

Borden

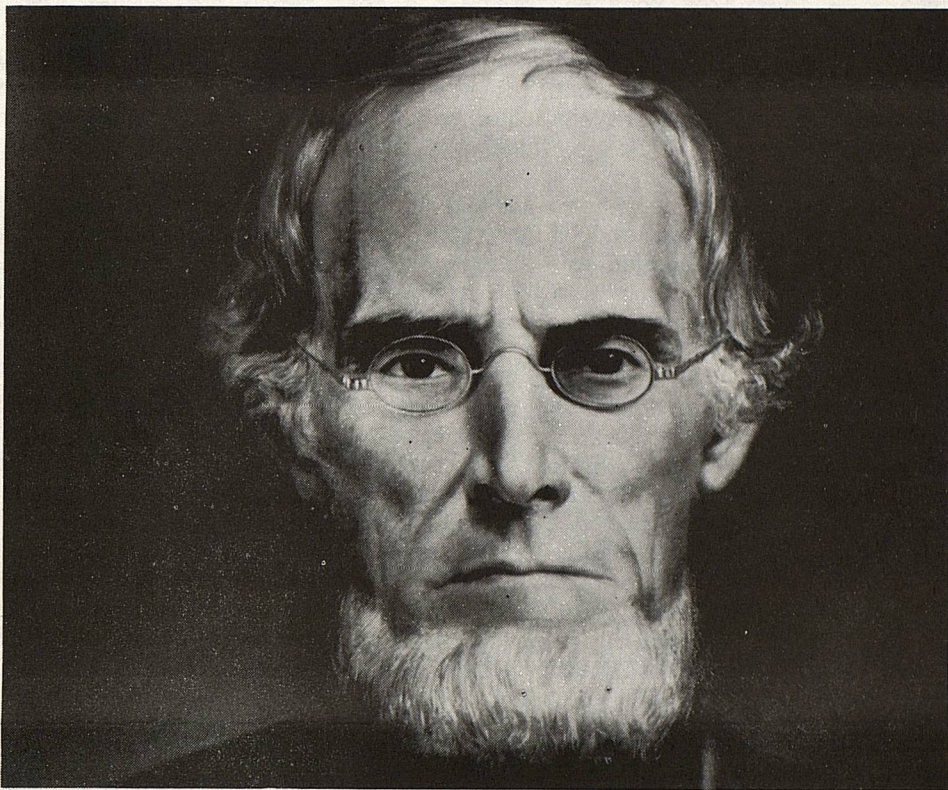
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BORDEN COUNTY 1876 - 1976

THE FIRST ONE HUNDRED YEARS



GAIL BORDEN

OUR BOOK HAS GONE TO PRESS. In January, the Historical Committee decided they should get out a book for our Nation's Bi-Centennial year. In February, we decided it was also our Centennial County year, so we would get out a book. By March, we decided we could, so in April, we did.

The following article by Mrs. Edna Miller, Borden County Historical Chairman, is also the introduction to our book, Borden County, The First One Hundred Years.

BORDEN COUNTY 1876

THE WAY IT WAS

Is this really a Centennial year for Borden County? Does our history go back 100 years? Indeed it does!

By an act of the Texas State Legislature in August, 1876, 54 counties, including Borden, were created from Bexar County. These were surveyed and named for famous Texas Statesmen and patriots, most of whom, including Gail Borden, never saw the land which bore their names.

In 1876, Borden and surrounding counties, were an open expanse of lush grass and clear running streams full of fish. Military expeditions, led by Ronald S. MacKenzie, in 1872 and 1874 had cleared out the Comanches, who had held rendezvous at Mushaway Peak with Comancheros from New Mexico, trading stolen cattle, horses and captives for guns and supplies. Colonel William R. Shafter made his base camp on Tobacco Creek in 1875 while scouting and exploring the South Plains, and in July 1877, the tragic "Lost Nigger Expedition", led by Captain Nicholas Nolan, set up their supply camp on Bull Creek, seven miles northeast of Mushaway.

Indian braves, truant from the reservation, still raided along the caprock in 1876, when the hunters began to flock onto the buffalo range. It was the winter of 1876 that one party of hunters killed 3,200 buffalo just southwest of where Gail now stands. In 1877, W. H.

