

Borden

Citizen.

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XXIV THE PARKERS

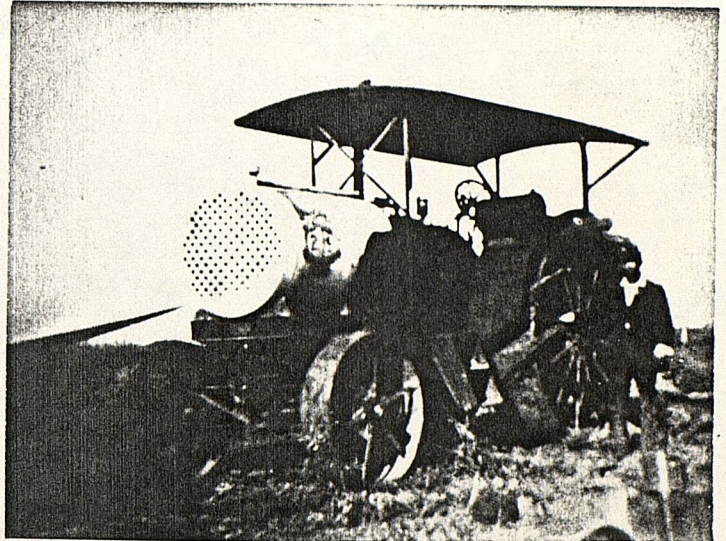
(Con'd from Summer, 1987
and Spring, 1988)

Part Three

by Lester Parker



Top Row-May, Mother Martha Jane & Opal
Bottom row-Rayborn, Lester & Dewey Parker



1915 TRACTOR

When my brother, Rayborn and I were just kids we had to go to the breaks and haul our wood from the Double U and Slaughter ranches. We hauled many loads each year, averaging about a load a month for six or seven years. That seems like quite a bit of wood but we used wood during the summer for our kitchen fuel. Even after I married, I still had to haul wood as we did not have the money to buy coal in the wintertime. At times I would load six or seven hundred pounds of maize and go to the Rich Miller ranch and trade it for wood. He always told us that he would swap wood for maize but it was a long trip down there, taking two days down there and back.

I remember that my brother Dewey, his wife, Sam Dabney and his wife and my wife and I would sometimes take a Sunday lunch and go down to what we called "The Devil's Breakfast Table" in the Double U, located just north of what is now the Bert Dennis ranch. I had been by this place many times while hauling wood and we would eat lunch there just to have somewhere to go.

Back in the years of 1917 and 1918, when we did not make any crops, we had to buy feed for our stock. At times there was no feed to buy and I would hitch up my team and haul devil heads to feed them. I hauled many loads and I would have to either cut the thorns off or burn them off, then cut them into bite size pieces to get the cows to eat them. They made good feed both for the cows and horses after this was done. At times we would buy hay. The hay would be East Texas prairie hay or johnson grass hay. This brought the johnson grass seed to West Texas. In 1917 we sold all our cows but one milk cow because we could not buy any hay at all.

We managed to stay there, near Mesquite, until the summer of 1918. My sister and brother-in-law lived near Tatum, New Mexico. They wrote that they had received a good rain and said we could bring our stock out there for the winter. My mother and I hitched a team to the wagon and she drove the wagon while I rode a saddle horse and drove the other horses behind the wagon. The trip took three and a half days. When we arrived the grass was waving like a wheat field and was so pretty I could hardly drive the loose horses because they wanted to stop and eat. When we finally got there and turned the horses loose, it did not take them very long to get full and lay down. They looked like stuffed barrels.

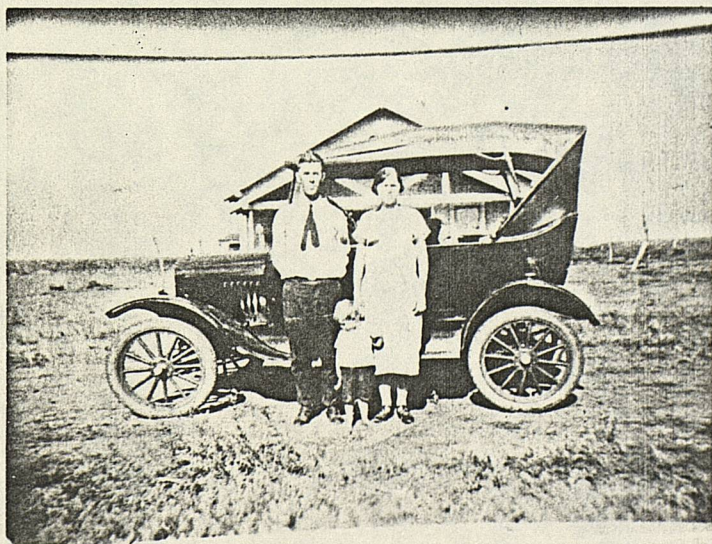
We had a cold and wet winter both at Tatum and at home. In February 1919, my mother and I came back to get our land plowed up and get ready to make another crop and 1919 was a good crop year. All I received for my work that year was my meals and horse feed. When we were not working at home, we could work for someone else to get money for the other things I needed. My brother, Rayborn, came home from New Mexico in the summer of that year and when we started to gather the crop, we were not receiving much pay for our work. One morning we were picking cotton close to the house and my mother and two brothers were ahead of Rayborn and me. When I looked back, Rayborn was sitting on his cotton sack and I asked him what was the matter

