

The Upton County Journal

VOL. 1.

RANKIN, UPTON COUNTY, TEXAS, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1927

NO. 5

Outlined Plan for Rankin Development Rankin-Crane Oil Field Highway Organized

Officials of Orient Railroad Visit Rankin and Ask for Right-of-Way for Additional Trackage and Industrial Sites

That Rankin is to become the key city for a distributing center and supply base for the big Yates and Crane county oil fields is indicated by the proposal made here by the officials of the Orient railroad company.

Already the Tulsa Rig & Reel company, the Oil Well Supply company, the Jarecki Manufacturing company and the Pittsburg Pipe & Supply company have located houses in Rankin, seven other national concerns are now seeking locations here.

A. J. Cleary, superintendent; W. H. Hargrove, general freight and passenger agent, and H. E. Beard, chief engineer for the Orient, were in Rankin Monday night as guests of the Chamber of Commerce, and disclosed plans for the early construction of a mile of industrial trackage just west of town.

The railway officials were entertained at dinner at the Yates Coffee Shop by N. L. Bettilyon, president of the Chamber of Commerce, and met with the organization in the district court room of the county court house.

The proposal to build trackage, with laterals, together providing for loading and unloading docks and racks paves the way for a big oil field supply center here.

The session of the Chamber of Commerce was opened with prayer by Rev. Evans, Methodist pastor, and was presided over by President Bettilyon and Secretary E. A. Fletcher. Many interesting talks were made and much enthusiasm greeted the Orient proposal as made by Mr. Cleary. The condition of the proposal is that the grounds just west of town be obtained at a reasonable price to the railroad. The lands necessary for the right of way is to be one mile in length and 500 feet in width.

A delegation of Crane citizens were present and were heartily in favor of the improvements. Rankin citizens were urged to get busy and see that the proposition went over.

A committee composed of R. C. Harlan, Cap Yates and Bud Barlow was appointed to get in touch with the owners of the land through which the trackage would pass, and close up the deal as early as possible.

Practically the assurance has been made that the lands would be made available acceptable to the Orient management and that preliminary ground work would be started before many days.

Mr. Jamison, county road superintendent, announced that work is well under way on the highway leading to Crane City, and to Yates field on the south. With these improvements Rankin bids fair to soon become the supply base for the biggest combined oil territory in the entire country. He urged the citizens to take action in getting the State Highway Commission to put the Petroleum Highway in good repair through the county. With this main highway passing through Upton county from east

to west in good repair, and with the early completion of the work on the road to Yates, Crane City and Midland, this section will have one of the best systems of roads found in the state.

Several speakers gave hearty endorsement to the railroad improvements and the general development of the oil resources of this section.

The new trackage and yard extension would be located just west of the corporate limits of the town and extending for a mile west paralleling and lying just north of the Crane City highway.

Mr. Cleary explained that negotiations are under way with his company and the T. & P. whereby it is believed mail from the east can be delivered to Rankin several hours earlier than it is now being received with present schedules and rail connections.

Other speakers included Roy R. Priest, W. R. Dobbins, H. E. Beard, Mr. Barnes, Mr. Bettilyon, Mr. Spence, Mr. Key, Mr. Yoakum, Mr. Jamison.

Bank Brings Much New Business to Rankin

When First State Bank was removed from the stockman's town of Barnhardt, which by the way bears the reputation of being the largest sheep and goat shipping point in the United States, to Rankin, the part that bank would play in the development and progress of Rankin was little thought of. In the old days it was necessary to transact whatever banking business there was in this part of the state at Big Lake or Fort Stockton, or some other point equally far distant. John F. Lane, wealthy cattleman, Pearl Rankin, another cattleman, and others, became interested in getting a bank at Rankin. The proposition appealed to W. H. Holcomb, experienced banker, and the bank became a reality in Rankin. Now it is drawing trade and business to Rankin from Crane City and the oil field surrounding that new town; from Iraan and Grube, new boom towns of the Yates pool, from Best and from McCamey. All of which indicates that the territory served by the First State Bank of Rankin was badly in need of a bank, and due to the development on a larger scale that has come since the establishment of the bank here, the need is much greater now than at the time of the bank's establishment. It also indicates the good judgment of the men behind the movement, for a bank,

Honor Roll

Spanish I. Norton Harris.
Spanish II. Florence Hayes.
English I. Carson Taylor.
English II. Carrie Lee Tierce.
English III. Clinton Carol,

The Christmas Spirit in Rankin

As Christmas approaches the stores and business places of Rankin are becoming more and more Santa Claus headquarters. The Lowe Hardware company have a large stock of toys, dolls and merchandise appropriate for children. This department is under the personal supervision of Mrs. Lowe who is taking a delight in showing to the little folks these goods, and assisting the parents in buying.

Hemphill-Key company, which some of these days before long will be a big department store, have stoked their store to its capacity with Christmas goods appropriate for the older person. Mr. Key, who was for a number of years a traveling salesman, is thoroughly familiar with the needs of the better class trade in holiday goods, and while not as large, he has made his store for this season, all that the larger city stores are, in so far as a variety of merchandise is concerned.