(Pete) Snyder, who started a small trading post on Deep Creek in Scurry County in 1878 and gave the town of Snyder its name, opened a supply camp for the buffalo hunters on Sand Creek in the western part of Borden County. The site was on what was later known as the Cross C Ranch.

The winter of 1877 saw the buffalo hunted almost to extinction, and grass hungry cowmen to the east, whose herds were being crowded off overstocked ranges, began to eye all this open space. It was 1877 or 1878 when Colonel C. C. Slaughter drove his first herd of 500 cows and calves to the head of Tobacco and branded the calves in a rock corral there. This was the beginning of Colonel Slaughter's vast West Texas cattle empire, and his first headquarters was there on Tobacco.

Some of the first white men to see this County of Borden spoke of a land dotted with herds of wild mustangs, deer and antelope. Quail, plover and prairie chickens took cover in the stirrup high grass. Wild turkey roosted in the big cottonwood trees that grew along the creeks. Panther and an occasional bear lurked along the caprock, and lobos, coyotes, and bobcats helped themselves to a plentiful supply of varmints. A lovely country, full of promise, and soon to be filled with herds of cattle. In 1879, the Beals brought their first herd to northeast Borden County and there established the Jumbo Ranch with range in Borden, Garza, Kent and Scurry Counties.

In the 1880 census, only 35 persons are listed as living in Borden County. Among these are three families named Barr, Mankins and Mills. The heads of family, all sons 12 years of age and older, and all other men recorded are listed as herdsmen or servant-herdsmen, with one exception, "a prospector of the earth". These herdsmen were almost certainly employees of C. C. Slaughter and his partners, living at cow camps and looking after the cattle.

Before 1883, John Holloway was living at the Slaughter camp on Tobacco. His wife died there and was taken to Big Spring for burial. Willis Holloway, at the time, was living "at the springs on Bull Creek, near where Gail now stands". When Willa V. Johnson, in 1883, began to buy up land in Borden County for the Magnolia Cattle and Land Company, Willis Holloway traded his cattle and range rights for an interest in the company.

The Magnolia (MK) soon gained control of a large share of Borden County, and fenced in the biggest part of it. This was the first big tract of land fenced in West Texas. Corner posts of the old MK fence may still be seen. Controversy, fence cutting and law suits followed. C. C. Slaughter had cattle running on much of this land and he did not want to give it up. Nesters were beginning to move in and there were more problems.

By 1886 the country was heavily stocked. A severe blizzard in 1884 and a drouth lasting from June, 1885, to August, 1886, spanning a very harsh winter, brought financial ruin to many cowmen. The Magnolia began to liquidate its holdings. Several smaller ranches were formed from Magnolia land. Land hungry people began to move into Borden County.

Freighters, hauling supplies from Colorado City to ranches north and west, camped at a spring near the site later known as Durham. A trading post was established there and in 1887, the first post office in Borden County was opened at the Durham trading post. Before this, it had been necessary to go to Colorado City or Big Spring for mail or news. Durham was also a stop on the stage route from Colorado City to Fort Sumner, New Mexico, by way of the Casas Amarillas, near the present site of Lubbock. Other stage stops were at the O. B. Ranch, where a part of the present ranch house was the old stage station, and at a dug out just on top of the caprock, near the old road to Treadway.

The 1890 census recorded 222 persons living in Borden County. And in 1891 there were enough voters to organize the County and establish the County Seat at Gail.

And that's the way it was in Borden County, one hundred years ago.

We had a tremendous response to our plea for family histories and stories, however, there are a number of families that should have been included that we did not hear from. Our lack of time and personnel prevented us from compiling these ourselves. If you did not get your family history to us for this book, please start now to get us information for our next one.

For those who did compile a history, thanks a lot, you made it possible. However, I am sure there is more history that you can add, so let us all strive for a complete history in the next edition.

This book is a limited edition. If you would like to reserve your copy, you may do so by sending \$5.00 per book with your name and address to Mrs. Pauline Clark, Box 117, Gail, Texas 79738. Then you may pick up your book at the Bi-Centennial celebration. If you would like to have your book mailed, please enclose \$1.00 for postage and handling.