with him. He said nothing. I asked if he felt good and he said, "I'll back you out of us going and saddling our horses and going to Mexico". I told him that he could not back me out of anything. We saddled our horses and left for Tatum, New Mexico about nine o'clock that morning with our clothes packed in a flour sack. We went through O'Donnell, old Pride, Lou, Loop and to Seagraves. We stayed all night just this side of Seagraves and went on to the old Sligo Post Office and store, near where Denver City stands today. The store was the only building you could see except a ranch house now and then. We then turned north west toward McDonald, New Mexico. We rode into our brother-in-law's house about ten o'clock that night and we were two tired boys with two tired horses. A blue northern had hit just before we got there and it sure was cold and stayed cold for two or three days.

Rayborn and I worked for my brother-in-law on his ranch and on other ranches. We also had a farm. We made a fair crop that year, in 1920. When fall came, my mother and brother Dewey, came out and begged us to come back and help them gather their crop. I finally gave in and sold my part of the crop to Rayborn. I wanted to go home by way of Seagraves and see my brother Tom who had recently moved there. I left Tatum and headed southeast toward Seagraves and I got there about nine o'clock that night. I asked everybody about my brother Tom and his family. I could find no one who knew him or where he lived. There I was at night, no food, no horse feed and no place to sleep. I remembered there was stock pens there by the train. I put my pony in a pen and found some straw in a stock car to feed her but I had to do without supper. About midnight it started to rain, so I put my saddle in the box car and slept in there. It was still raining when I woke up the next morning. I saddled my horse and looked around and saw a house east of the pens. I thought it might be my brother's house. I rode up and said hello and my sister-in-law, Minnie, came to the door and said to get off that horse and get in out of the rain. They fed me and my horse and I stayed all that day because it continued to rain. About noon the next day I left because I knew my folks would be looking for me. I rode to a place called Lou and went to a house and asked if I could spend the night. The woman said to put my horse in the lot and come on in. When her husband came in she introduced us and when I asked them the next morning how much I owed for the night's lodging, they said not a thing and I told them that I appreciated it very much and I left and got home that night.

After I got home I was heading maize for about two weeks when one morning I saw an awful cloud back in the west and it came a flash of lightning that lit up the whole sky. I got in the wagon and went to the house. Mother asked me why I came in and when she looked at the sky she said to wait awhile before I went back to the field. When it finally cleared off I went back to the field. My brothers, John and Dewey, were picking cotton for Jim in Seagraves. That night they came home and said they had been trying to reach us all day. My sister-in-law, Minnie, had been killed by lightning that morning and they were waiting for us to come over there. They thought we would have to go by Tahoka and Brownfield or by Lamesa and Seminole but mother asked me how I had come home that summer. I told her that I came straight through and there were no roads, just wagon ruts and cow trails. We drove through that night and got there about two in the morning. The funeral home asked us if they could make it back that way in a car. I thought we could so we loaded an open top car and made it back with no trouble. I was glad I had visited with Minnie, who was a good woman and mother, on my way home that summer.

