

Borden Citizen.

Published by the Borden County Historical Committee - Fall 1980
VOL. XVI, NO. 1

THE TITANIC

Sixty-eight years after the sinking of the Titanic, unlike most lost ship, we are still hearing and reading about the "unsinkable" ship.

In "THE FAMILY WEEKLY" of July 6, 1980 we read, "The Titanic was supposed to be unsinkable, so when she struck an iceberg off the coast of Newfoundland and went down, the world was shocked. For 68 years, the ocean liner has been sitting in 13,000 feet of water, somewhere in an area of ocean the size of Rhode Island. This week, a group of researchers from Columbia University is setting off to locate the Titanic. We think that finding the ship will probably take about 10 days."

In the "LUBBOCK AVALANCHE-JOURNAL" printed July 13, 1980, it stated, "Sixty-eight years after the "unsinkable" luxury liner Titanic rammed an iceberg in the North Atlantic, a crew of scientists and adventurers is setting out to search for the wreck with new sonar and television equipment. They plan to spend 30 to 45 days looking for the Titanic...."

In the August 16, 1980 "THE ODESSA AMERICAN" printed, "An American search party believes it has found the ocean liner Titanic, which sank 68 years ago....We won't be sure until we send the television cameras down, but the sonar shows it's the right length, right width and right height..."

We have read this but we of Borden County have our own connection with the sinking of the Titanic. Mr. Dave Dorward owned The Drug Store in Gail for many, many years. He was always interested in things of interest to Borden County and our history. His drugstore has been used as our Museum and is now used as storage for the Museum. Pauline Clark moved a display case in the drug store one day and found our connection with the Titanic. It is the following story taken from the August 27, 1950 "ATLANTA JOURNAL AND CONSTITUTION MAGAZINE".

I WAS ON THE TITANIC

By L. Q. C. Taylor

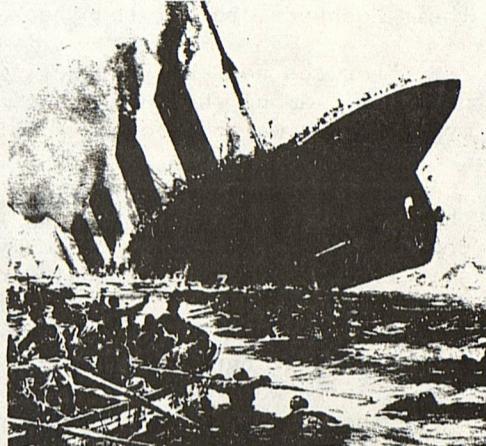
"When I was a young man I left Georgia and went West to be a cowboy. At GAIL, Texas, a wealthy rancher found out that I could teach singing and had me give lessons to his three teenage children. They did so well that he asked me to take all three of them to London to study at the Tonic Sol Fa College of Music. When we had finished our studies all four of us-the children and I-started home ON THE TITANIC.

"The two girls, Linda Sue and Mary Ann Slaughter, occupied a cabin nearby, and I roomed with Luther, on the third deck down. We were three days out of Southampton on Sunday evening, April 14, 1912, when we felt a slight jar along the right side of the boat. Luther and I ran out to the hall, where we met a ship's officer, probably a steward. He told us there had been a slight accident, nothing to bother about, and advised us to go to bed.

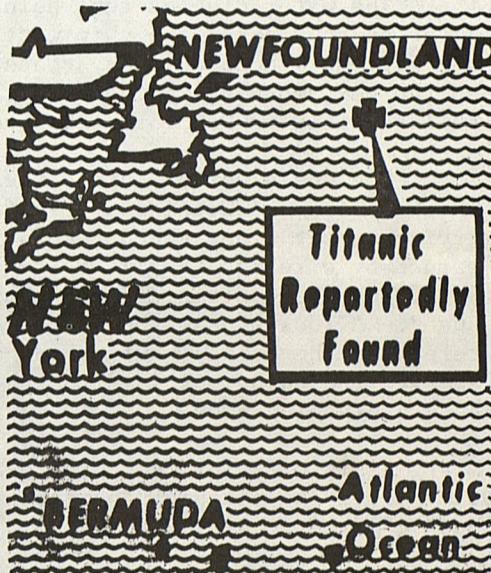
"We sat around the cabin a while, perhaps 20 minutes, and began to get pretty worried. Finally we went up to the top deck. We could see an iceberg three or four hundred yards away, and we learned that the ship had struck a submerged portion of the ice. An officer was telling a crowd of passengers that, if the ship should sink, it would be better to wear as few clothes as possible.

"We ran down and told the girls that the ship was in danger of sinking. Returning to our own cabin, we undressed and put on nightshirts, got into vest-type life preservers we found in the closet, and put bathrobes over them. Then we went back for the girls and took them up on deck.