From Mrs. C. N. Cosby of Canyon we received a letter, "I feel it is nearing time to renew my subscription so my check is enclosed. In your most recent issue I saw Mrs. Milton A. Dillahunty's name and wrote her at once to see whether she knew "Miss Josie's" address. Today I received a most friendly letter from this lady with the unique "Dillahunty" name. However, she does not know "Miss Josie" or her address. I am still trying to obtain her address as my husband was in her first grade class in Glenn Creek School and he has fond memories of her."

PIONEER DAYS IN BORDEN COUNTY

by Mrs. George R. Grant, daughter
of Mr. and Mrs. John B. Coleman

In the fall of 1902 my parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Coleman, sold their ranch in Hartley County, and set out to find a location farther south. One year of life on that black prairie west of Dalhart, Texas, had been quite enough. The Coleman family had come from Virginia into Alabama and then to Mills County, Texas. They had lived in Knox County before moving to Hartley County. My father, typical of many men of his generation, was always hunting greener pastures and wider spaces.

As we were packing to move, from Hartley County, an early morning fire destroyed the house and the greater part of our furniture. The remainder of our belongings were packed into two covered wagons, and with a buggy trailing behind, the trip began. One of the family rode horseback and drove a herd of horses. Roads were poor, and water not always easily located; but for us younger ones, the trip was an exciting adventure.

At the day's end, wagons were stopped and a travel-weary family hurried to make camp. The tent was put up, and the camp fire built; and some of the horses were hobbled with pieces of rope to discourage their wandering away. My younger brother and I were assigned the job of finding fuel to cook with. Usually we found only dried weeds and "Prairie coal", which all pioneers crossing the Plains were accustomed to using; "cow chips" and old buffalo droppings did not give off a pleasant odor but they had to suffice.

After many days of travel, we came upon a lake of water, and the following day we drove into a village called Lubbock. Father went into a store to buy a shot gun, as our guns had burned in the fire. Neither of the three stores had a gun for sale. As we neared the caprock country, the howl of coyotes, and occasionally the scream of a panther, broke the quiet of night. Father kept an axe, our only weapon, by his bed when he slept.

Mother's brother, Edgar Cowan, who worked on the Slaughter Ranch, had been scouting for land that could be bought in that part of the country. After looking around, Father bought four sections of unimproved land which lay just south of the caprock in Borden County. Later on he added another section from adjoining Garza County. A shallow "draw" between cedar-dotted hills was chosen for the homesite. The deed to the land which John Burnet sold us was signed in Gail, the county seat of Borden County.

Many weeks of hard labor were required to convert that raw land into livable productive property. Power-driven tools had not come into use, so each posthole, the dug out, and water well were shoveled out by back-breaking labor. Edgar Cowan, John Burnet and Oscar Robertson shoveled out a large dug out in the hillside. This dug out and the tent sheltered the family until a house could be built. Mr. Richard Miller, a son Clyde, my father and brother, Howard, drove in wagons to Colorado City and brought back lumber for the house, and barbed wire for the fences. The round trip to Colorado City, the nearest railroad center, required five days, with good luck.

Light, in Scurry County, was our post office. When the R. S. and P. Railroad was built in 1907, the town of Light became Fluvanna. Before the coming of the railroad, mail and sometimes travelers were brought from Colorado City on a hack. Of course, mail did not come every day. In busy times we were fortunate if we received the mail once a week. Neighbors took time about bringing mail to the ranching people.

Our nearest neighbors were three or four miles from us. The Burnets lived east of us, the Millers to the west, and the Bouchiers southwest of us. These pioneers were wonderful people, always ready to help each other when needed. One evening, about supper time, a dust-covered wagon of strangers drove up to our door. The widow Nance and her children had come from New Mexico looking for land. My father and Uncle Edgar helped her for two weeks. They located in the Justiceburg area.

