

# Sabine County Reporter

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## PINELAND STAR

A NEWSPAPER DEDICATED TO THE GROWTH OF SABINE COUNTY

SEVENTY NINTH YEAR—

THE SABINE COUNTY REPORTER, HEMPHILL, TEXAS

SPECIAL BANK EDITION

\$3.00 PER YEAR

### Toledo Will Furnish Cheap Water Supply

The Toledo Bend Dam and reservoir will provide the largest and possibly the cheapest supply of fresh water ever impounded in Texas.

The reservoir will be 65 miles long and cover 181,600 acres of surface at normal level. It will yield 1,300,000 acre feet of water per year, or a steady and dependable supply of 1,160,000,000 gallons per day.

The giant lake will store enough water between elevations 128 and 172 feet, if all this capacity were used for water conservation, to provide a dependable supply of 2,074,000 acre feet annually, or 1,852,000,000 gallons per day.

### Negro Community of East Mayfield Is Busy, Quiet and Friendly Spot

The Negro community of Hemphill, a thriving little settlement in former East Mayfield vicinity and known as "the Quarters" is a busy, quiet and friendly spot of Hemphill. About 37 families reside there and all but two own their homes. Access to the area is by paved roadway built in recent years and flower and vegetable gardens separate well kept homes. There are wooded picnic areas, fishing is good in the spring-fed lakes and there is a Union church building for alternate use by Baptist and Methodist congregations.

The men of the community are employed chiefly by Southern Pine of Pineland, Ealand-Wood of Hemphill and the

wood industry for the East Texas Pulp and Paper mill.

Oldest citizens of the Quarters are all neighbors. They are Charlie Hamilton, 86, Mrs. Ella Smith, 93, and Mrs. Sarah Harris, 94.

School age youngsters of the community attend school in a recently constructed building across town at Thomas-Johnson High School, travelling by bus. Many go on from there to obtain higher education or to learn some trade.

Congregations served by the Union Church are the Knox Baptist chapel and the B. & B. Methodist Tabernacle.

Rev. K. D. Daniel of Hemphill is pastor of the Knox chapel. C. Green is Sunday

## Hemphill Preparing for Influx of People on Completion of Toledo Dam

School superintendent, deacon and choir director. Anderson Smith and J. B. Price are the other deacons and Mrs. C. Green is president of the Women's Missionary Society.

The Rev. Eddie Joyce of Silsbee is pastor of the B. & B. Methodist Tabernacle. Charlie Hamilton is chairman of the board of stewards, Sunday School superintendent and director of singing. R. S. Simmons and Jack Adams also are stewards. Mrs. Charlie Hamilton is president of the Women's Missionary Society and Mrs. Irene Gray is president of the

Continued back page this Sec.

The city of Hemphill is in the midst of an all-out preparation program in advance of the influx of both transient and permanent type residents due to result from the building nearby of the Toledo Bend dam and reservoir.

Dr. D. G. Mann, mayor of Hemphill, said the shoreline of the reservoir will be only two and one half miles from Hemphill. City fathers intend to meet the challenge offered by this gigantic project at the city's door.

The mayor said the city commission, the chamber of com-

merce and others are working hand in hand on developing the preparedness program.

Nearing completion is an airport to accommodate two motor planes and residence for a man to be on 24-hour duty. This is located 3½ miles west of the city and transportation for visitors landing there is being arranged.

Other facilities available to industry, business and residents of Hemphill for any future needs are electric and gas power lines. The REA has recently run a 69,000 volt line along the

edge of the city. Within 5½ miles to the southeast of Hemphill is a Tennessee Gas Company line and to the west is a United Gas line.

The mayor also pointed out that the Texas Telephone and Telegraph Company, which has a franchise with the city, has promised continued improvements to the area. The company already has put into use the dial system for local calls and Micro-wave system for long distance. Subscribers may dial anywhere in the country without long distance medium.

Vast improvements have been put into effect here since Hemphill was incorporated in 1939. The city operates on a cash basis, never having defaulted on payments of bills and bonds.

Among improvements brought about in the past 15 to 23 years include installation and enlargement of a water treating system, (the water being tested in state labs regularly), construction of a sewer system adequate for population up to 2,000, or twice that of Hemphill, construction of a brick utility building to replace the old frame building (a combination city hall and fire station), street improvements, garbage pickup and dumping grounds for disposal of refuse by burning and covering, acquiring of a second lake as a safety measure against water shortage, purchase of electric distribution system converting it from 2400 to 4160 voltage power, installation of a natural gas distribution system which is tapped to Tennessee Gas Company line.

Dr. Mann has been Hemphill's mayor since it was incorporated in 1939. Commissioners are Leon Adickes, John Starr, Alfred J. Howard, C. E. Eddings and Willard McLane.

City Hall employees are Mrs. Edna W. Clark, city secretary and tax assessor-collector, Howard Low, assistant tax assessor-collector, Chester Murray, water, gas and sewer superintendent, and Willard Byrd, electrical superintendent.

Hemphill has a volunteer fire department, ranking high with a 95 per cent attendance at all fire meetings. V. A. Jones is fire marshal and Jesse Moody is fire chief.

Hemphill is the gateway to the National forest, 288,000 acres of which lie in Sabine County with Hemphill the county seat. The city is commercial center of an area in which lumbering and poultry industry make Sabine County leading in the South's hardwood lumbering and fourth in the state in broiler production.

The city and immediate area also is in the first stages of housing and commercial developments. Land and other facilities will be available to any new project for progress, it has been stated by land owners.

During its steady growth over the past 23 years Hemphill has seen great improvements not only to municipality but to schools, churches, dwellings.

School consolidation has made possible an ambitious building expansion program and improvement to academic departments, sports and music.

Churches in Hemphill are the Church of Christ, Methodist, Baptist, Pentecostal, Church of God, and Catholic.

First Baptist Church is engaged in an \$82,000 building program (see additional story, this issue) and various improvements have been made by other churches.

### Big Dream of Renewal of Shipping on Sabine River Comes Closer to Reality

The restoration of shipping on the Sabine River between Longview and Orange is fast moving from the status of a big dream to the first stages of reality.

A public hearing on a proposed feasibility study of a barge canal along this part of the river was held recently in Orange by the Galveston District, Corps of Engineers. This district has jurisdiction over the watershed from Bon Weir south.

A second public hearing on the proposal was held July 18 in Longview by the corps' Fort Worth District which has jurisdiction north of Bon Weir.

Meantime, a letter has been sent by the Corps of Engineers to the Federal Power Commission in Washington which must approve plans for construction of Toledo Bend Dam.

The letter requests that FPC reserve for the corps right to install locks for shipping in the dam, when and if it is determined that the proposed barge canal is feasible.

As presently envisioned, the canal would be 125 feet wide and 20 feet deep from Orange to Echo. From there to Longview it would be 125 feet wide and 15 feet deep.

The locks in Toledo Bend Dam would be necessary to raise tugs and barges from the river below to the level of the reservoir. Present plans for the dam do not include locks. If they are approved their installation would be a responsibility of the Corps of Engineers and the cost would be paid by the federal government.

Approval of this facility and of the canal itself hinges on a determination by the corps that economic benefits from the canal would exceed the cost of construction.

For most part, these will be measured in terms of expected industrial development of the Sabine River Valley and tonnage that probably would be moved by water if the canal is built.

Key factors are wood products, particularly the area's potential for paper making, and vast deposits of iron ore lying along the Sabine Uplift from Sabine County to the vicinity of Rusk.

Communities all along the river upstream from Orange would benefit from what are known as "water-compelled freight rates". These are somewhat lower than hauling charges of railroads and truck lines to inland points where they do not compete with low-cost water transportation.

This would mean that the cost of getting merchandise or products of any kind into and

out of Sabine County would be lower than at present.

It also would mean that industrial plants which would not at present locate in the watershed north of Orange because of high transportation costs would look with more favor on upstream sites.

The current big push for the barge canal began after Toledo Bend Reservoir was assured. Its construction will provide the width and depth needed for a major part of the total distance at no cost to the federal government except for the locks in Toledo Bend Dam.

The reservoir also is expected to provide impetus to economic development of Deep East Texas which will mean the difference between feasibility and lack of it for the proposed canal.

A request for authorization for the canal's first leg, between Orange and Echo, is expected in the next session of Congress. Subsequent requests will hinge on progress of the feasibility study.

If the entire project is approved it will require years to complete and involve the expenditure of many millions of dollars. Most of the work will consist of deepening the river in shallow stretches, widening where needed, and cutting across many of the existing curves.

It's a big undertaking, but if the mass of favorable testimony offered in the hearing at Orange is an accurate gauge of the power behind it, there's no stopping it now. And nobody spoke in opposition to the proposal, which means it will have smoother sailing than if there was a fight about it.

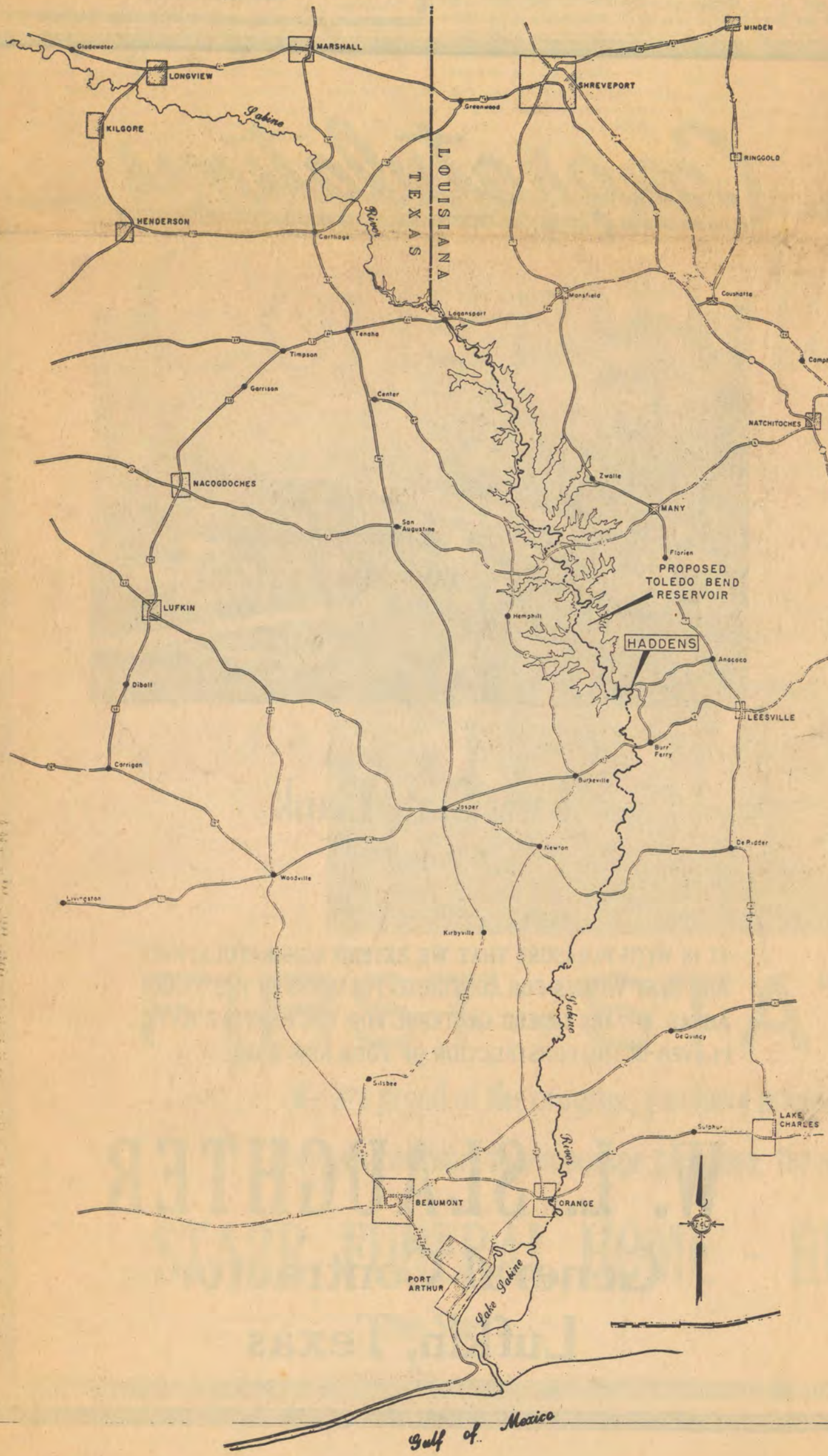
### An Historical Society for Sabine County?

Are you interested in an historical society for Sabine County?

Vera Browning, who compiled the reader material for this special edition—with the help of numerous Sabine Countians—definitely is interested. But she wants to know if you are willing to help.

Anyone interested in such a project, please write or call the editor of The Reporter.

The Society, when organized, would gather documents and antiques pertinent to the history of Sabine County and find a permanent exhibiting place. With this country's colorful and old background, this would be a wonderful attraction for both local citizens and the tourist trade.





# W. L. Slaughter, Lufkin, is General Contractor of First State Bank

W. L. Slaughter, general contractor for First State Bank's new home, resides in Lufkin, Texas, and is one of the foremost builders of Southeast Texas.

Slaughter has been in the construction business for the past twenty-four years and is sole owner of his firm. He is married and has four daughters.

Among the recent commercial projects Slaughter has built are the T. P. & L. Building, the Cavanaugh-Peden Drug store and the Dr. R. K. Arnett Clinic, all in Lufkin.

He built a modern, new school in Alto and the Court House annex in Rusk, among other important jobs in Texas. Well over 100 of the fabulous new homes in Lufkin were built by Slaughter.

The contractor said he is very proud of the First State Bank project in Hemphill and thinks it will be enjoyed as one of the county's better structures for many decades to come.

## Plainview Once Known as Cross Roads

The community of Plainview, formerly known as Cross Roads, is a lovely gem in the picturesque setting of Sabine County. Founded about 1900, Centerview boasts four generations of citizens who take much pride in the appearances of their surroundings.

The oldest resident of Plainview are S. W. Tatom, W. C. Forse, and Mrs. Evelyn McGown.

The Reporter correspondent from Plainview — Mrs. C. A. Bell — sends in this narrative on her community:

This community was once known as Cross Roads. Many people still call it by that name. The first school was established here about 1907 and it was given the name Plainview. A new school house was built in 1924 and the old school house was moved across the highway to a new location and was used as a church by several denominations. About five years earlier than this the Church of Christ had erected a new building here. The community now had two church houses and a school house. Before the establishing of the first school,

all pupils attended school at Centerview, or at a log school house near Lott Cemetery. The cemetery was not there at that time. L. H. Bradshaw taught the first school here.

This community once covered a lot more territory than it does today. Other places have encroached on its borders. Going East from Plainview on Highway 2024, you will find 5 church houses in five miles of driving, and each a separate community. Centerview has taken its toll on the west.

Among the names of old settlers in the early 1900's or before are C. M. Whitehead, S. W. Tatom, A. J. Lott, W. H. Forse, A. H. McGown, A. J. Jacks, W. C. Forse, George Broom, Martin Whitehead, Sr., L. N. Morris, Sr., M. C. Morris, J. F. Bailey, Brown Jones, Tom White, Bill Strickland, Sr., Jim and Gus Strickland, G. W. Whitehead, Matt Strickland, Jim McClelland, N. D. and Owen McClelland, Jim Hall, George Pence, Joe Burkett, Marion Jacks, Sr., and sons, Jess, Frank, Taylor, Robert Warren, and Tom Jacks.

Of these old timers only S. W. Tatom, W. C. Forse, John White, and Jess Jacks are still living. Some moved away, but the descendants of many of these people still live here. Many new names are among later settlers. Some have moved on some are deceased. Some of them, or their offspring still remain, but the list is too long to name them all. Some of the people here today can count four generations of residents in their families here.

There has been no increase in farm acreage, but several broiler houses have been built. Those still in operation are owned by R. L. McDaniel, Ted White, Dewey, Clyde and Claud Tatom, and Jesse Morris.

Many new homes have been built and most old ones remodeled and modernized. Owners of newer homes are W. R. Carey, V. G. Hussey, Mrs. Marvin Jacks, L. C. Harley, Jason Morris, Otis Smith, Clyde, Dewey and W. C. Tatom, Ted White, H. A. Jordan, H. B. Hanks, Johnny Boyce, C. A. Bell, Mrs. Kirby Meeks, and Dan Edgar.

Others built since 1944 are Weldon King, R. L. McDaniel, Fred, Edgar and Tom Byley, H. B. Poindexter, Arthur Keller, Mr. Barlow and Dick Jones.

The three oldest homes still occupied by one of their own-

ers, are the W. C. Forse home, the A. H. McGown home and the S. W. Tatom home. The three oldest people of the community are S. W. Tatom, W. C. Forse, and Mrs. Evelyn McGown. Their homes were all built about the turn of the century.

Plainview is at the intersection of FM Road 2024 and FM Road 1, four miles north of Pineland and 3 miles south of Bronson. Bear creek flows through the community.

Plainview community, especially when it is freshly mowed, will rank as one of the beauty spots of the communities. Second to this would be the new church built four years ago, and which ranks as one of the most beautiful rural churches in the county. Since we have been asked to name the beauty spots of our communities, this should be an incentive to develop more spots which could be classified as such.

At one time Plainview rose to the rank of a six-teacher high school with Home Economics and Vocational Agriculture rooms with all needed equipment.

Today, we have no school, not even a building. Our old school house and gymnasium sits on the campus of Bronson school and is still being used.

Church services are held here twice each month with Bro. Joe Lane of Jasper as pastor. So ends 62 years of progress, we hope!

### Centerview's "Aunt Mary" Is Oldest Citizen

The cozy little community of Centerview is distinguished by the warmth and friendliness of its citizens, the eldest among them being the beloved "Aunt" Mary Dickerson, who is 80 years old.

As to the beauty of its winding roads and creeks and big oak trees, a warm invitation "to come see for yourself" is given by Maurice Walker, who wrote up a report on his community for this special edition at the request of Mrs. C. L. Wright, Centerview correspondent.

Following is Walker's write-up in his own words:

It is a little bit harder to write about a community than one might offhand think. For instance, where does it begin and where does it end? Some areas are definitely not a part of it, and other areas definitely are, but precisely where is one to draw the line?

Is it not a fact that a community is more than a certain geographical area in some instances? Is it not an attitude, as well as an area, and that people who might be excluded on purely geographical grounds must be included for other reasons?

But after all is said and done, if one is to write about a community it must be located some place for some reason. Then, let us say that Centerview community begins where the big road leaves Highway 96 at Art Smith's service station. It follows the general lines of this road as it crosses Sandy Creek, then proceeds south to Jack Williams creek, turns left and leads back past the old school house site, crosses Sandy creek again, passes the Methodist and Baptist churches, crosses Bear creek and again enters Highway 96 near Jack Yoltan's filled up pond.