I was looking in a book of Early Ranching in West Texas. I noticed a picture of some young folks at a picnic and picture taking on the Colorado River in the Ed Murphy pasture about 1912. Some of the young folks were named Ainsworth. I forgot to mention the Ainsworths when I was writing about Fluvanna. My brother Rayborn and I went to school with them in Fluvanna. I did not know what happened to them after that but in the year of 1929 I helped my brother-in-law R. J. Hendricks and Sam Richardson drive about 200 head of cattle to Milnesand, N.M. R. J. drove the wagon and was boss. The first night out it came up a storm from the northeast and the wind and lightning were awful. R. J. went out in the storm to see about the cows and did not get back for a long time. Next morning we started rounding up the cattle and finally got them together at the mill where we had watered the night before. That evening we reached our stop



Mr. & Mrs. Lester Parker
1923 Ford - His first Model T



Dewey, Martha Jane (Mother), Lester,
Mae and Opal Parker

for the night and had watered the cattle when the man that owned the place came out and asked us to come into the house for supper. I told him that I was Lester Parker and he said, "I am Olan Ainsworth and you are one of the Parker boys that went to school at Fluvanna several years ago". I said that I was and we had quite a talk about the old days.

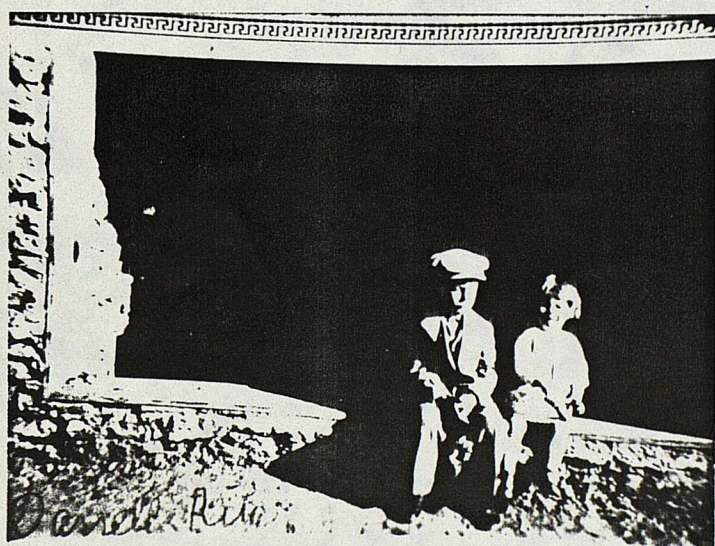
I want to mention the names of the Gleghorn, Sewalt and Steal families that I knew in Fluvanna when we went to school there. One of the Steal girls, Willie Lee, married E. A. (Sank) Gleghorn. After they married they lived about four miles west of us over in Dawson County. They had two girls and they married brothers. Verna married Jess Lane and Vesta married Robert Lane. They had two sons, Earnest married Margie Fletcher and Finas married Pearl Hunter. Finas and Pearl Gleghorn had a girl named Shirley and three sons, Jack, Wayne and Dwight. Wayne Gleghorn married my oldest granddaughter, Linda Jean Parker.

I read in Early Ranching in West Texas the stories about all the snow storms that they had back in the 1800's. I can recall two or three that we have had in the 1900's in West Texas. I remember the one in January 1917 when so many cows and calves and a boy and two girls froze to death at Lorenzo, Texas. Two men froze to death in 1939 coming home from Lamesa. They had lived southeast of O'Donnell and I knew them very well.

I have been working picking cotton and heading maize since I was ten years old to buy my own clothes and to get the other stuff I needed. I bought my first horse and saddle when I was thirteen years old. I could use a walking turning plow, walking listers and other farm equipment at that age also. In 1918, in New Mexico my brother, my brother-in-law and I dehorned 200 head of cattle when I was fourteen years old. At that age I helped to drive a big bunch of cows for many miles. The first night out it came a big snow storm. The next day we drove the cows but did not know which direction we were goin. We finally got close enough to Seminole, Texas to know our way to the ranch. The boss would leave my brother and me with the cows with only one saddle horse. We did not know what we would have done if a coyote had gotten in the herd or if a bad storm had come up.

Also in 1918 by brother-in-law and I moved a wind mill about forty miles. We let the tower and mill down and put it on the wagon by ourselves, took it to the ranch and put it back up. I have helped build wind mill towers and cypress tanks since then dug earth tanks and dug two water wells by hand.

In 1923 I worked on a dray wagon in O'Donnell for J. Y. Everett and Joe Kirkpatrick hauling cement coal lumber and everything else. I worked in the blacksmith shop for Bob Carroll where we sharpened water well bits plow points, godevil blades and we would shrink wagon wheels and repair them. I learned to forge weld as we did not have electric torches in those days. Rayborn and I bought us a blacksmith outfit, the forge, anvil and vice, and did all our blacksmith work for several years.