"Two lifeboats already had been lowered. They had not been completely filled, for most people did not believe the ship would sink. I put Luther and his sisters in the third boat and



Voyagers fleeing the sinking Titanic.



saw them safely over the side. That boat had hardly touched the water when a cry went up that the Titanic really was going down. There are no words to describe the stampede that followed. More than 2,000 people were crowded on the deck, and it seemed that half of them went crazy at the same time. Many tried to crowd into the lifeboats. But members of the crew already had been armed, and some of the passengers carried pistols. These men formed lines in front of the boats and ordered, 'Women and children first!'. Their cry was taken up all over the deck. I heard many gun shots after that. I didn't see any of the shooting, so I don't know whether the guards wounded some of the panic-stricken men or merely fired into the air.

"Many passengers jumped overboard as soon as they heard that the ship was sinking, and the Titanic's deck was so high that I am sure they were seriously injured when they hit the water. The boats were filled quickly with women and children. Still, some women preferred to stay with their husbands, rather than be saved alone.

"For the next hour or so I wandered around the deck in my nightshirt, life preserver and bathrobe. Among the hundreds of us, some were praying, a few were screaming, but most, like myself, just walked around, looking dazed.

"The forward end of the boat began to tilt downward until the bow went under, and then the water gradually crept along the deck. Finally I threw off my bathrobe and walked forward until the icy water came up to my waist. Then I climbed over the rail and swam away from the ship. I heard a dull explosion deep in the water as the boilers blew up, and the ship's lights went out immediately. Three or four minutes later the stern rose high in the air, and the Titanic slid into the ocean. In the clear starlight I could see the captain on the bridge, and members of the band standing up, still holding their instruments. There was some suction, about like a large wave pulling you at the seashore, and I was drawn several yards toward the spot where the ship disappeared. People were in the water all around me, some praying, many crying. The ocean was as still as a pond. Gradually the people drifted apart. I saw some slumped in their life jackets either unconscious or dead.

"The water did not feel painfully cold at first, but gradually my arms and legs grew numb. About an hour after the ship went down a liferaft drifted near, and I was pulled aboard. Some one gave me a couple of dry coats to wrap up in. I either went to sleep or passed out, and waked up the next morning in the hospital of the Carpathia. A few days later I met the Slaughter children safe in New York with their parents, who had come up from Texas to meet them.

"The whole world learned the details of the tragedy from the Senate investigation which followed. Witnesses testified that the captain, was trying to set a new speed record in the crossing. He was warned by wireless that icebergs had been sighted in our path, but the captain did not change his course nor reduce speed. A lookout saw the bergs far ahead, and tried to telephone the bridge, but nobody answered. The helmsman swerved the ship, but it struck a submerged portion of the berg a glancing blow.

"A sister ship, the Carpathia, reached the spot some time after the Titanic sank and picked up 705 survivors but 1,517 persons drowned."

"Mr. L. Q. C. Taylor is a native of Hiawassee, Ga., but spends his winters in Hot Springs, Ark. He is a singing teacher by profession. While he was giving singing lessons this summer at Gainesville, Ga., Director Henry King of 20th Century-Fox engaged him to train and lead a choir in the movie, 'I'd Climb the Highest Mountain,' which was filmed near Cleveland, Ga. He is 70 years old."

A few people have stated that they remember hearing some of the "old timers" talk about the singing lessons that were given in Gail. Perhaps some of these were given by Mr. Taylor. At least he has preserved the historical connection that Gail had with the tragedy of the sinking of the "unsinkable" Titanic.

Mr. Clarence N. Cosby is now a resident of Canyon, Texas but he spent some time in Borden County as a youngster. Mr. Cosby authored a book, "Wayside Reveries" and writes a column in THE CANYON NEWS in which he mentions the events in his life. Many times, he remembers and tells about things that happened in Borden County. The following is a column from "THE CANYON NEWS" of June 4, 1978 in which such an event is described.

STORM IN 1900 SHOOK HOMES

In the Spring of 1900, my father sold his land in Howard County, and he and Henry Boatler bought two sections each from Oscar Harvey, who had filed on four sections, situated in the northwest corner of Borden County, which lies just north of Howard. This new location lay about 20 miles north and west of our old home. Having given possession of the property he sold, the family was moved into an old house which was situated about eight miles south of the



L. Q. C. Taylor.

place he had just acquired, where we lived until he could build a new home for us. This house was known as the McWhorter place. It consisted of two rooms about fourteen feet square, fronted toward the east, and rested on sawed-off, cedar posts that held it about a foot above the ground. Being rather poorly constructed in the first place, and apparently neglected for several years, it was quite adequate for shade, but promised little in the way of sturdy shelter.

We had been there but a short time, when a gravel-slinging, dirt-moving sand storm blew in from the west about dark one night. The old house swayed and creaked with each howling gust, indicating it might collapse with the next one. Dad being a man of caution, decided he had better get us kids and mother outside. He had a dozen or so sacks of cottonseed just south of the house which he arranged in a semicircle, and bedded us down on a few quilts within it. The weather was warm, and being flat on the ground behind the sacks of seed, we were protected from the direct blasts of wind.