This is the main body of Centerview community as it presently exists.

Approximately 75 to 80 people live in this general area and make up the bulk of population of the community. Outside this area on the south one probably should include Mr. Joe Jacks and then on Highway 96 one should count several houses, including that of Mr. and Mrs. Jason Morris.

Among our citizens are Henry and Mary Welch, Bud McBride, Jr., and family, Mr. and Mrs. Bud McBride, Sr., and Marlowe Clegg, Wesley and Bea McBride, Aunt May Dickerson, and Leroy McBride, Mr. and Mrs. Elton Craig, Mr. and Mrs.

Jim Welch, Weldon Bennett and family, Richard and Adell McBride,

Mr. and Mrs. Bud Smith, Mack and Pearl Bragg, Jodie Welch and family, Mr. and Mrs. Edward McBride, Albert Lee, Larry and Judy; Amy Walker, Marvin, Louise and Barry Walker; Dollie Thomas and Weldon, Lucy Clegg,

Horace Thomas, Lela Belle McGown, Ellis and Katie; Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Beauchamp, Alvin and Charles; Mrs. Nettie Knight and grandchildren, Mr. and Mrs. Dave Ansley, Arthur and Rena Mae Jacks, Mr. and Mrs. Lafayette Wright and Alton, Jack and Ruth Whitten, Jim David and John Arthur, Mr. and Mrs. Lutha Welch and Albert, and Mrs. Tom Jacks.

This list is not entirely complete but its most of us.

It is of interest to note that in our population are about 15 or 16 of our people over sixty years of age. The oldest citizen of Centerview community proper is Aunt Mary Dickerson who is 80 years of age.

This is really not a farming community, but one finds gardening going on, and some small corn patches. Cattle raising is the economy of the area, and some people have been working on their pastures including Elton Craig and Mack Bragg.

Among the house owners of the community are Weslie McBride and G. L. Beauchamp. One of the Beauchamp houses

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has the unusual name "Buttermilk".

The oldest house in the community is the home of Mrs. Lucy Clegg. It was apparently built in the 1890's by Mr. Lem Taylor. One of our older citizens, Mr. Bud Smith, recalls it being built when he was a boy. A small addition has been made in the past year or two and just how much of the original building is part of the present structure, the writer is unaware.

The present Baptist Church here in the community was organized in 1927 with Ester Wood as church clerk and Sharkie Jack Morris as treasurer. Other early members were Mrs. Tom Jacks, Mrs. Levy Clegg and Mrs. Essie Smith. Brother Noel Hammock is the present minister.

Brother Hammock began preaching in the Centerview community in the summer of 1935, and although his ministry has not been unbroken, he has preached here most of the time since then.

Brother Henry Lee has been pastor of the Methodist Church for some time. Unfortunately, this writer does not have access to a list of the charter members.

But during recent history one of the most active and influential members of the Methodist Church in this community was the late I. W. (Uncle Will) Wright. He was very active in Sunday School and was a devout student of the Bible. Nor was his witness confined to the church house. It is just about correct to say that Sunday School travelled with him.

Centerview community is served by two mail routes. Mr. G. T. Fox comes out of Bron-

son, and Mr. Charlie Osborn out of Pineland.

Centerview community no longer has a school. The small rural school which used to be here was merged with Bronson some twenty odd years ago. At the present time, children of this community attend West Sabine Schools.

Also, some twenty odd years ago "butane" made its appearance in the community. The distinction of having the first "butane" system goes to Mr. and Mrs. Lafayette Wright. Since then bottled gas has become the rule rather than the exception.

The community has electrical service, and more recently, telephone service.

And for beauty spots in the community, you are cordially invited to come see what we have and judge for yourself. As a suggestion you might notice the big oaks in front of the Bud Smith home, the moss hung trees at the old school site, and to test your driving skill, this writer suggests you pick a day time and drive down the Luther Welch road. Their road leaves Highway 96 near the Charlie King place and for a short road with lots of turns this is it.

# Congratulations

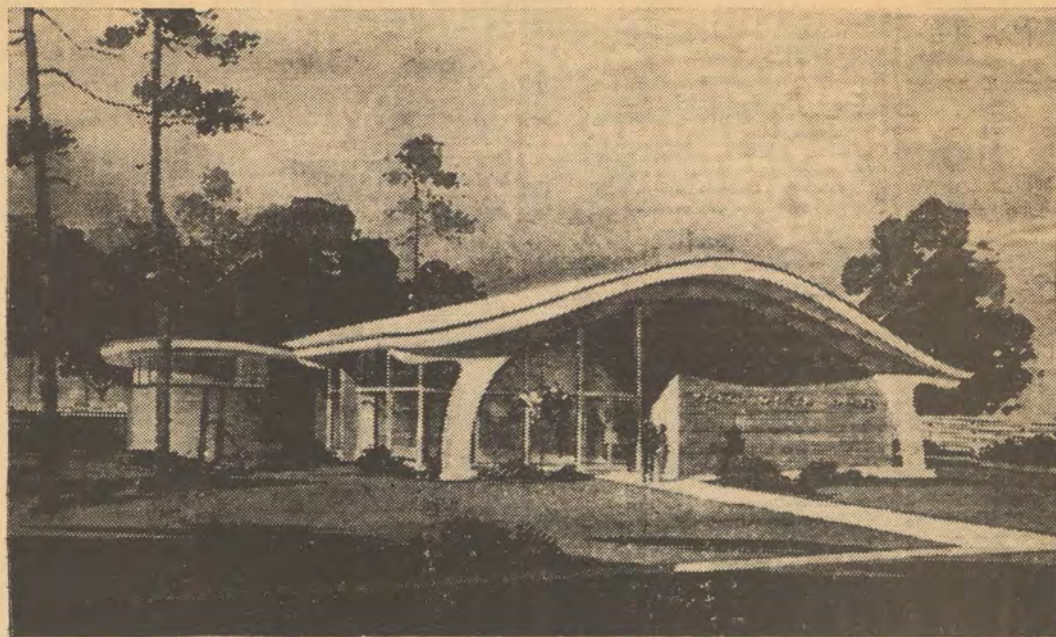
TO  
FIRST STATE BANK

Encouragement you have shown by the modern home you have built gives us untold hope in the future.

## SUTTON'S

GROCERY AND MARKET  
Hemphill, Texas

# Congratulations



TO  
First State Bank  
Of Hemphill

IT IS WITH PLEASURE THAT WE EXTEND CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES FOR CONTINUED PROGRESS IN THE YEARS AHEAD. WE ARE INDEED GRATEFUL FOR THE PART WE HAVE PLAYED IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF YOUR NEW HOME.

# W. L. SLAUGHTER

General Contractor  
Lufkin, Texas

# Congratulations

TO  
First State Bank  
Of Hemphill

On the completion of your new building.

We extend Best Wishes to the officers, directors and all personnel on your continued progress which reflects the progress of our area.

## M'LADY'S

Thelma W. Murray

Phone SU 7-2339

Hemphill



## New Home for Baptist Church Recalls Events of Its 104 Years History

As the pastor and congregation of First Baptist Church, Hemphill, progress in their new church building program, thoughts are turned backward through some 104 years of its history.

The \$82,000 new brick sanctuary and educational building is being erected on the site of the present church building site and the old structure is to be demolished and removed to make way for a parking area. Universal Builders of Houston are contractors.

The Rev. Clarence Howell has served as pastor of First Baptist for nearly 16 years. Royce Smith is chairman of the present building committee.

First Baptist Church was organized May 29, 1858, when eleven men and women gathered together in a building about two miles southwest of the present town of Hemphill and entered into an agreement and the group was pronounced a regularly organized Baptist church the same day by a Presbytery consisting of E. S. Phelps and W. C. Southwell, elders, the latter becoming first pastor of the new church.

First name given to the church was Housen Bayou Baptist Church. In September, 1869 its name was changed to Hemphill Baptist Church and a few years ago changed to its present name of First Baptist Church.

The eleven charter members were carried on the roster as Mary Ann Beckcom, Simon N. Beckcom, Sophronia Ann Everett, John Everett, Ruth C. Travis, Richard H. Travis, Mary E. White, Henry S. White, Sophronia P. Travis, Cannon Travis and Elizabeth White.

These Baptist friends held letters from various Baptist churches elsewhere. On moving to the now Hemphill area they wished to establish a common Baptist church in which to wor-

ship. This little handful laid solid foundation, for the church has marched forward and grown to a present day membership of approximately 325. It also has sponsored mission churches in the county. It has affiliated with Bethelhem Association and the Central Association at different times in furtherance of mission work.

The first church building was dedicated on April 8, 1893, having been erected on a site located on the northeast corner of Block No. 32 in Hemphill deeded to the church by J. W. Smith and wife.

The church observed its Fiftieth anniversary simultaneously with the Central Baptist association's Fifth Sunday meeting held at the local church May 28-31, 1908. It observed its 100th anniversary May 25, 1958, and two persons on that day's program had also participated on the program of the fiftieth anniversary observance. They were the late J. W. Minton of Hemphill and Joe M. Minton, of Houston, brothers.

A tape of the program of the Centennial celebration of the church was made and has been preserved by John H. Minton, who also has many of the first records of the church in his office vault for safe keeping.

### Water From Toledo Will Be In Demand

The State Board of Water Engineers predict a great increase in water demand for industrial and municipal use by the Sabine county area after building of Toledo Bend Dam and Reservoir.

Area 18 — the Middle Sabine area — where Toledo Bend Dam will be constructed, used 3,400 acre feet of water for industrial purposes in 1957, the report shows, and is esti-

mated to require 4,235 acre feet in 1965, 5,500 acre feet in 1975 and 7,350 acre feet in the year 2000.

Municipal and other non industrial water use in Area 13 totaled 4,358 acre feet in 1957 and is estimated to increase used 3,400 acre feet of water 6,700 acre feet in 1975 and to 8,900 acre feet in 2000.

## Reporter Is In 79th Year

The Sabine County Reporter is enjoying its 79th year of service to the readers of Sabine County, each editor striving — along with making a livelihood for his family — to promote those things which tend to better Hemphill and Sabine County.

And to that end The Reporter continues to take a stand in the community for progress and stability. It is truly "dedicated to the growth of Sabine County"; indeed, as formerly stated in its flagline, "the only newspaper that gives a hoot about Sabine County."

In the past 17 years the present editor and publisher, J. Darrel Milner and his wife and associate, Iris Milner, have taken editorial and column stand in issues of The Reporter for many of the improvements which the town and county now enjoy.

In the 55th anniversary issue of The Reporter Herman Price and J. Cullen Browning, co-owners, stated, in part:

"Chief objectives of the paper at present are to direct the attention to Hemphill's possibility as a site of a newspaper mill and to secure a bank for Sabine County."

All through its long years of service to the community The Reporter has been published by men who wielded their pens so to speak, for improvements to business, schools, churches, roads, sanitation, culture.

And many hardships were experienced by the publishers

down through the years, especially those who pioneered the profession in Sabine County. Prior to The Reporter a couple of newspapers were started up but fell by the wayside after brief lives.

The Reporter was founded by Henry Potts, who published his first issue on January 22, 1883. The publication has undergone a number of changes in name and numerous changes in management but was never closed down and today is one of the oldest weekly newspapers in Texas.

During World War II The Reporter underwent a suspension of three years while its co-publishers were enlisted in the fighting forces and defense work of the country. This did not, however, constitute a legal "death" of the newspaper and The Reporter can claim continuity for its "life" because the country was at war and circumstances were not normal.

It would be impossible to explain to the reader layman the difficulties under which Mr. and Mrs. Milner revived The Reporter when Milner came home from the Navy in 1945 and moved to Hemphill.

The Milners published their first issue on January 4, 1946, handsetting every line! By the third issue Milner had managed to clean hay and fertilizer off the outmoded, delapidated linotype and got it in working order. Today his modern shop affords three type setting machines, plus the plant's first paper folding machine and automatic job press.

The first newspaper published in Hemphill was The Sabine Saxon, begun in 1877 and discontinued in 1879. In 1880 The Sabine Valley Record was founded and folded in 1882.

Henry Potts bought out the printing plant of The Record in 1883 and began publication of the Hemphill Reporter.

In 1885 The Reporter was purchased by J. M. Strickland who published the paper until the latter part of April, 1889, when he sold it to T. Curtis and V. E. Curtis, who changed the name to The Hemphill Mes-

senger.

On January 1, 1900, V. E. Curtis bought out the interest of T. Curtis and employed Andrew Veatch of Brookeland as editor.

Editor, preacher, gunman, philosopher, statesman and poet, Veatch was perhaps the most colorful individual ever produced by Sabine County. His writings were excellent. Veatch resigned as editor in 1902.

J. D. Goodrich bought The Reporter from V. E. Curtis in August, 1905, and changed the name of the paper to The Hemphill Leader. In 1909 Goodrich sold the paper to J. D. Woods who renamed it The Sabine Valley News.

In November, 1909, Rev. L. R. Campbell moved a printing plant here from Brookeland and started The Citizen in competition with The News. The two fought it out until January 6, 1911, when The News was sold to Campbell and he merged the two to form The Sabine County Citizen.

Campbell was a fire-eating type of editor who asked no quarter and gave none. He spent most of his editorial efforts in trying to promote a hog law for Hemphill. He kept the paper going under severe financial adversity, at one time having to resort to a job press when creditors repossessed his big press.

In 1917 Campbell retired from the newspaper field to devote all his time to preaching and sold out to another minister, Rev. J. H. Thorn, who called his newspaper The Sabine County Reporter, which has been the paper's name ever since.

Thorn sold The Reporter in 1918 to C. M. Tatham, who published it until 1928, when it was purchased by Mrs. Betty Bowen.

In 1919 Tatham purchased the first typesetting machine ever used on the paper.

Mrs. Bowen operated The Reporter until May 1, 1928, then sold it to Frank L. Main, who published it until August 1, 1937, and sold it to Quanah Price. A month later Price sold

## McMahan Chapel, Oldest Methodist Church, Established in Year 1833

More than a century ago a pioneer resident of what is now Sabine county, traveling through the dense forest of majestic pines of the Palo Gauth valley, alighted from his horse and knelt to pray.

This pioneer was Col. Samuel Doak McMahan. In prayer there in the year 1832 McMahan is said to have been converted, though he already was a member of the Methodist church in Tennessee from whence he came the year previous.

Through McMahan's efforts — and in answer to his prayers — the first Protestant church, McMahan's Methodist Church, was established.

Today Methodists throughout Texas and the United States journey to Sabine County and kneel to pray at the McMahan chapel altar, re-dedicating their lives to the simple Christian faith of Col. McMahan.

McMahan's Methodist chapel was first formed as a Methodist class or society in the home of the founder in September, 1833. It has a record of continuous service from the date of its beginning.

it to Howard Gee, who operated it for a year and resold it to Price on August 1, 1938.

Herman Price and J. Cullen Browning operated the paper for Quanah Price and on January 1, 1939, purchased it. Browning was the editor. Price and Browning published the paper until June of 1941 when Price went into the U. S. Army and Browning went into defense work, after which Mrs. Browning published the paper for two months. During 1942 two other persons attempted to publish The Reporter for a few months, leasing it from Price and Browning, but gave it up.

Mr. and Mrs. Milner took over the plant and publication of The Reporter after purchasing it in early 1946 and have continued publishing it since.

After McMahan's conversion there in the forest he began to seek for a Methodist preacher to come preach to him, his family and neighbors. But Protestant services were not permitted by the Roman Catholic church state of Mexico, which owned the then Texas Republic.

Rev. James P. Stevenson, who was then living in Louisiana and serving a Methodist circuit there, heard of McMahan's request and rode his horse over and conducted a series of services in the McMahan home in the week following the third Sunday in July, 1833. The church was formed in secrecy the following September, and the small congregation met in the McMahan home and worshipped "unlawfully" until Texas won its independence from Mexico three years later.

The first structure for McMahan's chapel was built of logs in 1837 near McMahan's home and on its present site. In 1872 a frame building was erected and a third building was constructed in 1900. The present masonry memorial chapel was erected in 1949.

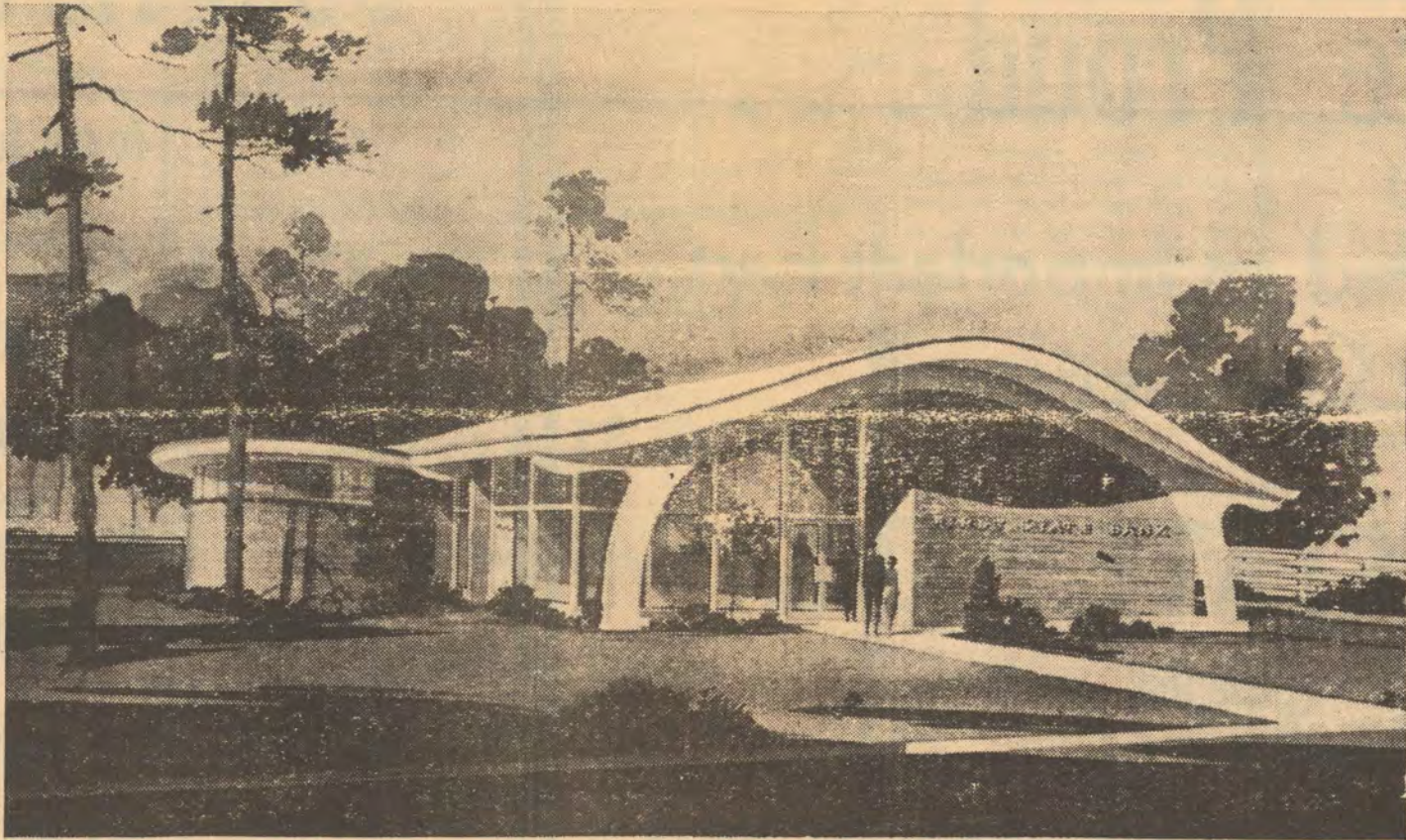
McMahan's chapel of today, a far cry from the first log house and its rock chimney, is regarded as one of the most beautiful and modern places of worship.