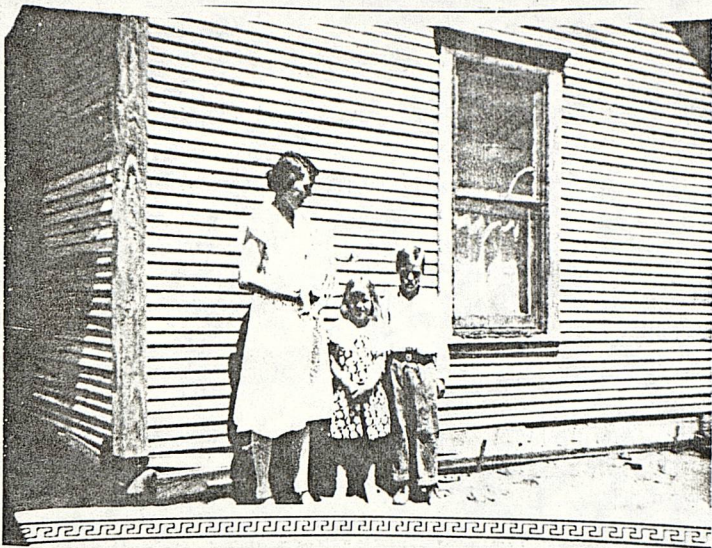


DARRELL & RITA MAE PARKER



JIM STEWART & MULE TEAM

When my wife and I were first married we lived on our old home place and made our living by farming and carpenter work. We made a fair crop but the next year mother rented the place to my brother Dewey and we had to move. We could not find another place to rent in 1923 and we moved to O'Donnell and I worked on several of the stores and houses in town and in the country until 1926. We then rented another place and moved to the farm. In 1929 because of dry weather, we did not make a crop so I went to Lovington, New Mexico to find work. I worked with a pick and shovel on their water and sewer system. I worked about a week and came home. In 1941 J. R. Thornton came down from Slaton and put in a gin at Harmony. I helped build it, helped pour the foundation, helped build the building, the office, the cotton house, and install the machinery. The engine was a twin city butane motor because there was no electricity. I took care of the engine, watch after the gin, see that everything was going alright, stand in for the boys while they ate lunch, run the suction, tie out, or gin in the ginners place. I sometimes worked in the office when we were sending bales to the compress and then check the numbers of every bale as it left the gin. I worked there for three years and it was handy as he gin was just across the road from my farm.



Lora D. (Mrs. Lester) Parker,
L. D., Jr., Rita Mae & Darrell



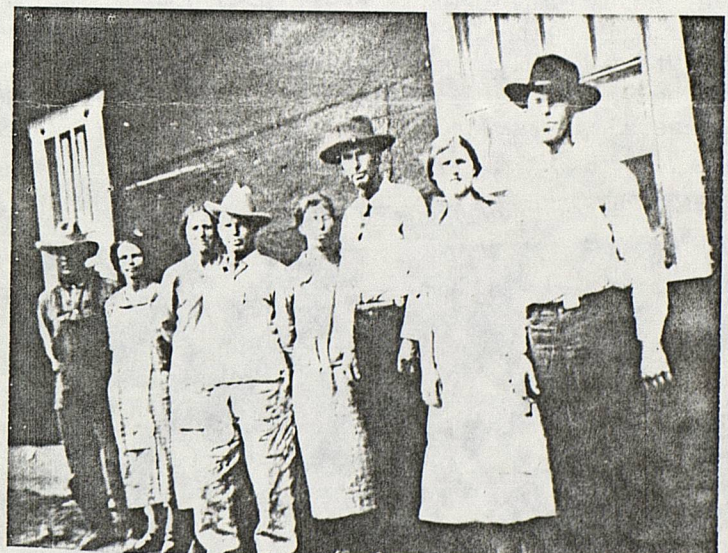
THE PARKER FAMILY

In 1947 we moved to O'Donnell and I did carpenter work as long as I was able to work. I worked out of the Cicero Smith Lumber Yard most of the time and Mr. Don Edwards was manager. My brother Jim had been a carpenter for Mr. C. W. Post when he built Post City and after he had moved back to Borden County, his neighbor lost a baby. They asked Jim to build them a casket but he told them to ask me. I had never made a casket for a baby but I made that one for the baby of John Kocurek, this was in 1932. I also made two more of the small baby caskets later, one in 1942 and one in 1949. People found it hard to obtain the small caskets and there was no joy in making them either.

I have enjoyed writing my memories of the days gone by and I hope you will enjoy them also. My wife and I always enjoyed visiting in Gail and living in Borden County but I lost her in 1975. I still enjoy visiting.