The last thing I remembered about the night was seeing Dad, standing erect, with one hand against the southwest corner of the building, as if he might have been saying, "Hang in there, old lady," each time she would lean with the wind and audibly complain about it. The storm subsided sometime during the night, we were moved back inside, and I awoke the next morning, in bed as usual.

There was another building of sorts, a few steps north of the main house.... that had an earthen floor, probably about 14 by 16 in area. This building was used for our dining room and kitchen. The dining table was situated near the entrance at the south end, and enough to one side so as not to obstruct the passageway used for going in and out of the building. The yard was not fenced and our milk cows, and other stock, had access to the surrounding area. On one occasion, after the family had finished the noonday meal and gone into the main house, I was outside near the north wall, and was an eyewitness to a tragedy. Old Allie, one of the milk cows, sauntered up to the dining room door, which was open, poked her head inside for a minute or two, and backed out with a corner of the table cloth in her mouth. The entire table setting had not been removed, and as cloth slipped from the table, the whole caboodle clattered to the hard-packed floor.

It required about all the dishes mother had to accomodate the family, and about ninety per cent of them were shattered to pieces. Out of pie pans for plates and tin cans for cups, we took nourishment until Dad could go to town and bring back some blue and white, pinto, enameled ware—you old-timers will know the sort I am talking about. These were perfectly okay except for one thing. It did not take much of a bang against something hard to dislodge a flake of enamel the size of a dime. This didn't bother me so long as my cup didn't spring a leak through a hole that sometimes appeared where the enamel was knocked off.

We made out with this old dinnerware until several years later, when a phonograph, with a morning-glory speaker horn, failed to show up as a premium for the purchase of a bunch of furniture the folks bought, and they were given a nice set of china dishes instead. We kids would have much rather had the phonograph, but mother was very happy to accept the table ware instead.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Thanks to Mr. Cosby for this article and we hope to use some more of your work in future issues.

PEEK INTO THE PAST

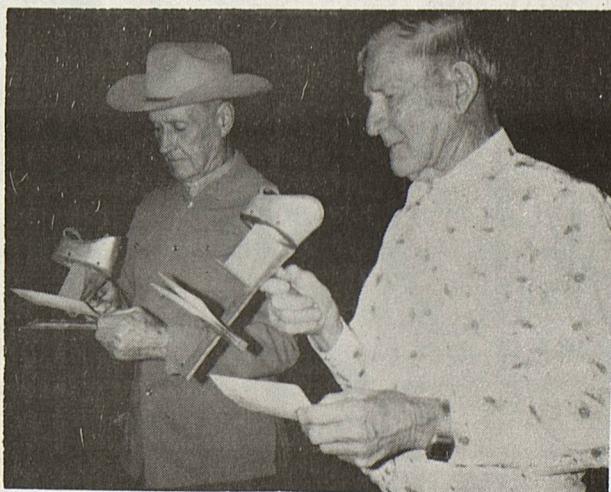
STEREOSCOPE VIEW CARDS

By Pauline & Vivian Clark

Years before the turn of the century, one of the most popular forms of entertainment was viewing stereoscope pictures, a sort of black and white precursor of today's slide show or home movies. Every Victorian parlor, it seemed, had at least one type of stereoscope outfit along with boxes and boxes of stereo viewing cards.

During the Golden Age of stereoscopes, between 1955 and 1880, it was not unusual to find enthusiastic groups assembled together, eagerly scanning the pictures, which seen in the viewing device, provided a reasonably three-dimensional image. Young and old enjoyed this enlightening form of entertainment. Today the stereoscope viewers and the pictures often languish in attics and people have forgotten what they are except for early photography collectors.

The idea behind stereography is based on the principal of binocular vision, which was known even to Greeks. Evedid, the great mathematician, wrote about and discussed how each eye perceives a slightly different view making possible depth perception. When the camera was finally perfected, the stereoscopic principal found its way into photography via the twin lens camera. Double



VIVIAN CLARK AND AUBREY ROGERS
Holding Stereoscopes They have loaned the Museum

image glass plates were produced, providing an astonishingly life-like image when viewed through a special magnifying instrument. This new photographic principal was introduced at the Great Exposition of Philadelphia in 1851. The public became so infatuated with the new form of entertainment that almost instant demand for special magnifying devices or stereoscopes was created. Within two years, the market was flooded with a variety of viewers and thousands of views showing everything from historic figures to landmarks throughout the world.

Early stereoscopes were quite crude and offered little in magnification. Other distortion was a serious drawback since they could not be adjusted to suit individual focus range. This did not hamper the public's growing enthusiasm for the new invention however.