Located near Geneva in a rural setting of more than fifteen acres of tree shaded grounds, the little shrine is complimented by specious, well kept lawns, abundance of spring water, tables and other accommodations for the convenience of pilgrims and vacationers.

The chapel's guest book discloses that people from all walks of life have visited the chapel over a period of many years.

In addition to the regular services conducted at McMahan's chapel, an annual celebration is held on the Thursday following the third Sunday each July.

# Congratulations to



## FIRST STATE BANK

We are proud of the progress you have made within the past 18 years.

May you continue to encourage progress throughout Toledo Bend Country.

## STARR FUNERAL HOME - HEMPHILL FLOWER SHOP

John Starr

Margaret Starr



THE SABINE COUNTY REPORTER, HEMPHILL, TEXAS—SPECIAL BANK EDITION



GROUND-LEVEL VIEW OF DAMSITE—From the Texas bank of the Sabine River the Toledo Bend damsite looks like this. It will extend from about one-half mile from midriver on the Texas side and for about a mile on the Louisiana side. The river here runs east and west and the dam will run north and south.

## Sexton Is Over 100 Years Old

BY MRS. M. K. BOHANNON

The village of Sexton has been in existence well over 100 years, with one or two stores in operation at all times. The Methodist Church and the Sexton Masonic Lodge were organized about the same time. The Lodge was chartered in

1860 and had its meetings in an old log two story building until June 1873, when it was moved to Milam. The Lodge got its name from Franklin Sexton and the village was also named for him. The Methodist Church had its first building, a log structure, located near where the roadside park is on Highway 87. In 1881 the late J. M. Ingram and wife gave the church four acres of land on the Sexton to Geneva road, where the present build-

ing was put up. It was built with the best virgin pine lumber, the inside being hand planed. It is a barn-like style with high walls and ceiling. It has had repair from time to time but has stood up well through the years and has been used continually. It was used a few years for a school house. This church was once on half time with San Augustine, with 125 members here. As late as 1914 we had 75 active members.

(Editor's Note— Of itself, a dam has no value. Nor has the water it impounds and controls. The worth of both has to be measured in terms of people and their possessions. We asked John W. Simmons, executive vice president and general manager of the Sabine River Authority of Texas to do that with Toledo Bend. The article which follows is his response.)

The parsonage was sold in 1902 and moved to Geneva nearer the center of the Circuit. It was then called the San Augustine District and Milam Circuit.

Mrs. Annie Ballard has served as secretary and treasurer of the church for 56 years. She is still a very active member and we hope to have her many more years.

Sexton has had a post office all through the years. The writer cannot find out what year it was established earlier than 1860. Jack Wiggins was postmaster in 1900, followed by Drayton Pratt and then J. W. Clifton. The mail was brought by horse back or buggy from Patroon. In 1926 a rural route was established and we now get our mail out of San Augustine.

J. C. Ballard operated a gin in the early 1900's. It is noted that a revival meeting was in progress one fall and Mr. Ballard told his customers and the men that worked for him that he would shut the gin down about 10 o'clock each day, all go out to the mill pond and wash up a bit, put on a clean shirt and go to church. After services they would go back and resume their work.

Sexton always had a school but as times changed was consolidated with Shelbyville in 1944.

In the area of Sexton there are several real old cemeteries. The Ingram and Sweet cemeteries, where the early members of the Sweet and Ingram families are buried are two. The Bickley Cemetery has graves marked there as early as 1850. The Renfro family probably were the first to be put there. Their graves are completely covered with rock and hand made brick. The Polly Cemetery also dates way back.

BY JOHN W. SIMMONS

Not long ago, during a meeting of the Texas State Board of Water Engineers, Chairman Durwood Manifold made this comment:

"Never in my whole political career have I seen so many reliable and responsive people working on a project as in this Toledo Bend program."

Why are they working on it? What brought them together in a concerted effort to create one of the nation's largest manmade bodies of water?

To some it might appear that they are looking at a crystal ball through rose colored glasses. This is not the case at all. They're realists, and they have very practical reasons for what they are doing.

Paramount among these is the fact that water is the key to growth in population and economic development in this or any other area. And they have set out to provide the middle and lower Sabine River basin with a fresh water supply unequaled anywhere else in the country.

What do they expect as a result of this achievement? For the answer to that we can turn to studies made by the Board of Water Engineers, the University of Texas Bureau of Business Research, and Louisiana State University.

Each of these studies projects a vast influx of people and related business and industries into East Texas and Western Louisiana during the several decades immediately ahead.

This will come about, according to the specialists who made

these projections, because of natural conditions already existing in the area.

Now we are adding to the existing attractions for people and their businesses and industries the greatest single storage reservoir for water in the South.

And this fresh water supply, located as it is right in the middle of the territory, will in my opinion result in population growth and economic development far beyond that which the experts already have projected.

This opinion is shared by all of the people who are working to make Toledo Bend a reality. And because of their faith and their willingness to devote time and energy to the project the states of Louisiana and Texas have officially sanctioned the undertaking.

Both states are preparing to invest huge sums of money in their faith in the project and the people working on it.

With this money they will buy a dam with hydroelectric power facilities and a huge body of fresh water.

If they got nothing more than that, it would be a bad investment indeed. The things which will make it a good investment are people and their possessions.

These inevitably will follow construction of the reservoir—all along the watershed, in Louisiana and in Texas, from Shreveport to Lake Charles and from Greenville to Orange.

That's why so many reliable and responsible citizens of the two states are working on this project. They are creating a

new empire—the Empire of the Sabine—and the throne room will be located at Toledo Bend.

## Bank Personnel Are Outstanding Members of Area

The personnel of First State Bank is composed of some of the most outstanding men and women of the area. Proficient in their posts at First State Bank, they are equally solid citizens in home, church and community.

Thos. W. Baker of Nacogdoches is chairman of the board for the bank. Most of the remaining of the personnel reside in Hemphill:

Officers — C. E. Carter, president; Dan Prado, vice-president; Mrs. C. E. Carter, cashier; Mrs. Johnny Poye, assistant cashier; G. A. Neal, assistant cashier.

Directors — Dr. D. G. Mann, Thos. W. Baker (Nacogdoches), T. J. Curl (San Augustine), C. E. Carter, D. B. Speights, Sr., and Dr. G. C. Winslow.

Employees of the bank are Mrs. Rossie L. Hammock, teller, Bobby R. McBride, Betty Jo White and Paul E. Toole, bookkeepers, and J. C. Busby, maintenance.

Sabine county is known all over the state for the hospitality and friendliness of its citizens. Strangers always find the "welcome" mat out.

REMEMBER ONLY YOU CAN PREVENT FOREST FIRES

## Best Wishes

And

## Congratulations

to our friends at

## First State Bank of Hemphill

on the completion of  
your outstanding new building.

YOUR PROGRESS IS ADMIRERD AND APPLAUDED  
BY ALL OF US.

## Southern Pine Lumber Company

of  
East Texas

## We Are Proud . . .

To Have Had an Important Part  
In The Completion of

## FIRST STATE BANK of Hemphill

We extend warmest regards and

## Congratulations

On the attainment of your beautiful new building.

## Caver Electric Company Lufkin, Texas



THE SABINE COUNTY REPORTER, HEMPHILL, TEXAS— SPECIAL BANK EDITION

Improvements Mark Progress Of Gravelhill

Home building and remodeling and pasture improvements have been uppermost in the Gravelhill activities, according to a report compiled jointly by Mrs. Mary Conn. Reporter correspondent, and Mrs. J. C. Conn.

The joint report, full of present day industry and past history of the community, is given here in its entirety:

Gravelhill community is bounded on the South by Tebo creek and on the north by Palo Gaucho creek, extends from so-called Becton branch on the west to Bronson highway 184.

As to our knowledge, Uncle Henry Conn, the father of Aunt Abbie McGown, now 83 years of age and still living on the old homestead, was the first settler.

Other early settlers were H. P. Conn and Uriah Humphrey. Mrs. Cora Roberts, 85, is still living on their original homestead. Her daughter has one laying house, has cleared and improved pastures and has remodeled the home and has modern facilities.

Mr. and Mrs. Leon Hogan, now living on the old Humphreys place has a broiler house and their son, Mr. and Mrs. Lamar Hogan, has built a new home on same property.

Mr. and Mrs. Tommy White

are building a new brick home and a broiler unit on his father's, T. A. White, farm. Mr. White has done a lot of pasture improvement and now has two ponds.

Mr. and Mrs. Preston Melton have a new home. Mrs. Lillie Melton, widow of Sam Melton, has a new home. Both are built on the old Melton homestead.

Mr. and Mrs. Leon Chambers are owners of a new home and broiler house on the old Bryant Clark place. They are managed by his brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Conn. Same land has been cleared and extensive pasture improvements made.

Mrs. Letha Laird and son, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Pete Laird, are living on the H. P. Conn place. They have done a job of fencing, clearing and improving pasture land and have three ponds.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. (Bud) Conn have a new house, barn, and have cleared approximately 40 acres of land. They have improved pastures, have two ponds. Two broiler houses on the place are owned and operated by his son, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Conn.

Mrs. Lizzie Anderson, widow of George Anderson, still lives on the old George Conn place, and daughter-in-law, Mrs. Allie Anderson, widow of Lindell Anderson, and sons have remodeled their home.

Mr. Frank Holt has bought the Boston Watson place, a portion of the old Isom homestead. He has made extensive home improvements.

Mr. and Mrs. McClanahan of

Port Arthur have cleared and improved pastures, have a pond. They are owners of the Nathan Boyett place. Mr. and Mrs. West are managers of the farm.

Mrs. Allie Conn, widow of J. A. Conn, has a new home and broiler house built on a part of the old George Conn place.

Mrs. Mary Conn, widow of Gram B. Conn and son, Joe Conn, have built a broiler unit and rent house, have cleared over 100 acres and all pasture land improved and 25 acres in the Tree Farm program.

Mr. and Mrs. Risinger have a new home.

Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Chance have a new home and 2 broiler houses. They truck farm and have cleared some pasture land.

Mr. and Mrs. C. E. McCauley have a pond, some pasture and home improvements.

Mrs. Fenley, widow of James T. Fenley, has a new home.

Mr. and Mrs. have cleared 40 acres of land, built two broiler houses, two barns, two ponds and made extensive improvement on pasture.

W. T. (Walt) Lankston has built a feed mill, two ponds, two broiler houses and follows improved pasture practices.

Kathleen Conn, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Conn has remodeled a home located on the Aunt Patsy Conn place.

Mr. and Mrs. R. R. Butler have two broiler houses, have cleared 23 acres and follows pasture improvement. They live on the Liace Clark place, one of the finest home places.

Mr. and Mrs. E. J. McLemore have had improvements made on their home.

Zeno Fenley has built recently.

Mr. and Mrs. Otis Chambers built a nice home, now owned by Mrs. Odell Jacobs. Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie Butler and Mrs. Mae Butler, widow of Claude Butler have both built homes on a portion of the old Liace Clark place.

Mr. and Mrs. Crit Russell have two broiler houses and have recently remodeled and improved their home.

Mr. and Mrs. H. K. Hargis have recently built a new home and a broiler unit.

Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Williams have a new home.

Mr. and Mrs. R. V. Hyden have built and recently remodeled their home.

To our present knowledge, the old Uncle Henry White home, now known as the Uncle Bub Dickerson (deceased) place, is the oldest residence now standing, being built in 1892, making it 70 years old and lived in up to this year. The Dickerson's daughter, Mr.

and Mrs. Hosea Burkhalter, have built a new home close to her father on a portion of this land.

The Antioch Missionary Baptist Church was organized and founded January 3rd, 1876, under the direction of Elders J. S. Lambert and J. J. Roundtree.

Charter members were: George Conn, John Anderson, H. S. White, T. D. Burkhalter, John Dewesse, L. S. Hoard, Hosie Baldree, Ann Mason, M. A. Conn, Mary White, Sophie H. Wallace, Mrs. C. A. Hoard, and C. Baldree. The original charter is owned by E. J. McLemore. Our present pastor is Brother Thurman Armstrong of Henderson. Sunday School is every Sunday at 10 a.m. and preaching services are every first and third Sundays at 11 a.m.

Both cemetery's, the one at the church and the Griffin cemetery, have recently erected cyclone fences.

Our Farm to Market Road 1592 joins us to the new Highway 103, just recently completed, and Highway 184. It may not be the beauty spot of our community but it has been our greatest assistance to present date. It was built during Gram B. Conn's, now deceased, term of office as our commissioner 1949-1951.

Gravelhill was once known as Conville and a post office was located on the Henry Conn place where Aunt Abbie McGown and daughter, Mrs. Thelma Chambers, now live.

Several stores and cotton gins were owned throughout the community.

Several years ago our school was consolidated with the Independent School of Hemphill.

Old Letters Point Out Interesting Happenings of 1899

Mrs. C. A. Beall of Milam has among her souvenirs two old letters written in January and September of 1899. Because of their interest to persons of this area excerpts are published here.

The letters were written by Effie Beall, mother of Arvid Beall of Milam, sister of Frank M. Story of Abilene and the wife of late Tom Beall. They were written to Frank M. and Minnie Story; Mrs. Story is an aunt of Mrs. Florence Sutton, Mrs. Reddie Poye, Mrs. Ruth Erwin and C. O. Holder, all of Hemphill.

Here are parts of the two letters:

Geneva, Texas  
January the 18, 1899

Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Story

Dear Brother and Sister,

I seat myself to answer your kind and welcome letter which

came to hand a few days ago. I was very glad to hear from you all and glad to hear you were well. This leaves us all well this time.

Minnie, you ask me to tell you how I enjoyed Christmas. I had a very nice time. I went to the Christmas tree at Geneva, Arvid got two presents.

I went Sunday to see Emma Layfield and Judge Cordray get married. I came from there this morning and she said that she could not be any better pleased, said he could not be any better to her.

The night they were married Mary Lou and Bud McGown ran away and went to Many and married; also George Alford and Jennie Vickers ran away and married.

Frank, Mr. Henry King got his neck broke at the sawmill. A plank caught on the saw and flew back and hit him on the jaw and broke his neck and jaw at the same time.

And the mules ran away with Mr. Bill Boyd at Milam and the wagon run over his breast and crushed it to pieces. He died in a few days after.

Minnie, Mr. John Boyd's mother is dead. She was buried last Friday.

I guess you have heard of Mr. Holmes Harris' wife and little girl's death. They died with the fever that the Pratt boys had. That was what killed Mrs. Boyd. The doctor says he is afraid it will get all over the country if they don't guard against it.

Frank, you wanted to know how many hogs we killed. We killed twelve and have one more to kill. Frank, the big hog weighed over three hundred pounds. He was the largest hog I ever saw. He was as long as Tom when they hung him up. I made twenty gallons of lard.

Tom says he has fine stock on his place this year. He has a man by the name of Durham. Tom has eight hands on his place this year. You wanted to know how much cotton he made. He made sixteen bales of cotton, about five hundred bushels of corn, 150 gallons of syrup, and 150 bushels of potatoes. Tom has got a heap of work to do. He just got through building another house.

Minnie I am going to look for your pictures in the next letter, I want to see you all very bad. Excuse this bad writing as I have wrote a part of it with the baby (Arvid,) in my lap.

Goodbye, Effie Beall

Geneva, Texas  
September 13, 1899

Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Story, Abilene, Texas.

Dear Brother and Sister,  
I seat myself to answer your most welcome letter which came to hand a few days ago. Was very glad to hear from you all and was sorry to hear that you, Minnie, were in such bad health.

Papa and Tom had to spend the last week in Hemphill in Court.

Frank, Tom says to tell you that his Case cost him \$72.00. The Democrats treated him very bad. They would not give him any show at all. They would not let his witnesses get on the stand and some of them were Democrats. They tried to make him have Polley for his lawyer, but Papa told him not to do it; to get a Populist lawyer and so he did.

(Two weeks later) . . . Well Minnie and Frank, it has been nearly two weeks since I started your letter, and I have nothing but bad news to write. There has been about three deaths in a mile of us since I started to write.

Aunt Sallie Jones was buried Sunday eve. She had said for a long time that she was not afraid to die and she died as easy as if she were going to sleep. About 300 people were at the burial.

Maybe I have told you that Ralph Polley and his mother are living at Geneva. His baby was buried last Sunday week. (Later) . . . Today is Saturday and Aunt Sue Williams died today at 12 o'clock. She will be buried tomorrow. She died very strangely. She was taken with sore throat and did not have fever until yesterday, although she had been sick two weeks. They had three doctors with her. The doctors said blood poison set up and killed her.

This will make three Sundays, right hand running, that we have attended a burial. There is

more sickness down here this year than ever was known. It's distressing to hear of so many deaths.

A young lady up here, Mr. Jessie Harvey's daughter, died. She was boarding and going to school at Geneva. That is four deaths in one month.

Frank, times are very hard here. It has been so dry that farmers will not make half a cotton crop. Tom will not make but six bales of cotton, but he made a good corn crop.

Minnie, Tom has put me up a nice big house. It is not quite finished but I am living in it. It is right in front of the old one.

I will close by asking you to write soon.

Your loving sister,

Effie Beall

(Editor's Note: Effie Beall died shortly after this letter was written at the age of 28.)

Do You Know How Sabine River Acquired It's Name?

The beauty of the shorelines of the Sabine River for both eastern and western areas are renown far and wide. Thousands use the stream for leisure hours, drinking in the beauty of the majestic trees and hanging moss.

How many know or ponder how the great stream or water got its name?

According to early records, the Spanish explorers traveling northward from the Gulf of Mexico, saw the great forest of cypress trees, which are native to Spain.

Sabine is Spanish for cypress. The explorers named the river St. Francis de el Sabine for a patron saint. Later it was shortened to Sabine.

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**QUICK AS A WINK**

To get action FAST, nothing succeeds like a Want Ad in this paper! Whether you want to sell, buy, rent or hire, a Want Ad here will get results with maximum speed at minimum cost!