Tom Parker, Granny Eubanks & daughter
Mrs. Eubanks was one of the first pioneer
ladies in Borden County.



John Parker & Patrel, Eula and Jim Parker,
Mae & R. J. Hendricks, Mr. and Mrs. Lester Parker

THANKS to MR. LESTER PARKER for this installment
of his story!

GEORGE GRAY, 89, of Lubbock passed away April 13, 1988. He was buried in Cherokee's Gray Cemetery. He was born in Colorado City. He married Helen Joe Wicker on January 11, 1928 in Borden County. She died in 1987. The Grays owned a lumber company in Sweetwater. After retiring, they lived for several years on their ranch in Borden County. Survivors include two sons, George, Jr. of Austin and Dr. Joseph Wicker of San Clemente, Calif.

DOROTHY CANON, 63, passed away May 2, 1988 in a Lubbock hospital. Dorothy was born in Rankin, and married Joe Canon, October 7, 1950 in Carlsbad, New Mex. Dorothy and Joe ranched in Borden and Dawson Counties. Dorothy was an avid and enthusiastic participant in the Borden County Junior Livestock Association and activities for young people. She was a willing worker for the interests of Borden County and will be missed by all who knew her. Survivors include her husband; two daughters, Terri Cheatham of Snyder; Gigi Jones of Cleburne; one son, Chuck of Borden County; one sister and one brother.

CHRISTINE CUNNINGHAM, 72, of Gail passed away in a Lubbock Hospital, May 30th, 1988. She was born in Denison and married Norval Cunningham on Nov. 29, 1933 in Lovington, New Mex. He died in 1984. She was a longtime member of the Baptist Church. Burial was in the Gail Cemetery. Survivors include a daughter, Wanda Smith of Gail; two sons, Kenneth of Devol, Okla. and Ricky of Ranger, six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

HETTIE LEDBETTER, 77, of O'Donnell died in June, 1988. Mrs. Ledbetter was born Jan. 1, 1911 in Ellis County, attended school in Colorado City. She married Isaac Ledbetter March 5, 1927 in O'Donnell. They farmed in Borden County until 1967 when they moved to O'Donnell. She was a retired nurse, an artist and a homemaker. Among her survivors are her husband; three sons, Herman of Borden County; Norman of O'Donnell; and George of Ralls; one daughter, Mennie Stubblefield of Lubbock; six grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

JUANITA L. WILLIAMS, 82, of Abilene died June 24, 1988 in Abilene. She was born in Gail and attended school here but graduated in Snyder, attended Texas Women's College in Fort Worth and received a teaching certificate from West Texas State University. Among her survivors are her husband of Abilene; a daughter, Johnnie Bourland of Abilene; a brother, Delmo Pearce of Austin; two sisters, Doris Bennett of Snyder and Lorene Petty of Lubbock; three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

ADELIA DREW, 96, of Plainview passed away June 9, 1988. Burial will be in the Abernathy Cemetery. She was born in Borden County and had lived in Lubbock before moving to Plainview. She graduated from Lubbock High School and attended Key College in Sherman and Poly Technical College in Fort Worth. She was in the banking business in Plainview. She was an avid supporter of the BORDEN COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION. She is survived by two neices and three nephews.

WAYNE O. PEARCE, of Fort Worth died May 16, 1988. Mr. Pearce was born in Gail on November 20, 1909. His parents were Judge L. A. Pearce and Elizabeth Pearce. Mr. Pearce had been a builder and real estate broker since the late 1940's. He was a brother of Delmo Pearce of Austin; Lorene Petty of Lubbock; Doris Bennett of Snyder; and Juanita Williams of Abilene who passed away June 24, 1988. Among his survivors are his wife; a daughter, Jean Campbell and a son, Phil Pearce, all of Fort Worth. Kenny Bennett of Gail is a nephew.

JETTIE SHEPHERD, 94, passed away June 27, 1988 in Snyder. She was born October 15, 1893 in Cranfills Gap, Texas. She married J. C. Shepherd November 10, 1910 in Fairy. He died April 28, 1964. They lived many years on their place in southern Borden County. Among her survivors are seven daughters, Onez Howell and Gladys Costin of Colorado City; Jean Mattox of Big Spring; Ruth Wirshing of Corpus Christi; Louise Ingram, Frances Barr and Pat Bradford, all of Vincent.