One yearly event which I recall with pleasure was the trip to the Salt Fork each June to bring back the delicious wild plums that grew along the stream. There was no road down the caprock in our pasture and driving down that rocky, steep hill was an ordeal (I always walked). The back wheels of the wagon were tied to help prevent the wagon from running over the team. When the wash tubs were filled with plums, we traveled back up the mountain, tired, thirsty, but assured of fruit for the next winter's supply of jam, jelly and cobbles.

Seven miles southwest of the ranch in a farming community, there was a one-room school; it was the nearest one to us. At first we boarded in the home of one of the families living in the Snelling community, but when there were three of us to attend, father had a large dug out made in Mr. Johnson's backyard. There my Aunt Buena Cowan and we three children lived during the six months school term.

The three Bouchier boys rode to school horseback. When heavy snows made travel difficult, the boys, Van Tuyl, Tom and a younger brother, would spend the night with us in the dug out. On Fridays, when school closed, if father was not there to drive us home, we children sometimes walked to the ranch, climbing through fences, taking short cuts, hurrying along, lest darkness overtake us before we reached home. We went to the Snellings school for five years.

Families living in the Snelling Community at that time were the Bleys, Weems, Reas, McKnights, James, Robertsons and Johnson; and Snellings, Colemans and Bouchiers came to school from Borden County ranches. About twenty children attended the school. Miss Clark, was the first teacher and later, Mr. L. C. Wasson. The older students helped the teacher sweep the floor, keep fire going in the stove, and the water bucket filled. Lunches were carried to school in tin pails.

When not in school, we country children were busy helping our parents. School was a time of fun and excitement, not something to dread; as many youngsters in the present age regard school. From that poorly equipped, one room school, a few students went on with higher education, several became teachers, one a Doctor of Literature, another practiced law, and others followed their parents on farms.

The Coleman Ranch prospered through the years. Besides cattle we raised cotton, grain, vegetables, melons and produce in seasonable times. We were able to afford a telephone on a party line, which came to us over a wire fence, an organ, and a canvas top ranch "hack". At last we could ride to Light and attend Church, have "dinner on the ground" and a sing-song in the afternoon. Borden County was good to us. In later years we recalled the period as the best in our family history. But changes are inevitable. Aunt Beuna married Rufus Crawley and moved to the state of Colorado. Edgar Cowan married Miss Rosa Lane of Fluvanna. Our parents sold the ranch about 1910 and moved to Snyder where better educational opportunities were available. My mother died there in 1912. She and my father are buried in Snyder. After my mother's death my father married Mrs. Nelson, mother of Howard Nelson, husband of Nora Berry of Gail. They lived in Corpus Christi for awhile.

Among my treasured memories of those years are the good times in our home, and the fun with people who came our way. In 1903, another child came into the family. LeRoy could not wait for Dr. Browning who had to drive the twelve miles from Light in his two horse buggy. Our good neighbor, Mrs. Bouchier, assisted with the birth.

Seven decades have produced great changes in our world but in Borden County there remains something unique and interesting, something solid and enduring, left there by those people of long ago.

HISTORIC PECAN TREE

by Dorothy A. Dennis

A lone pecan tree stands on a remote bank of Bull Creek in the Bert Dennis pasture. It is possible that the tree may be around 200 years old. This estimate is made by comparing the size and age of other pecan trees. The pecan measures $12\frac{1}{2}$ feet in circumference, is about 65 feet tall and has a branch spread of some 80 to 85 feet. It produces medium size pecans each year which the Dennises leave for the squirrel population.



Since pecan trees are not native to Borden County, it stands to reason that someone had to plant it. The nearest pecan trees were most likely those on the Concho Rivers. Indians could have brought pecans through this area and planted them. Another pecan tree of comparable size was further south on Bull Creek, near the present Bull Creek bridge on the Gail-Snyder highway. This tree was the site of many picnics and outings for early day pioneers. But disease attacked this tree and it has since died.

The tree on the Dennis Ranch was much less accessible. It lies in a bend on the east side of Bull Creek, just a few hundred feet from the fence separating the Dennis and Roland Key ranches.

In the spring of 1877 a group of 24 men intent upon tracking down the Comanches roamed the Staked Plains in their search. James Harvey was chosen to command this expedition and a former Comanchero, Jose Tafoya was their guide. John Cook as interpreter for Jose, Solomon Rees was in charge of medical supplies and Dick Wilkinson was the chief packer. They chose the name 'The Forlorn Hope' for their group. For three months this little army of buffalo hunters searched for the Indians in vain.