The Upton Drug company is also well stoked with holiday goods, as are the E. W. Brooks store, the Rackett store, the Ar-

cade, the City Drug store, and the various other stores of the city.

Last year Rankin was a typical ranch town. Most of the more wealthy people would drive to Angelo or Midland to do their holiday shopping, and the necessity of Christmas goods in Rankin is therefore a new proposition. The stores for this season are to be congratulated in the manner they have handled the situation this year.

The Harris-Lockett Hardware Co., located on South Main street have a large stock of practicable holiday goods.

There are no destitute families in Rankin. Charity workers this year, in this city, find themselves without a job, unless it be to send aid to other parts of the country, less fortunate. Every effort is being made to provide all Christmas festivities that is possible, and the outlook for a merry Christmas in Rankin is all that can be expected.

Many of our newer people will have visitors from a distance, while others will visit the old home back somewhere else in these United States.

Rankin High School Meets Classification Requirements

Under date of December 9, the Rankin High School received communication from Miss Mary Jo Popplewell, chief supervisor of High Schools, State Department of Education, stating that Rankin had met the requirements for classification in every respect except for the crowded condition in the primary grades. To meet this requirement, the school board met in extra session and ordered the school auditorium cut into class rooms, and elected Mrs. G. C. Lisle to a place on the school faculty. Application has now gone forward for affiliation in each subject being taught in the high school.

During the three months school has been in session, the enrollment has increased fifty per cent. One teacher has been added, each month, to take care of the congested condition. This means that there will be at least six more new teachers on the teaching staff by the close of the term. It also means that Rankin must soon have a new school building in which to house her children. The school board, and citizens generally, are seriously considering plans for the erection of a modern school plant.

Rankin was visited by an army airplane Thursday from Westbrook flying field, San Antonio. Lieutenant Rich, accompanied by a sergeant mechanic, spent Thursday night in Rankin. The men arrived here Thursday afternoon and landed their plane at the tourist camp, leaving Friday morning. They were making an air sight-seeing trip of the oil fields,

Rankin Rapidly Becoming Supply Center for District

That Rankin is to become one of the large oil field supply centers of west Texas is indicated by the movement of large oil well supply concerns into this city. Local freight yards are filled with piping and other supplies, which are trucked to the fields from here.

Work on the large plant of the Tulsa Rig and Reel company is now progressing. Associated with this company will be the American Steel Derrick company.

The Bouevard Supply company are said to have secured a location here for one of their stores.

The Pittsburg Pipe and Supply company, one of the large concerns operating in the larger oil field centers, have location here one block south and one block west of the Yates hotel. Work on their building will start immediately.

The Jarecki Manufacturing company have their building, on the corner across the street from Pittsburg Pipe and Supply company, about finished, and they will be doing business in a short time, according to present plans.

Seven other supply companies have already made application for trackage here.

THE RADIO AND WINTER RECEPTION

Go over the old radio as carefully as you look over the car in the spring. See that both A and B batteries are fully charged. Tighten connections that may have come loose. Coat your A battery with a touch of vasoline to keep it from corroding.

Disconnect your B battery for half an hour or so, and revive your tubes with an injection of A power.

Then wait for a clear, frosty evening and bring in the radio world from Alpha to Omega.

Crane Meeting Results in Permanent Organization of Highway--Fletcher Named as Secretary-Manager

A good roads meeting was held at Crane City Wednesday by citizens of Rankin, Crane City, Grand Falls and Monahans, whereby it is proposed to complete the highway from Rankin to Monahans so as to put it in good condition for traffic in all weather.

A permanent organization was perfected whereby Judge Barnsley, of Crane City, was elected chairman; Geo. E. Lance, of Monahans, vice chairman; E. A. Fletcher, Rankin, secretary-treasurer.

Several discussions were made by various speakers concerning the road improvements, and adjournment was taken till 10 a. m. next Wednesday. A meeting will be held at that time at Crane City. The following meeting will be held in Rankin.

Those participating in the meeting from Rankin were G. L. Bettilyon, E. A. Fletcher and W. M. Merrill.

A committee of five from each of the four towns was named, making a total of twenty members in the association which will compose the board of directors. A chairman was elected from each town who will be a member of the executive committee.

These members with the four general chairman will compose the executive committee.

G. L. Bettilyon, M. W. Merrill, Mr. Faulk, Rev. Evans and Dr. Singleton is the Rankin committee.

Present at the Crane City meeting were G. L. Bettilyon, E. A. Fletcher, M. W. Merrill, of Rankin; J. A. Seward, county commissioner of Crane City; W. A. Estes, county commissioner of Monahans; Geo. E. Lance, secretary Monahans Chamber of Commerce; N. E. Fielding, John Pigman, H. R. Clark, of Monahans; B. F. Eldridge, Crane; J. B. Cotton, Crane; H. Dyer, Crane; B. F. Carey, Crane; T. M. White, Grand Falls; L. R. Snelson, Grand Falls; John H. Boogher, Grand Falls; and W. M. Estes, county commissioner, Monahans.

Dr. E. J. Cooke was temporary chairman and Mrs. Dyer was temporary secretary.