**Congratulations**

TO

**First State Bank**

Of Hemphill

On the progress you have exhibited in the years you have been in Hemphill as shown in the completion of your new home.

**Ealand-Wood Lumber Co.**

HEMPHILL JASPER

We Extend Our

**Congratulations**

AND

**BEST WISHES**

TO

**First State Bank**

Of Hemphill

On the progress you have shown in the past 18 years and for completion of your new building.

**JOE CORDRAY GROCERY**

Joe, Duverne, Bettie and Carlos  
Hemphill, Texas

Best Wishes to Our Friends at

**First State Bank**

Of Hemphill

AND

**Congratulations**

On the attainment of your new home.

**Nifty Frock Shop**

Mrs. Ona Jones, Owner  
"For the Finer Clothes"

Dial SU 7-3578 Hemphill

We Are Happy to Extend Our

**Congratulations**

TO

**First State Bank**

Of Hemphill

On the completion of their new building. We are looking forward to continued progress in this area.

**PROCELLA**

**SERVICE STATION**

Hemphill, Texas

**CONGRATULATIONS**

TO

**FIRST STATE BANK**

Our Sincere Best Wishes — From

**McLemore's Garage**

Hemphill, Texas

**CONGRATULATIONS**

TO

**FIRST STATE BANK**

On the completion of your beautiful new building.

**Sabine Auto Supply**

Hemphill, Texas



## Only One New Industry In Hemphill Would Cause Tremendous Upswing In Economy, According to Research

Could you estimate the value of one new industry to Hemphill?

A study made by the Economic Research staff of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, based on a sample of nine counties, indicates a very strong connection between the increase in industrial payroll and changes in other significant indexes.

It was estimated that a new industry employing 100 workers in manufacturing would cause the following economic additions to the community:

Population increase of 296 persons; 112 new households; employment increase of 174 persons; school enrollment gain of 51 pupils; retail sales up \$360,000; four new retail establishments; personal income increased by \$590,000; bank deposits up by \$270,000; telephones installed in 70 new residents; and motor vehicle registrations increased by 107 new passenger cars and 38 trucks and buses.

## New Hope Church One of Oldest In This Area

New Hope Baptist Church north of Milam, standing in an opening of heavily wooded forest, is one of the oldest churches of this area. Its white frame building, well kept grounds and lovely old cemetery are beautiful to behold.

Definitely the oldest Baptist church in Sabine County, New Hope was founded as Bethel church on February 7, 1841, as a Predestinarian Baptist church by Daniel Parker's famous Pilgrim Predestinarian Regular Baptist Church of Jesus Christ.

The old Bethel church was constituted in the house of Theophilus Harris in response to a request from "scattered brethren" in Sabine County. Bethel Church later changed its name to New Hope Church

and it has continued to the present time as a missionary body. Some of the early preachers included Elders Peter Eldridge and Asa Wright.

The site for New Hope Baptist Church was deeded over to the church on November 17, 1878, by Julie R. Mason, widow of James Mason, who had obtained the land from the state of Texas in 1855.

In the lovely old cemetery to the right of the little white church one notes among the old graves that Betty Bragg Constible, born in 1827, was buried in 1893, Mary Chambers, born in 1817, was buried in 1878 and B. F. Dorsey, born in 1847, was buried in 1866.

Bro. W. T. Love, county commissioner, is pastor of New Hope Church. Its members are found in the Sexton-Milam area and other places in the county, including Hemphill.

## Brookeland Is One of Oldest Settlements

Brookeland is one of the oldest settlements in the state, having been established by early comers in 1820. An informative history for the Bank dedication issue was mailed in by Reporter correspondent Charles Fletcher, Jr., and is printed here:

As "Toward New Horizons" is the motto of the Future Homemakers of America, it should be for our town, Brookeland.

Our community is one of the oldest settlements in East Texas. It is thought to have started in the 1820's when the Veatches settled here. Sam Veatch was a surveyor for the Mexican government. About 1830 the Hickmans arrived and settled on McKim Creek. Mr. Hickman, his wife, and mother-in-law died of typhoid in 1852. Meanwhile the Bells, Walkers, Brandons and Bradshaws had

established themselves here. The Brandons and Walkers moved here from Shelby County, 1850, the Bells in 1848 from Kentucky. The Brooks arrived later in 1853. In 1855 the Hamiltons bought the Hickman farm from the newly formed state of Texas. During these early years the mail was delivered by Wells Fargo to the Hickman farm (later to the Hamiltons who bought the place).

Bear Creek post office was established in this infant community in 1859. Its postmaster was Liston Norvell. The Norvells were one of the first families to arrive after the Veatches. They built the Lower Mill in the early 1830's. It as well as the Upper Mill built some later in 1844, was used to grind corn and gin cotton. They both were run by water power and located on Mill creek. The grind stones in the Lower Mill were some of the finest woot of the Mississippi, and were imported from Africa. The lower mill is commonly known as Bell's Mill. The Bell family purchased it when they arrived in Texas. In about 1855 when the Hamiltons settled on the Hickman place they operated a water mill on McKim Creek just below their house. The upper mill, built in 1844 by the Borens, later became known as Meigs Mill.

The post office was relocated in 1870 about one mile west of the present town, and renamed Brookeland. Will Brooks was the first postmaster. Two stores, Boney Swans and Letneys, two grist mills and a saloon graced this early frontier.

Vesta Post office was established at the old Homer Reagan place near the present community of McLeroy in 1890. Vesta was named for the mythological stories of the Vestal virgins. Fred Berryman, Sr. was the first postmaster and came from the old Berryman settlement twice a week on Tuesdays and Fridays, to put up the mail which had been brought in from Hemphill. For a lapse of about two years Brookeland was without a post office. This was in 1896. The Brookelanders then had to go out to Vesta for the mail. It had previously been moved out to the old Berryman settlement to be nearer the postmaster. The settlers in Gum Bottom, at that time numbering 5 families, took turns going the long dis-

tance to Vesta for the mail. A few years later the Brookeland postoffice was reestablished.

With the laying of the Santa Fe railroad tracks in 1900 the town moved to its present location. According to early railroad maps this small but prosperous town was to be called Weed, named for the Civil engineer who surveyed the townsite. The post office fortunately clung to its original name, Brookeland. We are forever indebted to this early postmaster, who spared us from the name Weed.

In 1909 John H. Kirby built his large sawmill at old Brown-dell. The next year in 1902 T. B. Allen put in his mill at Brookeland and Gilmer Lumber Company opened its mill at Remlig in 1906. With the advent of the mills and railroad Brookeland mushroomed into a small industrial city. Excursion trips were made to various towns along the railroad. Huge Fourth of July barbecues and dollar rides to old Brookeland in the fabulous automobiles were popular pastimes. This was the turn of the century. This was the good old days.

Then, in about 1920 T. B. Allen Mill burned. The once in-exhaustible virgin forests were exhausted and Gilmer mill closed down, causing a mass exodus of families from this area. The fatal blow was dealt to Brookeland when flames shot up from the massive Kirby Mill at Brown-dell. The city mourned as light from the inferno illuminated the cinders of the towns last major industry as they rained down upon the countryside. Brookeland tightened her belt for the lean years to come.

Surviving wars, epidemics, successive fires, depressions

and business booms alike, we look still for a better day tomorrow.

Our historic cemetery, one of the oldest in the state, where lies soldiers from every major war since the Texas Revolution, the Methodist Church dating back to the early 1850's, the foundation stones of the early grist mills and sawmills serve to anchor us to the past, while the construction of the levees that will protect the town from the floodwaters of the multi-million dollar McGee Bend Dam being constructed nearby is evidence that Brookeland's future is more promising than its past. After fighting nature and man for over 100 years for its very existence, our town looks forward to the day when we will again be host to gay excursion trips and gala Fourth of July barbecues. We are ever looking toward a new horizon.

I would like to thank all those people who have helped me get this information together and I would like to thank especially Mr. Lewis Bradshaw for his invaluable assistance, without which a proper history of our town would not have been possible. Thank you so much, Mr. Bradshaw.

### POOR?

On a recent television news cast, Sabine County was referred to as one of the poorest counties in Texas. "Poor" can be defined in a number of ways. Sabine County is rich in potentialities, in natural resources, in progressive and good people and in sheer beauty. Can anyone call this being "poor"?

## Southern Pine's Pineland Plant Is One of Finest Operations in U. S.

Sabine County is blessed with one of the largest and finest pine and hardwood milling operations in the nation in Temple Industries' multi-million dollar Southern Pine Lumber company at Pineland.

The plant covers an area of about ten city blocks in the heart of the incorporated city. The quality of the hardwood milled at Southern Pine in Pineland is sought by furniture manufacturers the nation over. This hardwood also is used to manufacture Temple precision wood parts in the largest and finest equipped plant in Texas.

Manufacturers of all sorts of speciality items such as step-ladders and slip-jamb door frames, look to Temple for precision production from selected quality yellow pine.

Southern Pine flooring is universally known for its matched color and texture, its precision manufacture and incomparable seasoning.

Retail merchants throughout the Southwest who cater to customers seeking quality mill lumber take the one and two inch stock manufactured into hundreds of patterns by the mill's planers.

The furniture dimension department of Southern Pine completely mills wood parts on order to be assembled into furniture at other points throughout the nation.

Templeboard, an insulated sheathing and tile, is manufactured of residue wood fibers to make one of the strongest,

best insulated boards of its kind for the construction field.

A molded toilet seat, the Temple seat, made from compressed pulverized wood is a standard for the plumbing supply trade from coast to coast.

Two thirds of all the beverage cases used in Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas and Oklahoma and one tenth of the nation's supply of beverage cases are produced by Temple industries.

Southern Pine Lumber company originated in 1893 at Diboll by Tom Temple. In 1910 Temple bought out the Garrison Norton Lumber Company in Pineland and renamed it Temple Lumber Company.

Within a short time Temple enlarged and rebuilt the mill into one of the finest in the nation. In 1956 Temple Lumber Company merged into and took the name of Southern Pine Lumber Company.

Southern Pine was one of the first in the U. S. to practice forest conservation and improvement programs.

Southern Pine Lumber Company at Pineland produces in excess of 36 million feet of pine and hardwood board annually and all Temple Industry mills produce in excess of 100 million feet annually.

The annual payroll at Pineland is in excess of \$2,000,000. Arthur Temple, Jr., son of the founder, is president of Temple Industries.

Banking has been proven the best way to save and prepare for the future financially.

## Congratulations

We would congratulate the Management and Employees of First State Bank of Hemphill, Texas, in the building of their new banking home. It would be a credit to any community. We hope for them many, many years of useful service to this, and all of the Toledo Bend Country. May we all be able to pray that prayer which has meant so much to me:

"Lord please grant that I may live----

To fish until my judgement day----

And when I make my last cast----

I'll again most humbly pray----

That when I'm safely in the Lord's big net----

And I'm peacefully asleep----

That in His mercy I be judged----

As good enough to keep!"

Oscar P. Pate

## It's a Pleasure to Add Our

## Congratulations



TO  
First State Bank

Of Hemphill

ON YOUR STEADY GROWTH SINCE ORGANIZATION. WE CON-

TEMPLATE MANY MORE YEARS OF PROGRESS TOGETHER.

Officials and Employees  
Of the  
City of Hemphill



## Horseshoes, Cross Predominate in County Cattle Brands Registered

Horseshoes, crosses and the numeral seven are prominent among brands for domestic animals registered with the county clerk of Sabine County from 1892 to the present time. No new ones have been registered since 1960.

Registration records of brands and marks of animals in the county clerk's office go back as far as 1892 when only a few brands were recorded along with hundreds of marks.

Among the records of 1892-1899 it was noted that these persons registered brands: William Holmes, J. W. Hyden, W. A. Hamilton, J. L. Ludlow, J. P. Alford, W. L. Jones, Calvin Wheeler, S. W. Veatch, J. A. Allen, W. C. Arnold and D. D. Hamilton.

Alford's and Veatch's brands were each recorded as a Christian Cross, D. D. Hamilton's was a horseshoe, and many down the years have been registered these same brands. Most of the old brands and some of those in recent years have been initials of the person registering.

In layman's description here are some of the deviations from initials: Mrs. H. L. Bradshaw, 1928, diamond-and-x; C. W. Iles, 1925, circle and oblique; R. T. Retherford, 1928, 7L; S. D. Smith, 1911, horseshoe; J. E. Smith, 1927, heart; N. A. Smith, 1926, horseshoe; Tom Williams, 1924, XI; C. W. Veatch, 1933, star;

H. L. Bradshaw, 1944, diamond-and-x; L. T. Brewster 1941, heart; A. B. Chambers, 1950, map of Texas; Wm. R. Clanan, Jr., 1953, winged W; Saurie D. Pree, 1959, heart and cross.

Brands registered between 1892 and 1920 totaled 502; between 1920 and 1960 a total of 824 were recorded. It was not learned how many of the old brands are still in use.

Banking your savings is somewhat like going to church. The more you do it the more good it does you.

## Six Businesses Open at Bethel Chapel Since 1944

A young and rapidly changing community is Bethel Chapel, which is situated on Highway 96 and enjoys freshly mowed lawns, fine gardens and a continued program of betterment.

Nick Jordan and Dee Strickland have the honor of being the oldest citizen in Bethel Chapel. Each is more than 80 years of age.

Judy Jacks, Reporter correspondent, sends in this report on her community:

Arvil Whites Saw Mill; many Progress made in our community since 1944: Barlow's Grocery Store, Jacks' Garage, Rashes Service Station, Rhodes' Cafe, Simmons Grocery Store, (operated by Robuck), and new homes built and churches improved.

There are approximately twenty-five new homes in our community.

There is no commercial farming in this community, but are always quite a few gardens and vegetable crops. Farmers who have made increases on farms are Ivy Jacks, Arlon Mitchell, Tom Self, Johnny Crocker, and Kenneth Bobbitt.

We have a few in the broiler business: Ivy Jacks went into the broiler business in 1954 with a 3,000 house. He now operates a 10,000 and a 6,000. Mr. L. J. Dickerson and Mr. Dave Hall also own and operate broiler houses.

Bethel Chapel Church is the only church in our community. It was organized in 1940, May 30th. Charter members were Bro. G. B. Whitehead, Bro. and Sister W. A. Hines, Claris Cooper, Bro. Otis Morgan, Sister Eunie Whitehead, Sister Ollie Bell Whitehead, Bro.

Doyle Amason, Sister Everlena Amason, Sister Justin Amason, Sister Dee Strickland, Sister Maxine Amason, Bro. Thomas Carruth. Elected as pastor was Bro. George Baldree. The land for the church was donated by Bro. Charlie McDonald. Since the church was built, two new Sunday School rooms have been added, also a walk-in porch, a deep well and a cemetery.

People 80 years or older are Mr. Nick Jordan and Mr. Dee Strickland.

The oldest home is owned by Mrs. Eunie Whitehead. She moved to this community in 1934 and has lived here every since. Next is Mrs. Tom Jacks and Mr. and Mrs. Woods, and Mrs. O'Riley.

Highway 96 runs directly through Bethel Chapel community. Easley Creek is the only creek.

Bethel Chapel community is a very attractive community. The scenery alongside the Highway, the gardens freshly cleared and mowed lands attracts everyone's eyes. The church and church grounds are also a very special beauty spot to the community.

People who lived here in 1944 were Mr. and Mrs. Tom Jacks, Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Woods, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Jacks, Mr. and Mrs. Hancock, Mr. and Mrs. Lum Allan, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Jacks, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Reid, Mr. and Mrs. Mills, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Jacks, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Amason, Mr. and Mrs. Doyle Amason and Mr. and Mrs. George Whitehead.

Bethel Chapel is changing very rapidly. Only a few of the above mentioned live here now. Many have passed away, others have moved away, and in just the past few years quite a few new homes have been built in the community and many new friends and neighbors live here now.

Eighteen years ago, when First State Bank opened, Hemphill had no way to go but up. With a progressive mayor, Dr. D. G. Mann at the helm, Hemphill has steadily climbed in those years, making outstanding progress in so short a time.

## Pastures, Corn, Cattle Are Major Crops for Sabine County Farmers

Pastures, cattle and corn are the important crops of Sabine County and interest has increased in all three the past few years through cooperative programming under the direction of the county agent, O. W. Thompson.

Farmers following extension service recommendations have been getting good yields and in the matter of corn crops the average yield has been increased by 20 bushels per acre during the past 15 years, with a striking increase in the past five years.

With instigation of the extension corn production program in the county, farmers are producing more corn per acre at less cost per bushel.

According to reports of studies by the crops sub committee, the per acre average yield for the county has been increased at least 15 bushels per acre in the last six years, and in the past three years all growers following the extension service recommendations have averaged more than 50 bushels per acre.

A yield increase of 15 bushels per acre on only 1500 acres with corn valued at \$1.00 per bushel, means an additional \$22,500.00 per year to Sabine County corn growers.

As to beef cattle production a significant event during last year with this improvement program was the organization of the Sabine County Cattle men's association. This group is pledged to work for the improvement of the beef cattle industry in the county. With an initial membership of 39 cattle men, the organization is growing.

In this connection the extension approved pasture improvement program is gaining support and demonstration pastures proving its worth.

On one 36 acre pasture for beef cattle approximately 17, 224 pounds of beef in about 10½ months were produced. The value of the beef was \$3820; 480 pounds of beef per acre or \$105 per acre. Improvement cost was \$20.80 per acre.

In dogwood season some cities have capitalized on the beauty of their dogwood trails. Growing naturally and in profusion, dogwoods of Sabine County will compare favorably to those anywhere.

## Oldtime Editors Came Out With Strong Language

Old-time editors were known for their editorial fighting and feuding and those who "got out" the local newspaper every week were no exception.

Rev. L. R. Campbell who preached hell fire and damnation to sinners on Sundays, editorialized likewise to his competitors weekdays. Here is a reprint of a juicy bit from his July 11, 1912, edition of The Sabine County Citizen (named The Sabine County Reporter by a later publisher):

"The Central Baptist seems to have a correspondent at Brookeland who is a cross between a polecat and a turkey buzzard, if one may judge by the cowardly creature's frantic efforts to dig up something slanderous on the editor of The Citizen.

"Come out in the open you dirty little LIAR, and let us all know what name was disgraced by being conferred upon such a miserable excuse for a man as you. But you probably are too contemptible and sneaking to show your face.

"You know that you are not fit, if your rotten character were exposed, to keep company with even the fiends of purgatory."

## Tax Rate in County Should Be Inducement For Industry

Businesses and industries wishing to locate in Hemphill or Sabine County will meet with a Utopia in many ways, especially as to ad valorem taxes.

The tax rate of the city is only \$1.00 on the \$100 valuation.

The school tax rate is only \$1.50 on the \$100 valuation. The county tax rate is as low as the State of Texas will allow: 80 cents on the \$100 valuation!

