

# CROSS TIMBERS POST

CTGS Newsletter – Cross Timbers Post, May 2018

Inside this issue:

<b>Ancestor Trail – Research links</b>	<b>168</b>
<b>Oct. 13, 2018 N.TX Genealogical Association – Fall Seminar</b>	<b>169</b>
<b>Nov. 2-4, 2018 TxSGS Family History Conference -</b>	<b>169</b>
<b>Back Trailing—95 Years</b>	<b>170</b>
<b>Back Trailing—50 Years</b>	<b>178</b>
<b>We Remember</b>	<b>187</b>
<b>More About Us</b>	<b>188</b>

## EDITORS' CORNER

Happy Spring, everyone!

Hope everyone is enjoying these warm spring days and finding success in searching for ancestors.

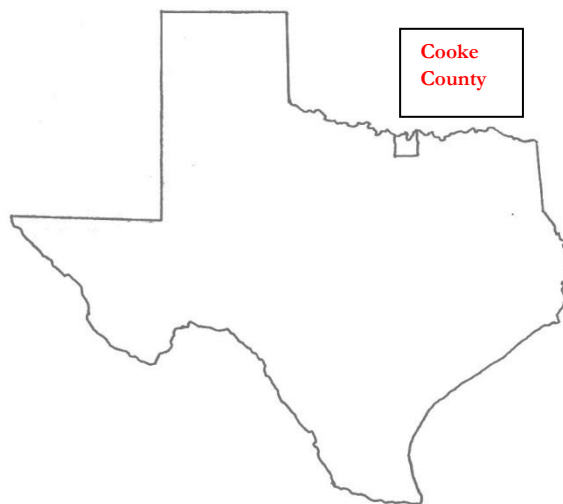
Sorry to be so long between newsletters – we have much to catch up on!

Appreciate your patience and want to invite each of you to attend the next meeting in June.

Until then,

Colleen Clark Carri

Another very special thank-you to all the story contributors in this issue, Ronnie Howser and Norman Newton.



Belated thanks and kudos to our past guest speakers!

**Shana Powell  
Ronnie Howser  
Darlene Denton  
Linda Jonas**

Please contact Ronnie Howser if you would like to be a guest speaker at one of our meetings.  
940-665-4430

## LET'S GET TOGETHER

Mark your calendars.

Cross Timbers Genealogical Society meets at **6:00pm** on the 1st Monday of each month (no meetings in January or July) at the Landmark Bank Conference room, Gainesville, Texas, unless change indicated below.

June 4 – Activity Center,  
Pecan Creek Village

August 6 – Landmark Bank

September 4\* – (*Tuesday, after Labor Day*) – Landmark Bank

October 1 – Landmark Bank



## Following the Ancestor Trail

Research material and research locations in Cooke County

**MUENSTER LIBRARY,**  
418 No. Elm, Muenster, TX  
<http://www.muensterlibrary.com>

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

**COOKE COUNTY-COUNTY CLERK**  
100 South Dixon, Gainesville, Texas  
(courthouse)  
\*Death, Birth, Marriage records available.  
\*You can look up most records yourself.  
Copies are \$1.00 per page  
[http://www.co.cooke.tx.us/default.aspx?  
Cooke County/County. Clerk](http://www.co.cooke.tx.us/default.aspx?Cooke%20County/County.Clerk)

**MORTON MUSEUM of COOKE COUNTY**  
210 South Dixon, Gainesville, Texas  
E-mail: [mortonmuseum@att.net](mailto:mortonmuseum@att.net)  
Historical people in Cooke County, various books

**NCTC LIBRARY**—1525 W. California St.,  
Gainesville

<http://www.nctc.edu/NCTC-Library>

Various genealogy magazines, papers,  
family information, obits

### Churches in Gainesville with Libraries and Archives

#### First Christian Church

401 No. Dixon 940-665-2053  
Started May 10, 1874 Open Daily  
Web site: <http://www.fccgainesville.com/>

#### St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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

#### First United Methodist Church

214 So. Dixon 940-665-3926  
Started 1852  
Web site: <http://www.firstumcgainesvilletx.com/>

#### First Presbyterian Church

401 So. Denton 940-665-5153  
Started 1878 Archives Web site: [www.fpcgainesville.net](http://www.fpcgainesville.net)  
There is a section called Genealogy Room which has listings from the Session minutes from the 1920s through the 1940s.

#### St. Mary's Catholic Church

825 No. Weaver 940-665-5395  
Started 1879  
Web site: <http://stmaryscatholic.com/>

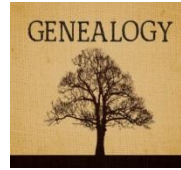
#### Red River Historian, Robin Jett

<http://www.redriverhistorian.com/>

This site is devoted to discoveries of the history of the "Old Southwest" – where the South meets the West: Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Louisiana.



*The editor sincerely welcomes any corrections or additions to these locations, contact information, links, etc. Thank you!*



*North Texas Genealogical Association.  
Researchers helping researchers.*

**Fall Seminar 2018** (more details soon) <https://www.ntgatrailtracers.org/>  
**October 13, 2018 featuring Patti Gillespie**

- Session 1: Forgotten Treasures in the Texas Courthouse: Discovering the Miscellaneous Books
- Session 2: I've Got My Ancestry DNA Report: Evaluating My Test Results For Connections (Intermediate)
- Session 3: Courthouse Records: One Stop Shopping for Family Secrets
- Session 4: Brickwall Busting Strategies: Hammering at the Wall

\*\*\*\*\*



<http://www.txsgs.org/featured-events/2018-family-history-conference/>

This year's event is slated for November 2-4, 2018, in San Antonio, TX at the Omni San Antonio at the Colonnade.

**BACK TRAILING—95 Years Ago  
(Contributed by Ronnie Howser)**

**Knights of Pythias Install New Officers** Friday Jan. 8, 1922

Trinity Patrick Lodge No. 7, Knights of Pythias held their regular meeting last night and the following officers were installed for the coming year:

**L. E. Erwin**, C. C.; **M. W. Clark**, V. C.; **J. T. Bain**, Prelate; **W. W. Riley**, M. of W.; **R. S. Brazelton**, K. of R. S.; **N. C. Snider**, M. of F.; **Bryan Crow**, M. of A.; **P. A. Gandillon**, I. G.; **F. B. Ruddall**, O. G.

There is much activity in the local Knights of Pythias lodge, there being many new members added each month. There will be a special called meeting next Tuesday night at 7:30 for the purpose of conferring degrees on several applicants for membership in the order.

**Woodmen Circle Install Officers for Coming Year** Saturday Jan. 21, 1922

Thursday night, Jan. 19 at the Fireman's Hall, the Woodmen Circle installed the following officers for the ensuing year:

**Ruth Brown**, Guardian; **Lucy McGough**, Advisor; **Dorothy Padgett**, Chaplain; **Eva Dobkins**, Clerk; **Lillie Brooks**, Banker; **Linnie Wofford**, **Minnie Gibson**, **Fannie Stuart**, Managers; **Bell Jackson**, Attendant; **Sarah Glasgow**, Assistant Attendant; **Rose Keel**, Inner Sentinel; **Totsie Pietzker**, Outer Sentinel; **Rayney Johnson**, Musician.

Owing to the inclemency of the weather, there was not as large an audience as had been expected, about 75 people were present and a splendid musical program was rendered as follows:

Installation of officers.

Piano Solo – Miss **Mildred McGough**

Reading – Miss **Minnie Williams**

Piano Solo – Mrs. **Bill Myers**

Reading – Mrs. **Horace Dobkins**

Piano Duet – Misses **Parmley**

Violin Solo – **James Smith** accompanied by Mrs. **Hermann**

Mrs. Herman's orchestra solo also rendered some beautiful selections, consisting of eleven pieces, which were very much enjoyed by all present, after which refreshments of sandwiches and fruit were served.

**Country Boy Lance Will Meet Deering in Panther City** Wednesday Feb. 6, 1922

**Cal Lance**, Cooke county product and king of the amateur padded glove artists of North Texas, known to fight fans as "Country Boy" will meet **Neil Deering** of Bonham in the Chamber of Commerce arena at Fort Worth Friday night of this week, the bout to be a semi-final of 8 rounds. Country Boy's reputation is so well known that his local friends will likely take advantage of this opportunity to see him in action, and they are promised a real treat, since Deering wields a wicked mitt.

The main mill of the evening will be between **Jim Flynn**, the Pueblo fireman and **Carl Morris**, both figures of national reputation in the prize ring. Lance will go from Fort Worth to El Paso, where he is scheduled for a bout with one of the husky boys of the Rio Grande border next Tuesday night.