On the election of permanent officers, Mr. Lance, vice-chairman, took the chair in the absence of Judge Barnsley.

At next Wednesday's meeting the committeemen from the four towns interested will work out further plans and the highway body will be officially named.

West Texas Utilities Co. Building Temporary Office

The Rankin office of the West Texas Utilities Company will be moved the first of next week to the new quarters which are being completed on Main street near the Orient depot.

The new building is a frame structure, 18 by 36 feet, facing west. It is situated adjacent to the company's ice vault.

Increased business in Rankin and the surrounding territory made larger quarters necessary so that the needs of the company's patrons here could be cared for. The new quarters, although only temporary, will to some extent relieve the crowded condition which has existed.

Plans for an attractive permanent building for the Rankin office are being worked out by the West Texas Utilities Company. It will be erected next year, as soon as the concern has been able to determine just what size structure is needed to care for the growing business. A lot on which the building will be located has been purchased. It is in block 105, across the street west from Western Union.

The building now being completed will house the office and also will serve as a sales and storeroom. It will be completed Monday.

Sacramento, Cal., and Augusta, Maine are the two state capitals farthest apart. The distance on an air-line is 2,663 miles.

Slowing Down for Christmas Holidays

Work in the oil fields around Rankin are slowing down to as low ebb as possible, in anticipation of the Christmas holidays. Many of the men now working in the field will want to go "back home" for the holidays, and when they return, many new families will return with them to Rankin, McCamey and other cities in the oil fields of West Texas.

After the new year, much new work is planned.

It has been reported that early in the new year, the Gulf and Dixie will drill a total of fifteen tests on the Thompson ranch, but Mr. Thompson has not confirmed this. Gulf's pumping station at the terminus of its pipe line between its Nos. 1 and 2 Thompson is complete save for the turning on of the electric power. There are a dozen 500-barrel tanks on the Thompson lease and two 80,000 barrel tanks are building on Gulf's Runnels County school land lease in section 3.

T. AND P. SHOPMEN

GET 9-HOUR DAY
Marshall, Dec. 11.—Effective Monday morning, Dec. 12, the motive power department of the Texas and Pacific shops here will go on a nine-hour working day.

The shops have heretofore been working eight hours.

The shops here are crowded with locomotive work brought to Marshall from Fort Worth and Big Spring, since the shops burned in the latter city. The capacity of the shops is now taxed to get the big locomotive out as fast as possible.

Approximately 900 men in the motive power department are affected.—Fort Worth Star Telegram.

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PERMIAN SEA LIKE IN

GERMANY LED TO POTASH

Dr. J. A. Udden of the University of Texas began a search for potash in West Texas because out here just as in Germany there was a Permian sea which had been cut off from the rest of the sea and evaporated in dryness. Dr. Udden searcher and found potash minerals in well cuttings in this area, this being followed by a systematic search, reveals the detailed report of Dr. E. P. Shoch and Dr. E. H. Sellards, both of the University of Texas, indicating there is enough minerable potash in Midland county to last the United States for the next 250 years. Dr. Shoch is director of industrial chemistry experiment station at the University of Texas and Dr. Sellards director of Bureau of Economic geology there.

The salts are believed to be scattered over Reagan, Ector, Crockett and Sutton counties, and tests now are, or getting ready in the latter two. One has recently been completed in Midland county.

The first mineral layer of potash minerals to be found in West Texas and the New Mexico areas, according to Drs. Schoch and Sellards, was found in April 1926 when drill cores produced by the Standard Potash Company of Dallas revealed a five-foot bed of practically pure polyhalite at a depth of 2,975 to 2,980 feet in the western part of Midland county. Later a second well was drilled about three miles farther west and cores showed an eleven foot layer of the mineral composed of sixty-per cent of soluble salts containing ten per cent potassium oxide at a depth of 1850 to 1991 feet and a three foot layer of pure polyhalite at a depth of 2,172 to 2,175 feet. The latter layer corresponds to the five-foot layer of polyhalite in the first well. Further drillings in the second well reveal another three-foot layer of the mineral and a thirteen foot layer composed on an average of one-third of polyhalite and two thirds of polyhalite and two thirds salt.

After Dr. Udden's discovery a systematic search was begun in which most of the work was done by the United States Geological Survey because the University of Texas was too limited in funds to do it all. It was soon realized that only "core" tests could settle the question as to whether or not there were potash layers of mineral thickness, and hence a bill recently passed in Congress was introduced to do such exploratory coring. It was thought that the search was to hazardous off for private capital to engage in it, and since the subject is of national importance, it was deemed advisable for the government to undertake the risk. However as early as 1922, Mr. Agrees, now president of the Standard Potash Company, after canvassing the territory and examining oil well records, selected the site on which these wells were drilled, organized the company and finished the first well before the above law was passed. The second well has proved out the field so extensively that the prime purpose for congressional aid in the search for potash has now disappeared. In fact, should drilling with government aid later on be successful, its effects might actually be in the future to discourage private enterprise and it might delay the development of an American potash industry because in the beginning this industry has to overcome many difficulties, chief among which may be the competition with European potash.