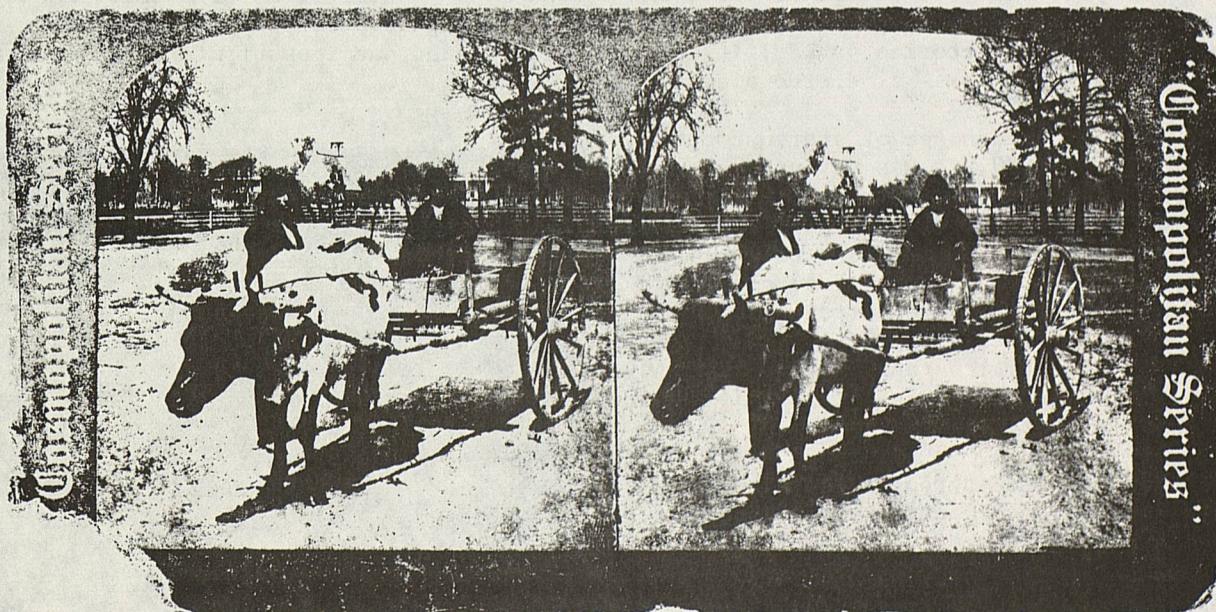
The first stereo viewers came to this country from England. Most models were inexpensive box-type affairs designed by Sir David Brewster, who did a great deal of experimenting in the field of dual vision. James Mascher is credited with receiving the first American patent in 1853. Before 1900 more than 600 patents had been issued for stereo viewers. Public demand for stereoscopes created a major new industry and thousands of handheld models were produced. In 1857 Alexander Beckus developed a table model, devised so that it housed a circular reel which could hold up to 100 cards, which gave continuous viewing by turning a knob. A significant steropticon development was made by famous jurist, Oliver Wendell Holmes. In 1865 he devised a sliding carriage which enabled the user to bring view cards into clear focus as individual eyesight required. Although Holmes' development was an important invention, he failed to register his creation with the patent office.

A wide variety of stereoscope viewers are available to today's collector. Many of them are quite elaborate, owing to the Victorian penchant for ornamentation, although most are of the hand held variety, many table and floor models were made, and were made of quality wood. Some were elaborately embellished with mother-of-pearl, intricate carvings, and some viewers owned by nobility and royalty were trimmed in gold, silver and precious jewels. Steroscopes were also produced in coin operated models which were used in stores and penny arcades as a cheap source of entertainment.

Thousands of viewing cards were produced to supply this public demand for them. Before the Civil War, stero pictures were produced on glass plates. Most of the early views were of European scenes and landmarks (America, for many decades, was not considered as scenic as was Europe.) Many qualities of glass plates were made by William and Federick Langenheim of Philadelphia, beginning in 1854.

Most collectors specialize and collect according to their favorite topics. Among the most popular categories are those cards having historical interest, such as scenes from the Civil War, the 1906 San Francisco earthquake and fire, Presidential elections, World War I and the Philadelphia Exposition of 1976. Some collectors specialize in "series cards" issued in sets or groups. Other popular groups include American Indians, trains, bridges and comic cards. Some collectors even seek pornographic stereo cards, which were produced in surprisingly large numbers.

When choosing stereo view cards, always look for any that have the dates and names of the photographer. A good example are the many Civil War scenes made by Mathew Brady. Other notable photographers include the Keystone and Underwood Brothers, H. H. Bennett, J. B. Lemin, Ben Haines and J. F. Jarves. Collecting stereoscopes and cards is a fascinating hobby, one the whole family can enjoy. The cost is still low, especially when compared to other photographic memorabilia. There is still a thrill when you look through a Victorian viewer and see an ancient image, three dimensional and yet primitive. These strange devices have a way of making the past seem present, as though you could reach out and love the people and things in the antique images.



A TYPICAL CARD WHICH THE STEREOCOPE MADE INTO ONE CLEAR PICTURE.

MAE OMI LEWIS HARDING, 67, of Dawson County passed away in September. Among her survivors are her husband, B. B. Harding of Lamesa and son, Royale Lewis of Fluvanna.

A. J. RAINS, 64, died September 8, 1980 in a Tahoka hospital. He was a farmer and heavy equipment operator and had lived all his life in Borden County. Among his survivors is his wife, Helen, of Borden County, three daughters, 2 sons and five grandchildren.