**Boys in Gainesville Unconsciously Break Laws Killing Birds** Saturday Feb. 16, 1922

Chief of Police **Loving** has requested the Register to inform the parents of boys who have air guns and target rifles that some of these youngsters are violating the laws of Texas by promiscuously killing birds. He cites a section of the state game law as proof of his contention.

Mr. Loving and Mayor **Thomas** are authority for the statement that complaints are coming to them from

various parts of the city against this wanton slaughter of birds, and that the police have been notified to arrest any child who is found guilty of violating the law in this respect.

Section 27 of State Game Laws contains the following: "If any person shall willfully kill or injure, or if any person shall take or destroy the nests of eggs of any mocking bird, night hawk (known as the bull bat), blue bird, red bird, finch, thrush, linnnet, wren, martin, robin, swallow, cat bird, nonpareil, or scissor-tail, white or brown heron or sparrow hawk, he shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction he shall be fined not less than ten (\$10.00) dollars nor more than one hundred (\$100.00) dollars.

#### **Muskrat Skins Sold On Local Market Are Rare in This Section** Thursday Feb. 16, 1922

**T. E. Evansee**, who lives on Red river near the point where the Santa Fe railroad crosses that stream, brought in a variety of fur pelts Monday, among which were skins of two muskrats, an animal rarely ever seen or heard of in this part of the county. The specimens were about the average size and well furred. They were disposed of at good prices.

#### **Dangerous Rail Crossing on Woodbine Road Eliminated** Thursday Feb. 16, 1922

Mr. **Ayres** commissioner of the Woodbine precinct, accompanied by **Edgar Turner** and **John Shelton**, yesterday surveyed the road running east of the Osborn farm straightening the road by three quarters of a mile and throwing the road upon higher ground. The land was donated by **Rad Ware** and other farmers in that section of the county. This change will be of immense benefit to the traveling public.

#### **Commissioners Are About to Put Rural Home Demonstrator in Cooke County** Thursday Feb 16, 1922

President **Will McDaniel** and the board of directors of the Chamber of Commerce accompanied by Miss **Horton** and Mr. **G. W. Orms** of Texas A & M College, appeared before Judge **Holmes** and the county commissioners this afternoon, urging them to make appropriation of \$1,200 to match a similar amount from the Agricultural College, for the purpose of hiring a female rural home economic demonstrator in Cooke county, something now enjoyed in 70 progressive counties in Texas, as well as in every state of the union. This demonstrator means the same to welfare and development of the country girls and lines of interest to male farmers. It is not an untried experiment, nor a costly venture, but one that has paid dividends in every community that supports such a demonstrator.

The matter was taken under advisement by the commissioners and a decision will be announced later. Those who realize the importance of this great movement, which ultimately means removal of the country girls and women from the drudgery under which many of them now labor and live, are bending every effort to induce the commissioners to make the appropriation, which is fully provided for in national and state statutes. It will be a most progressive step forward in improving conditions on the farm.

#### **Gasoline Plant of Lone Star Co. Now Operating** Thursday Feb. 16, 1922

##### **Heat Value of Gas Will Not Be Affected To Noticeable Extent**

The Lone Star Gas Company made a trial run of their gasoline plant located on the Lindsay road two miles northwest of Gainesville yesterday. The construction of this plant was started last September and every effort has been made to put it in operation at the earliest possible moment. Due to the extraordinary efforts of the construction men in charge of this work and to the hearty support of the business men and the citizens of Gainesville, the plant is now in operation as early as estimated by the most conservative engineers in charge of the work. This date could have been sooner had it not been for the fact that much of the apparatus was of a new design and rather difficult to make.

It probably does not occur to the average person that a plant of this size and one involving many new and intricate features as this one does usually takes weeks and sometimes months of many short trials before it ever produces a marketable product. It speaks well for the designers of the plant that, though entirely different

from anything yet attempted, it made a successful run on the day it was put in operation.

The closing of the large 16-inch gate valve on the main gas line, which operation started the gas going through the plant, was completed at 5 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11. Three hours later the plant was producing a product which tested 66 pct. Gasoline of 83 pct. Be. Gravity. The other 34 percent was oil and dirt which had accumulated in the system during construction. By 5 p.m. Sunday Feb. 12, only 24 hours later, all this oil and dirt had been washed out and a product of 100 percent pure water, white gasoline of 83 percent Be. Gravity was being produced. The output of the plant may be as much as one thousand gallons a day; but there is as much gas passing through the plant from which this small amount of gasoline has to be taken that it will not affect the quality of the gas as much as one half of one percent. The heating value of this slight change in quality will not even be noticed.

Outside of Lone Star Gas Company men who were present at the starting of this plant, were **E. F. Schmidt**, general superintendent from Dallas, his assistant, **J. L. Foster**, **B. L. Rogers**, superintendent Compressor Station at Petrolia; **J. R. Jarvis**, superintendent of Gasoline Plant at Petrolia, and **W. I. Helm**, chief engineer of Gasoline Plant at Petrolia.

### **Man Who Stole Milk Wagon Here Caught East of Ardmore** Wednesday Feb. 22, 1922

Sheriff **Tom Ford** of Cooke County spent Tuesday in Oklahoma in company with Sheriff **Smith** of Marietta, these two gentlemen being one of numerous parties in search of a man who stole the team and milk wagon belonging to Mr. **Wingate** of this city, last Monday night. He was captured 5 miles east of Ardmore and is now in the Carter county jail.

Mr. Wingate had come to town Monday night to deliver milk to his customers. He tied his mules to a post near the Dickerman building on Commerce Street and when he returned in a few minutes the team and wagon were gone as well as his load of milk. Officers were notified and began a search for the thief that resulted in his arrest by Deputy Sheriff **Stafford** of Marietta. Others who assisted in the chase were Messrs. Wingate and **Bud Pendleton** of Gainesville.

The thief scattered bottles of milk along the road from Gainesville to the Red river bridge. He crossed the bridge about 11:30 that night, stopping long enough to unload the milk crates two miles this side of the river. Next heard of, he had been to Dexter, where he traded mules for a team of horse and \$10 "boot," to a farmer named **Ragsdale**. He had this team when arrested.

The man lived in Ardmore. He is being held there in connection with a charge of assault with intent to murder, and will be brought to Cooke County following his trial in the Oklahoma courts.

### **Funeral of Mrs. J. M. Lindsay Was Held At Four O'clock Today** Wednesday Mar. 8, 1922

The funeral of Mrs. **Tennie Bonner Lindsay**, widow of the late lamented Judge **J. M. Lindsay**, was held from the family home on Lindsay Street at 4 o'clock this afternoon, Rev. **C. E. Cole** of the Denton Street Methodist church officiating. Burial followed in Fairview cemetery, in the making and beautification of which Mrs. Lindsay had always taken great interest.

**Tennie Bonner** was born in Paris, Lamar County, Texas, December 10, 1846 and was 76 years old at the time of her death, which occurred in this city at 3 o'clock Tuesday afternoon following a long illness. She was a daughter of **George M.** and **Elizabeth Bonner**, both deceased. Moving to Cooke County when she was 14 years old, the family settled on land lying just south of the town of Lindsay. At the age of 25 she was married to **J. M. Lindsay**, at that time one of the promising pioneers who later became Gainesville's most influential citizen, banker, and property owner. To this union two children were born, **Jimmie Lindsay Embry** and **Lewis B.**, both of whom survive.

Mrs. Lindsay was a model wife and exemplary Christian woman, always vitally interested in the welfare of her associates and the citizenship generally. In this connection she had done many worthy deeds of charity and kindness that drew her to hundreds of friends and admirers. In club work she had been most active, having served as president of the Cemetery Association, aided in organizing and conducting the Orphans Home here in the early days. She was a member of the Denton Street Methodist church and had given much of her time to it when health permitted.

Surviving are the two children, Jimmie and Lewis, and a niece, Mrs. **Kate Lindsay**, of her immediate

family, also a sister Mrs. **T. P. Airheart** of Neosho, Mo., and numerous other relatives.

Pall bearers were as follows: **Brien, McKenzie, Gillen** and **William Bonner** (nephews); **Alex Smith** and Dr. **R. C. Whiddon**. Funeral arrangements were handled by Geo. J. Carroll.

#### **Black's Hill, Just West of Town, Is Being Cut Down** Monday Apr. 3, 1922

County authorities are having the Black Hill just west of the city park cut down on the south side of the public road, which upon completion, will have eliminated a very menacing curve, and at the same time widen the road several feet. It is a much needed and commendable piece of work.

#### **Valley View Will Have Ten Graduates** Friday Apr. 7, 1922

The Valley View School closes May 12<sup>th</sup> and will have the following graduates: **John Ashburn, Jack McCubbin, Ashley Hudspeth, Miss Minnie Ora Pryor, Miss Ora Dayton, Miss Anna Hutchins, Miss Mary Lou Anderson,** and Miss **Thelma Wilmoth**.