And in no instance does the taxing agent use anywhere near the ratio of 100 percent of the property's true value for taxing purposes.

Don't need it? Sell it with a classified ad.

## Broiler Industry, Spurred By First State Bank, Places County Fourth

Agricultural activity in Sabine county has been looking up since advent of the broiler industry about 17 years ago.

Prior to that, farming was on the way out with farmers leaving in substantial numbers to find livelihood elsewhere.

Today the county ranks fourth in broiler production and 80 to 90 percent of the agriculture income is derived from that source.

The first broiler houses were established in 1945-46 and made possible through financing by First State Bank. It has been on a rapid increase since its beginning.

In 1945 the number of birds had reached beyond the 2,000,000 figure; in 1961 it had jumped to 7,000,000 and this year the housing capacity for broilers is expected to be increased by another 1,000,000, bringing a total production of broilers for 1962 to 8,000,000.

The trend is to larger production units. Most of the expansion in production during the past three years has been by old growers increasing their housing capacity.

Most new growers, who have gone into broiler production during the past two or three years, have started with housing capacity of from 20,000 to 50,000 birds and a number of growers are increasing their capacity to this range.

## GOOD WILL SHOWN TOWARD FIRST STATE BANK IS TREMENDOUS

Since beginning the compilation of this issue of dedication to First State Bank of Hemphill, it has become more obvious how many persons and business enterprises feel a deep affection for the bank and its personnel.

One explanation for this affection is: First State Bank has supported every worthwhile project that has been developed in Sabine County.

*Congratulations*

TO

FIRST STATE BANK

Upon completion of your beautiful new home.

FULLER'S BARBER SHOP  
Southwest Corner of Square  
In Hemphill Since 1919

It Is A Pleasure To  
Extend Our Sincerest

*Congratulations*

to Hemphill's

FIRST STATE BANK

AND IT'S ENTIRE PERSONNEL ON THE COMPLETION OF THEIR  
NEW BUILDING. WE ARE PROUD TO BE A PART OF THIS PROGRESSIVE AREA — TOLEDO BEND COUNTRY

Texas Telephone  
And Telegraph Company

TO THE DIRECTORS, OFFICERS AND STAFF

OF

First State Bank

Our Best Wishes on the Occasion of Your

Formal Opening



COMMERCIAL  
NATIONAL BANK  
SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA

MEMBER FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION





## “Old Timer” W. A. Kountze Sees Bright Prospects for Toledo Country

Old timers of Toledo Bend country are doing a lot of “turning back the pages of history” as the gigantic machinery of plans move forward to the day of realization of Toledo Bend Dam and Reservoir.

Among these oldtimers is W. A. Kountze, 78-year-old citizen of Hornbeck, La. He was reminiscing the other day particularly about the day when ferry operations on the Sabine River were the normal thing in this part of the country.

Hadden's ferry was the main Sabine river crossing on the Old Spanish trail between Natchitoches and Liberty before the Burr Ferry bridge was built, Kountze stated.

With the wisdom of age and schooling, Kountze reviewed the past and predicted the future for Toledo Bend country.

“They'll call it Port Toledo”, the natural historian said in a knowing tone, “and, if they put locks in the dam, Logan-sport will be the origin of sea-destined cargo.”

Kountze visioned the great Sabine waterway as usable for barge traffic as it once was in the past.

“I've seen two steam ships at this very landing on separate occasions,” he recalled.

“They used to bring cargoes of flour and coffee and 200-pound sacks of salt up river to this point. And it took a man to carry the heavy salt sacks up those steep banks, but my daddy did it.”

A descendant of some of the first settlers in Louisiana and East Texas, Kountze's mother was a Burr of the Burr Ferry pioneering family. A branch of the Burr family tree makes him a direct descendant of Aaron Burr.

“My family lived in Texas until the Indian scare in 1836 when Santa Anna boasted, ‘I'll water my horse in the Sabine in 48 hours’,” Kountze remembers. “Then they pulled out of Texas and moved to Louisiana never to return to Texas around Hadden's ferry.”

Kountze is a graduate of Louisiana State University. The Toledo Bend country, he said, is full of bright prospects.

“Why all they need do is blast out the rapids along the Sabine and Toledo Bend Dam will supply the water for shipping right on to the coast”, he declared.

He figured it would be impossible to estimate the amount

## \$2½ Million Per Year Is Estimate For Toledo Area

Sabine River Authority engineers have estimated that the economic stimulus to the Toledo Bend Reservoir area will amount to approximately \$12-500,000 annually.

The engineers base their estimates on a 3,000,000 visitor-days annually with fishermen and hunters spending \$5 per day and recreationists or tourists spending \$2.50 per day.

of good the building of the reservoir would do for future development of Toledo Bend country.

## County Agent Is Tops in Field

O. W. Thompson, agriculture agent assigned to Sabine County since 1954, is tops in his field, according to information from the Texas Extension Service, A & M College.

Thompson has had write-ups of his work in Sabine county in leading agriculture magazines here and abroad. He has been especially cited for his fertilizer methods in promoting the corn crops, pasture improvements and other crops.

The agent is also noted for his organizational ability, leadership and hard work.

Serving cooperatively with the agent is practically every farmer in Sabine County. He has succeeded in getting many farmers interested and enthusiastic again following a decade or so slump in the agriculture industry in this county.

At a meeting of community leaders from throughout the county, held in the city hall in Hemphill in August of last year, County Agent Thompson explained the rural area development program. Present at this meeting were the mayors of Hemphill and Pineland.

The leaders were unanimous in asking for the formation of a RAD committee and in approving the inclusion of Sabine County in the Deep East Texas Area OEDP.

The Sabine County RAD committee was named by community leaders at this meeting and the following men asked to compose it:

L. H. Adickes, chairman, Carl H. Sanders, John Booker, Jr., E. T. Rogers, Jr., A. O. Wolfe, Hugh N. Wood, Max Owens, Don Gellatly, Dr. D. G. Mann, Dr. G. C. Winslow, Ed York, Robert Harris, W. T. Love and L. F. McDonald.

Serving on the sub committees in 1961, were these persons:

Poultry (broiler) — H. H. Boyett, chairman, T. E. Maxey, Julian Smith and Alton Roberts.

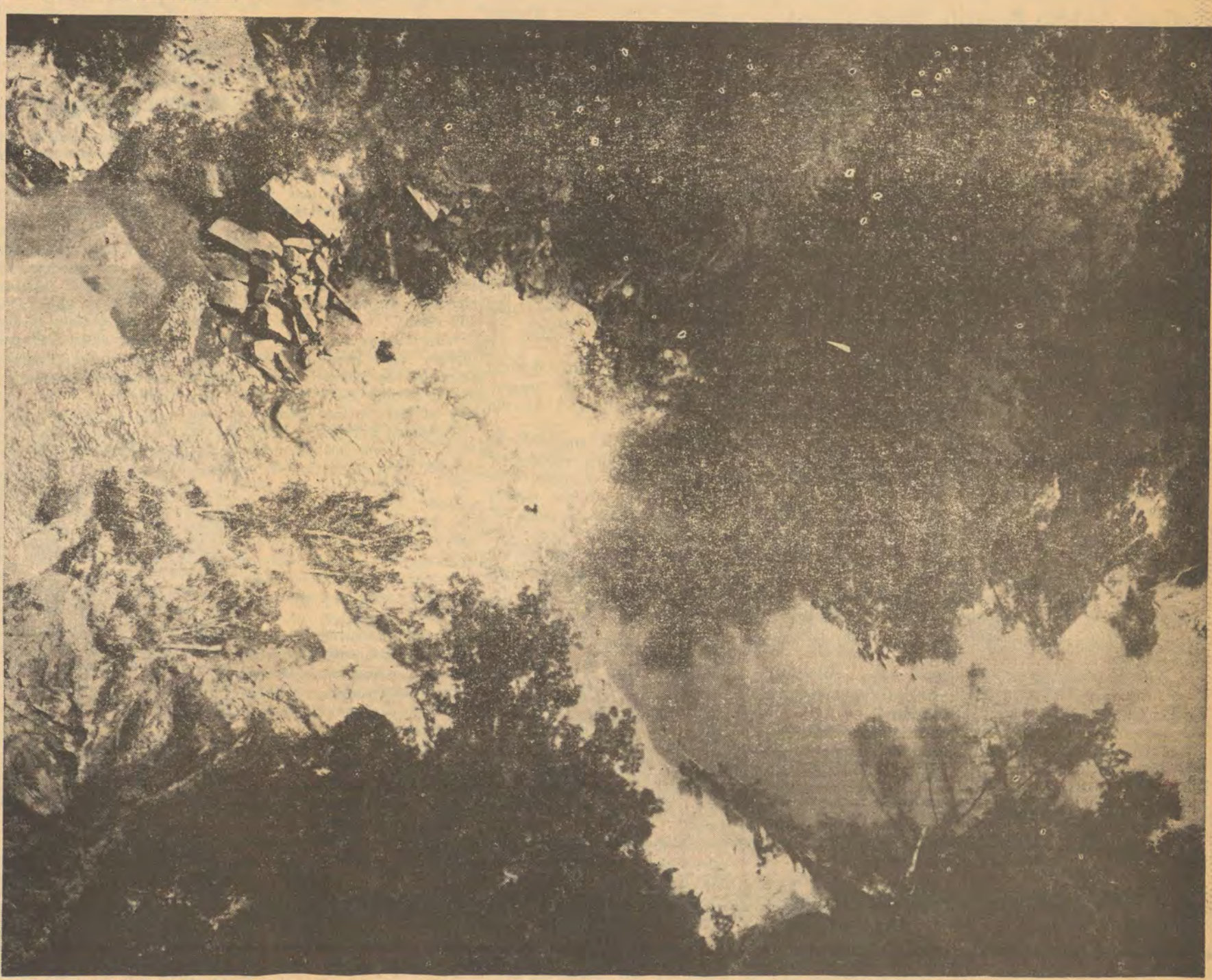
Soil Fertility — Clifton McDaniel, chairman, W. W. Cavanaugh, C. B. Partin and Dan Prado.

Livestock — L. F. McDonald, chairman, J. J. Moody, Oscar Ford, J. D. Morris, and Fred Smith.

Crops — Viron Chambers, chairman, Watt Langston, R. D. Cox, G. O. Sutton (now deceased) and Chester Bragg.

## San Jacinto Glass Increases Beauty Of First State Bank

Much of the beauty, airiness and modern lines of First State Bank's new home was acquired through extensive use of glass. This was provided through



TOP OF FAULT IN TORO BAYOU—Huge boulders across Toro Bayou just south of the Toledo Bend damsite show plainly the reason for the location of the dam in this area. This rock formation provides a solid foundation for the enormous weight of the dam and powerhouse to be situated upon it on the Texas side.

contract with San Jacinto Glass of Beaumont, Inc. This company furnished all the gray plate glass and also the aluminum doors for the new bank building.

An old established firm, San Jacinto Glass is distributor for Kawneer mirrors and glass for all office purposes.

## EAST MAYFIELD— Continued from Page One—

choir.

Seven new homes have been built in the Quarters in the past two years. Owners are Mrs. Mary Lou Parks, Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Buckley, Mrs. Oxilene Daniel, Mrs. Eva Bell, Mr. and

Mrs. Woodrow Holmes. Mrs. Sing Busby and Mr. and Mrs. Anderson Smith.

Charlie Hamilton was Quarter boss when the section was owned by Temple Lumber Company and until he retired in 1955. He and his wife moved there in 1925 and own their home on a two-acre site.

“Uncle Charlie” as everyone calls him, remains quite active despite his advanced years. Besides being a “pillar” of his church, he cultivates a vegetable garden, hunts and fishes and sings at various gatherings over the county.

Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton have no children of their own but reared five nieces and one

great nephew, all of whom have good jobs over the nation. The couple celebrated their golden wedding anniversary last year.

## Community Cooperation Shown in Numerous Organizations in County

Since opening First State Bank, the spirit of community cooperation has increased as manifest in the springing up of newly organized groups or reactivation of other organizations.

And the work of these social, welfare and civic groups is evident on every hand.

Organizations which have been formed or reactivated

since 1944 include: Little League, 4-H Clubs, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Chamber of Commerce, Good Earth and Hemphill garden clubs, Sabine County chapters of American Red Cross and American Cancer association, Lions club, American Legion, numerous school and church groups, and others.

## Young People Showing Interest in Details Of Sabine County

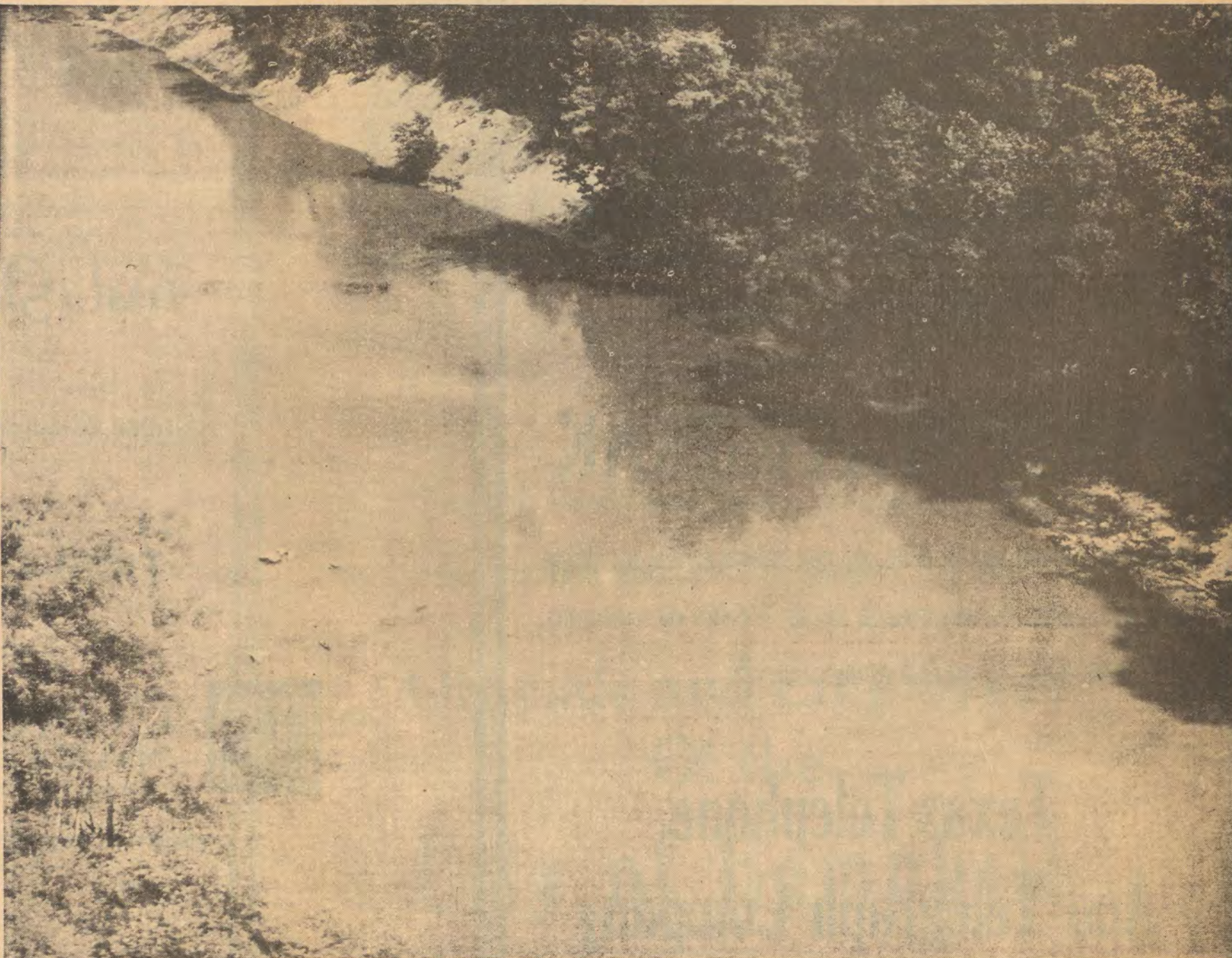
With compiling of this special edition it has been noted that a high degree of interest is evident among the young people—those still in high school—in the present, past and

future of Sabine County.

It is most gratifying to see the youth of the community delving and learning historical facts about their home town and county, and planning for its future development.

Credit for this of course, goes to parents and teachers who have instilled this thirst for historical knowledge and interest in making Sabine county the best possible place for the generations to come.

Industries wishing to establish plants in the Toledo Bend country will find an unending supply of laborers and craftsmen ready for part time or full time employment.



TOLEDO BEND DAMSITE FROM THE AIR—This is an aerial view of the Toledo Bend damsite, looking downriver in the direction of what will be the spillway. Rocks in the river at left center of the photo are on the geologic fault which makes this an ideal site for a major dam. The powerhouse will be on the Texas side, just beyond the trees at right. When completed, the dam will rise about 85 feet above the riverbed at this point.



THE SABINE COUNTY REPORTER, HEMPHILL, TEXAS—THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1962

# James Gaines Home Built in 1812 May Succumb to Man's Progress

A land mark of Texas and popular tourist attraction in Sabine County — the ancient McGown home at Pendleton — may in the near future be buried forever in the waters of Toledo Bend Reservoir.

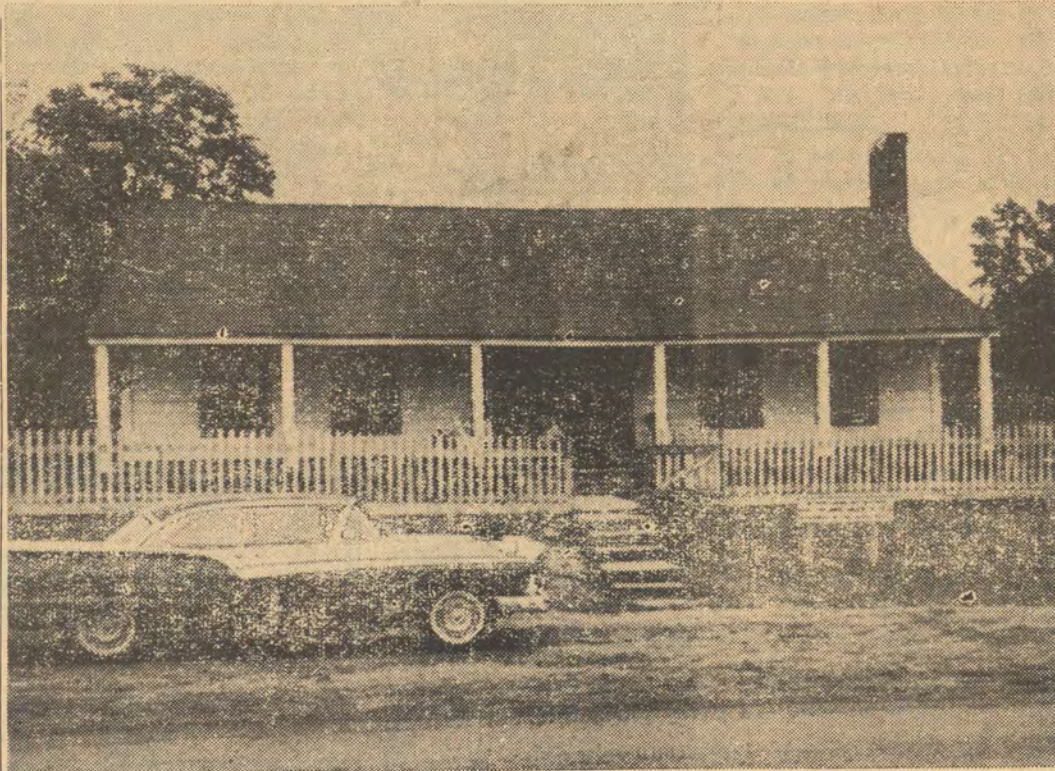
The famous old house, sturdy from walls of six by eight foot hewn logs, solid as rock to this day, is likely to succumb to the progress of time unless civic minded citizens succeed in saving it.