COY FORD, 67, of Lake J. B. Thomas, died October 30, 1980 in Lubbock. Mr. Ford married Pearl Ada Davis September 2, 1933. Among his survivors are two sons and one daughter.

JAMES "RUBE" McGUIRE, 85, passed away in Ada, Oklahoma and burial was on the 3rd day of November. Mr. McGuire was a brother of Mrs. Lena Howell of Gail.

KELLY GLEN VAUGHN, 18, of Lamesa was killed November 11, 1980 in a truck wreck. He was the Grandson of Rubin and Eula Vaughn of Gail.

GERTRUDE PEARL ISAACS, 68, of Lamesa passed away November 10, 1980. She was a former resident of Borden County. She was married in Borden County to Clarence Isaacs on May 23, 1931 and is survived by her husband and one son.

Memorial Gifts to the Borden County Museum have been made in the Memory of

MRS. DUB (Lynn) TUBB

by Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Trevey
Laura H. Rollins
Snyder, Texas

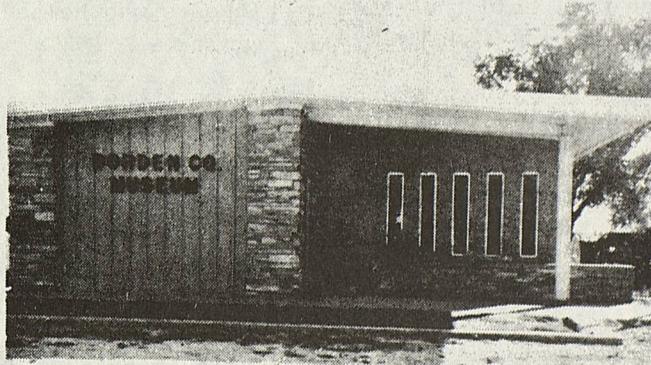
A walking middle buster has been donated to the Museum by Charlie Hunnicutt. Any of you old timers who remembers walking behind one of these horse drawn plows will have to make a special effort to come see this new addition. Thanks to Charlie for the plow and delivering it.

J. A. and Karen Haegstrom of Oregon have recently donated an old Cocoa Can, old cakes of Napha soap and a "Dupont Dynamite Board" to the Museum. The dynamite board was used in dynamiting roadways for highways and is dated April 15, 1916. Thanks to the Haegstrom.

MUSEUM AND HISTORICAL NEWS

The work day on July 31st was a nice success. Much work and repair was done by Roy and Azlee Reeder, Pauline and Vivian Clark, Aubrey Rogers, Van and Barbara York, Frances Burkett, Carol Burkett, Jeff Lackey and Edna Miller. While they were working on the Museum the film crew from El Paso Products Company arrived to make pictures of The Museum for their travel-log to be shown at the Permian Basin Fair and Exposition in Odessa September 10-14. The Company is including many West Texas attractions in their film and wanted to make The Borden County Museum a part of it.

(They did - The following was published in
THE BORDEN STAR - September 17, 1980)



BORDEN COUNTY MUSEUM

BORDEN COUNTY

Organized in 1891; named for Gail Borden, newspaper editor, surveyor, and inventor of process for condensing milk. 4 Historical markers

GAIL

Hand hewn rock jail. Borden County Museum....authentic items used by early settlers. Evidence of prehistoric and Indian campsites on Mushaway Peak.

LAKE J B THOMAS

Man-made lake with fishing, boating, swimming, and skiing.

The project produced by El Paso Products of Odessa is to assist in planning family oriented, fuel saving recreational trips within easy drive of home.

Borden County Spotlighted

Borden County was spotlighted in "Permian Journeys," a video travel-log presenting a sampler of over 120 Permian Basin attractions last weekend. Visitors

viewed the unique film featuring 45 area towns during the Permian Basin Fair and Exposition, Sept. 10-14 at Ector County Coliseum, Odessa. In a newsletter advertising the

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Send in your subscriptions and letters to Edna Miller, Fluvanna, Pauline Clark, Gail, Texas or your Editor, Dorothy Browne, Gail, Texas. Come to see the Museum in Gail and write the history of your family in Borden County.)

MUSEUM NEWS - Published in THE BORDEN STAR - September 17, 1980

The Museum of Borden County is working on a project to honor the pioneers of this County. A plaque will be exhibited in the Museum supporting the names of pioneers who have contributed in some way in the growth and development of Borden County. To help with expenses, a donation of \$50.00, a sizable donation and some working hours in the museum, or just a set number of work hours in the museum is needed. The plaque is 4' X 3' and the metal memorial tag will be approximately 4" X 2½".

Please contact Barbara York at (915) 573-4410 if you are interested in purchasing a memorial.

The next work day for the museum will be Saturday, September 27 from 9:30-5:00 or come when you can. (Editor's Note: This work day was canceled because of inclement weather.) The next museum meeting is set for October 14, 1980 at 7:30 P. M. The Borden Citizen Newsletter was mailed September 14th. If you do not receive a newsletter and are interested, contact Dorothy Browne at (915) 856-4321. The cost is \$3.00 per year.