"Since this site is the only one on which potash is minerable, quantities has been found in West Texas and New Mexico. It may not be amiss to present Mr. Agrees' idea which guided him in this selection. They are as follows:

"The thickest deposit of salt were evidently formed where the bottom of the sea was the deepest because as the solution became concentrated the water receded from the shallow portions and covered only the deeper portions. It is on top of the potash salt deposits that the potash salts were then finally deposited. Of course, all this assumes that there were no great geological changes during the time of the deposition of these salts and that at most the whole region was raised or lowered without changing the relative level of any of the parts. That this state of conditions existed dur-

ing those geological times in this area is indicated by the fact that the layers are now practically horizontal and flat throughout large areas, and oil well drillings in and around Midland County had indicated that this is particularly true in this area. While prior to 1922 the indications for the selection of this territory were very meager, yet they gave basis for suspecting what has since been confirmed as follows: That a trough on top of the thickest salt beds in West Texas passes through the west part of Midland county. And that to the east and south the salt beds rise and thin out very rapidly. Again to the west is the recent discovered uplift on the edge of which the Odessa oil field has just been developed; and finally, to the north, on the southern border of Gaines, Dawson and Borden counties there appears to be another rising and thinning out of the salt beds. These limits to the Midland potash field decided me to select this site."

"It does not follow that all of the basin within these counties should show these potash layers, nor does it follow that these confines delimit evaporated. In fact, it is rather likely that the uplifts to the west and north occurred during the Permian times. In any case, the disproportionate amount of sulphates, partitioned the original basin which was peculiarly of anhydrite in these salts deposits indicate that there must have been an occasional influx and efflux liquor such as would occur if the 'Barre' between the two 'Ponds' were temporarily opened. In other words just as in Germany, so here, the theory of 'Barre' Action is necessary to explain why the average composition of the salt layers as a differs from that of the salts in sea water. However, nowhere in this basin is there any indication of such extensive geological actions as would produce 'Salt Flowage' hence these deposits in contra-distinction from a large part of the German and Alsatian deposits are of fairly uniform thickness and relatively wide extent.

PYOTE SHOWS HUGE P. O. RECEIPTS GAIN

Postoffice receipts for November of this year show the amazing increase of over 12,000 per cent over the corresponding month of last year according to figures just made public by Postmaster A. J. Sitton. October of this year showed an increase of 10,049 per cent over

October 1926, and the total receipts for September, 1927, were 7,200 per cent greater than the corresponding month in 1926.

The month just closed showed an increase in total postoffice receipts of \$1,000 over the month of October and exactly double the amount of business transacted during the month of September. For many months past the total for any one month has been many times greater than the total receipts for the entire year of 1926.

"These deposits will naturally be mined like coal. The depths of the layers, which extend from 1900 to 2,00 feet, is within the range of the depth in Europe, which are from 1,00 to 3,000 feet. The refining of the West Texas minerals presents many new problems but our work has progressed far enough to say that no great obstacles are likely to present themselves. The products, sulphates of potassium, sodium and magnesium, have a different market value from the chlorides. With an oil field within a few miles and the fact that solar evaporation is very easily carried out in a dry and rarified atmosphere of the Texas high plains, it is seen that the cost of production should be moderate. The industry will also be helped by the fact that oil industry has developed the nearby city of Odessa, into a large town so that power, supplies, labor, etc., may be all readily and cheaply obtained there. For all these reasons it is likely that the successful American potash industry may soon be a reality. The amount of potash "in sight" may be said to be that underlying a strip three miles wide by six miles long. Within the souable layer this strip contains twenty-three million tons of potassium oxide, and in the polyhalite layers about thirty-four million tons. At present the United States consumption is 250,000 tons of potassium oxide per annum, for this rate of consumption the above will suffice for two hundred and fifty years."

ODESSA TO PAVE ROAD TO LARGE POTASH FIELD

Potash developments on the 70 square miles of holdings, nine miles south of Odessa, are to receive immediate benefits from Ector County's \$100,000 bond issue sold last week to provide funds for paving the highway from this city to the Crane County oil fields. In the wake of announcement that early development, including min-

ing operations in the nearby potash fields, will follow recent announcement by the University of Texas of almost unlimited potash deposits on the vast holdings of the Standard Potash Company of Odessa, highway engineers are making plans to rush the paving of the Crane Road which extends within a short distance of the company's properties. In addition to the advantage to the Crane highway pavement, power lines serv-

ing the nearby oil fields from the Texas Electric Service Company's \$2,000,000 plant in Odessa, extend through the potash company's properties and service can be inaugurated for mining operations at any time, according to announcement Saturday.

Seven hundred tons of water are required during the growing period of an acre of potatoes.