Marked by a state-erected sign which reads "McGown Home, built in 1812 by James Gaines", the house stands on the left side of Highway 21 near Pendleton bridge on the west bank of the Sabine River.

In front of the home and across the highway, which is the Old San Antonio Road, (originally named El Camino Real for the King of Spain when the land that is now Texas belonged to Spain), is a state park. Land for the park was donated to the state by heirs of the McGown estate in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Dick McGown, former owners and residents of the old McGown home. A plaque in the park notes this.

For the past 150 years this house has been a refuge for the weary traveler. Here is where Gen. Sam Houston stopped for a night's rest on entering Texas for the first time.

The hospitality is unchanged



and tourists are surprised to learn that there is no fee for the privilege of having a guided tour through the home. Vacationers spend much time, also, in snapping pictures out front as memoirs of their trip through Texas.

Residing in the old home today are Mrs. A. L. McGown, Jr., 78, and her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Jones, who moved there from Houston two years ago. Mr. Mc-

Gown died in 1956. The family expect to move to other property they own when the time comes for the area to be cleared of residents preparatory to building of Toledo Bend Dam and Reservoir. All that area will be under water after the dam is constructed.

Sabine County citizens were pondering the possibility of obtaining the home and moving it for the purpose of preserv-

ing it as a proposed museum, and promote it solely as a historical attraction.

It was understood that the Texas Historical Association and directors of the Sabine River Authority of Texas were being consulted on the proposal.

The McGowns purchased the old house in 1906 from heirs of the Gaines brothers who built it nearly 100 years previously.

The McGown home was originally known as the Gaines Ferrying house. Winnie Mims Dean, author and columnist of Dallas and Houston, had this to say, in part, about the historical land mark.

"Built in 1812 by James Gaines on the Old San Antonio road where it crossed the Sabine river, a veteran structure stands today as a constant reminder of its importance in the early settling of Texas.

2. . . Gaines Ferry became well known for the service it gave the early pioneer, a safe crossing and a house to stay in or camp by until ready to move on. The Gaines were noted for their hospitality for the early Texas traveler."

The author also noted that " . . . The bulk of the freight entering Texas in pioneer days

crossed at the Gaines Ferry. Freight was hauled along this route from a fort on Red river in Louisiana known as Grand Encore. St. Dennis, the French explorer, crossed the Sabine at this point, en route to Mexico. Here also crossed the Texas hero Sam Houston after his voluntary flight from Tennessee, stopping at the ferry house overnight before proceeding to San Augustine."

## Milam Was Once County Seat Of Government

Situated at a strategic point on the Old San Antonio Road or El Camino Real (King's Highway), which is State 21, at its intersection with State Highway 87, the community of Milam is saturated in colorful history.

A sleepy little place of about 250 residents and settled deep in some of the most picturesque of Toledo Bend Country in northern Sabine County, Milam will be left intact from building of the great Toledo Bend Reservoir, so far as geography is concerned.

But will it remain economically unchanged? Or will it again become the bustling little city it was around 1840-1860?

The residents of Milam and adjoining areas are a gracious hospitable and courageous people, many counting their ancestry among the pioneers which settled there more than a century and a half ago.

Today the community boasts of progressive farmers, and cattlemen, professional men and women, promising youth and the wise and stable oldsters who can weave the present with the past.

Milam is only a stone's throw from the magnificent Red Hills Recreation grounds and lake, owned and operated by the U. S. Forest Service, and only a few miles from the first Protestant church to be formed in Texas, the oldest Baptist church in Sabine County, and the historic place on the Sabine River which long ago was the famous Gaines ferry crossing.

It is located on what originally was a buffalo trail and today is probably the oldest road on the North American continent: the "Old San Antonio Road" (Highway 21). The area that is now Milam

was the meeting place of the Caddo Federation of American Indian tribes long before the coming of the Spanish, who called the settlement Las Baregas. In 1828 white settlers changed the name to Red Mound at suggestion from John S. Roberts, a pioneer.

In 1835 the name of the community—or city, as it was fast coming to be—was changed finally to Milam in honor of Benjamin Rush Milam. In 1837 an Act of Congress organized Sabine County, designating Milam as the county seat, and Milam was incorporated. Milam remained the county seat until 1858 when it was moved to Hemphill.

Milam got a post office in 1847 and by 1850 the federal census gave its population as 2,498. This population was increased by several hundred before it began to diminish at the time of the Civil War.

In listing East Texas "towns of some note" in his book "Texas: Its History, Commerce, etc", published in 1841, Arthur Ikin cited Milam along with Jasper and Beaumont.

In the years between 1840 and the Civil War Milam was an important trading center, was laid out with city streets, elected its city officials, afforded a Masonic Institute of higher learning, a horse racing industry and other accompanying commercial and residential enterprises.

From a military standpoint Milam has always been strategically located. It has not served as a battleground, but reserved for headquarters. First Indian Federation, next by the Spanish and French and lastly by the Texans.

During the Republic era it was headquarters of the Quartermaster's Department of C. S. A- for Roberts, a signer of the Texas Declaration of Independence. In World War II it was headquarters for the U. S. Army during maneuvers and was during "guaranteed" as an entrance point of the state of Texas.

Milam is the home of John C. Hale, a martyr of the Battle of San Jacinto. Hale was a member of the Sabine Company of volunteers recruited by Benjamin F. Bryant of Milam on call from Gen. Sam Houston who travelled through Milam on his way from Tennessee to San Antonio in coming to the defense of the Republic of Texas.

As early as 1837 a hotel was doing business at Milam. It

was operated by Francis Marcus Weatherford, Sr., who came to Texas from Virginia in 1835.

The building of the Institute, founded by the Jackson Masonic Lodge No. 35, was located in a pine grove about a quarter of a mile east of Milam. First session was held on May 6, 1854 and classes offered many facets of learning, ranging from reading and writing to calculus and philosophy.

Early Protestant mission work was done in or near Milam, resulting in organization there of Methodists and Baptists. As early as 1832, Needham J. Alford, a Methodist, and Summer Bacon, a Cumberland Presbyterian, held meetings near Milam in spite of Mexican authorities. The oldest Baptist Church in Sabine County is what is now called the New Hope Baptist Church, and located between Milam and Sexton.

## Old Bell of Milam Buried in Well

At the bottom of an old filled-in well at Milam is submerged the burned ruins of a big iron bell which beckoned children to school and churchgoers to services for a hundred years from the Milam school belfry.

The Milam Methodist Church, which uses the school building for its services at the time, ordered the bell from a firm in St. Louis, Mo., in 1840.

The big bell came down the Red River by boat to Natchitoches, La. From there it was brought by ox wagon to Milam by the late Joel Halbert.

Levi Halbert of Milam, grandson of Joel Halbert, said the bell was ruined in the fire which destroyed the school building "about 20 years ago." It is believed to have been thrown, along with other items, to fill up the old, abandoned well.

It must have been twenty years ago, or less, for in 1940 T. C. Richardson wrote in his book, "East Texas; Its History and Its Makers":

"The bell cast in St. Louis in 1840, still calls the school children to 'books', . . . has outlasted several school houses in its 100 year career."

Some of the loveliest home sites to be seen anywhere await the future home builders in Sabine county.

# Congratulations

AND

## Best Wishes



TO  
First State Bank

Of Hemphill

On Completion of Your Modern Banking Facilities

The Growth Of Toledo Bend Country Rests to a Great deal on the foresight of your bank.

We Send our Best Wishes for Your Future

## Stone Fort National Bank

Member FDIC

Nacogdoches, Texas

We Extend Our

# Congratulations

And  
BEST WISHES

TO

## First State Bank

Of Hemphill

On the completion of their new building.

Our Sincere Best Wishes — From

## Lufkin National Bank

Member FDIC  
Lufkin, Texas

We Are Happy to Extend Our

# Congratulations

TO

## First State Bank

Of Hemphill

On the progress you have shown in the past 18 years and for completion of your new building.

We are looking forward to continued progress in this area.

## First National Bank

Member FDIC  
Newton, Texas



THE SABINE COUNTY REPORTER, HEMPHILL, TEXAS— THURSDAY, OCT. 4, 1962



IN THE MAIN LOBBY of First State Bank, shown above, C. E. Carter, left; Ruth C. Carter, cashier, standing; and Dan Prado, vice president, can be seen just inside the floor-to-ceiling plate glass side of the building.

—Photo by Virgie Speights



DAN PRADO, vice-president of First State Bank, works at his desk in the new building. —Photo by Speights



RUTH C. CARTER, cashier, is shown above at her desk in the main lobby of First State Bank. —Photo, Speights

Mrs. Ella Alford's niece and nephew, Carroll Bennett and Mrs. Louise Allen of Alto, visited her last week and attended the funeral of their uncle Preston Alford. Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Elam of Orange spent the weekend in the home of Mrs. Elam's sister, Mrs. Bertie Ferrell.

I WILL BUY YOUR TIMBER  
Wagon Load—Truck Load  
—Train Load  
Let me thin your forest on the  
Selective Cutting Basis  
**GEORGE TACKETT**  
PULPWOOD CONTRACTOR  
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## Ruth Carter Known for Efficiency

Mrs. C. E. Carter, cashier of First State Bank, is well known in Hemphill for her efficiency in many areas and her friendliness to all.

She comes from a family of bankers.

Mrs. Carter was moved up to her present post with First State after first serving as its only bookkeeper for a number of years.

She has some knowledge of all areas of the banking industry.

The bank official is originally from Chireno where she was graduated from Chireno High School. After receiving her Bachelor of Science degree from Stephen F. Austin College, Nacogdoches, she joined the teaching staff of Brookeland High School where she taught business administration prior to beginning her banking career.

Chief among her interests outside her job are her family, home, church, Chamber of Commerce, Band Boosters, and Hemphill Cemetery.

She is also a member of the Order of the Eastern Star.

Ruth likes horseback riding and reading for pastime.

She and Mr. Carter were married in December, 1940, and they have a lovely daughter, 18-year-old Judy, sophomore at Texas Christian University.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Goodrich of Lufkin and Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Purdue, J. C. Alford, all of Colfax, La. visited relatives and attended the funeral of their uncle and brother-in-law, Preston Alford, last week.

## V. P. Dan Prado Is Civic Leader

Dan Prado, civic leader of Hemphill and Sabine County, is vice president of First State Bank, having been moved up from the post of cashier.

He has come up through the ranks to his present post with First State.

Prado is a veteran of World War II, having served in the Army in the African, Italian and Mediterranean theaters of war. He was honorably discharged in October of 1945 and joined the First State Bank personnel the following month.

He received his secondary education in the public schools of Woden in Nacogdoches County and obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree from Stephen F. Austin College. He taught in the Broadus schools three years.

## POLITICAL ANNOUNCEMENT

The Reporter has been authorized to make the following announcements, subject to action of the Democratic Primaries:

For State Representative:  
**SAM FORSE COLLINS**

The Reporter has been authorized to make the following announcements, subject to action of the Republican Primary:

For State Representative:  
**JOE KELLEY**

SELECT  
**Granite Monuments**  
Additional Lettering in the Cemetery, Call or Write  
**DALE FLOWERS**  
Hemphill, Texas  
Hemphill, Texas .744

Prado is married and he and his wife have a son and a daughter, Danny and Patty. Mrs. Prado is a teacher in Hemphill first grade.

Outside the bank Prado is active in farm programs, Scouting, American Legion, First Baptist Church, Lions and Chamber of Commerce.

## PERSONALS

Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Walding of Houston visited over the week end in the home of their daughter and her family. Mr. and Mrs. Royce Smith and sons, Coy Lynn and Glenn. Mrs. Walding remained for a longer visit.

D. B. Speights carried W. A. Norsworthy to Lufkin Monday for a post-surgery check-up.

Relatives from Houston attending the funeral services of Preston Alford included Allen Ingram Gomer; Farley Williams and sons, Clinton Wil-

liams, M. L. Williams, Martin and Marlin Williams; Mrs. Evelyn Birdsong, and Mrs. R. M. McCalip.

Jimmy Thompson, a student at Texas A & M at College Station, spent the weekend with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Thompson.

T. V. Parker, O. P. Pate and the Rev. W. N. Langham, pastor of First Methodist Church, Hemphill, were in Lakeview last week for the Methodist Layman's retreat.

Mr. and Mrs. Ward Smith of Garland and Earl Williams of Tyler were weekend guests in the home of Mrs. Smith's and Mr. Williams' sisters and brothers-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. T. V. Parker and Mr. and Mrs. Chester Murray.

Mrs. Oscar P. Pate, District Womans Society of Christian

Service, Nacogdoches District, attended a planning session at Lakeview Friday.

Mrs. Joe Conn and her sister-in-law, Mrs. Katherine Fecteau, are commuting to Nacogdoches where they are enrolled in Stephen F. Austin State College.

Home for the weekend were Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Thomas, who are attending Stephen F. Austin State College in Nacogdoches.

Gene Cordray, a student at SFA, Nacogdoches, spent the weekend with his parents and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Armel Cordray and Patty.

Mrs. Ida Byley, who is teaching at Vidor, spent the weekend at her home in Hemphill. Floyd Smith spent part of last week visiting in Austin.

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SMOKED PICNICS lb. 37c	JASMINE "By The Piece" SLAB BACON lb. 49c
RANCH BRAND SLICED BOLOGNA lb. 39c	SLAB BACON Sliced Lb. 55c
WISCONSIN CHEESE lb 59c	FRESH OYSTERS 12 oz. jar 89c
SWEETMILK or BUTTERMILK BISCUITS Ballard or Pillsbury 6 cans 49c	

MRS. TUCKERS SHORTENING 3 Pound Can 59c

DUNCAN HINES DUTCH TOPPING CAKE MIX Apple & Spice - Cinnamon Raisin or Butterscotch Crunch Box 49c

GREEN GIANT PEAS 303 can 2 for 39c Austex TAMALES No. 2 1/2 can 29c

GIANT TIDE Box 59c MAZOLA OLEO 1 Lb. 39c

TEXSUN ORANGE JUICE 46 Ounce Can 29c

COMSTOCK SLICED APPLES No. 2 Can 19c

DEL-HAVEN TOMATOES No. 303 Can 10c

COUGH SYRUP Vicks 4 oz. 63c Morton Frozen Apple, Peach Cherry 99c

ST-37 Mouth ANTISEPTIC 5 oz. 59c Or Coconut Pies 22 Oz. 3 Pies

EXTRA FANCY RED APPLES Pound 15c

GREEN HARD HEAD CABBAGE 2 Pounds 15c

CELLO CARROTS 1 Lb. bags 2 bags 25c CELLO TOMATOES Package 15c

YELLOW ONIONS 3 Lbs. 19c California Bartlett PEACHES lb. 23c



THE SABINE COUNTY REPORTER, HEMPHILL, TEXAS— THURSDAY, OCT. 4, 1962



FIVE GENERATIONS of the Henry Reeves family of Milam are shown above. They are, left to right, his son, O. L. Reeves; Mr. Reeves, Mrs. Reeves; his grandson, Oscar Reeves; his great grandson, Oscar Reeves, Jr. and his great great grandson, John Allen Reeves. —Photo by Virgie Speights



HENRY REEVES of Milam, who is celebrating his 91st birthday, is shown above with his sister, Mrs. Joann Russell, also of Milam. —Photo by Virgie Speights

## H. B. Reeves Celebrates 91st Birthday at Home

A recent birthday celebration of interest and importance in Sabine County was that of Henry B. Reeves who was 91 years old recently. Born August 13, 1871 in the little community of Time in the northern part of Sabine County, he moved just across Patroon Creek, when he was 11 years old, and has lived there ever since.

The house in which Mr. Reeves lives is built of 14 inch square handhewn logs, notched to fit. Built in the 1840's by some people by the name of Arnold, it was sold to the Strother family, whose daughter, Celia Strother, was the first wife of Henry Reeves' father Joe Reeves. It is a huge house

with wide porches, front and back, wide open hall dividing it in half.

The logs in the house are of virgin heart pine, and will probably last another hundred years if undisturbed. There is still an old clay and stick fireplace chimney, and the yards beautiful with flowers, are cleanly swept white sand.

The Reeves' have three children, Earl Reeves of Hemphill and Mrs. Lela Baughs, and O. L. Reeves, both of whom have homes on the original home place. Several of the grand children, great grandchildren and great great grandchildren live on this place also.

Mr. Reeves' only surviving sister, Mrs. Joann Vickers, lives on an adjoining place in sight of the old house.

Mr. Reeves is bright-eyed, alert, and full of humorous tales of by-gone years.

He tells of his folks who came from Georgia but lived for a while in Alabama; of his father walking to Tyler (over a hundred miles) with some other men to enlist in the Civil War; of making tallow candles by hand; of cooking on a fireplace and rocking the baby in a home-made cradle; of his mother spinning while he wound the thread; and making syrup in an iron pan from sugar cane juice extracted by horse drawn machinery.

He made his living farming with a one-horse plow; raised a few cattle, hogs, sheep and goats. Almost everything was grown at home, and his fences were built of rails which he split himself.

When he joined the Baptist Church at Old Bethel (now called New Hope) the Rev. Henry Killen baptized him. In October, 1892, he married Miss Lena Vickers, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Houston Vickers, who lived nearby, and Brother Killen performed the ceremony.

There are five generations of Reeveses living at present on the home place. Mr. Reeves has 3 children, 8 grandchildren, 25 great grandchildren and 6 great great grandchildren.

He served on the first grand jury held in the present courthouse which was built in the



## The door to WORLD PEACE

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MR. AND MRS. HENRY REEVES will celebrate their 70th wedding anniversary Sunday, October 7, in their home at Milam with an open house between the hours of 2 and 4 p.m. Children and their families will be hosts for the occasion. All friends and relatives are invited through the press to attend. —Photo by Virgie Speights

early 1900's. He has belonged to New Hope Church 71 years, was church clerk for 20 years and still serves as deacon. He has never missed a Saturday business meeting.