John Ashburn, one of the graduates, won first place in Cooke county senior declamation this year and will represent the county in the district meet at Paris on April 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Scholastic Census Rolls Being Made By Supt. Clement** Friday Apr. 14, 1922

The scholastic census rolls of both the county and city are now being written by the County Superintendent. There will be a slight reduction in scholastic both in the county and the city this year. If any parent or guardian knows that the census enumerators have failed to enroll any child, this should be reported to the office of the County Superintendent at once, so that the correction can be made before the rolls are sent to Austin.

Most of the rural schools are closing and the teachers are receiving their pay. Last week the state made an appropriation of \$5.00 per scholar, the largest apportionment ever made in the history of the state at one time, amounting to over \$35,000 for the entire county. The county superintendent's office approved teacher's vouchers for more than \$18,000 on Monday and Tuesday of this week. Practically all of the teachers have received their pay up to the present and there is \$3.50 of the state per capita yet to be apportioned. The State Superintendent reports that this will be apportioned in the near future. In some rural districts of the county where the farmers made practically nothing this past year, there is quite a bit of special tax not yet paid. When this is received, the schools will be on sound basis financially. This has been one of the most successful school terms in the history of the county, and the teachers are to be congratulated for their loyal and faithful service under the circumstances. During the early part of the term funds were lacking to meet the monthly vouchers, but the teachers went faithfully on with the work just the same.

#### **Carroll Installs Radiophone at His Place of Business** Saturday Apr. 15, 1922

**Geo. J. Carroll**, funeral director, has installed a high class radiophone or wireless telephone, at his chapel on North Commerce Street and is daily receiving news reports, musical concerts, political speeches and other forms of sound passing through the atmosphere when broadcast from the many powerful stations over the country.

Mr. Carroll is planning to receive the Easter sermons to be delivered at the First Baptist church in Dallas Sunday morning by the Rev. Dr. **Geo. Truett**, and invites the general public to come to his chapel and "listen in" on this religious service.

#### **Cooke County Man Elected Sheriff at Portales, NM** Friday Apr. 21, 1922

**Dock Dudley**, city Marshall, today received a card from his friend **Charles Davis** stating that the latter has been elected sheriff at Portales, New Mexico. Mr. Davis formerly resided in Cooke County and is a brother of **Fred W. Davis**, former commissioner of agriculture in Texas. His many friends here will be glad to learn of his

election to the position of sheriff.

### **Gainesville Gravel Company Receives Large Orders** Tuesday May 2, 1922

The Gainesville Gravel company, beginning May 1, will load at the pits northwest of the city and forward on contracts 100,000 tons of this product to destinations per two orders just received at the office here. Of these shipments, which aggregate about 2500 cars, 800 cars go to the Katy railroad for use on its line and 1200 cars will be forwarded to Grayson county for permanent road improvements at various points in that county.

### **City Council Is Convinced Better Fire Trucks Needed** Wednesday May 3, 1922

At the city council meeting last night, on a motion of Alderman **Schad**, the fire committee of the council was asked to confer with the heads of the fire department to decide what fire equipment was needed to put the department in first class condition. Alderman **Garvey** brought up the discussion and asked that the fire chief explain the conditions at the department at this time. Fire chief **Ackley** responded and said that the department was in very bad condition. One of the horses at the East Station is crippled and liable to fall at any time, thus making it dangerous to use him on runs. He said the motor truck at the Central Station was very hard to start and could not be depended on and the wagon which was kept for emergencies was very dangerous to ride upon.

He urged that the city to purchase two new trucks – one chemically equipped to be placed in the East Station and the other equipped to carry hose to be placed in the Central Station. He suggested that the hook and ladder wagon only be used on fires in the business district and on such runs be fastened to one of the trucks. Thus the department would be completely motorized.

The fire committee was instructed to receive bids from motor companies and decide just what should be purchased, the combined cost of the two trucks not to exceed \$7,500.

### **National Bank at Valley View Will Install Wireless** Wednesday May 10, 1922

**Jimmy Davis, Jr.**, who has established a radio business in this city under the name of the Republic Radio company reports that he has a number of orders from Era, Valley View, Whitesboro and other nearby towns for the installation of wireless sets. Young Davis accompanied by his father, **J. A. Davis**, went to Valley View this afternoon where they will erect the aerial preparatory to installing a complete receiving set in the First National bank of that city. **Clay Newton**, one of the officers of the bank, is having the instruments installed. On account of the great demand for radio equipment within the last few months, Mr. Davis says that a number of sets which he has ordered have been delayed; but in a short time he expects to have a supply of the very latest equipment on hand at all times.

### **George Barclay Here First Time Since 1886** Tuesday May 16, 1922

**George Barclay**, a former citizen who resided near old Spanish Fort, is in Gainesville today for the first time since 1886. He was a visitor at the Register office this morning, now being engaged in the advertising business.

Mr. Barclay recounted some of his experiences in the early days in this community. He said he left Cooke County soon after the Santa Fe railroad was building into Gainesville, and at that time the streets of this town were always crowded with cowboys and cattlemen. He recalled the date when the Red River National Bank and other buildings on the west side of the square were destroyed by fire.

Mr. Barclay recently visited Marlow, Okla. He says business is good there and declares this partly due to the custom of having one day each week known as "hog day" when livestock raisers bring their hogs to Marlow, where they are sold to big buyers. Sixty five thousand dollars' worth of hogs was sold on Tuesday of last week, said Mr. Barclay.

### **Letter from Man in Alabama to Sheriff Recalls Dramatic Incident of Pioneer Days** Saturday May 20, 1922



Some days ago Sheriff **Tom Ford** of Cooke County received a letter from **W. O. Meredith** of Montgomery, Ala., seeking information as to the best way to reach Dexter, Texas. In this letter, Mr. Meredith states that he had two brothers buried at this Cooke county town and he is anxious to visit their last resting place.

He says: "I have two brothers buried at Dexter, and I see from the map that Dexter is not on any railroad. Will you please tell which is the nearest railroad station to that place and also how I can get there, as I want to visit the graves of my brothers, **Sam and Frank Meredith**, buried there in 1883, thirty nine years ago."

"My brother Sam was deputy sheriff at the time he was killed and I think the sheriff's name was Knight, who was also killed the same day and by the same man."

Sheriff Ford very kindly handed the letter to a Register representative and in searching for further information relative to the triple murder which Mr. Meredith speaks of, our reporter called on Hon. **H. P. Ware**, a pioneer citizen and former sheriff of Cooke county, who delved back into memory's storehouse and gave us the following appreciated information, which will be read with interest by the old timers and younger generation:

"In 1883 **Meak Knight** was a deputy sheriff of Cooke County stationed at Dexter," said Mr. Ware. "He received a warrant for the arrest of **John Thomas** for carrying a pistol. Thomas resided in the Delaware Bend community. Mr. Knight asked the Meredith brothers, Frank and Sam, to go with him to assist in the arrest of Thomas. A man living in Dexter who was a friend of Thomas, happened to overhear Knight talking to the Merediths and by riding his horse through pastures succeeded in reaching Delaware Bend ahead of the officers and warned Thomas."

"Thomas was employed in a blacksmith shop and upon the arrival of Knight and the Merediths, he closed the shop and began firing. In the gunfight which followed, both the Meredith brothers and Knight were killed. Thomas escaped, but was later captured and brought back. He was tried for murder and was sentenced to four years imprisonment in the penitentiary. After serving a short time he escaped from prison and was never again apprehended."

Mr. Ford has written to Mr. Meredith, directing him to Dexter, and it is likely that he will arrive in the county at an early date.

#### **First Postmaster at Era Is Business Visitor Here** Tuesday May 30, 1922

**John Gist** of Odessa, Texas is in Gainesville today in connection with the final settlement of the Renfro estate. Mr. Gist was the first postmaster at Era, the office there having been established in 1879. He located in Cooke County 45 years ago, but has been living in Odessa for the last 22 years. Mr. Gist notes many changes in the appearance of Gainesville and the county generally, but is glad to be back again among his former friends.

#### **Hundreds of Boll Weevils Caught in Field Thought Clear** Saturday July 1, 1922

**Bob Midkiff**, a prominent farmer of the Sivells Bend community, was in the city one day this week and in conversation with **J. H. Midkiff** of this city stated that his cotton was entirely free of boll weevils. However, J. H. Midkiff took one of the boll weevil catchers of the type advertised in the Register by **S. J. Kennerly** and made a demonstration on the farm. The machine was fastened on a cultivator and driven down one row. Twenty-five boll weevils were extracted from the one row. It was used on eight more rows and 250 weevils were found. The cotton had been carefully examined by the owner and none was found, but the machine extracted a large number, proving that it is a very practical implement for the fight on the weevils.