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Gents' 12 and 16 size watches; 21 Ruby and Sapphire Jewels; double roller yellow, green and white gold, \$38.50 to \$80. Ladies' Wrist Watches, \$13 to \$70; Diamond Rings, \$25 to \$115. Full line of Christmas presents. No money down; 5 per cent discount for cash. All orders sent C. O. D. Express, with privilege of examination. We guarantee you a saving of 30 per cent.
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- Electric Toasters
- Electric Percolators
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- Electric Lanterns
- Tea Pots
- Tea Sets
- Dinner Sets
- Salad Sets

- Vases
- Wall Pockets
- Perfume Bottles
- Fancy China
- Serving Trays
- Table Lamps
- Flashlights
- Remington Guns
- Savage Guns
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Make the Harlan your Home while in Rankin

COURTEOUS EFFICIENT SAFE

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Capital \$25,000.00

Rankin, Texas

This bank fully recognizes its responsibility of service to the town of Rankin and surrounding territory embraced in the four big oil fields, as well as to the ranchmen of this vicinity.

Our interests and our service is not confined to the town of Rankin alone but rather to the entire district.

Make this Bank your Confidential Advisor

Jno. P. Lane, Pres. J. P. Rankin, Vice-Pres.
W. H. Holcomb, Cashier

Reward

We will pay \$100.00 for information leading to arrest and conviction of anyone who willfully damages our lines or property or interferes with electric service.

West Texas Utilities Co.
W. E. Pittman, Dist. Supt.
12-15-27-3t

Three New Rooming Houses Building.

The Upton hotel last week opened for business in the Yates addition. Two other rooming houses are now under construction, which, when they are finished, will to some extent relieve the congested condition for sleeping quarters in Rankin. One of these is being built west of the Cozy Corner sandwich shop, half a block off Main street, and the other is being built on the corner opposite the E. A. Fletcher residence. Mr. Earnest, who owns one rooming house here already, and who owns other property in the city, is building at the latter location.

Seminole is Falling Fast

Seminole, Okla., —The Greater Seminole area is going to get out of the way of Santa Claus. Total production for the district dropped to 406,258 barrels for a new low. There has been a steady decline for two months, and indications are that each day the total will grow less.

Promisuous shooting of wells has continued and this has been responsible in holding up the greater part of the production. Wells in Earlesboro and Bowlegs are being pushed for all they're worth in a hope of keeping a normal flow. Completions have been few during the last month, and even the best wells are to be classed with the mediocre ones of the heyday of the field.

Experts are predicting that by Christmas, greater Seminole will be around 380,000 barrels, and

by the end of March, the field will be down to around 250,000 barrels a day.

Girl Scouts Meeting

Scout meeting opened by singing one stanza of "Star Spangled Banner." Following the song were three special reports.

The trees the Girl Scouts gave away will arrive in Rankin the 20th of the month.

It was decided that the Girl Scouts will make a collection of leaves to bring to the next meeting.

At the Girl Scouts last meeting last Monday afternoon, two new games were played, "Chinese Tag" introduced by Monte Ray Powell and "Spunk Tag" introduced by Earline McQuire.

Those present were: Mayana Yates, Hattie Garner, Charlotte Monroe, Vera Carney, Rosalie Parker, Monte Ray Powell, Wilhe Ruth Powell, Gwendolyn Patterson, Earline McQuire, Olive Burroughs, Dorothy McGee, Leona Childress, Ada Harris, Wanda Harlan, Venna Sammons, Florenes Wilkerson,

Telephone Co. Improves

Mrs. Morgan, local manager of the Pacos and Rio Grande Telephone company reports application for a number of new telephones to be installed as soon as linemen can make the connections. This includes both business and resident phones. Included in the applications are a number of phones for supply houses, either already located here are making plans for locating here.

Since the recent increased facilities here the local telephone company have made rapid development and improvement in service.

Mr. Harlan Is Kicking

C. Harlan, owner of the Harlan hotel, one of the large modern hotels of this city, is also owner of the Harlan Land and Abstract company, with offices in the two last rooms on the ground floor of the hotel. Mr. Harlan is now kicking on his hotel manager because he is having to turn his abstract offices into a cot house to accommodate the overflow from the hotel at night. Cots are taken up each morning and replaced at night.

Every room in all the hotels are taken long before night, and frequently none are available at any time during the day.

Boarding House Wanted

Rankin wants an old fashioned boarding house where room and board may be had. There is no such thing in this town. Room rent high and hard to get at any price. Mr. Bettylion, owner of the Rankin hotel states that his place is filled all the time, and that he has several applicants on the "waiting list" for rooms as soon as somebody moves. Restaurants are all doing good business, in spite of the fact that there is possibly more competition in the restaurant business here than any other line of business.

Only a few more days until Christmas; only a few days left in which to complete your Christmas shopping. And since the stores and clerks will be unduly rushed on the last days, the sooner you complete your purchases the better for all concerned. —Even the Printer.

TEXAS COMPANY BUYS OIL PROPERTIES FROM PURE OIL
New York, Dec. 9. (AP)—The Texas Corporation is reported in Chicago dispatches to Wall Street to be closing negotiations with Pure Oil Company to take over part of its properties in West Texas, consisting of 3,100 acres in Winkler County, 407 acres in Pecos County and 2,000 acres in Crane and Upton Counties, in addition to equipment valued at \$300,000.—Dallas News.

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Alterations and repairing done by graduate tailors. Phone us, we call for and deliver quickly. Boys' suits "Just like Dad's" made to-measure.