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Corley have moved to Baton Rouge.

## PERSONALS

Mrs. Martha McBride of Bronson was admitted to Hemphill Hospital Thursday.

Reggie Cordray, 15 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Dan Cordray of Milam, suffered a fractured leg Monday when a

horse which he and Billy Murray were breaking fell on his leg.

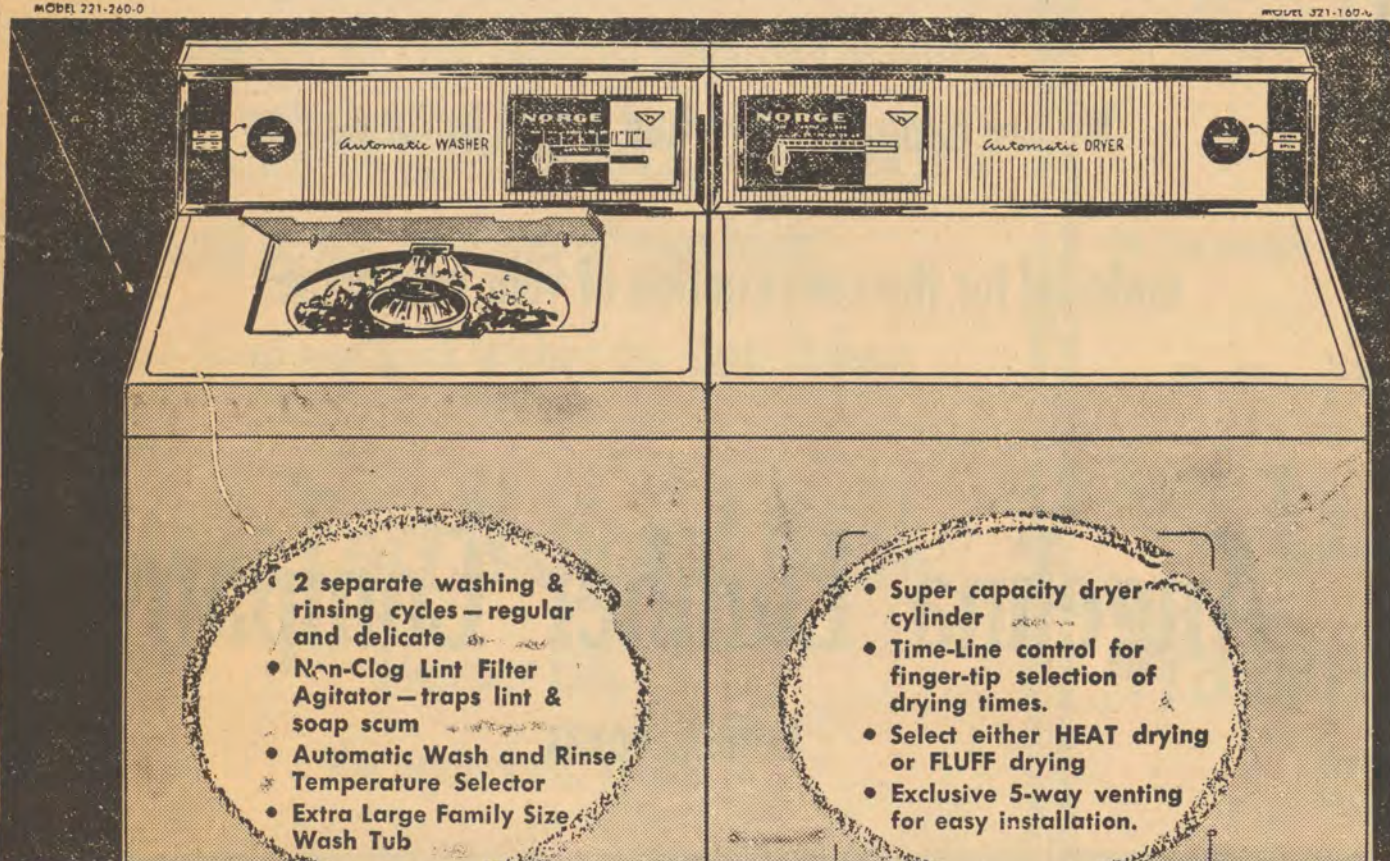
Mrs. Jim Amacker of Flagstaff, Ariz. is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Max McCary and children for three months while Mr. Amacker is on a Geological expedition in the South Pacific.

# NEW 1962 NORGE WASHER and DRYER SPECIAL

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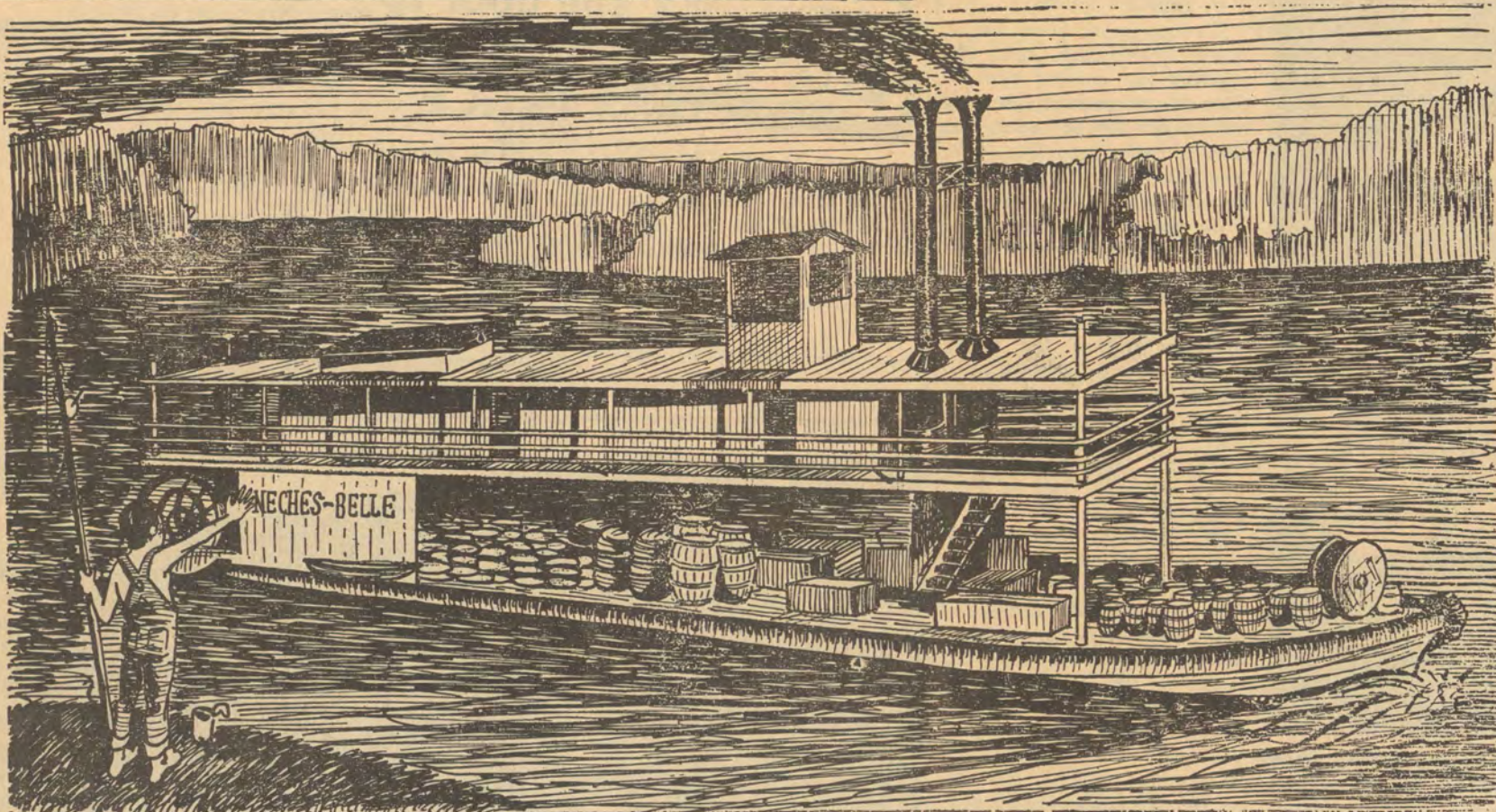
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THE SABINE COUNTY REPORTER, HEMPHILL, TEXAS—THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1962



**LAST OF THE SABINE RIVER STEAMBOATS**—The Neches Belle was the last and most famous of the numerous steamboats that sailed the Sabine River in the days when it was navigable north of Orange. The drawing above was done by Tommy Ayres, staff artist for The Orange Leader, from an old and faded photograph of the Neches Belle owned by Mrs. Mary Low of Hemphill. The picture was made at Sabinetown during one of the steamboat's upriver trips. The last of these was about 1892 when it sailed from Orange with a cargo of bridge timbers for the Houston East and West Texas Railroad. It tied up at Logansport where a lawsuit kept it moored until it was no longer able to travel under its own power. Meantime, the Sabine River had filled up with silt and snags to the extent that steamboats were unable to navigate the stream. A portion of the Neches Belle's hulk is still visible in the river during low water at Logansport.

## Land Was Cheap In Olden Days Of Fairdale

Fairdale began with a store belonging to Tim Burr, and was known as Burr's Store. This was possibly the only store between Hemphill and Old Delma.

This community was built on the A. W. Canfield League of Land granted in 1835 by the Mexican government. Application was made to Nacogdoches, and Lorenzo De Zavalla was the Empresario in charge of the colonization of much of this part of East Texas.

Canfield's sister, Mrs. Aurelia Russell, a widow, was granted a league and a half of land on the west bank of Sabine River and below the mouth of Big Sandy Creek.

In 1836 Canfield sold to William Clark, Sr. Dave Sibley of San Augustine and a native of Fairdale, has been searching the deed records of the Sabine County Clerk's office and found that on July 11, 1848, 200 acres of land on the A. W. Canfield league, at or near where Fairdale now is, belonged to I. G. Littlefield and was sold for \$2.65, to Gilbert Mackechney, a bachelor who lived at Marshall, Texas.

On December 13, 1849, 400 acres belonging to Mrs. Aurelia Russell, also located on the A. W. Canfield league, was sold to Gilbert Mackechney, for the sum of \$12.00.

April 2, 1878, 200 acres be-

longing to Kyle Buford was sold to L. L. Hill for \$17.93.

From these records, legend and knowledge of older people, prominent citizens around Fairdale 75 or 80 years ago included Tim Burr, Sam Dainwood, H. L. Dainwood, L. L. (Lod) Hill, Charlie Love, Albert Martin, Levi McDaniel, Sam McDaniel Mack McGraw, W. M. Mitchell, Gilbert Morris, Turner Pulliam, Ras. Sims and Henry Smith.

It seems that H. L. Dainwood and Charlie Love built and operated the first sawmill at Fairdale. Machinery came down the Sabine River on the old Neches Belle and landed at Hickory Bluff; then was hauled to Fairdale by ox wagon. The mill was logged by ox team and Yarb Mitchell seems to have been the team driver.

A Mr. Hart later operated this mill; then the McGraw brothers, Therry and Tom, followed by a Mr. Brooch and later by Levi McDaniel.

Sometime during this time, a cotton gin began operation, which was later run by Therry McGraw, who also had a grist mill.

A postoffice was established at Fairdale sometime in the late 1800's, and it is thought that Miss Alice Brooch was the first postmaster. Others included Mrs. G. F. Smith, (wife of the doctor), F. A. McCree, F. M. Smith; and then Mrs. J. B. McGee held the office until it was discontinued.

A voting precinct was created at Fairdale in Justice Precinct No. 2 by act of the Commissioner's court February 23

1903, and W. L. Morris was appointed as presiding officer over the elections.

The School District was created July 11, 1904 by act of the Commissioner's Court which was composed of Hon. Jesse T. Peace, County Judge; J. M. Harper, J. T. Mustian, J. E. Ellison, and H. C. Holder. J. A. Watson was County Clerk and M. H. Williams, Sheriff.

Before there was a school in Fairdale, the children attended Mill Creek School District, for which there is a record of the 1890-91 school term. The teacher was W. A. Sutton who was paid \$30 per month for six months. There were 30 pupils listed, including Anthony's, Burr's, Chances', Dainwood's, Love's, Mitchell's, McDaniel's, Martin's McGraw's, and Smith's. Many of the descendants of these children are still owners of land in the area.

No one seems to know the exact date of establishment of the Fairdale school, but Mr. Sibley, who started there in 1906, believes it was 1902 or 03.

The Fairdale Missionary Baptist Church was established in 1907 with the charter members including Mr. and Mrs. J. T. McGraw, Mr. and Mrs. T. S. McDaniel, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Harper, and Henry Smith. There were probably others. Before the church was organized by the Rev. Alfred Harris of Geneva, services were held in the school house from 1904 or 5, and on until 1915 when the old Mill Creek Methodist Church house was purchased and moved to Fairdale.

Some of the Baptist ministers who preached there before the church organization included the Rev. Jim Mason of Isla, the Rev. Edward Smith, Fairmount; the Rev. E. M. Dunworth of Hemphill; the Rev. Tim Woods of Burkeville; and the Rev. A. H. McDaniel of Bayou.

After the church was built, some of the pastors included the Rev. Alfred Edgar, the Rev. Charlie Smith, the Rev. Roy Miller, the Rev. Jack Lee, the Rev. C. G. Herrington; the Rev. Lewis Simmons; the Rev. R. A. Wilkerson, the Rev. W. T. Love, the Rev. A. H. McDaniel, the Rev. Harlan McDaniel, and the Rev. Andrew Dainwood.

Assisting in revivals were the Rev. Algie King, George Baldree, A. H. Koonce, E. M. Dunworth, Dan Marshall, Miner Jacobs, Thomas Weatherred, O. M. Corley, the Rev. Hall and the Rev. Crenshaw.

Deacons ordained included J. T. McGraw, J. B. McGee and W. Jack McNaughten.

Church Clerks included W. L. McDaniel, J. B. McGee, E. C. Smith, L. N. Pulliam, and Leo Chance.

Sabine county has an abundant supply of fresh water. Hemphill, the county seat, has excellent water—a soft water, good for laundry and bathing and excellent for drinking and cooking.

## Hemphill Lions Club Formed in 1938 Has Aggressive Outlook For Area

April 1, 1938, a charter was issued to Hemphill Lions Club which was formed with Dr. D. G. Mann as president. Charter members included A. D. Richardson, G. W. Russell, Sam Davis, O. M. Corley, T. V. Parker, F. L. Beauchamp, O. A. Beauchamp, W. E. Coussons, W. B. Hargis, G. M. Dorman, R. V. Spears, P. P. Gandy, J. Cullen Browning, J. E. Fuller, J. A. Watson, Dr. Paul F. Strecker, Paul C. Goodwin, J. O. Wright, Sebastian Crnkovic, and D. B. Speights.

This first Lions Club was allowed to become inactive after a few years, but was revived in 1950 when a new charter was issued on May 9. Charlie Rice was the first president of the newly organized club and the other charter members were Phillip Nix, O. P. Pate, Rev. Clarence Howell, J. H. Minton, Chester D. Murray, Wayne Reeves, James Fuller, S. R. Williams, J. O. Toole, Dr. D. G. Mann, L. H. Adickes, W. M. Ray, B. A. Alford, and J. D. Milner.

Hemphill Lions Club has been aggressively active since



OFFICES OF Hemphill Insurance Agency are housed in the new First State Bank Building. Shown above are the owner of the business, Joe Howard; and his bookkeeper, Mrs. Paul Toole. Approach to these offices is made through the back of the bank building.  
—Photo By Virgie Speights

its reorganization and right in the heart of any progress which has come to Hemphill. Meeting each week in the Williams Hotel at a luncheon meeting, the needs of the community have been anticipated and met with promptness and efficiency.

The club has sponsored a sight conservation program providing glasses for needy individuals, buying artificial eyes sponsoring sales of household items brought here by "The Lighthouse for the Blind", and sending blind children to the state school for the blind.

Hemphill Lions were in charge of a summer recreational program for several summers, which included planned handwork, outdoor games and family night programs.

Little League baseball, and the Boy Scouts of America were included in their program of community betterment.

A Trades Day series of programs initiated for several years at the Christmas season brought added trade and kept many people at home for trading during the holidays.

Wherever there is a need the Hemphill Lions Club is available. It is always ready to contribute to Red Cross drives, March of Dimes, Cancer Crusades, etc.

In 1960 the Hemphill Lions sponsored and helped elect a Governor of District 2S1, Lions International; and Floyd Smith served in that post during the 1960-61 term. This is a large district, stretching from Carthage and Beckville on the north to the Beaumont, Port Arthur, Orange area. Western boundaries include Woodville, Livingston, Lufkin, Mount Enterprise. This was quite a feat not often won by as small a club as Hemphill's.

Presidents who have served as guide to Hemphill Lions include J. O. Toole, L. H. Adickes, Harris Minton, R. L. Chapman, J. H. Minton, O. W. Thompson, Floyd Smith, Ralph Moyle, Willard McLane, O. L. Gary, James Foreman, and Jesse Moody, the present president.

Always ready to assist any worthy civic project, the last in a long list of sponsored projects was the formation of the Hemphill Chamber of Commerce to which the Lions Club gave practical and moral support. The Chamber of Commerce could accomplish much which was outside the scope of the Lions Club.

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# Congratulations

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Best Wishes to Our Friends at

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Of Hemphill

AND

# Congratulations

On the attainment of your new home.

## Sabine Theatre

Always a Good Show

Hemphill

Mr. and Mrs. B. A. Alford



# Historians sponsor reproduction of special '62 newspaper edition

The Sabine County Historical Commission, in cooperation with area businesses and Sabine County Newspapers Inc., proudly sponsors the reproduction of the First State Bank Dedication Edition of the Sabine County Reporter, which was originally published on October, 4, 1962.

"The special issue of the county's 105-year-old newspaper is not only a review of Sabine County's past, but it gives an optimistic view of its future," stated Wally Kittman, president of the local historical commission.

The newspaper, documenting the formal opening of the new facilities of Hemphill's First State Bank, was published at a time when Sabine County's economy was on an upward move. Area residents were enthusiastic over the building of Toledo Bend Reservoir, which would boost the population and business opportunities and change the destiny of Sabine County forever. The modern banking facility was just one of many signs of progress seen by Sabine Countians during the 1960s.

In 1962, the Sabine County Reporter was published by J. Darrel Milner and his wife Iris. Together with the help of Virgie Speights and Vera Browning, the Milners capsuled highlights of Sabine County's past, present and future in the pages of the special edition. Browning, who did historical research for the bank issue, saw a need to preserve Sabine County's heritage and voiced a

desire to organize a historical commission.