GARLAND DOYLE, 77, passed away June 27, 1988 at his home in Borden County. He was born in White County, Arkansas, on October 14, 1910. He married Eva Light on December 19, 1936 in Lamesa. He moved to Borden County from New Moore in 1942. He was a farmer and attended Mesquite Church of Christ for 46 years. He was buried in Gail Cemetery. Survivors include his wife; a daughter, Judy Kingston of Garden City; two sons, Lonnie of Lamesa and Larry of Roby.

BILLY NOEL WILLS, 59, died July 9, 1988 in Garza Memorial Hospital in Post. He was born in Scurry County and moved to Gail in 1967. He was ranch foreman and a member of the Gail Baptist Church. Billy was active in the Borden County Junior Livestock Association and Borden County Rodeo and in many other ways. Billy loved his neighbors and was always ready to help when needed. He always had a smile for everyone. Among his survivors is his wife, Mary; three daughters, Debbi Hanks of Perrin; Shawna Patterson of Grants Pass, Oregon; and Marquita Hobbs of Abilene; a sister, Doris Beaver, and a brother, Don Wills, both of Borden County.

ZETTIE CATHEY RICHARDS, 93, died May 7, 1988 in Roswell, New Mexico. She was buried May 11, 1988 in Rest Lawn Cemetery in Lubbock, Texas.

CHAD WILLIAMS, 16, died July 17, 1988 in a Big Spring Hospital. He was born October 27, 1971. He was a lifelong resident of the Vincent and Coahoma area and was a Junior at Borden County High School. He was a member of the high school band, and drama club, manager of the boy's basketball team, a member of the Beta Achievers and a member of the Vincent Baptist Church. He is survived by his parents, Gaylon and Janine Williams and one brother, Bucky of Borden County.

JOHNNIE SUE GUESS YORK, of Lubbock died in Methodist Hospital on August 20, 1988. Johnnie's husband, Lee F. York, preceded her in death on April 21, 1977. She was born in Rogers, Texas on October 15, 1913. She married Lee Francis York August 20, 1938 in Lovington, New Mex. She was a registered nurse, housewife and mother and a member of the First Baptist Church of Lubbock. Among her survivors are two sons, Mardes John of Santa Fe, New Mex. and Van Lee York, County Judge of Borden County and four grandchildren. She was 74 years of age.

VERN E. (Sandy) CARMICHAEL, JR., 37, died in a car accident November 29, 1988 north of Gail. He was buried in the Miller Ranch Cemetery. He was born April 10, 1951 in South Dakota and had lived and worked on the Miller Ranch since 1968. He is survived by his wife and one son.

VERNON TODD, 70, passed away December 26, 1988 in a Lubbock Hospital. He was born in Crowell and moved to Lamesa in 1939. He married Tharon Dugger on December 23, 1939. Vernon and his family moved to Borden County in 1952, where he farmed land on the north side of Lake Thomas in the Murphy Community. He served nine years on the Borden County School Board. His four daughters attended school in Borden County. He is survived by his wife of Lamesa; four daughters, Lanis Ramsey of Lubbock; Linda Dove of Midland; Verna Adcock of Gail; and Janice Hogg of Lamesa; 13 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

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MEMORIALS TO GAIL CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

IN MEMORY OF TERRY MILLER:

by Betty and Warren Beaver
Sterling and Gladys Williams
Melba Rinehart

IN MEMORY OF HETTIE LEDBETTER:

by Dorothy Browne
Warren and Betty Beaver
Jack and Marilyn McPhaul
Melba Rinehart
Sterling and Gladys Williams

IN MEMORY OF MARVIN KEY:

by Mrs. J. E. (Agnes) Sorrels

IN MEMORY OF DOROTHY CANON:

by Betty and Warren Beaver
Bill Jennings
Sterling and Gladys Williams
Melba Rinehart

IN MEMORY OF DEWEY AND FAY EVERETT:

by Hazel (Mrs. Wayne) Pearce

IN MEMORY OF BLANCHE HAMILTON:

by Mrs. J. E. (Agnes) Sorrels

IN MEMORY OF WAYNE PEARCE:

by Ralph & Dewey Faye Miller

IN MEMORY OF CHRISTENE CUNNINGHAM:

by Sterling and Gladys Williams
Betty and Warren Beaver
Dorothy Browne
Roland Hamilton
Jack and Marilyn McPhaul
Juanda and Bannie Hancock
Gail Friends
Bert and Dorothy Dennis
Melba Rinehart
Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Lackey