BORDEN COUNTY HISTORICAL NEWS

Published in THE BORDEN STAR - October 8, 1980

The monthly meeting of the Borden County Historical Commission will be Tuesday, October 14, 7:00 P. M. at the Courthouse. We urge all those interested in preserving our county history to attend. At this time our goal is to mark all Historical sites in the county, participate in the State's Historical traveling exhibits, and prepare our memorial plaque. One donation has been made this month by Mr. and Mrs. Borden Gray in memory of Mr. Gray's Father, Mr. R. L. Gray. The Senior Mr. Gray came to Borden County in 1904 with his family Mr. and Mrs. I. N. Gray. They settled 12 miles southeast of Gail where three generations of the Gray Family still live. The original Ranch House was built in the 1880's and was a stopping place for Travelers enroute to the plains from Colorado City. The house had a "Cupalo" which served as a lookout over a vast territory. It was a great historical loss when the house burned in 1940.

Our main purpose in holding these monthly meetings is to secure enough volunteer help to maintain our Museum and keep it open every Saturday and Sunday afternoons.

BORDEN COUNTY HISTORICAL NEWS - Published in THE BORDEN STAR - October 22, 1980

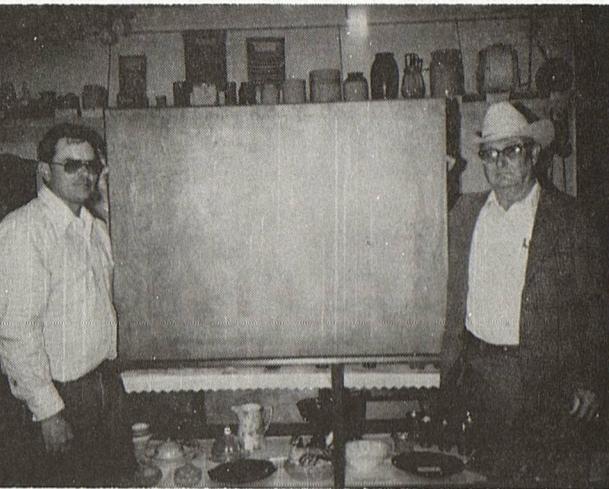
The Borden County Historical Society has received the following memorials for the plaque to be placed in the Museum. The plaque will hold the names of pioneers who helped in some way to form the county of Borden.

PIONEERS ARE:

Mr. and Mrs. Alex Murphy
Donated by Mr. and Mrs. York Murphy

Edwin Love
Donated by The Love Family

Mr. and Mrs. J. S. York
Donated by Mr. and Mrs. York Murphy



VAN YORK and NORMAN SNEED are holding the blank plaque. The metal memorial tags with the pioneer's name and the donor's name will be attached to this plaque and the plaque will be hung in the MUSEUM.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Long
Donated by Mr. and Mrs. William Long

Mr. and Mrs. John H. Smoot
Donated by Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Smoot

Mr. R. L. Gray
Donated by The Borden Grays

If you would like to honor a pioneer on this plaque, please call Barbara York at 915 856-4402 or 915 573-4410. The wooden plaque which is approximately 4' X 3' was donated by the late York Murphy and will be placed in the Borden County Museum. This will be quite a tribute to the pioneers of our county. The cost for a memorial is \$50.00 or other arrangements can be made by calling Barbara York at the above numbers.

- - - - -

As you can see by the above articles, the Historical Committee and interested persons have been doing much work and planning for our program in Borden County. A meeting has been held on Oct. 14, as planned and another meeting was held on the 11th of November. The first plaques to honor the pioneers have been ordered and should be delivered soon. More donations have been made:

Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Clark
Donated by Edna Miller and
Pauline and Vivian Clark

The Drum Family and The Reeder Family
Donated by Roy and Azlee Reeder

Mr. and Mrs. John (& Belle) Clark
Donated by Pauline and Vivian Clark

We are sure that more have been donated by the time you receive this Newsletter, but the names and donors are not available at printing time.

BORDEN COUNTY HISTORICAL NEWS - Published in THE BORDEN STAR - November 12, 1980

Have you visited the Borden County Museum lately? The Museum is open each Saturday afternoon and each Sunday afternoon for your visits. Jim Burkett, Buster Taylor, Van York, Sybil Gilmore, Bonnie Sneed, Roy Reeder, Francis Bennett, Vivian Clarkm C. C. Nunnally, Edna Miller, Frances Burkett, Jean Taylor, Barbara York, Azlee Reeder, and Pauline Clark have all given of their time to keep the Museum open.

Visitors from many different places have visited the Museum during the months the Museum has been open on weekends. There have been visitors from Ruidoso and Fort Sumner, New Mex.; Bensalem, Pa.; Carlsbad, N.M.; Jan Jose, Calif.; Alliane, Kansas; Wilcox, Arizona; Eagan, Arizona; Syracuse, N.Y.; Washing State and Louisiana: San Francisco, Calif.; Furbon, Ohio; Sattlelite Beach, Fla.; Bedlands, Calif.; Hobbs, N.M. and many, many towns in Texas. Two people who gave their home as Brazil have also visited the Museum. Quite a few people who live in Borden County have visited the Museum lately. Have you? We are planning some changes in the near future, so bring your friends and visitors and come see us.