"Today, Vera Browning's dream is a reality,"said Kittman. "Through the efforts of the Sabine County Historical Commission, the historical events and landmarks are being preserved for generations to come." One such preservation project sponsored by the commission is the restoration of the original Sabine County Jail which houses the Virgie Speights Memorial Library.

"Preserving Sabine County's past for the future" might well be the motto of the Sabine County Historical Commission, as evidenced by the reproduction of the October 4, 1962 Bank Dedication Edition of the Sabine County Reporter. Hopefully, Sabine Countians of today will get a glimpse of Sabine County's heritage and gain a deeper appreciation for the county they call "home".

Wally Kittman and the members of the Sabine County Historical Commission acknowledge their appreciation to all who made this endeavor possible. "We hope the special edition will bring back memories of yesteryear to its readers, and perhaps find safekeeping for the reading pleasure of future generations," stated Kittman.

-- Written by Mary Howell for the Sabine County Historical Commission.



**Methodist parsonage about 1910**

Members of the Methodist society and pastor gathered in front of the parsonage. Identified are Mrs. Gillatly, seated (mother of Sallie Pratt or Mrs. Ed Pratt). 1st row L to R - 1. Mattie Watson, 2. Mrs. Drawhorn, 3. Mrs. Ed Pratt, 4., and 5. Nina McGown Browning. 2nd row L to R - 1., 2., 3., 4., 5. Sadie Jones (Mrs. A.M. Jones), 6. Mrs. Sim Williams (Nannie Parker's Ma), and 7. Anna M. Toole (Mrs. Adrian Toole).



**Hemphill P.T.A.**

Only three persons in attendance at this Hemphill P.T.A. meeting around 1939 have been identified. They are: front row - Alvin Berryman, Mrs. Hargis and Marie King.

## First State Bank

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2 Sabine County Historical Commission, 1988



### A deer hunt

Hunting was a way of life for many early pioneers in the area. L to R - D. Lois King, Needham Finley, Blanch Toole's grandfather (with horn), Dave Walker and Swan Maund.



### C.C.C. Camp in Milam



Mrs. Bettie Ray, 4th grade  
Bronson Elementary, 1962



Mrs. Paunee Vickers, 3rd grade  
Bronson Elementary, 1962



Mrs. Maggie McLemore, 1st grd  
Bronson Elementary, 1962



Mrs. Verna Thedford  
2nd grade  
Bronson Elementary, 1962



Mrs. Clara Smith, 2nd grade  
Bronson Elementary, 1962



Mrs. Ruby Minton, 3rd grade  
Bronson Elementary, 1962

## Carlson's Marine

Alton Carlson, owner

Mercury outboards  
Sales and Service

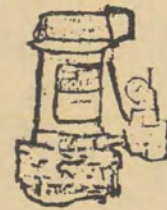
*Happy birthday Sabine County*

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any time*

*Can get  
parts overnight*

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Sabine County Historical Commission, 1988



### Old Methodist Church members

The Old Methodist Church in Milam was the setting for a gathering of men and their son in the year 1900. Some of the men have been identified as: E.N. Runnels, Bill Ed. Davidson, Ranzy McClanahan, Allen Wison, Ross Williams, Cleveland Cordray and Henry King. Others were Cleveland Harris, John Finley, Grady Finley, Tom Speights, Alfred D. Causey, Jack Maund, Leonard Cordray, Drayton Nethery, Delos King and Elzie Maund. Also, Frank Arnold, John Davidson, L.E. King, Earnest King, George King, Ike Dent, Jess King, Clyde Nethery and Clay Harris.



### An early scene of the Sabine County Courthouse



### 1930 Hemphill school students

Front row L to R: Leroy McGown, Evelyn Chapman, Sue Mill Wilson, Blance Toole, Lexie Clark, Till Sibley, Lucille Clark, Webb, Paul Toole and Mildred Greer (Mrs. Earl Williams of Tyler and sister-in-law of Nan Parker). Second row, L to R: Belmont Maund, Verlie McGown, Versie Hyden, Evelyn King, Ima Solley, unknown, and Paul McGown. Third row L to R: Chandler, Ray Pratt, Rubye Wilson, Roland Goodrick, Rossie Attaway, Arnold Bradnox, Eva Coussins, and Corine Minton.

### Corley's Service Station

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'THE HOME OF COURTEOUS SERVICE'  
MICHELIN AND GOODYEAR TIRES  
WHEEL BALANCING \*  
DELCO BATTERIES  
FOR FAST ROAD SERVICE

Hemphill

787-2217



Mrs. Ida Byley, Fourth grade  
Bronson faculty, 1962

### Allie Bell's Beauty Shop

Allie Bell Russell, owner

Operators - Wilma, Joyce and Billy  
Serving Sabine County for 26 years

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Hairstyles for the entire family Open Mon. - Sat. noon

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Serving Sabine County since 1949

1949 - 1966 Groceries and Gas

1966 - 1978 Gas and Cafe

Today - Complete repair service and  
auto salvage business

### Vaughn's K and K Marina

on Toledo Bend Lake  
Hwy. 87 at 6 Mile Creek

Kafe - "Kountry Kookin"

Groceries-Ice-Beer-Gas-Oil-Tackle-Bait-Guide Service Available  
Double and Adjoining Motel Units Mobile Home and RV Hook-ups-Bathhouse  
By Day-Week-Month or Yearly Rates  
"Free Boat Ramp"

### Happy birthday, Sabine County

Erby and Marlene Vaughn  
HC53 Box 4500

Bus: (409) 579-3292  
Hemphill, Texas 75948

### Hargis Trucking Co. and Fertilizer

Owner: Dickie Hargis

In business 15 years

Phone 787-3353 or 787-2165

### Western Auto

Associate Store Home Owned  
CLYDE & PATRICIA CUNNINGHAM,  
OWNERS

Highway 96 - Phone: 584-2817  
PINELAND, TEXAS 75968

TIRES - BATTERIES,  
HARDWARE - AUTOMOTIVE ACCESSORIES

Serving Pineland since 1978.

### The Music Station

On the square in Pineland 584-3108

Ella M. Welch owner since November, 1986

We specialize in Top 40 hits - of-  
fer a large selection of movie  
rentals and we are a drop station  
for Bonita Cleaners.

Our business hours accomodate our cus-  
tomers - we offer VCR and TV rentals.

Mon-Sat 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Sun. 1 p.m. 9 p.m.

### Congratulations to Sabine County

### Big Chief

Pineland



In business since 1960  
Owned and operated by Charles and  
Nelda Burch

### Happy birthday Sabine County from



787-3124

HWY 87 N

### FURNITURE AND APPLIANCE

COMPLETE LINE OF  
FINE FURNITURE, BEDDING  
& APPLIANCES

La-Z-Boy.

- SIMMONS
- LANE
- RIVERSIDE
- TELL CITY
- PULASKI

FREE DELIVERY

HEMPHILL

Compliments of

### C. L. and M. Grocery Inc.

Owned by Carl Foster

Serving Sabine County  
for 15 years

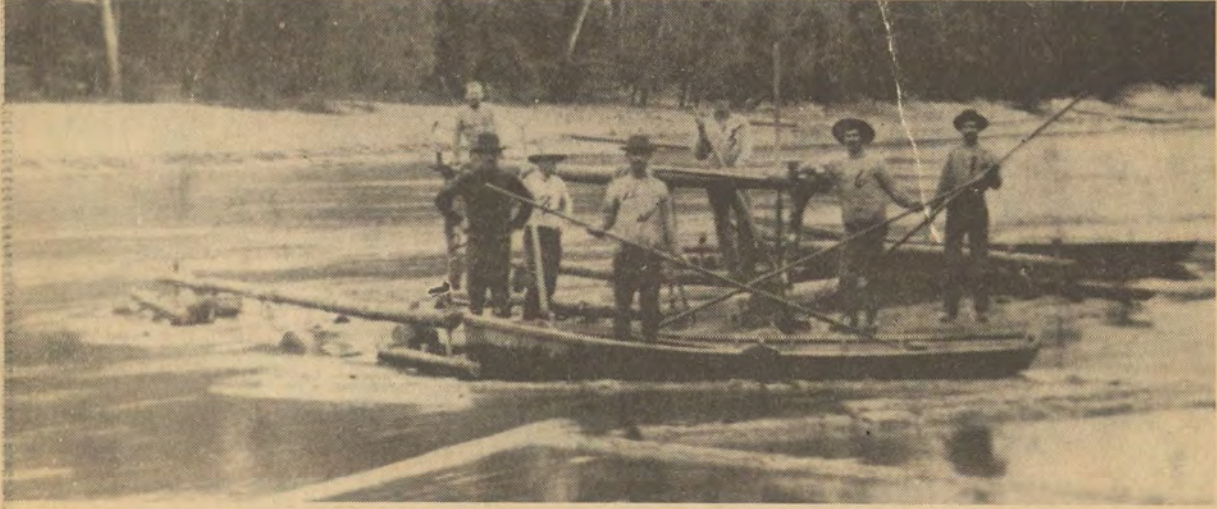
### Happy birthday Sabine County





**Ford Place 1926**

From left to right - Gay Low, manager; Henry Wright, sales; Earl Phelps, booker; Silas Pryor, parts; Hugh Woods, shop foreman; Leon Boyett, mechanic; and Roy Ludlow, mechanic.



**Rafting logs on the Sabine**

In 1900 Tom Beall's crewmen rafted these logs from Sabinetown to Orange. Crew members were L to R - Tom Beall, Harmon Britt, Tobe Low, Ben Ragan, Farley Williams, Bob Jones and John Dorsey.



**Pendelton Ferry across the Sabine River in 1910**

## Chance Concrete Construction

CTB

Specializing in concrete maintenance and repair  
Hemphill, TX (409)787-2615

Happy 152nd  
Sabine County

### Sabine County

A land of friendly people

Nadine Gary: Sabine County Clerk

### Hargis Farms

Happy birthday Sabine County

Serving Sabine County for 10 years

Dr. Philip Hargis

### Dixie's Income Tax Service

Dixie Hamilton

Happy homecoming  
Sabine County!

Congratulations Sabine County!

**CARPET  
SALE**

\$4.99 yd.

**Armstrong  
Residential  
Sculptured  
Carpet**

**Congoleum  
Cushion Floor**

\$7.49 yd.  
Reg. \$9.59

**CROWELL INTERIORS**

Hwy. 87 N. 787-3015 Hemphill, TX.

### Ray's Body Shop and Garage

Hwy. 87 N.  
Hemphill, Texas 75948

24-hour Wrecker Service  
Tune-ups, Brakes, and Air Conditioning  
Repair

Day (409) 787-3521  
Night (409) 787-2270

**University  
Savings**

Happy  
Birthday  
Sabine  
County!

103 North Street - Hemphill, Texas 75948 - (409) 787-3102  
Corporate Office: 1160 Dairy Ashford - Houston, TX 77079 - (713) 596-1000

### Starr Funeral Home, Inc.

(409) 787-3331 P.O. Drawer "B"

Hemphill, Texas 75948

Congratulations  
for 152 years!

Owner: John Starr, Jr.

Septic Systems Installed, Blocks, Pads,  
Sidewalks, Curbs & Culverts

**ARNEY'S CONCRETE PRODUCTS  
& TRANSIT MIX**

P.O. Box 915  
Hemphill, Texas 75948

Congratulations Sabine County!

Phone (409) 787-2619  
Night (409) 787-2793

JAMES ARNEY

Dial Bus. 787-2512  
Home - 787-3469

Owner, Roy G. Smith  
P.O. Box 701

### SMITH AUTO SUPPLY

General Auto Repair and Sales  
and Phillip Prod.

Since 1961

Congratulations!

One and one-half mile  
from Hemphill  
ON HWY. 83 WEST

HEMPHILL, 75948  
Used Cars

### Capt. John's Cove

ON  
TOLEDO BEND LAKE  
At Six Mile Bridge

Happy Homecoming!

Dick and Jan Paradis  
Owners  
(409) 579-3421

Restaurant  
Motel  
RV Hookups

### Rim's Store

Owned and operated by  
Roy and Martha Neel  
Assisted by Andria and Ross

We would like to wish  
Sabine County a happy  
152nd. birthday

Hwy. 83-87 N. 787-3815

### ELLIOTT'S AGRI-SERVICE, INC.

HC 53 BOX 5040  
HEMPHILL, TEXAS 75948  
579-3084 Pres. Walter Elliott 579-3090

Wood By-Products

Serving Sabine County 24 years.

Organic Fertilizer

Bark Mulch

Shavings





Abbott's Barber and Hairstyling  
Bill Abbott

Congratulations!  
Sabine County

Happy birthday  
Sabine County!

Three Way Texaco  
James and Doris Duck, owners

Open since  
February, 1976

Texaco products -  
Greyhound bus stop



### Post Office-Drug Store

Way back in 1924, K-C Drug Store in downtown Hemphill served as both a post office and a drug store. L to R: unknown, Mr. Ross Kenner, Hazel Flake, Ola Smith (seated), Gene Mason, and Pauline Smith.



Miss Frances Arrant  
Commercial studies  
Bronson faculty, 1962



Mr. Wayne Mitchell, Science  
Bronson faculty, 1962

24 HOUR PORTABLE SERVICE

## STRICKLAND WELDING

DANNY STRICKLAND  
OWNER

Congratulations to  
Sabine County!

HOME: (409) 787-3555  
MOBILE: (409) 787-3615

P.O. BOX 1445  
HEMPHILL, TX 75948



Willie Woods  
1st and 2nd grades



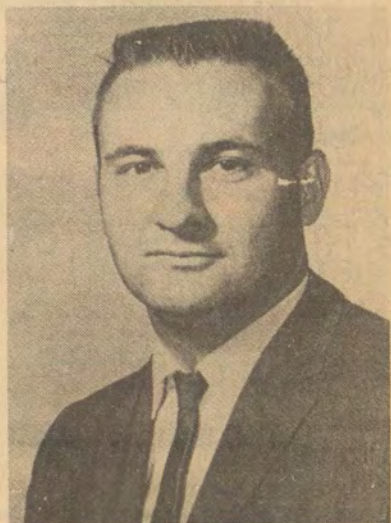
James Riley, Coach-  
Social Studies



Rubye C. Usilton  
English

### Sabine County Tax Assessor Collector

Congratulations  
on your historical homecoming  
from  
Diane, Rhonda, Tammy and Shonda



Mr. Douglas Butler, Math  
Bronson faculty, 1962

## Twitty's Restaurant

Hwy. 87 North  
Hemphill, TX  
787-3756

Happy birthday!



Mrs. Dixie Sparks, English  
Bronson faculty, 1962

# Congratulations Sabine County!

George Edgar

## G.D. EDGAR LUMBER CO., INC.

P.O. Box 159  
Hemphill, Texas 75948

Mobile Phone 787-3607  
Home Phone (409) 787-3825  
Mill Phone (409) 787-2452

## Jean's Flower Shop

Jean Beauchamp, Owner

Fresh Arrangements \* Pot Plants \* Corsages  
Silk Flowers

Congratulations!  
Sabine County homecoming

Hwy. 184 - Hemphill, TX across from Starr Funeral Home  
Shop (409) 787-2206 Res. (409) 584-2041 or 584-2590

Your lumber store and much more  
Manager: Kenneth Walton



Corrugated Asphalt Roofing and Siding

- \*Insulates as a roof-over
- \*Attractive skirting material
- \*Ideal for patio roof
- \*One man can handle
- \*won't rust or corrode
- \*Lifetime warranty

**LESLO SALES**

Hwy. 87 N.  
787-2485

WHITE \*BROWN \*RED \*BLACK  
GRAY GREEN \*TAN BLUE  
\*IN STOCK COLORS





Mrs. Bernice Nethery, English  
Bronson faculty, 1962



Mrs. Edith Mills, Bio. - English  
Bronson faculty, 1962



Front row L to R: Sim Williams, Arnold, Annie Toole and Lela McGown. Back row: unknown, Jim Fuller, Lena, Fannie Coussins.



Mr. Sammy Coussons,  
History  
Bronson faculty, 1962

Sun. - Fri.  
8 a.m. - 11 p.m.

Sat.  
8 a.m. - 2 a.m.

Pizzas  
Hamburgers  
Fish



Free Delivery Party Room

Spaghetti  
and  
Meatballs  
Deli Sandwiches  
Hom-baked pies

**Congratulations Sabine County!**

Noon buffet 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Jerry and Gloria Westcott  
(409) 787-2242

Hwy. 87 North  
Hemphill, TX 75948

### GENUINE AUTO PARTS

P.O. Drawer 270 Oak @ Main  
Hemphill, Texas 75948  
Phone (409) 787-3118

Danny Bragg

**Happy birthday  
Sabine  
County!**

*We fit you.*

### J. B. White Co.

Hemphill

Serving you for 20 years.

Wayne Dudley and wife, Gay, Helen Williams and  
Lois McCallon appreciate your business and we  
welcome you anytime.

Taking care of you and yours.



Mr. Joe Conn, Agriculture  
Bronson faculty, 1962



Mr. Bobby Selden, band  
Bronson faculty, 1962



ESTATE PLANNING - IRA PROGRAM  
LIFE - AUTO - FIRE - LIABILITY

J. E. (RONNY) WEBB  
Agency Manager  
Sabine County Farm Bureau

*Happy 152nd Sabine County!*

ON THE SQUARE  
HEMPHILL, TEXAS

OFFICE (409) 787-3261  
(409) 787-2261

### Hilery's Auto and Marine, Inc.

Johnson Motors  
Kingfisher Boats

MACKIE McCARY  
Owner



Happy 152nd. Sabine County

Bus. (409) 787-3561  
Hwy. 83W. - Hemphill, Tx. 75948

### G-M WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION

P.O. BOX 506 PH. 787-2755  
HEMPHILL, TEXAS 75948

Serving San Augustine  
and Sabine counties

Happy Homecoming  
**NAPA Auto Parts and Tires**  
Serving Sabine County since 1965  
Owners: Tom and Sue Brand

Happy birthday Sabine County!

### Dick's

Garage and Rent-All  
Custom Magnetic Signs

P.O. Box 369  
Hemphill, TX 75948

579-3006

### Sabine Insurance Agency



**Allstate**

ROYCE C. SMITH

Office 409-787-3797

*Happy 152nd birthday,  
Sabine County!*

Jerry Kindley  
Eugene Kindley



### Kindley Enterprises Inc.

Automotive Sales & Service

Highway 83  
3 Miles East of Hemphill

(409) 787-2673

*Congratulations Sabine County!*

JAMES ALLEN PAYNE  
ATTORNEY AT LAW

*Happy birthday Sabine County*

OFFICE PHONE  
409 787 3137

OFFICE ADDRESS  
P.O. DRAWER 460  
HEMPHILL, TEXAS 75948

Happy homecoming  
Sabine County!

from

**Gayle R. Fortson,  
Certified Public Accountant**

### Cox Corner

Family owned and operated

A family tradition  
in Sabine County

Happy birthday  
Sabine County!

from

**Mary Collis**