IN MEMORY OF MARGARET FINLEY:

by Bert and Dorothy Dennis

IN MEMORY OF BILLY WILLS:

by Sterling and Gladys Williams
Warren and Betty Beaver
Bill Jennings

IN MEMORY OF BENO HENDRICKS:

by Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Lackey

IN MEMORY OF JUANITA WILLIAMS:

by Sterling and Gladys Williams

IN MEMORY OF MARSHALL CRAWFORD OF LAMESA:

by Gordon F. Young

IN MEMORY OF ELMA SMITH:

by Melba Rinehart

IN MEMORY OF JETTIE SHEPHERD:

by Melba Rinehart
Dorothy Browne

IN MEMORY OF GARLAND DOYLE:

by Melba Rinehart
Dorothy Browne
Mr. and Mrs. Bert Dennis
Mr. and Mrs. Bannie Hancock
Mr. and Mrs. Joel Dennis
Bessie Orson Smith

IN MEMORY OF JONNIE SUE GUESS YORK:

by Bessie Orson Smith
Sterling and Gladys Williams
Warren and Betty Beaver
Dorothy Browne

IN MEMORY OF DOROTHY MONGER:

by Bert and Dorothy Dennis

IN MEMORY OF ALTON MILLIKIN:

Bert and Dorothy Dennis

IN MEMORY OF VERNON TODD:

by Bert and Dorothy Dennis
Dorothy Browne
Jerry & Joyce Kincheloe, JJ, & Jana
Jerry & Janice Morgan

IN MEMORY OF FRANK FARMER:

by Pat and Jo Hensley
Dorothy Browne
Jerry & Joyce Kincheloe
Jerry & Janice Morgan
Warren and Betty Beaver

DONATIONS TO THE CEMETERY FUND:

by Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Staggs
Bill F. Sealy
Emily Penick
Patsy S. Buzbee
Weldon B. Thornton
Delmo M. Pearce
Ralph & Waldine Martin

Send your donations or memorials for The Gail Cemetery Fund to Dorothy Browne, Box 23, Gail, Texas. Donations or memorials for THE BORDEN COUNTY MUSEUM can also be sent to Dorothy at the same address.

MEETING OF COLONIAL DAUGHTERS HELD IN GAIL

from an article by GERRY BURTON of the Lubbock
AVALANCHE-JOURNAL. Copied from THE BORDEN STAR

--Lorenzo Dow, publisher of the Borden Citizen, was dying, a victim of lockjaw resulting from getting his thumb caught in the printing press. The doctor had given up hope and started working with Dow's mother who had gone into shock.

David Dorward, a druggist, -- who as a young boy cooking at a chuck wagon near Tulia had seen a dying cowboy saved with radical treatment-- got permission to try any means to save Dow. Like the doctor treating a cowboy shot by another cowboy out on the range, Dorward boiled a pound of coffee into two cups of strong liquid, strained it and injected it intravenously. Dow not only lived but went on, as James L. Dow, to edit THE AVALANCHE JOURNAL in Lubbock.

"Papa and Dow discussed this in a visit on Dorward Day in Gail", Dorward's son, Maurice of Dallas, recalled his cousin, Ophelia Dorward Blackard, as she was restoring the drugstore which was the scene Saturday, July 30th, of a quarterly meeting of the National Society Colonial Daughters of the Seventeenth Century. About twenty members of the Tejas chapter came from a wide area of Texas to meet in the old drugstore for a program on Gail Borden, for whom the county and town were named. Mrs. Blackard, a member by way of an ancestor aboard the Mayflower, hosted the event. Among the treats awaiting the group were ledgers from the Dorward drugstore, which hold penciled notes of happenings along with proper documentation of all items including quinine and bitters, camphor and carbolic acid-purchased for and from the store.

The Dorward drugstore, born during the nester-rancher feud for control of Borden County land, was the center of activity around this county seat for decades. Originally located west of the courthouse square, it was moved to its current building on the square's northwest corner in 1901. In 1936, a telephone line from Snyder put the only phone in the county in the drugstore. anyone needing to use the phone at night had to go to the Dorward home and wake up the druggist to open the store. "He was the town crier for everything," Mrs. Blackard said of her uncle, who stayed calm even on the day when she, as a very young teen-ager, drove a Model T. Ford right into the drugstore when the brake pedal caught on the floorboard. All the comings and goings in the county involved the drugstore, she said.

Restoration of the old building, accomplished with the approval and help from Maurice and his grandchildren, started about the time Gail was planning its celebration of the nation's bicentennial, which drew more than 14,000 visitors to this town of less than 200 population.