On July 15, 1877 they camped on Bull Creek, seven miles northeast of Muchakooago (Mushaway) Peak. The hunters then divided into small hunting parties. On July 17 these hunters were surprised to see a company of troopers approaching their camp from the southeast. They turned out to be men from Company A of the 10th U. S. Cavalry. They were Negro soldiers- 60 in all - commanded by two white officers, Captain Nicholas Nolan and Lieutenant Charles Cooper.

Since both groups were intent upon finding the Indians, they decided to combine forces. Nolan wanted the hunters and their guide to use their knowledge of the Staked Plains - and if the Indians were found, the Cavalry would do any necessary fighting.

After preparing for the trek, Nolan and Cooper left the supply camp on Bull Creek July 19th with a command of forty troopers and twenty-two of Harvey's men. Sergeant Allsup, nineteen enlisted men and two buffalo hunters were left in charge of the supply camp.

Details of the terrible ordeal encountered by these men on the Staked Plains will not be recounted here. But this group, later to be known as 'Nolan's Lost Expedition', wandered around for days - could not locate water and ran out of food. Later it was discovered that Quanah Parker and his braves had watched the men's suffering through field glasses furnished by General MacKenzie. The Indians had hidden themselves in the sandhills surrounding Double Lakes (near present day Tahoka).

The expedition's losses included four men dead, two men missing, twenty three government horses and two private horses dead and four pack mules dead. Nolan's failure was attributed to the drouth as the waterholes he expected to be filled were dry. Nolan returned to the supply camp on Bull Creek August 6 and they returned to Fort Concho August 14.

The pecan tree on Bull Creek was most likely the shelter for the supply camp set up by Captain Nolan and the buffalo hunters. Since there were no other trees of any size in the area, it stands to reason that they would want shade and water. And the old tree just happens to be exactly seven miles northeast of Muchakooago Peak.

References: FORT CONCHO AND THE TEXAS FRONTIER, J. Evetts Haley, Pub. San Angelo Stand-Times, 1952.

THE BLACK MILITARY EXPERIENCE IN THE AMERICAN WEST, John M. Carroll, Liveright, New York, 1971.

C. E. (Choice) ISAACS, 62, died February 21, 1976 in a Lubbock hospital. Survivors include his wife, a daughter and four brothers, Leonard, Willie, Clarence and Elmo, two sisters, Pearl and Kathleen. The Isaacs family moved to Borden County in the early 1900's.

JESS PYLANT, 73, Ackerly, formerly of Fluvanna, died February 20, 1976. Survivors include his wife, two sisters and three brothers. Burial was in Fluvanna.

R. C. LOTT, 64, formerly of O'Donnell, Texas but recently making his home in Plainview, died February 28, 1976. Survivors include his wife, a daughter, Mrs. Tommie Hancock, a son, Charles, one sister, one brother and his mother of Lamesa.

LEROY PRESCOTT, 53, of Coahoma passed away March 6, 1976. Survivors include his parents, the E. M. Prescotts, his wife, Silva, three children and four stepsons. He was a brother-in-law of Sibyl Gilmore.

LINDA LOU PEARCE, 24, was killed March 6, 1976 in an automobile accident near Lubbock. Survivors include her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Chester Pearce and one sister, Joney Sue. She was the granddaughter of Mrs. G. C. (Shaw) Pearce, one of Borden County's early settlers.

H. C. (Bud) SHORTES, 90, Ackerly, died February 23, 1976. His family came to Borden County in 1924. Survivors include two sons, Vernon and Venus and a daughter, Mrs. Dudley (Zula) Coleman of Ackerly, Texas.

CORA (Berry) SMITH, formerly of Gail and Seagraves, died in Houston, Texas in December, 1975. Her mother had a millinery shop in Borden County in the early days. Her survivors include two daughters and one son.

MEMORIALS TO MUSEUM

In memory of Bill Miller donations to the Museum have been received from Mrs. Nellie K. (Hale) Simpson of Midland, Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Noble of Snyder and Mr. and Mrs. Morris Miller of Medina, Texas.