#### **Kellogg's Krumbles Being Distributed To Homes in City** Wednesday July 6, 1922

**D. L. Stewart**, representing the Kellogg's Food Products Co. of Battle Creek, Mich., makers of Kellogg's Krumbles, Bran and Corn Flakes, is in Gainesville today supervising the "sampling" of the city with Kellogg's Krumbles, a most delicious dish of shredded wheat grains. He is also calling on the trade, filling large orders for this popular breakfast food.

## **Cooke County Saddle Horse Barns** Friday July 14, 1922

### (Fair Grounds) **It Is Endorsed by all Leading People, Both Old and Young**

I have been asked by several to start Renting Saddle Horses. Our terms are reasonable. We will rent nice, gentle Saddle Horses by the hour. For an engagement for horses you may phone 44 or 720. The best of care will be taken of the children. **V. P. Keel**

## **Equipping New High School** Friday July 14, 1922

The Gainesville school board has been busy the past several days in conference with representatives of school equipment houses and the board has closed the contract for considerable equipment for the new Newsome Daugherty High School which will be ready for occupancy with the opening of the September term.

The following equipment was purchased last week - two hundred sixteen window shades from the Southwestern Seating Company at San Antonio at a cost of \$1090.80. They are double shades, fasten in the middle of the window and draw either up or down.

The Bryant company at Dallas sold the board the following: 700 opera chairs at \$2,527; 3,750 feet slate blackboard at \$2,213.40; 20 bookkeeping desks at \$216; 100 Bentwood chairs at \$350; 544 school desks \$3,019.20; 14 teacher's desks at \$266; 40 table arm chairs at \$200; 24 typewriter tables at \$138.

The laboratory and the domestic science equipment were purchased from the Weise Company at a cost of \$5,500. The 700 opera chairs, purchased for the auditorium just half seats it and the other 700 will be bought later. Having a seating capacity of 1,400 makes the High School auditorium the largest in the city and it is well arranged with balcony and stage room. The new building is going to be the best equipped in the state and it will be a credit to the city.

## **First Charge Filed Here Today In the Shopmen's Strike** Saturday July 22, 1922

The first charge growing out of the railroad shopmen's strike in the city was filed today against **Arthur Quirk**, deputy United States Marshall, complaint having been filed by **Gene Lay**, a former shop worker, charging Quick with assault to murder according to information obtained from official sources. Quick and the railroad man became engaged in a verbal dispute in the vicinity of the Santa Fe crossing on East California Street late Friday afternoon and in the heat of the discussion a pistol was displayed. It was stated the deputy Marshall claims self-defense.

Quick waived examining trial before Justice of the Peace **Hall** and his bond was set at \$1,000, which he readily made. His trial will come up next term of the district court.

## **J. P. Wear Sustains Scalp Injury When Thrown From Buggy** Monday Aug. 14, 1922

**J. P. Wear**, about 60 years old, one of the pioneer residents of Gainesville, lies at his home on Wine street with a deep scalp wound and badly bruised eye, the result of being thrown to the pavement on Commerce street this morning after his horse had become frightened by an automobile. His exact condition is yet uncertain, according to the attending physician.

The accident occurred about 10 o'clock this morning while the aged man was sitting in his buggy near Pugh & Morrison's drug store on Commerce street. An automobile backing into the street is believed to have frightened Mr. Wear's horse and when the animal gave sudden lunge, the man was thrown from the buggy. His head struck either something on the buggy or the curbing of the sidewalk, inflicting a painful scalp wound, also injuring the left eye. Witnesses to the accident carried the injured man to Pugh & Morrison's drug store, where first aid was administered. He was later taken to his home in a semi-conscious state.

## **Katy Railroad Has Special Fair Rate** Monday Oct. 2, 1922

The M. K. & T. has announced a new round trip excursion rate from Gainesville to Dallas during the State

Fair which will be held in that city October 6 to 15. The round trip fare will be \$3.85 and tickets may be procured the first day of any day during the fair, and are limited to October 16.

#### **Dumping Ground of City to be Open Two Days a Week** Wednesday Oct. 4, 1922

Fire Marshall **John McCarty** has authorized the announcement that the city dumping grounds located at the gravel pit west of the city will be opened on Wednesdays and Saturdays only and not daily as heretofore.

Owing to the fact that there have been no regulations regarding the dumping of trash on the grounds, large quantities of waste paper have been placed in the pit and by blowing around has caused a most unsightly appearance. Much refuse also has not been carried to the pit, but deposited just inside the gate.

A man will be in charge of the pit each Wednesday and Saturday from now on and when paper is deposited, he will burn it immediately. On other days the gate will be locked, and dumping trash will be prohibited.

#### **Big Indian Oil Co. Has Opened Office In Lindsay Hotel** Thursday Oct. 6, 1922

Mrs. **Irene Hathaway**, local manager of the Big Indian Oil Company, which company is drilling an oil well near Callisburg, has returned here from Kansas City, her home, after an absence of several weeks and has opened a business office in the northeast corner of the Lindsay hotel ground floor where she is giving studied attention to the oil venture especially. Mrs. Hathaway is a close observer and a practical oil scout. She has implicit faith in the well now being drilled by the company near Callisburg that in due time it will become a producer worthwhile and hence be the incistary step to the opening of a big producing oil field in the eastern portion of Cooke county where the company already has several thousand acres of leased land.

#### **Cooke County Medical Society Meets** Thursday Oct. 12, 1922

The Cooke County Medical Society met for its monthly session in Myra Tuesday evening with Dr. **C. L. Maxwell** as host. The meeting was held in Dr. Maxwell's drug store and a comprehensive program was arranged. Dr. **Jas. M. Wattam** made an absorbing talk on "Diagnosis and Treatment of the Stomach and Ulcers," and Dr. **L. O. Godfrey** of Fort Worth discussed "Diseases of Children," and Dr. **A. L. Roberts** of Fort Worth lectured on "X-ray and Radium."

The delightful hospitality of Dr. and Mrs. Maxwell was concluded when the latter served refreshments, consisting of sandwiches, fruit salad, ice cream and angel food cake.

Those present included Drs. **Higgins, O. E. Clements, C. B. Thayer, L. W. Kuser, C. L. Stocks, J. L. Griffin, H. B. Harrell, Jas. M. Wattam** of Gainesville; **J. B. Dudley**, Muenster; **C. Moore**, St. Jo; **W. A. Baker, L. O. Godley, A. L. Roberts**, Fort Worth; **C. L. Maxwell**, Myra and misses **Nina** and **Josephine Caulfield** and **Beulah May Bagwell** as special guests.

#### **Memories of "the Good Old Days" Reviewed As Building Is Torn Down** Saturday Dec. 18, 1922

Memories of the days when Gainesville was a "wild and wooly" town way out west and when shooting up the burg was often the favorite pastime of cowboys and livestock raisers, were revived when carpenters began tearing down the first brick house ever erected in Gainesville, the **Geo. Y. Bird** building at the southwest corner of the courthouse square, where it has withstood the ravages of time for the last half century. A modern filling station and automobile salesroom is to replace the historic structure. The property now belongs to **Will** and **Ancil Ross**, hardware merchants, but will be occupied by the Burch-Nislar Motor Co. distributors of Dodge Brothers automobiles.

As the first timbers were being removed from the awning and it became known what was transpiring, old settlers began recounting the early days in Gainesville and North Texas. One of them recalled that a stone cellar beneath the structure was for years used as a safety deposit vault for the stores of fine liquors carried by several saloons then housed here in log huts or shocks of roughhewn timbers. At that time, it was not safe to keep a large supply of booze behind the bar, owing to the aptitude of expert marksmen of the plains who

took delight in shooting up everything in sight, the bartender included; so the surplus stocks were stored in the old stone cellar.

The old building for many years handled nearly all of the dry goods business of Cooke and adjoining counties. The editor of a local paper, then residing in Montague County, recalls that his first pair of red-top boots with brass toes came from this building and were sold by Geo. Y. Bird, long since deceased. Practically the entire citizenship for fifty miles around came here for their merchandise and some of the leading merchants of Gainesville today learned their trade as salesmen in the Bird establishment.

The next brick building business erected here is the one now occupied by the St. Louis Store on the north side of the square, which for many years was occupied by **Jim Hosapple**, who conducted a saloon. This was in the days before “the beer that made Milwaukee famous” had been introduced into Gainesville, the town at that time having no railroad facilities, all transportation being by prairie (not beer) schooners.