"As a Man Dresses So is He Taken."
It's the Fitting Quality that Counts.

WILLIAMS & SON

Tailors, Cleaners and Shirt Makers
Box 233, Rankin, Texas Phone 89

Final Close Out

Of All

Ladies' Silk and Wool
Dresses at

1-2 Off

Many attractive
Dresses in this lot
Your choice of all remaining hats

\$1.00

Hemphill-Key Co.

Supreme Court Sustained Buckley Sentence.

Bob Buckley, who was tried in Ozona last year on a charge of hi-jacking and sentenced to seven years in the penitentiary, has lost in the appeal made to the supreme court, the higher court sustaining the sentence. Buckley is charged with hi-jacking while working in the oil field north of McCamey. He was arrested by Upton county officials, as was his alleged partner, Ray Hawk, who is already serving his sentence of seventeen years. Buckley appealed the case from the Upton county court to Crockett county where sentence was passed. A few months ago he was returned to Upton county jail to await decision of the supreme court. According to Bud Barfield sheriff, he is believed to be an escaped convict from Ohio, the records showing the escape as being made in 1922.

Car License May Now be Paid

Application for 1928 automobile license will now be received at the sheriff's office in Rankin. Your prompt attention to this now, will avoid delays later. BUD BARFIELD, Sheriff.

Bob Hewitt, sheriff of Tom Green county, of which San Angelo is the capital city, was in Rankin the first of the week, in conference with Upton county Sheriff, Bud Barfield.

Hamp Carter of Mertzon, who formerly lived here, but has been away about seven years, has returned to Rankin, with his family to make their future home. He has bought lots here and will erect a home at once. He will work in the sheriff's office.

Boon Brown was picked up here by the sheriff's forces a few days ago on a vag charge. It was found however, that he was wanted in Wichita Falls on a felony charge.

Mrs. Gay Harris and son, Norton, motored to Lubbock Thursday to bring here her daughter, Miss Edith Harris who has been attending Texas "Tech." at Lubbock.

T. L. Harris, of Georgetown, is visiting his daughter, Mrs. J. A. Key.

The editor and family are thankful to our good friend Pearl Rankin for a big slice of beef brought into us the other day from the ranch. It's been

a long time since we have lived in a country other than strictly an industrial community. At one time we lived in western Kansas, where it was our privilege to know intimately the wheat farmer; another time we lived in Louisiana where we knew the plantation man; now we are in west Texas, where live the ranchman. All are of different types of men, but the same feeling or human kindness love for our fellow man prevails through all. So, wherever we may be, it's a pretty good old world, the world over.

A steam boiler, 150 lbs. pressure, is wanted for one or two days by the Rankin Townsite Co.

R. L. Lowe, of Sterling City, head of the Lowe Hardware and Furniture company, spent a few days here this week, looking after business interests and visiting with his son and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Roland Lowe.

Spence Jewell and Billy Driver, both of Midland, ranchmen of that district, were here this week trying to trade around on

some cattle belonging to Pearl Rankin. They went on from here to Ft. Stockton.

Notice to Contractors.

Bids will be received for the construction of a jail at Llan in Pecos county. Plans and specifications at Sheriff's office, Ft. Stockton, Texas. Bids will be opened at 10 o'clock, Tuesday, Dec. 20, 1927, at Sheriff's office. W. P. ROONEY, Sheriff.

MANUEL'S TIN SHOP

Manufacturers of

Water Tanks, Flues and Well Casing

Guttering and Down Spouting

...EVERYTHING IN TIN WORK...

Located 1 Block West of Main St.

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All Work Intrusted to us will be done right. We guarantee all work for 18 months

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Specializing in Portable Houses
Cabinet work of all kinds

Shop Located North of Railroad. West Part of Town

**The Christmas Gift
.. Supreme ..**

A home in Rankin. We know of no investment that is more safe. We believe in Rankin. We suggest that you consult us for estimates on a new home.

**Do Your Part In
Building Rankin**

We'll be glad to submit estimates of cost and assist you in every way possible. Whatever your building requirements, you'll find our stock "Up to Grade."

Foxworth-Galbraith Lumber Co.

**The
ARCADE**

Guy C. Morgan

Is ready to serve you in Christmas Gift Goods. Candy in Fancy Holly Boxes and Cedar Boxes make exceptionally desirable Gifts.

We have a little store full of other Gift Goods that are appropriate. Included are Art Goods, Smoker's Supplies, Notions and Greeting Cards.

You will be surprised at the Variety of Christmas goods we have in stock.

All the late Christmas number magazines are here.

Visit the
Arcade

Gifts for Women



We have made a special effort to bring to Rankin gift goods
FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN

---INCLUDED ARE---

Silk Hosiery, Silk Underwear, Brassiers, etc.