Also published on November 12, 1980. The American Association of Sheriffs Possees and Riding Clubs, District 4, visited the Museum as part of their fall outing. They met in Big Spring where they started their fall horseback ride to Gail. They left Big Spring about 2:00 P. M. on Saturday the 8th and rode to the corrals on the Phinizy Ranch. They spent the night there, camping out, and then rode into Gail on Sunday arriving at the Museum about 1:30 P. M. They visited the Museum and were served lemonade, coffee and cookies, by Mr. and Mrs. Vivian Clark, Frances Burkett, Aubrey Rogers, Buster Taylor and Dorothy Browne. They reported a nice ride, a nice campout and a nice visit to the Museum as they loaded their horses in their trailers and left for home.

GAIL MARKED ALONG TEXAS PLAINS TRAIL
Published first in THE LUBBOCK AVALANCHE JOURNAL
AND then in THE BORDEN STAR

Most likely you've seen the blue-and-white road signs in this part of Texas denoting the Texas Plains Trail. Rectangular in shape with a graphic-style windmill, the signs are placed along a route that leads to some of the more interesting sites to be found in this part of the state. The Texas Plains Trail reaches from Gail (approximately 80 miles south of Lubbock) to Channing, Dumas and Stinnett, near the Oklahoma Panhandle. A map=folder provided by the Texas State Department of Highways traces the route, and details the various points of interest found along the trail.

Gail, the only town in Borden County, marks the Southern point of the Texas Plains Trail. Both the town and the county were named for early Texas resident Gail Borden, inventor of the process of condensing milk. The Borden County Historical Museum is an excellent repository of pioneer memorabilia. From a swing-type butter churn and a cork reducer to a powder horn and a spinning wheel, the museum presents an authentic glimpse into the lifestyle of the people that first settled the Texas plains. Because of the community's size, it is impossible for the museum to always be open during weekdays. However, the county clerk in the nearby courthouse said a tour can be arranged. At this writing, the museum is open during Saturday and Sunday afternoons.. In the museum is a bar from one of the saloons. Now without a saloon, and also without a restaurant, hotel, bank, or theater. Gail does have a museum that will prove interesting to persons traveling the Texas Plains Trail.

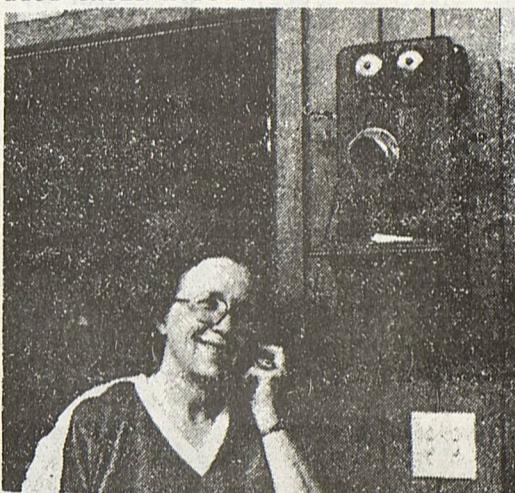
LETTERS FROM THE PENS OF OUR READERS

My uncle C. E. (Dock) Reeder was County Judge of Borden County at one time. William (Will) Reeder and Uncle Dock both homesteaded in Borden County. Another Uncle R. C. Reeder homesteaded in Arizona and a fourth Uncle J. D. Reeder went to the Border Guard as soon as he was 21, and began actually riding our side of the Rio Grande and worked up to the highest he could go and died still in the service. The reason I am giving you this information is because I have something, many years old, that belonged to their mother and my Grandma Reeder. My mother was Julia Lodema Reeder Dansby, I cannot think of one place that would be a more appropriate place for these cards for making batts for quilts. I know all of my uncles and aunts slept under quilts these cards made the batts for. They made the batts that went into my mothers hope chest and mine. I made my own batts though. If you think the Museum would be interested, let me know. I had thought of putting them in the Texas Tech Museum, but I feel, since two uncles lived and raised their families in Borden County, it is more to the point they go there. Roy Reeder continued to live in Borden County after Uncle Dock moved to Lubbock for the children to go to Tech. Sid never moved to Lubbock. Don was Chief of Police here and those who knew him speak well of him. My mother was married in 1903 to Jonathan Dansby, Jr. Dad died in 1933 and mama in 1950. Will you let me know if the museum is interested? Will I be allowed to word the presentation? (Editor's Note: Yes, we are interested and you may word the presentation,

Mrs. Dorris Dansby Elder, Lubbock, Texas

I am enclosing a check for my subscription to the paper. I can not remember when this subscription is due. Thank you, Mrs. Maude Hull, Big Spring, Texas