**BACK TRAILING—50 Years Ago**  
(Contributed by Ronnie Howser)

**Picked Up Passing By** by Jack Joyce Thursday Jan. 9, 1964

Old timers in the Gainesville area may have heard of a gigantic blast of three powder magazines that shook the city on Dec. 29, 1891. The incident was called to mind recently by the Sherman Democrat. The story with a Gainesville dateline reads: “At one o'clock today an explosion was heard that fairly shook the town from one side to the other. It was soon found that lightning had struck three large powder magazines three quarters of a mile west of the city, and the scene for a mile around was a terrible one.”

“A number of people were injured, some of them badly. One house between the magazine and the city was torn down, falling on a young lady and injuring her badly. The shock was felt for two miles around, and the noise frightened women and children fearfully.”

“In the business part of town, plate glass suffered heavily and the glass fronts of many business houses are lying in pieces on the sidewalk.”

“The citizens are now at the scene of the explosion, coming for the injured and investigating the extent of the damage.”

“The magazine belonged to Tyler & Simpson, Graves and Leeper, and the Waples Painter Grocery Co., About 800 kegs of powder were in the magazine at the time of the explosion. The magazines were side by side and all exploded at the same time.”

“Twenty head of cattle grazing near the magazines were killed instantly.”

City directories in the Register office show that **James D. Leeper** was manager of the Waples Painter & Co., in 1887 and was treasurer and general manager of the firm in 1898. His brother, **Graves Leeper**, was Secretary of State in Oklahoma in 1927 and spoke of the organizational meeting of the “Half Century Club” at the Cooke County Fairgrounds.

We've been unable to determine why the large amount of powder was needed here. One senior citizen suggests that it may have been used for blasting at a former large stone quarry east of the city.

**Picked Up Passing By** by Jack Joyce Monday Jan. 27, 1964

**Thomas E. Wood** of Wichita Falls and his cousin **Dennis L. Pettit** of Dallas, are working on their family history which will have a heavy flavor of Cooke and Montague Counties.

Their families named Totty, Mathis, Estes and Menasco – date back to 1854, when the earliest of them came to Montague County from Hickman County, Tenn.

Wood was in Gainesville last week checking Daily Register files and other records and reference material at the county library and the courthouse. Mrs. **Delia Totty**, 821 N. Commerce is a first cousin of Wood's grandmother.

The Wichita Falls man said that he and others of his family plan a working of the old Estes cemetery near Prairie Point in western Cooke County in the spring of this year. The Cemetery is in Montague County about a

hundred yards from the Cooke County line. **James A. Mathis**, Wood's grandfather is buried there.

Wood plans to place a tombstone on the grave with the dates, 1834-1884. Mathis was a veteran of the Civil War serving with Company G, Alexander's Regiment, Texas Dismounted Cavalry, Confederate States of America.

### **Cattlemen Fattened 1,250 Head of Cattle in Early Days** Thursday Mar. 5, 1964

(Editor's Note: The information contained in the following story was provided by **Sam J. Beattie** of Austin – a native of Gainesville and the facts are based on such men as he and **Beecher Whaley** of Gainesville recall as youngsters in the days of the booming cattle industry, and information related to them in later years.) by Joe M. Leonard Sr.

In the early days of Cooke County the men who will be referred to as the story unfolds usually fattened upward of 1,250 steers in the pens of the old Cotton Gin Mill in Gainesville and also at Whitesboro.

Sam Beattie mentions a popular television program that deals largely with the movement of large herds of cattle from Texas to the market at Abilene, Kans., then launches into a more intimate subject of the "Stone Cattle Deal."

Three local men operated 8,000 acres of ranchland north of Gainesville, bounded on the north by the Red River. The tracts consisted of the Clay Tice Ranch of about 1, 800 acres, bounded on the west by the Brown's Ferry Rd. Next was the Ab Ranch tract, extending from the ferry road on the east to the Santa Fe Railroad. Jim Beattie had the headquarters ranch at some 1,000 acres, including the 1,803 acre Childers tract. The Marysville Rd. was the western boundary for the ranching properties.

A partnership of three pioneers operated the setup – **James C. Whaley, Fay Jones and Jim Beattie**. They dealt exclusively in livestock, and usually planted a thousand acres in wheat for winter pasture.

### **Stone Plans Drive**

**Will Stone** now enters the picture and purchased 3,500 head of cattle. He had leased several thousand acres of land in the vicinity of Duncan, Indian Territory. Many of the cattle in this deal were acquired in Cooke County. Others were purchased in East Texas and Arkansas and driven to the Beattie Ranch (now owned by **Bob Brannan**).

This cattle deal was made shortly after the turn of the century, and Stone and his family resided in Gainesville for several years. He occupied the two-story brick house known as the Patchell place, which was located on the site of the present Cooke County Farm just south of Kaden the florist.

Stone brought his crew of men and a chuck wagon from his ranch at Duncan. Several days were spent checking and branding the cattle.

Finally, as Sam Beattie recalls the history of the event, some 3,000 one year old steers hit the trail and were driven to a point north of Sivells Bend. The second day these animals swam the Red River, which at that time was bankful of water. The next stop was at the Culwell Ranch near Burneyville, I. T., where the cattle grazed and rested for two days.

This advance contingent was followed by a herd of 500 cows and a number of calves, and it required two days to swim them across the Red River. It is surmised that an unknown number of animals were swept down the stream and lost. The head of the herd was pointed to the west and the drive continued to Duncan, approximately 97 miles.

### **Stone Loses Life**

An unexpected tragedy occurred while the drive was on the home stretch and resulted in emergency financing. Stone always rode a beautiful and fleet-footed white horse. Early one morning, he was chasing a wolf. As the horse ran under a tree, Stone leaned the wrong way and was killed.

At the time of his death, due to certain legal technicalities, the Kansas City Commission Company which was financing the deal, took over the 3,000 steers. The Beattie Cattle Company kept the cows and wintered them in the Wichita mountain area. The animals did well and a good calf crop resulted in a successful ending for the project.

Among the Gainesville men who went on the cattle drive were **Tom Brogan, Vic Hill, Red McGaughey, Tom Hickman** stayed with herd and helped swim them across the Red River.

As an afterthought, Sam Beattie commented that it was not unusual in those days to see a herd of cattle being driven through the streets of Gainesville. He recalls having helped to drive a herd of steers from the Dayton Ranch south of Gainesville through town and to the ranch north of Gainesville. Another bunch of cattle purchased from Enderby Brothers west of Gainesville were moved through town.

Most of the information for this pioneer event was obtained by Beattie from **Tom Brogan**, who now lives on his ranch four miles northwest of Marietta, Okla. Brogan helped to drive the herd to Duncan, then was in charge of the 500 cows that were wintered in the Wichita Mountains.

#### **Four Communities Annual Reunion Is Set for June 7** Tuesday May 5, 1964

The 16<sup>th</sup> reunion for four communities – Rock Creek, Whaley Chapel, Elliott and Whaley 55 – is planned for June 7 at the Community Center. Friends and relatives from approximately 30 states will meet.

**Richard Daniel**, chairman of arrangements, reminds local residents of the brief program planned. This will include memorial tributes for those who died this year.

Dinner will be served at 12:30 noon and all are asked to bring basket lunches. Other officers include Mrs. **Robert Trew**, secretary; Mrs. **Ruby Davis**, treasurer; and the following committees: **Chester Robb, Carl Thurman, Lacy Burch**, Mrs. **Tom Blankenship**, and Mrs. **Edgar Stanley** of Wichita Falls, Mrs. **Lucille McClung**, Oklahoma City, **Martin Davis**, city reception; Mrs. **Feral Flint**, Mrs. **Clifford Donnally**, Fort Worth; Mrs. **Eleanor Fry**, Oklahoma City; Mrs. **Clayton Hall**, Paris, registration.

**George and Johnny Bugg**, supplies; **Burney and Turner Almon, Raymond and Lonnie Thurman, George Berry, Chester Robb**, and **P. C. Wylie**, food; Mmes. **Agnes Davis, Abner Enderby and Lacy Burch**, flowers; Mrs. **Gordon Smith**, memorial; Mr. and Mrs. **Owen Almon** and Mrs. **Stanley**, program committee. All present and former residents are invited.

#### **Hwy. 82 Project Okayed in Cooke** Friday June 6, 1964

The State Highway Commission has appropriated funds for the extension of two additional traffic lanes for U. S. Hwy. 82 from one mile west of Lindsay to Muenster. Four traffic lanes are already open from Gainesville to the point west of Lindsay.

The announcement was made by **L. B. Dean** of Wichita Falls, district highway engineer, that \$966,000 has been appropriated for purchase of right of way, grading, structures and surfacing on the additional traffic lanes – a distance of 4.0 miles. The construction is expected to be completed in the next two years.

The Cooke County appropriation is part of the \$166 million consolidated Highway Program approval by the Highway Commission for 1965-66.

#### **Permits Tell Story** July 2, 1964

##### **Construction Business Booming In Gainesville** by Richard Harp

Building in Gainesville is booming. And if the present trend continues the city may approach or surpass the all-time construction high chalked up in 1958.