ALL ARE PACKED IN ATTRACTIVE HOLLY BOXES

E. W. BROOKS

Rankin, Texas

IRAAN NEWS

MRS. VAL GOHMERT, Editor

In the Center of the World's Greatest Oil Field

Street Grading Now in Progress

A stranger coming into our little community wondered as to the cause of all the town excitement. Business men dashed from their business and rushed to the street. The streets became crowded with gaping, staring people, but what were they staring at? Why all the rejoicing, hand shaking and friendly words? Yes, the nicest rain, settled the great dust question, and our good townspeople sent out a grader to go right to work. Our holdback has been the bad streets, but now we are on our way to a great city. Come on, everyone, let's boost our business and boost our town. Possessed of the world's greatest liquid gold field, we have nothing to stop us.

Telephone and Telegraph Now Available

Mist Eva Medill of Preckenridge, sister to Mrs. T. M. Souden, arrived last week to take her place at the telephone board now installed in the Yates hotel. Miss Medill also announces that she has been authorized to receive and send telegrams. Miss Medill is glad to render the most satisfactory service. We are glad to have taken

another step toward civilization but the authorization of the postal service will help greatly.

The Xmas Spirit

Many, many years ago the Christ child was born. Born into this wicked world to suffer and die for our redemption. Yet because we are seemingly away from civilization, away from the world of care-free, rejoicing people, we seem to forget. Let's remember what Xmas means to the little children among us. Let us remember, they are deprived of much, and how easily we can gladden their lives with just a little expense.

"Scatter ye sunshine while ye may,
Old time is still a-flying,
The rose that blooms today
Tomorrow will be dying."

Local Shower Welcomed

Iraan was blessed with a good shower. Everyone felt that the shower was far better than the richest of inheritances. The heavy dust which for months had impeded our traffic is now settled and our streets are in fine condition. We feel that this improvement has lifted one of our heaviest drawbacks. Everyone is looking forward to a brighter future.

West Texas Utility Prominent in Field.

Among the many companies represented in Iraan is the West Texas Utility, located one block south of the Yates hotel. They are giving excellent service and are an asset to our town.

Copeland-Yates.

Quite a happy surprise to many of their numerous friends was the marriage of Miss Nellie Copeland to Mr. W. Yates, in Ozona Friday, December 9, at 12 o'clock. The young couple drove to Ozona and were married by Rev. Cook at the parsonage.

The News joins with their many friends in wishing them a very happy and prosperous future.

Mr. and Mrs. Yates are at home on the Yates ranch.

Joe J. Moore, a very accommodating and efficient repairman, recently located across the street from the Yates hotel. Mr. Moore says Iraan is much more than he expected; for that reason he is planning to put on more help as well as more room.

Mrs. C. W. Williams is recuperating nicely from her recent sick spell.

Mrs. Hardy Moss of McCamey spent a few days with her husband. Mr. Moss is sub-station engineer for the W. T. Utility. After Friday Mrs. Moss will rejoin her husband for an indefinite time. They are staying at the Yates hotel.

M. D. O'Quinn and family, accompanied by his brother, G. D. O'Quinn, left for Arlington to spend the Xmas holidays.

J. M. Stroud spent the week in Crane, attending to business.

SHAMPOOED

Cop: "Whats the idea of stalling on the main street?"
Fair One (absently): "I just washed my car, and I can't do a thing with it!"

TESTING AUTOMOBILE HEALTH

Maryland is conducting a roundup of all its automobiles for clinical inspection. During the first week some 3,000 cars were inspected and fully a third of them found defective in one of the essential attributes of a healthy machine. Blakes in many instances, were found out of adjustment or in need of relining. Lights, horns or steering gear in other instances were found far from perfect.

Maryland's experience follows closely that of New York, which was able to entice only approximately one half of its automobile owners into service stations and garages in which the inspection service was rendered free. Of motor cars examined, 39 per cent were found to be defective in one particular or another. Nearly 30 per cent of the defective cars required brake adjustment, and on 3 per cent the brakes had to be relined. Nearly 50 per cent of the defective vehicles stood in need of headlight adjustment, 6 per cent had defective warning devices and 10 per cent had faulty steering equipment. Officials in charge of the campaign, subsequently issued a statement to the effect that in many cases repairs were made just in time to avoid accidents and that in practically every case owners were unaware of the need of adjustment.

The word "seaworthy" as applied to ships, or "air worthy" as applied to aircraft, should have the counterpart "roadworthy" for application to motor vehicles. If only one person were involved in an accident the condition of the automobile would not be a matter of public concern. It generally takes two, however to make an accident and the careful driver whose equipment is always kept in top notch order is at the mercy of the careless driver or the one whose automobile is not "roadworthy."

There is growing concern over the matter of defective automobiles. Various jurisdictions have adopted or are considering the adoption of regulatory measures. In Pennsylvania, for instance, the new automobile code which goes into effect January 1, besides providing that brakes must be kept in good condition, and that all closed vehicles must be equipped with a windshield wiper, empowers the secretary of highways to "suspend the registration of any vehicle deemed unsafe, or unfit to be operated, or not equipped as required by this law." This provision, according to those who have studied it carefully will drive from the highways hundreds of decrepit and outworn cars

and trucks. New York City, in which 940 individuals were killed by motor cars during last year, has a record for the first six months of this year of 918 motor car killings. Similar conditions exist elsewhere. The curve on the automobile casualty graph continues to bend upward at an alarming rate. Carelessness and recklessness, of course, are primarily responsible, and this factor is greater in those States, like Texas which have no drivers license laws to make efficient and effective punishment of reckless drivers, but defective equipment plays a considerable part in connection with street and highway deaths, for the careless and reckless driver is usually also the worst offender in the matter of defective equipment. The time is ripe for a general automobile clinic in every police jurisdiction throughout the country. Unfit motor cars should be condemned, and only those in acceptable mechanical condition permitted the use of the streets and highways, where traffic conditions are such as to demand perfect operation of all safety devices.—Star Telegram.

