedom of speech was a main topic that was included in our debates. There were many advantages and disadvantages about open school. Some thought it was a good idea and would like to try it, but others thought it would be worse.
 Last week the high school basketball teams had a tournament here. The schools that participated were Chillicothe, Northside, O'Brien, Crowell, Benjamin, Harold, and Vernon JV. The first day of our tournament, we got out of school for our JV game. We wished that we could have gotten out the rest of the day, but at 1:30 we had to return to class.
FRESHMAN FROLICS
 Monday, the Freshman Home EC girls enjoyed the different varieties of cookies they baked. The next unit that we will be studying is about bread.
 In English we are now writing essays and explaining how to do

Bids for Dam at State Park Re-Advertised

Bids for the construction of a dam across Devil's Creek in the Copper Breaks State Park north of Crowell will be re-advertised and bids for the construction of an Interpretive Center for the park are being advertised this week by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for opening on January 17, after an earlier bid on the dam construction was rejected after the fuel shortage caused prospective bidders to shun the project.
 According to a spokesman in the engineering department of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, concern over the fuel shortage and the number of days allowed for construction scared off eight prospective bidders as only one bid was received for the \$381,000 project, and it was rejected. The Department will re-advertise the matter with the same companies and the same specifications, but the dam specifications will be changed. The contract provides for letting the matter of time extension of the fuel shortage weather.
 The \$317,000 Interpretive Center will be bid on the same day, January 17. The center will be a park headquarters and include information about the park environment.
 Construction is scheduled on the first park project which includes construction of roads, lines, electricity lines and camping areas, launching dock, a beach, and a park

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Well, another six weeks has almost finished and soon we will be starting a new semester.
 Everyone enjoyed the basketball tournaments held here last week. Everyone come and support your team because this year there will be some exciting games to see.
CAFETERIA MENU
 Monday—hamburgers, lettuce, tomatoes, onions and pickles, french fries, apricot cobbler, milk.
 Tuesday—pinto beans, barbecued franks, corn bread, buttered spinach, carrot sticks, graham crackers with peanut butter, milk.
 Wednesday—burritos, creamed potatoes, tossed salad, blackeyed peas, jello with fruit, milk.
 Thursday—fish with tartar sauce, green beans, macaroni and tomatoes, celery sticks, pear half, rolls, milk.
 Friday—turkey and dressing, giblet gravy, english peas, celery stick, cranberry sauce, light bread, fruit salad, milk.

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Morning Worship and Lord's Supper—11 A. M.
 Youth Meeting—5 P. M.
 Evening Worship—6 P. M.
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TRADE IN CROWELL

Foard County News—7
Crowell, Texas, Dec. 13, 1973

From the News...
30 Years Ago

News items below were taken from the Thursday, Dec. 9, 1943, issue of The Foard County News:

The Crowell Wildcats and the Ballinger Bearcats will be playing for the highest honors that a Class A team can achieve when they meet on the Wildcat field Friday afternoon at 2:30 for Region 3 championship football game.

A telegram received last Thursday morning by O. R. Boman gave him and other relatives and friends the glad news that Mrs. Boman, who has been a Japanese prisoner since the fall of the Central Philippine Islands in April, 1942, was interned in Manila and was well.

Having perfect attendance records at the Thalia School during the second six weeks were Bob Johnson, Marlene Mason, Letha Faye Marlow, Billy Johnson, Leon McBeath, Charles Hudgens, James Brian Hall, Billy Marlow, Clinton Marlow, James McBeath, Don Wisdom and Myrna Loy Riley.

Deputy tax collectors will be at the court house in Crowell on Dec. 11 to render assistance with current income tax problems of farmers and ranchmen.

Mr. and Mrs. Criss Moody announce the birth of a daughter, Jeannette, who made her appearance Monday, Dec. 6, and weighed 7 pounds and 8 ounces.

A baby boy was born to Sgt. and Mrs. Jack Charles Powers in a Vernon hospital Monday, Dec. 6. Mrs. Powers is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Greening.

Great demand is now being made on butane gas refiners. If you "fool around," don't read your gauges, get completely "without", it may be awfully cold—yet, it may be several hours or 2 or 3 days before we can get gas to you.—W. R. Womack.

Rev. and Mrs. R. S. Watkins were hosts at their parsonage home Tuesday evening to the stewards of the Methodist Church and their wives at a dinner party.

Miss Mary Elizabeth Tamplen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Luther Tamplen, and a student nurse in Lubbock General Hospital, has recently joined the Cadet Nurses' Corps. She will continue her training at Lubbock until her graduation about next September.

The rain that fell over Foard County Sunday amounted to .85 of an inch, which, added to the recent rain of 1.24 inches, gives the county a pretty fair season.

Mrs. Cecil Carroll of Post spent the week end here. She will leave Dec. 8 for New York to join her husband.

T-Sgt. Burke Bell left for Camp Ryder, Arizona, Sunday following a 15-day furlough here in the home of his mother, Mrs. R. W. Bell.

Spuds, nice, white, peck 42c.—Brooks Food Market.

J. L. Short, who has lived on his farm eight miles northeast of Crowell and in the same house for the past 32 years, sold his farming tools and household goods Tuesday and will go to Olton to live with his daughter, Miss Johnnie Mae, who is teaching school at that place.

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OAK FARMS BUTTERMILK Half-Gallon **65¢**

SOFTWEAVE 2 roll pac **29¢**

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King: 17 mg. "tar", 1.2 mg. nicotine; Extra Long: 18 mg. "tar", 1.3 mg. nicotine av. per cigarette, FTC Report (Feb. '73).

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RANCH STYLE STEAK lb. **79¢**

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CIRCLE A SAUSAGE 2 pound bag **2.09**

Roast RUMP lb. **99¢**

Pork Chops center cut lb. **\$1.29**
End Cut lb. **79¢**

COCOANUT Giant 14 oz. Pkg. **59¢**

CHUCK WAGON BACON Cudahy 2 lb. bag **\$2.09**

PALMOLIVE LIQUID Giant 32 oz. **79¢**

PORK AND BEANS Western Gold 2 1/2 can **4 cans \$1.00**

Paper Towels Bounty Giant 3 for **\$1**

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