A check at the Municipal Building discloses that all classes of building permits for the first six months of this year are only \$32,580 less than the total amount issued during all of 1963. The totals are: 1964 - \$1,482,167 and 1963 - \$1,514,753.

The city's building record was set in 1958 when a whopping total of \$2,001,307 in permits were recorded. The new high school and junior college plants accounted for over one-half of the amount.

Commercial permits issued during four months of this year tell the story. They add up to a booming \$1,146,947.

In January, Gainesville Memorial Hospital \$339,447; February, 12 Oaks Motel at Summit Ave. and Interstate Hwy. 35 - \$92,500; April, **J. Lee Stansbury's** apartment buildings at Dixon and Hird Sts. - \$90,000 and Dr. **L. E. Lake's** apartment building on Old Hwy. 40 - \$35,000.

In May, Horne Enterprises restaurant and service station on N. Int. 35 - \$90,000 and Dixie Mortgage Co.'s Caravan Motel at Int. 35 and Hwy. 82 - \$500,000.

Construction of new residences has also kept pace with the current commercial building.

A total of \$291,000 in new home permits has been issued from January through June this year. High month was June - \$74,000 with May low month - \$21,000.

The total home permits to date compare with \$437,000 during all of last year.

### **Other Permits**

Other commercial permits this year are reported as \$18,000. This includes \$10,000 for the new Gainesville Day Nursery. A steady pace has been maintained so far this year in repairs and additions to residences and business buildings. Through this June, this class of permits amounts to \$24,770. Immediate services of contractors and others in the building trades are difficult to obtain at present.

In addition to commercial and residential and residential building, construction projects started in 1963 are continuing to add to the booming building business. One of these is Cooke County Junior College's two new buildings due for completion this fall.

### **Extra Jobs Check**

Also adding jobs and pay checks to local workers is the city of Gainesville's two street improvement program. These projects include a large network of city streets now being paved, curbed, and guttered under bond and voluntary assessment programs.

### **Picked Up Passing By** by Jack Joyce Tuesday July 7, 1964

Judge **Marvin Jones**, Valley View native who retired recently as chief judge of the U. S. Court of Claims in Washington, has been picked by President **Johnson** to serve as chairman of a study commission on food prices. The commission is authorized to check food marketing practices, including the spread in prices between what farmers receive and what consumers pay.

Judge Jones served in Congress from the Amarillo district of Texas from 1917 to 1941 and he was chairman of the House Agriculture Committee for 10 years.

He also served as war food administrator during World War II. The former Cooke Countian became a judge of the U. S. Court of Claims upon his retirement from Congress.

### **Medders Family Hosts to Dance Team at Ranch** Friday July 24, 1964

Mr. and Mrs. **Ernest Medders** will have as their weekend guests Misses **Shirley** and **Carole Marat**, well known dancing team. The young women will be entertaining at the Medders Colonial Acres ranch northwest of Muenster.

The Misses Marat are performing in New Orleans, La., and arrived by plane at Love Field Friday morning. Their home is in Memphis, Tenn., where they know the Medders family.

The dancers will appear on the New Orleans night program at the River Valley Country Club Saturday night.

### **Do You Know Cooke County? Howze Hospital Versatile** Wednesday Aug. 5, 1964

Some went there for treatment of a sore throat. Others were carried in on stretchers, victims of training accidents, pneumonia, malaria or snake bites.

Medical needs were common then. "Then" was 22 years ago. "There" was Station Hospital, Camp Howze, Texas."

Remains of the huge hospital building still stand. In fact, besides several water towers, little else can be seen on the 660,000 acre area north of Gainesville.

The hospital admitted the first patient Aug. 22, 1942, the day the camp was activated. But when the

hospital opened, it was just getting its start in growth. Something new was added almost daily.

Soldiers played rough when learning the game of warfare. The same ultra-modern methods which mended limbs and muscles of the Army's combat soldiers were used on soldiers at Camp Howze.

A great number of cases treated in the station hospital were the results of defects in eyes, nose, and throat. The E. E. N. T. clinic handled such defects by prescribing glasses, correcting sinus conditions, or performing surgery. The hospital was even equipped with an auditorium and a gym. The gym was a huge exercise room. War scarce materials made purchase of special equipment impossible, so the clinic officers and enlisted men designed their own mechanical aids as needed.

Every piece of apparatus in use was made by soldiers in the hospital carpenter shop – pulley arrangements with adjustable weights, a rowing machine, a ship's wheel and many other exercise devices.

In the homemade gyms, injured and tired muscles were put to work again. Special exercises re-educated the broken bodies and torn muscles that had been mended.

Some of the exercises appeared peculiar to the first-time participants and viewers. One man would sit on a table apparently doing nothing, but would have a hard time of it. He just sat there for ten minutes flexing and unflexing muscles of the thigh.

Over in another corner of the gym, a soldier would pick up a marble with his toes. The exercise helped to rapidly bring unused muscles back into shape.

In another part of the hospital, some 307 pints of blood were taken in one day. Some 350 volunteers lined up outside the hospital to help save the lives of fighting soldiers.

The hospital was complete with a laboratory in which qualified laboratory experts devoted full time to making diagnosis and testing food and drinks.

#### **'Mr. Ed' Character Here** Saturday Aug. 29, 1964

Many Gainesville youngsters are proudly displaying a new addition to their autograph books today. **Leon Ames** of Studio City, Calif., who plays the role of "Colonel," the retired Army officer, on television's "Mr. Ed" is a visitor in this city this weekend. He was here for funeral services Friday of the uncle of Mrs. Ames, **C. D. Laverty**.

The jovial star and his wife were spectators at the Friday night Gainesville-Ardmore football scrimmage as guests of the **Price Dietz** and **Bob Livingston** families.

Youngsters who spotted Ames in the east stands of Leeper Stadium kept the long time actor and his ink pen busy during the entire game.

#### **Marysville History Lives** Wednesday Sep. 16, 1964

Back when Cooke County was an infant, Marysville was cutting its baby teeth.

One of the first "teeth" was a structure that still stands today – the old school and Masonic Hall Building. The building in the east part of the community was built in 1884 following the destruction of another building used for the same purposes.

The original building was the product of a campaign by Marysville Methodist and Baptist Churches in 1872. It burned to the ground in an 1884 fire. The building is still used for a dual purpose. Masonic Lodge A. F. and A. M. No. 344 use the old building for meetings and the townspeople use it as a community center.

The community of Marysville located 21 miles northwest of Gainesville flourished for 73 years, but found life fast-fading when Camp Howze opened its doors in 1942.

Founded in 1869 Marysville was a major trading center of Cooke County. The population at the turn of the century was 350. Two dry good stores, two cotton gins, two blacksmith shops, three grocery stores, a pharmacy, and a livery stable gave it life.

Today the only sign of the once thriving trading center are two grocery store buildings. Neither of the stores is operated at the present time and have been closed to the public for several years.

Camp Howze took a total of 58,000 acres of land north, south, and east of the town, causing some 250 families to vacate the area.

**R. M. Davidson** of Fort Worth purchased both Marysville stores in the early 1950's. He operated one of them for several years, but finally closed it to the public.



The first settlers in what was to be Marysville were Mr. and Mrs. **Richard Corn**, who were originally from California. They settled in the Sivells Bend community in the early 1850's, before moving to Marysville, 12 miles west.

Corn erected a mill in the valley of South Fish Creek in an open post oak wooded area, where the loose, sandy soil was not particularly adapted to farming.

The mill in later years covered 3,000 square feet of space with a 40-foot tread mill using six to ten oxen as power. Since there was no mill to the west for several years, people came from Montague and Clay counties to have their wheat and corn ground.

In 1867 **D. H. Sapp** and family moved to Marysville. They constructed a home south of Marysville's present location, which was moved near the mill and opened as a store in 1869.

A daughter of the Sapps, Mrs. **Ben Lyons**, still lives in the community, and her exceptional memory can recall all the major happenings of the community.

The town's naming came from two different sources – Mrs. **Mary Corn** and Marysville, Calif., where Mrs. Corn's brother lived before migrating to Cooke County in the spring of 1869.

**William Savage**, who arrived in Marysville in 1871, was a surveyor and made a plot of the town site. To encourage the establishment of stores in the town, Corn gave a building lot to each newcomer who bought a residence lot.

In 1872, Marysville's first doctor – Dr. **William Bailey** – came to town. In 1873, a post office was established with **John Kelley** as the first post master.

Marysville lost its first post office in 1942, when mail was changed to Rte. 3, Muenster. In earlier days mail came from Gainesville and Montague star routes three times weekly.

Two churches remain in Marysville today – the Methodist Church and the Baptist Church. Both churches are active and have congregations from surrounding areas.