Electric Power

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We carry Dodge and Graham parts in stock

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We Guarantee a Fit

..Expert Alterating..

Model Laundry Agts.

Real SERVICE Always

CITY TAILORS

T OBE HOWZE and VAL GOHMERT, Proprietors

Give Candy

There is no more appropriate gift than Candy for Christmas

We handle Johnston's and King in Beautiful Christmas Boxes-made especially for the occasion

There is also a wide variety of gift goods here for your selection. They include art goods, stationery, fountain pens, smokers' supplies, toilet sets, kodaks

City Drug Store

Thank You---J. F. SAURASAS

Rankin, Texas

**LEGION TO VOTE
ON PROHIBITION**

New York, Dec. 9. (AP)—A poll to ascertain the attitude of the membership of the American Legion and its Women's Auxiliary toward prohibition is to be made. Edward E. Spafford, national commander of the American Legion, announced Thursday night. He made the announcement at the annual dinner of the Legion's Department of New York, prefacing it with the statement that "in a democracy, no law should be enforced except such a one as has the approval of the majority."

The Legion, he said, is neither "wet" nor "dry" and the meeting halls of all legion posts from now until May 15, when the poll will be taken, will be thrown open for a discussion of the question.

"No government can long exist which does not enforce its laws," he declared, "or which resorts to a breach of the fundamental principle of liberty in order to enforce some law which has not the sanction of the best thought of the community."

Commander Spafford pointed out that the eighteenth amendment was adopted by the acts of State Legislatures and that a popular vote by the people never was held on the question.

The prohibition law, he said, seeks to govern individuals, not States, and "inasmuch as the strength of

any law rests upon the strength of the governed," it should have the unqualified consent of the people.

"We fought for this Government of the United States," Commander Spafford said, "and are willing to fight for it again. If the will of the people is for the retention of the eighteenth amendment and the Volstead act, every effort of the Government should be bent toward its enforcement. If, on the other hand, these provisions have not the approval of the majority of our citizenry, they should not remain a dead letter, which permits people to scoff at our institutions, but should be removed from our public records. Questions to be submitted are:

"Shall the eighteenth amendment and the Volstead act be approved and continued?"

"Shall the eighteenth amendment be continued?"

"Shall the Volstead act be amended so as to permit the use of light wine and beers, with the usual natural percentage of alcohol?"

The results of the poll will be registered by States.—Dallas News.

Methodist Church Services.

Sunday, December 18.
Sunday school 10 a. m.

Preaching at 11 a. m.; subject, "The Prince of Peace."

Evening service at 7 p. m.

W. M. S. will have their Christmas social meeting with Mrs. Yocum next Monday evening at 2:30 p. m. Every member urged to be present.

J. C. Evans, Pastor.

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Over Bank
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JEWELER STORE**

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NO PHONEY OR AUCTION JEWELRY. WE ARE HERE TO STAY AND GUARANTEE OUR GOODS

IF IT CAN BE REPAIRED WE WILL DO IT

ENGRAVING FREE

FOUNTAIN PENS REPAIRED

**CITY WATER SERVICE
IN HILLDALE**

**Rankin's Restricted Residential
Region**

Two blocks Northeast of the New Court House

Up On The Hill Away from The Dust, Mud or Flood

Lots 50x140 ft.

Streets 75 and 60 ft.

Price \$200. TERMS GIVEN

Good Clear Titles--Full Mineral Rights Given

<p>Rankin Business LOTS ON MAIN STREET</p> <p>We have several very choice locations in the heart of the Business Section 100 Per Cent Under what they will be within the next two or three months.</p>	<p>Make Money Buy Rankin Lots NOW</p>	<p>Rankin LOTS At \$50 & \$75 NO RESTRICTIONS Located 2 blocks south and east of the depot. Free Use of Water Well Terms 1-3 Cash Balance on Monthly Payments.</p>
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Rankin Townsite Co.

W. R. DOBBIN, Manager



For Children

- Toys of Every Kind
- Tinker Toys
- Houses
- Wood Toys
- Wntches
- Dolls of all Kinds
- Beds
- Buggies
- Dish Sets
- Table Sets
- Toy Hat Boxes
- Wagons
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New Christmas Records

We have a wonderful selection of new records, appropriate for Christmas and other occasions. A cordial invitation is extended to all to come in and hear these new records, whether you buy or not. Make the holidays cheerful with plenty of music.



For Grown-Ups

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- Art Goods
- China and Dish Ware
- Smoking Sets
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- Aluminum ware
- Christmas Decorations
- Spaving Stands
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