Very generous donations have been made to the Borden County Museum by Phil Bouchier of Post, Texas and by Maurice and Margaret Dorward of Clifton, Texas.

Mary D. (Mullins) Cary had given the Museum a framed History with pictures of her parents, The J. W. C. Mullins Family, who came to Borden County in the 1890's. There will be more about this in a later issue of The Borden Citizen.

Allen Stephens spurs have been given to the Museum. All wore these and they were given to him many years ago by Pie Fuller.

The wedding vest worn by C. E. Reeder has been given the Museum by Fay (Reeder) Everett. She has also given the shirt waist blouse, used for going away, by Mrs. C. E. Reeder.

The Museum has received the Masonic Sword of Edwin Love's and the suitcase and masonic clothing of Russell Dorward. A pink shawl, worn by Mrs. D. Dorward, then given to Ruby Love in 1962 by Russell and Billie Dorward, has been given to the Museum by Mrs. Edwin (Ruby) Love.

The children of Jim and Eula Parker have given an ice cream bucket, flat iron, horse brush, coffee or grit mill and one K. C. Baking Powder can to the Museum.

Mrs. Adella (Shaw) Drew has given a large brown valise bag to the Museum.

Roland Hamilton has given one milk strainer, two automobile guide books that belonged to Stanley Hamilton and two leggins (that lace up).

Mardes Clayton has given us a steel forge, with wooden handle, made in the late 1880's and used by the Clayton Family many years.

Children of the J. R. Jenkins family have given two quilts. One, made before 1900, belonged to Mrs. J. A. Calloway, mother of Mrs. Jenkins. The other quilt was made by J. R. Jenkin's mother and brought from Georgia to Texas in 1900.

Bob Norward, nephew of Mrs. Dr. Hannabass, sent to the Museum, via Charles and Emily Noble of Snyder, the Masonic regalia and sword worn by Dr. Hannabass when he attended the lodge in Gail. The sword is heavily etched and has the initials of Dr. Hannabass inscribed on it. He also sent a small pocket medical kit of leather containing probes, needles and other surgical instruments. Another interesting gift was an envelope addressed to Monsier le Docteur Hannabass. John 11. Postmarked Paris, 23 July, '26. Return address, Laboratories De L'Aniodol.

NAYMON EVERETT



NAYMON EVERETT

As this newsletter was being typed in preparation for the printer, Borden County and the Borden County Museum lost a friend.

Naymon, a resident of O'Donnell, passed away April 24, 1976, after a lengthy illness. He is survived by his wife, Moody, a daughter, Nancy and husband, Wayne Mott and two grandchildren, brothers, Roy, Travis, Glen and Dewey and a sister, Flossie Johnson.

He was a member of the Borden County Museum and the O'Donnell Museum.

"You were always ready to help when help was needed for your family and sickness as well as others many people have made the remark, 'They don't make better men than old Naymon!... When the church doors opened, you were always there. You were never too busy. You did not tie your oxen to the ditch to have an excuse. You never were heard using a curse word. You were always happy and content with what you had. This little saying fitted you. 'Show me a successful man and I'll show you a good woman standing by him.' This surely applied in your case. I have never been ashamed to say Naymon is my brother..... Dewey Everett."

Memorials to the Museum have been received in memory of Naymon Everett from The E. L. Farmers, Martin and Ruth Taylor of Hico, The Vivian Clarks of Gail and from Gail Friends, and Doris Rudd.

The Borden County Museum Committee hosted the Mary Jane Club of Coahoma, Texas, April 1, 1976. Attending were Ruth Mitchell, Eula Bell Fowler, Nan McKinney, Ernestine Day, Patricia Barr, La Verne Lewis, Bobbie Nix, Carol Sneed. The group stayed several hours and enjoyed their tour, in fact, they are now starting a Museum in Coahoma. The Committee served cookies, cold drinks and coffee.

NOTE: We welcome you. Clubs, Schools, etc. to the Museum, anytime. Just contact Pauline Clark or Sibyl Gilmore, Gail, Texas 79738.