County commissioner **Earl Robison** resides northwest of Marysville, near the Valley Creek community. He has records of Marysville for the past several years, including the justice of the peace docket.

For many years Marysville was a center for cotton trade. Gins at Marysville turned out as many as 1,900 bales of cotton during the peak cotton years of the county. Most of the cotton was grown in and around the Bulcher community northwest of Marysville.

## **WW I Gunner Reunion Attracts 29 Here Saturday Saturday Oct. 5, 1964**

Some 29 members of Machine Gun Co. 142nd Infantry of World War I were here over the weekend for a reunion.

**William H. Tyler** of Fort Worth is captain of the group and **Wade Pryor** of Dallas is secretary. Many of the 29 men were accompanied by their wives.

This is the seventh consecutive year for the men to get together. The company was organized in 1917 in Gainesville with Tyler as captain.

**Bert H. Davis**, **Clark Jennings**, and **T. D. Mitchell** were first lieutenants. Jennings and Mitchell are now deceased. Davis, who retired as major, is a former Gainesville post master and now lives in Dallas.

The machine gun company landed in France in Jul 1918 and was discharged 20 Jun 1919.

Mrs. **W. D. Garnett**, 501 Lindsay, sister of Tyler, acted as hostess at a dinner Saturday night. Tyler was host for the dinner.

Tyler, Davis, and **John Story**, a lieutenant, were recognized as commissioned officers.

Members residing in Gainesville who attended were **Ben Rogers**, **Burnie Reeves**, **Henry Kirchenbauer**, **J. A. O'Brien**, and **Carl Chandler**.

Others attending were **Wade Pryor**, **Bert Davis**, and **Luther Waters**, Dallas; **Allen Smith**, Sherman; **H. T. Murphy**, **E. T. Walker** and **O. B. Horton**, Cleburne; **Ed Lark**, **L. H. Porter**, **C. E. Porter**, **L. E. Gregory** and **Lon Martino**, Fort Worth; **M. M. Dodson**, Lawton, Okla.; **C. R. McDaniel**, Corpus Christi; **John Tipps**, California; **J. Harper**, Teague; **Tom Roe**, Davis, Okla.; **A. T. Gray**, Denison; **J. E. Glasgow** and **Ralph Miller**, Amarillo; **Charles Ruwaldt**, Midwest City, Okla.; **Jim Hadaway**, Decatur; **W. A. Schmidt** and **John Story**, Vernon.

Wives attending were Mmes. Pryor, Kirchenbauer, Walker, Lark, Horton, Harper, O'Brien, Miller, Ruwaldt, Waters, Gregory, and C. E. Porter. The group plans another reunion here next year.

## **Council Ok's Plans on Moss Lake Dam** Wednesday Oct. 7, 1964

Gainesville's proposed municipal lake in Sivells bend is one step nearer reality today.

Meeting in regular session Tuesday night, the Gainesville City Council unanimously approved plans and specifications for the reservoir dam.

The plans were present by **Larry Eeds** of Freeze, Nichols and Endres, Fort Worth, the city's engineer on the project.

Also tied in with the approval were wage of General Contractors, Austin.

In a move to expedite the lake project, City Attorney **George L. West** was authorized to immediately file condemnation proceedings on property owned by the Monroe Brothers and **Rufus Lynch**. The city has been unable to reach agreement with the two landowners for their property. The north end of the dam will be located on the Monroe property, while the main body of the lake will cover Lynch's land.

Three of the 18 land owners have signed sale or easement contracts with the city facing a Nov. 10 deadline for starting work on the project. At that time, the city's water rights permit expires unless construction is underway.

City Manager **Henry Thomason** was authorized to advertise for bids on dam construction, with bid opening date set for 1 p.m. Oct. 28. The contract will be let at the council's Nov. 3 meeting.

Eeds estimated one year's construction time on the 1,500 foot earthen dam and the cost to run an estimated \$600,000.

## **Picked Up Passing By** by Jack Joyce Friday Oct. 9, 1964

Mrs. **Sallie Bass**, 104 E. Main St., recalls that it will be 60 years Saturday that her family came to Gainesville from the Dexter community. She is the last survivor of the eight children born to Dr. and Mrs. **James Whitfield**, who moved to Dexter from Tennessee in the late 1880's. Dr. Whitfield practiced medicine in the northeast Cooke County community until he moved here in 1904. Dr. Whitfield's father, Dr. **Harrison Whitfield**, was a surgeon who practiced in Tennessee during the Civil War.

Mrs. Bass was born in Dexter, taught school in her earlier years, and served as Cooke County treasurer from 1937 to 1941.

Other members of the Whitfield family living here are Mrs. **Roger Whitfield** and her daughter Mrs. **William Gwyn** and Mrs. **Betty Christian** and their families.

Mrs. Bass is currently a guest in the home of her son **Jim Bass** and family in Nashville, Tenn. Jim is an American Airlines executive.

## **Little Remains of Cooke's First Well** Wednesday Oct. 28, 1964

Several hundred area residents gathered around waiting. When the oil gushed over the top of Big Indian No. 1 they threw their hats in the air and let go with whoops. The well 15 miles northeast of the Gainesville city limits, had given Cooke County residents their first taste of oil. That was on Nov. 9, 1924 nearly 40 years ago.

The remains of the original rig were eliminated in 1958 by a tornado that hit the area. The well is located on the Burk Royalty near the residence of **Dan Gaston**. Burk Royalty took over the well from Big Indian Oil and Development several years ago. The well is 3,550 feet deep and its gravity is gauged at 48.0.

## **Lingering Leo Resident Recalls Exciting Days** Wednesday Nov. 4, 1964

LEO – Nothing could be more ironic than a situation that exists here. This small southern Cooke County community was named after Leo the Lion. There could not be a more peaceful community however. Its only residents are retired workers who have little else to do than enjoy the beauty of this part of the county, and talk about it with visitors. One Leo resident – **Bird Moss** entertained a guest from the Register with stories about his favorite part of the county. Moss has seen the town in its early years, its heyday, and its more peaceful times. His memories when told, make it easy to see why the town was named after a lion.

One of the oldest communities in these parts – founded in 1894 – Leo was another victim of changing

times. It served a purpose in its earlier days, but with the coming of the railroads, paved highways and the automobile, the distance between Leo and the nearest big city – Denton – was reduced.

Moss recalls that the businesses in Leo dropped out one by one. Finally, the number of businesses fell to one, and eventually it exited the scene, leaving only memories.

“I was born within a stone's throw of the town, and my wife was born just south of Denton. We both have memories dating back to beyond the turn of the century,” Moss told a Register reporter.

Leo was the center of activity of a pioneer-type community before the Civil War, according to several sources. Although only a handful of persons lived here at the time, a meeting was called to talk church-building plans. Eventually a church was constructed, but meanwhile an enterprising member of the pioneering congregation decided that the bank of the stream was an ideal site for a town. And a town must have a name.

Since there was an abundance of the long-legged birds in the vicinity, why not name it after the plentiful fowl – chaparral?

Also a town must have a post office, and it was while application was being considered for a post office that the name was changed to Leo. It seems nobody in the area could spell chaparral. Because the town was “a rather tough place” in the eyes of its namer – Dr. **M. A. Stamper** – it was given the name of Leo the Lion, later shortened to Leo.

### **Late Excitement**

The 78-year-old Moss pointed out that most of the excitement in the town's history came after most of the Leo residents had moved away.

A house that stands next to the Moss residence, built around the turn of the century, was rented to a group of persons who frequented the two story house on weekends.

“My family was in a position to observe the group's activities, which seemed very normal in every respect. At the time I was operating the only store remaining in the community, and members of the clan often came to the store to make purchases. Never did they give us cause to suspect anything out of the ordinary. But eventually it happened.”

“A member of the clan died unexpectedly, and a nudist colony was exposed. The newspapers did not overlook the story and we had visitors for weeks afterwards. But the neighboring house was empty soon after the member died.”

### **Famous Relative**

**Jim Murphy** of **Sam Bass** fame was a brother of one of Leo's early residents, **Joe Murphy**.

Moss recalled hearing of Jim's part in the scheme that placed police on guard at Round Rock where Bass and his gang planned a bank robbery.

The most recent excitement in the small community occurred on a rainy night in the 1950's when the Clear Creek bridge washed out. The flood resulted in the change of a mailing address for the Moss family. Instead of the regular rural delivery from Valley View, the family began getting mail via the Greenwood Post Office. Mail still comes from the small Wise County community's post office, despite the fact that the bridge has long been restored on Clear Creek.

### **Serenity, Peace**

Now that only a few families remain in Leo, all is serene and peaceful.