Final touches came recently after Mrs. Blackard, who lives in Snyder but still operates the family ranch in Borden County, decided she was due one fling in her lifetime and concentrated on re-doing the store as an ice cream parlor.

LETTERS FROM THE PENS OF OUR READERS

Thanks so much for your note and information. My brother Stanley Good has close friends around Gail. Seems like their name is Miller or they're related to them. They have ranching business near Ft. Sumner. I saw recently where their son married a Ft. Sumner girl. My brother has recently had major surgery at Clovis but is doing O. K. I used to love the people around Gail.

JOSIE HOWELL

I am Frank Jones, brother of Sammie & Mitch Jones. We lived 1/2 mile west of Mesquite School from 1914 to 1920. We enjoy the BORDEN CITIZEN but just knew the people living in the Tredway Community.

FRANK JONES

Don't know when I paid the last time but thanks for sending the paper. You folks do an outstanding job and I do enjoy reading it.

JOHN BOREN, Snyder, Texas.

I received the recent issue of the BORDEN CITIZEN and, as always, read and re-read it. It is always such an interesting and inspiring publication. I would like for you to change my mother's address. She moved from Roswell to Lubbock in October, 1987. Mother is Lorene Pearce Petty and is 88 years old. She taught at the Mesquite Community school that Lester Parker

wrote about in the last issue. Mother reminisced about the school as she read. She is very alert, takes exercise every day, plays '42' and skip bo every day and loves to play bingo. She even attends a Saturday night dance once a month. How about that! Her address is Pioneer Retirement Hotel, 1204 Broadway, Lubbock, Texas.

PATSY PETTY BUZBEE, Lubbock, Texas

Was so glad to get the last paper as it was about the Plains where we lived and raised our family. A lot of good memories. Enclosed is a check. Keep up the good work and thanks.

BONNIE KINGSTON, Lamesa, Texas

I am enclosing a check. I know I must be behind on my dues. I sure enjoyed the last issue reading about the sand storms in West Texas in the 30's. Sure did bring back memories. I lived at Coahoma 14 years and this past Dec. I moved to be closer to my child. I hated to leave West Texas. Keep the paper coming as I love history. Sybil Gilmore is my cousin.

MAURINE KELLEY, Elgin, Texas

My interest lies in the Kincaid family. David G. and his brother James, were nephews of great-grandfather, David Greene Kincaid, who was buried in north Bexar County near the town of Selma. Thank you for sending the newsletter.

MARY JANE KINCAID SCHACH

Enclosed you will find our small check. This will be our last check from the Gene Smoot Estate. We hope these small checks have helped in some way or the other. (Thanks for the contributions to the paper's work.) We all enjoy the newsletter very much. We have more letters that we will print next edition.

JEAN SCHOMER, Administrator.



RETIREMENT PARTY

A retirement party was given for Norman (Slick) Sneed in the Exhibit Building in Gail, on Wednesday, December 7th, 1988. He will retire on January 1, 1989 after more than 25 years of service to Borden County.

Slick was born in Borden County in 1923 to Alma and H. D. Sneed. He grew up on a farm near Fluvanna and attended school at Snellings in Borden County and at Fluvanna.

He served in the United States Army during World War II. He enlisted on January 21, 1943 and was shipped to Africa in May arriving there with his winter uniforms. After receiving summer uniforms, he was shipped to Nova Scotia

where it was very cold. He later served in England, France and Germany, much of this time helping to rebuild the bridges that had been lost in battle. He served as a Military Policeman in the United States before being discharged from service in February 1946.

After his discharge he married Bonnie Eller of Oklahoma and moved back to Borden County. Mrs. Sid Reeder appointed him Deputy Sheriff in May, 1963. He ran of Sheriff, Tax Assessor-Collector in 1964, taking office in January, 1965.

Slick was presented a pair of hand-made spurs and spur leathers in honor of his service with Borden County. Nearly a hundred guests enjoyed visiting with Slick and Bonnie. A covered dish dinner was served with a cake for dessert. The cake was decorated with horses, cowboy hats, spurs and a sheriff's badge. Everyone wishes Slick a happy retirement and great things in his future endeavors.

If you have not paid for your subscription to the BORDEN CITIZEN lately, please send \$3.00 to Dorothy Browne, Box 23, Gail, Texas 79738. You may also send memorials to THE BORDEN COUNTY MUSEUM in memory of a loved one. Send these to the same address and a memorial card will be sent to the family.

From: The Borden Historical Society
Gail, Texas 79738

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