From Ora Gray of Snyder, Texas we received this letter, "Enclosed you will find a check for a year's subscription to The Borden Citizen. I really enjoy reading write ups about things that happened in years gone by as my dad and mother came to Borden County in 1890 from Dallas County. They only had three little boys. Will, Arthur and Andy. Will and Andy are still living. Will is 93, Andy is 88 and both are in the Good Samaritan Center at Lovington. So you can see why I like to know about the old times."

From Dr. and Mrs. A. C. Surman, Post, Texas, "We enjoy The Borden Citizen - Your Museum is very special to us."

From Mrs. J. D. McCampbell, Post, Texas, "I do enjoy your Borden Citizen."

Enthusiasm is running high in Borden County as the Bi-Centennial Celebration draws near. Practically every man, woman and child has taken part in assuring that May 29th and 30th will be a weekend long to be remembered.

Committees have been meeting regularly since last summer. At one of the early meetings, it was decided that all proceeds from the celebration would go into a fund to build a community park. Last week, this dream took the turn of reality when Mardes Clayton, a life long resident of Borden County, donated a sizable tract of land for this purpose.

The celebration will begin Saturday morning with a parade. The floats will depict historical happenings - both National and local. Betsy Ross, The Spaniards, Indians, and the Calvary are a few to be represented. Don't be surprised if you see a herd of buffalo or long horn cattle driven through town by Indians.

Following the parade a bar-be-que lunch will be served. This will include a treat of buffalo cooked over an open pit. Van's Bar-be-que of Lubbock will do the catering. The meal will be \$3.00 a plate, children 5 and under will be served free. This will be held on the north playground of the school.

After lunch, interested guests may attend the Bi-Centennial Pageant to be held in the High School Auditorium, or continue to mill through the Country Store and Arts and Crafts Show. The Arts and Crafts Show will open at 9:00 A. M. Over 23 artists and craftsmen are expected to have their work on display and for sale. Don't forget to visit the Country Store. There you can buy gifts for any occasion. They will range from baked goods to needlepoint kits, all done by Borden County ladies. The fabulous Bi-Centennial Historical Quilt will be displayed in a turn of the century setting. The drawing for this work of art is set for Sunday.

The pageant promises to be a high light of the day. Virtually every child in Borden County Schools is involved. Their enthusiasm is unreal. This production will take the audience from Patrick Henry's famous speech up to the present time. There will be a lot of comedy as well as good Ol' Red, White and Blue Flag Waving Patriotism.

Later in the day the Wild West Show will be presented on the rodeo grounds. This will include Indians, Indian Dancers from South Dakota, trick riding, Roman riding, and a multitude of surprises.

The football field will be the scene of a community worship service on Sunday morning featuring Grant Teaff as guest speaker. Mr. Teaff, head football coach at Baylor University, is a much sought after public speaker. He is an enthusiastic worker in the Christian Athletic Association. Grant was raised in Snyder.

W. A. Anderson will be the guest soloist during the morning service. W. A. is a well know evangelical vocalist in the southwest. He will be accompanied by Mary Anderson. W. A. is from a ranching family in Lea County, New Mexico and is the brother of Rich Anderson of Borden County. Prior to the service, a community sing will be conducted by Rich Anderson and Carolyn Long. Chairs will be provided for those people unable to climb into the stadium.

Following the worship service, another fine meal will be served in the School Cafeteria. The meat and beans will be furnished and everyone is asked to bring a salad, vegetable or dessert.

Over 2000 guests, young and old, are expected for this once in a life time celebration. The parade may be viewed free of charge. On Saturday, a nominal fee of \$2.00 per person and \$1.00 for children under six will be charged to enter the school grounds where all other activities will take place. This money will help defray expenses and the remainder will be put in the Community Park Fund.

Parking will be available in lots on the main street of Gail. From there you may want to ride the honest-to-goodness stage coach on up to the school grounds. This is the famous County Gold Stage Coach from WPAB in Fort Worth.

This promises to be one of the most spectacular celebrations commemorating the Birth of Our Nation to be held in this area. HOPE YOU CAN ATTEND.