Thanks for sending my BORDEN CITIZEN. I have no idea when I last paid my dues. I would like to know when my subscription runs out. Mrs. J. W. Gray, Vincent Rt., Coahoma, Texas



Just wanted to write you a note of appreciation for all the BORDEN CITIZENS, Historical Society letters that you brought and sent me. I have them all filed for my grand and great grandchildren. So many interesting articles and news besides the History of Borden County and its people. No one will ever know how I loved it there and the people and so did Roy. There are not too many left in Gail that I know now. I read every word of the edition that came this past week, and it made me "home sick" for what I once had but I guess we are all like that, that's if we stop and look back! The picture of Edna, Vivian and Pauline were real good. I'll show it to Lometa. I miss seeing all my old friends. Valentine Pearce, Lubbock, Texas

Greetings! Friends in Borden County! Please keep the Borden Citizen coming. W. M. Reinecke, Sioux Falls, South Dakota

A dear lady in Lovington, N. M. gave me a copy of your paper and I was so pleased. Enjoyed it very much. Many of the people mentioned I knew when I was a child in Fluvanna, Texas. My Dad Sidney (Jack) Williams was a blacksmith there for many years. He married Nora Black, daughter of Joel D. and Laura Black who lived in Borden County. Many of the old timers, I have heard them talk about. Please send me THE BORDEN CITIZEN. I sent a check last September but it did not come through my bank, so I will try it again. Frances McKee, Escondido, Ca.

Just received THE BORDEN CITIZEN. I always enjoy reading them and keep my name on the list.
Porter King, Snyder, Texas

I enjoyed this issue of THE BORDEN CO. HISTORICAL PUBLICATION so much. Winnie Tuffing, Post, Tx.

I just fooled around and forgot to send in my subscription. Anna Lee Doyle Harris was here the other day and we were talking about the Gail news and I realized I had been missing it....Anna Lee is the daughter of Cora Doyle Cole. She was named for Annie Doyle and was always her favorite niece. She brought me a book over 100 years old, a book of Tennison's poems. It was an award to my great grandfather for being at the top of his Grammer Class in college. His name was James Newton Wood. I think the college must have been in La. The name sounds like it. We hope to come to Gail one of these days and get to see the Museum. Anna Lee said she had stopped but it was closed that day. I had a letter from Ray Doyle Chappell, and she is in her nineties.

Joda . Lewis, Marble Falla, Texas

I received your BORDEN CITIZEN Historical Society Paper today, and it is the first one we have received for several years. I sure do appreciate reading them. As I was born in Gail about the distance of two city blocks East of the Court House and I am glad to know that is where I discovered America. Ha. Dad and Mother's Ranch was eight miles northeast of Gail near the Possum Trot school, where I attended school until I got into High School, then attended at Gail. My Dad sold his ranch to Rich Miller and bought a ranch out west in Yoakum County. west of Brownfield. Then three years later he sold it to Jess York. Dad then bought a ranch in Menard and lived there until he passed away in 1923. But we enjoyed living in Borden County and I sure enjoyed attending the barbecues you folks had several years ago and meeting our old friends and seeing and visiting with them and also seeing the Museum. We sure appreciate you ladies keeping things going as well as reading items from other people that we knew around Gail. I hope to see you before too long.

Alvin Kincaid, Cisco, Texas

I do not know how much I owe but here is Six Dollars and if I am behind, let me know.
E. F. Grissom, Houston, Texas

I am sending a check for THE BORDEN CITIZEN. Thanks for sending it.
Mrs. Jno H. (Juanita) Williams

I do not know if you accept subscriptions to your bulletin or not, but I am sending a check. My husband's grandparents were early homesteaders and we are interested.

Mrs. June Johnson,

The Summer, 1980 issue of the BORDEN CITIZEN arrived today and as always has been read with a great deal of interest and inspite of the fact that our knowledge of your community has come from your paper, my husband's father, and the beloved Mrs. Ethel Everett, whom we knew while she was alive in Fort Worth. Our first reading of your paper was Vol. V, No. 3 which gave information from Cousin Dave Boatman regarding Sarah Elizabeth Crouch Hull and the Hulls who had lived in the Morris Community. In light of the recent issue of your paper and the article on Borden Brands, I would like to know if Sam Smith Hull, or any of the Hull relatives, has a brand during the time they resided in Borden County, and how could I obtain information about the brand? Since the Hulls were primarily preachers and teachers, it had not occurred to me that they might have registered a brand, but your article raised the question again in my mind. I am enclosing a check to continue the BORDEN CITIZEN delivery at our house. Thank you for your good historical work.

Mrs. Marcell Hull, Fort Worth, Texas

Borden Citizen.

Published 4 times a year, September, December, March and June. Subscription rate \$3.00 yearly payable to the BORDEN CITIZEN; and mailed to the Borden County Historical Survey Committee, Gail, Texas, 79738.

From: The Borden Historical Society
Gail, Texas 79738

Southwest Collection
Box 4090 Tech Station
Lubbock, Texas 79409

Nonprofit Organization
U. S. Postage
P A I D
Permit #2
Gail, Texas