One of the oldest churches in the county still remains as a building but no longer as a congregation. Dixon Creek Church was originally built on the steep hill south of the community, but when residents decided to move the town to the creek bank, the church was also moved. An old hitching post still stands at the church's original site, where horses spent an hour while their riders worshipped inside the Baptist Church.

Some of the county's tallest hills and prettiest trees adorn the area. Little warning is given to the tourist as he approaches Leo on the unpredictable course of a nameless road that branches off FM 922. The only indication that the few scattered structures represent Leo, Tex., is a sign painted on the cellar of the residence directly across the road from the Moss place.

## **Versatile Singer - Anita Bryant Refreshing** Saturday Nov. 28, 1964

If anyone needs the pause that refreshes it's the girl that helped make the quotation famous – **Anita Bryant**. The Columbia recording star, her husband and two children, took that much needed pause Thursday in the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. **W. G. Bryant**, 1102 Fair Ave.

At 9:30 on Friday, however, Miss Bryant was saying farewell to her parents, and sisters, and brother, talking to a Register reporter, and posing for pictures. The versatile Oklahoma native boarded a jet in Dallas at noon and was in Miami, Fla. hours later ready to begin another busy day.

The busy schedule has not damaged Miss Bryant's appearance or personality, all will agree. Wednesday she volunteered her services at her home town church in Tishomingo, Okla. Seasonal songs soloed and led by Miss Bryant were among the features of the service.

Now with Thanksgiving traveling over, the former Miss Oklahoma has plans for a busy Christmas season that will find her in Viet Nam, Thailand, and the Philippines. Commenting on her spending the last five Christmases in foreign lands as apart of the Bob Hope USO tour, Anita says she feels the soldier's morale should be kept up in peace time "because that's when they have time to get lonely."

Miss Bryant is the mother of two children – **Gloria Lynn** and **Robert Green Jr.** - and she's made three gold records - "Til There Was You," "Paper Roses" and "My Little Corner of the World."

**Robert Green** doubles as Anita's husband and manager. They make their home in Miami.

In addition to the Oriental tour and a few commercials for a popular soft drink, Miss Bryant's December itinerary will include a trip to Kansas City to make an industrial film, an appearance on the Dec. 13 Ed Sullivan show, and another on the Bob Hope Special Jan. 15. Following that busy schedule the Greens will return to Miami for another refreshing pause.

## **Horse Races Are Recalled by Longtime 'Woodbiner'** Wednesday Dec. 2, 1964

WOODBINE – Keats, Milton, and Tennyson have all written about the woodbine, or vine which clings to trees. But the name for Cooke County's Woodbine was not inspired by a poem.

**Pat Ware**, who lives on a peaceful, parklike spread three miles east of here and 12 miles east of Gainesville, will tell you that the community's name came from the cords of wood near the railroad track that still cuts a path through these parts.

The uninitiated may think the name to have come from the beautiful stretch of fence that adorns several acres of Ware's lands. Older than perhaps any other fence in the county, the split rails have captured the glances of hundreds of passing motorists over the years, Ware told an inquiring Register reporter Monday. The rails, built sometime in the 1850's, were pictured in Tuesday's edition of the Register.

Standing in the shaded area of his front porch Ware recalled for the reporter the outstanding happenings in his memory of the past 71 years, of which all were spent in the same immediate area.

His neat-appearing two story frame was the site of his birth, his marriage and the birth of his son, **Rad Ware**.

Childhood events most conspicuous in Ware's memories are the horse races that brought crowds from all around on alternate Saturday afternoons. Ware was a boy of five or six years old, but he clearly recalls the procedure followed in the races: Two tracks ran side by side about 20 feet from each other. Horses would run some 100 yards in the same direction, turn around and finish at the starting line. The art of racing was the ability to turn around.

"Many of the fastest steeds just kept right on going," Ware remembers, "while the slower horse that was cautious in the turn would take the prize,"

Most outstanding in the memories of the races are the methods of mowing the grass on the track. Since the intervals between the races were two weeks, stubs of grass had time to clutter up the track. Old-time wash pots were turned upside down on the tracks and tied to a rope. The other end of the rope was taken by a rider on a plow horse. A boy a little heavier than Ware climbed on the pot, pressed its sharp edges into the topsoil. Away went the horse and away went the grass, leaving the track in condition for a fair race.

"I remember a tie-hacker who lived near here," Ware reported. "He had a horse he bragged on constantly. And when he was finally permitted to race the horse, area racers discovered he had reason to brag. His horse

literally stole the show.”

Getting back to the subject of his rail fence, Ware said the late **Grady Culp**, who was a salesman in the Woodbine area several years ago, bargained Ware's father for about 40 rods of rails to surround his residence in Gainesville. Ware traded Culp the rails for several rods of wire netting.

When Ware was a young boy, he recalls the rail fence stretched around several acres. Today, according to the mile-o-meter of an automobile, the remainder of the fence is two tenths of a mile long.

Before cars were strong on the market, Ware recalls a “booming” Woodbine – with three stores, two blacksmith shops, a lumber yard, and a cotton gin. Churches representing different denominations have long surrounded the area. Several still exist and draw regular attendance from farm families all around the Rad Ware and Woodbine area.

But of all the homeowners a single store remains open today.

Ware's main fellowship with neighbors (the nearest is a few miles away) is during the monthly meeting of the Rad Ware school board. He has served the school as a trustee for several years since its establishment in 1924 and figures the total of years he has spent on the Rad Ware and Salem school boards would easily surpass 40.



## *We Remember*

We are saddened by the loss of Rosa Lee Chapman-Mohtasham, longtime member and past president of CTGS.

### **Obituary for Rosa Lee Chapman-Mohtasham**

WHITESBORO-Funeral services for Rosa Lee Chapman - Mohtasham, 69, will be held at 2:00 P.M. Friday, November 24, 2017 at Meador Funeral Home Chapel in Whitesboro with Rev. Scott Jordan officiating. Interment will follow at Dixie Cemetery in Whitesboro. Family visitation will be held at 1:00 P.M. prior to funeral service.

On Tuesday, November 21, 2017, Rosa Lee passed away peacefully in her sleep at the age of 69 years. A resident of Whitesboro, Rosa was born on April 2, 1948 in Gainesville, Texas to Robert and Ruby (Johnson) Chapman. Rosa taught family and consumer science at Whitesboro High School before her retirement. She was an active member and Sunday school leader at Bones Chapel Baptist Church. Her passion was for genealogy and service to her community.

Rosa will be lovingly remembered by her children, John Kelley of Austin; Bill and Konomi Kelly of Pensacola, FL; Michael and Teresa Mohtasham of Dallas; Heath and Margie Raper of McKinney. Rosa will also be fondly remembered by her eight grandchildren, Jessica, Teagen, Edan, William, Nagi, Emerson, Carson and Nicolas. She also leaves behind her sibling, John and Judy Phelps of Winnie; Robert and Barbara Chapman of Gainesville; Thomas and Nan Chapman of Arlington: and several nieces and nephews.

Rosa was preceded in death by her brother, Richard Chapman and parents, Robert and Ruby Chapman. Memorial donations in memory of Rosa can be made to Bones Chapel Baptist Church, P.O. Box 310, Whitesboro, TX 76273 or the Whitesboro High School FCCLA chapter, [1 Bearcat Dr.](#), Whitesboro, TX 76273



If history and genealogy interest you, please contact one of our officers and/or members who would love to speak to you. We love to share history!

**President:**  
Natalie **Massengale**  
940-726-5725  
[nat.mass@ntin.net](mailto:nat.mass@ntin.net)

**Vice President:**  
Ronnie **Howser**  
940-665-4430  
[hob2gen@yahoo.com](mailto:hob2gen@yahoo.com)

**Secretary:**  
Darlene **Denton**  
940-580-3740  
[Virginia.montague@gmail.com](mailto:Virginia.montague@gmail.com)

**Treasurer:**  
Perlene **Newton**  
940-726-3414  
[perlene.newton@yahoo.com](mailto:perlene.newton@yahoo.com)

**Newsletter Editor:**  
Colleen Clark **Carri**  
817-999-9551  
[colleen.carri@gmail.com](mailto:colleen.carri@gmail.com)

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

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

Funds raised by the CTGS are used to research, preserve and publish records relating to Cooke County family histories. As a service to other researchers, CTGS has published several books which are for sale. For more or additional information, please contact any of the officers listed on this page.

The *Cross Timbers Post* is generally published four times a year: March, June, September and December. However, based on schedules and content, it may be reduced to three times yearly. Subscription is by membership in the Society. Annual membership dues are \$15.00 yearly per household. Memberships run from June 1<sup>st</sup> to May 30<sup>th</sup> the following year.

All correspondence and material relative to the *Cross Timbers Post* should be directed to:  
The Editor, P.O. Box 197, Gainesville, Texas 76241-0197.

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

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