SATURDAY, May 29th		SUNDAY, May 30th	
Parade	10:00 A. M. (Downtown)	Church Service	10:30 A. M. (Football Stadium-Grant Teaff)
Lunch	11:30 A. M. (North Playground)	Lunch	12:00 Noon (Cafeteria)
Musical Entertainment, games for the children, County Store will be open with Arts and Crafts.		Afternoon	Singing, visitation and games for the children. Museum will be open.
Program	1:30 P. M. (Auditorium)		
Wild West Show	3:30 P. M. (Arena)		

Concession stands will be open.

The annual meeting of The Permian Historical Society was held March 27, 1976, in the banquet room of Furr's Cafeteria in Odessa, Texas.

The nominating committee met at 9:00 A. M. with President, Mrs. John R. McKinley, presiding. Others on the committee were Dr. Kenneth Yielding, Dr. Roger Olen, Mrs. Ada Phillips, J. Conrad Dunagen, John Ben Shepherd, Betty Obeck, Lee Jones, Jake Tillapaugh and Pauline Clark of Gail (Who sat in for Edna Miller, who was ill.).

The same directors were elected to serve again. They are Jay Tellapaugh, Lee Jones, Jr., Willie Wade, Jackie Fletcher, Bessie Ward, Alva Butler, Mrs. Waddell, Clayton Williams, Ann Clark, Richard Umstat, Allen Goodridge, Tom Scott, Ada Phillips, Berte Hoegh and Oren Hasby of Lea County, New Mexico. Also chairmen of all Historical Societies and all museum Ex-officio members.

On the program were Mr. Horn, State Editor of Publishing of Bi-Centennial Editions (Pictures and Stories) and is also editor of Odessa American Newspaper. Dr. Larry Sall, West Texas Regional Archivist, gave a very informative and interesting talk on "Windmills in West Texas". Mrs. Willie Wade, Iraan, discussed "The Iraan Museum" and "Iraan and The Yates Field".

Brief reports from chairmen of the County Historical Survey Committees were given between major papers and during the business meeting. Vivian and I would like to say thank you to "Odessa" for a very enjoyable as well as informative day!

REMEMBER - Borden County will host The Permian Basin Museum Association of twenty-six museums, early in the Fall.

From Maude Roper Hull, Big Spring, we received the following letter. "You ladies are doing a wonderful job in Borden County."

From Mrs. L. E. Hurley, Wilson, Oklahoma, " I enjoy reading the Borden Citizen. I have a paper telling about Lincoln's death... I would like for the Museum to have it."

From Frances Baker, Lubbock, Texas, "I think The Borden Citizen is extra good, and so glad you publish it. Many memories of the real old "Timers", who came to make a home and be among honest and honorable people. We came Summer of 1889 to this area."

From Helena M. Grant, Midland, Texas, "I would like to get "The Original Book" for my personal journal when you have finished it. Good luck with your next newsletter and congratulations on past successes. Thanks for inviting me in."

From Edna (Whitaker) and Elmer Sandusky, Springdale, Ark., "We enjoyed visiting with you so much.... We are sending all we know on the Whitakers. We lived half way between Gail and Fluvanna. (Davenport Ranch, now.) We plan to come to the celebration. We will gather some things to bring for the Museum. The day before the celebration we can go to Alvin Kincaid's home in Cisco and come back with them. I will also drop Hettie (Kincaid) Whitaker a line, so someone can bring her. So we will see you."

From Mrs. Loy J. Gilbert, President, Smith County Historical Society, "For some time now you have been sending me 'gratis' your Borden Citizen, which I read and pass on to our Society as a whole to read and enjoy. You do a monumental amount of work on this newsletter, and I do wish to thank you for your generosity in sending it to us.... Like you, we devote our entire energies to our county's history and its preservation."

From Nell Simpson Hay, Fort Davis, Texas, "Enclosed is a personal check for my mother's subscription to The Borden Citizen. I appreciate very much the hospitality you extended to us when we visited the Museum some time ago, and I thank you for your attention to this matter."

Write Pauline Clark, Gail, Texas or Edna Miller, Fluvanna, Texas and tell of your memories, histories or send your subscription money.

Borden Citizen.

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