

Borden Citizen.

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VOL. XVII, NO. 2

THE MUNGER PLACE

BY DONNA WORTHINGTON

The old house on the Munger Ranch, which straddles Farm Road 669, 13 miles south of Gail, is recognized as being the oldest house in Borden County. It has seen a lot of living since it was built in the 1880's by Tom Love, Borden County's first Sheriff.

Tom Love sold his ranch in 1903 to Stephen I. Munger, an early Texas tucoon, whose family had been involved in manufacturing cotton gin machinery. Their business eventually merged with the Continental Gin Company and Stephen Munger became president and general manager. His business acumen developed a far-flung industrial empire. He sent his son, Lillo Shannon Munger, to the University of the South at Sewanee, Tennessee to become a civil engineer. Encountering difficulties with the German language in his studies, young Lillo decided he had enough education and responded to the call of the West. He went to his father's ranch in Borden County and became a cowboy. When a lovely young lady came from Fort Worth to visit her aunt, Mrs. F. E. Abney, Munger claimed her as his bride and in January, 1905, the young couple began housekeeping at the Munger place.

In time, Lillo Munger entered the cottonseed oil and ginning business in Mexia, Texas. When the 1922 oil boom brought the Texas Rangers to keep order in Mexia, the Mungers decided it was time to move to safer ground and they took up residence in Abilene, where Mrs. Munger had a cousin.

Munger soon became an important figure in the community, contributing to the establishment of McMurray College, St. Paul Methodist Church, Abilene Art Museum, YMCA, Philharmonic Society and was a member of the Founders Clud of Southern Methodist University. His business interests included farming, ranching and oil interests. Although caught up in the world of high finance, he never lost interest in the community of Gail and donated liberally to the support of the

Borden County Historical Museum.

It is understandable that the place where he began his adult life and highly successful business career should still be remembered as "the Munger place".

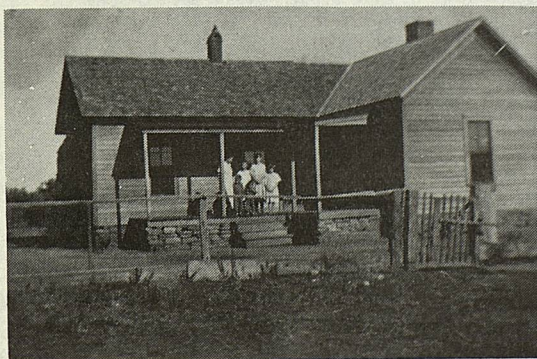
Over the years, its occupants came and went until, at last, the five room house, fallen into disrepair, stood alone in the valley.

For an indefinite period of time, the old house sat drowsing over its memories in the West Texas sun, its weatherboards silvered by age, deserted by the people it had sheltered through the years. Finally, it was relegated to being a storehouse for hay and a haven

vermin and snakes. It was only a matter of time until the tawny broomweed and tough prairie grass, creeping closer each year, would inevitably engulf it.



THE MUNGER PLACE



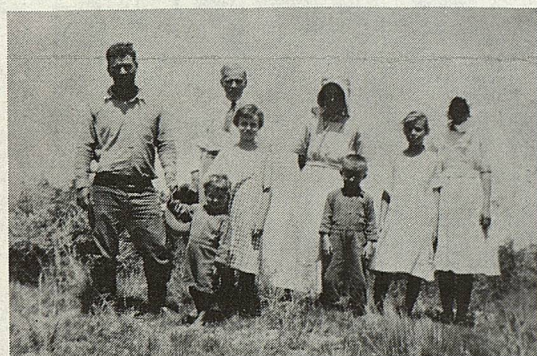
THE MUNGER PLACE IN 1923 with Mrs. Bennett, Ruth, Edith, Blanche and Milton and Willis in 2nd row.

In 1972, it was restored to be used as a guest house. The Muleshoe Ranch, now owned and operated by Rich Anderson and Jere Hubbard, has leased the Munger land from Mardes Clayton for the last twelve years. The Ranch was leased from Mr. Munger in 1914 by the Muleshoe. In 1929 when R. M. Clayton retired, his oldest son, A. M. Clayton and W. D. Johnson bought the Munger place and it has been owned by the Clayton Estate since that time.

Cleaned and renovated, with its dignity once again restored, the Munger place is again useful and cherished. The still sturdy walls ring again with good talk and laughter as guests gather around the crackling log fire to tell their tales.

The H. E. (Ed) Bennett family may have lived on the place longer than anyone. According to Mrs. Roland (Blanche) Hamilton of Lamesa, one of the Bennett children, her family lived there 21 years. Her recent visit to the house brought back a flood of memories which have helped her to recreate a picture of life on the ranch as they knew it. Mrs. Edna Miller, Borden County Historian, who accompanied her, verified the dates and names mentioned herein.

Ed and Clara Bennett and their three small daughters Edith, Ruth and Blanche, moved to the Munger Ranch in 1914 when R. M. Clayton of the Muleshoe Ranch hired Ed as camp boss for the ranch which he had leased from Lillo Munger, who now lived in Abilene. In time, Milton, Willis and Marie were born to the Bennetts while living there.



ON TOP OF MUSHAWAY PEAK

*All the family including Mr.
H. J. Bennett*

month of February), Ed would ride to town on his horse and carry the provisions home in his saddle bags. They killed their own beef and hogs and hung the carcasses on the back porch at night out of reach of the coyotes and bobcats and during the day wrapped them in a tarp. Summer outings included taking a picnic basket and climbing Mushaway Peak to look for Indian relics.

At first, the older birls walked five miles to the little Grape Creek School. When the youngest children were old enough to go, the school teacher boarded with the Bennetts and drove them to school in their buggy.

Mrs. Bennett was a small woman with coal black hair which was so long she could sit on it when she wasn't wearing it piled high on top of her heas. One of Blanche's fondest memories is of sitting by the fire with her mother as she let her comb her luxuriant hair. Although she had only a fourth grade education,



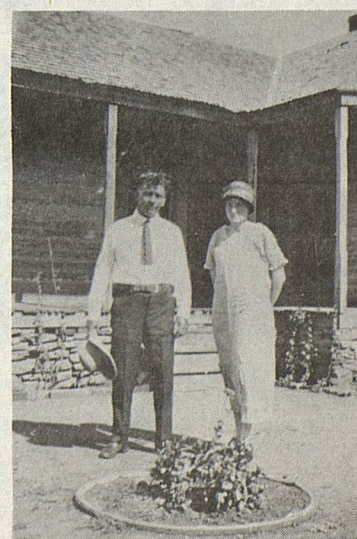
THE MUNGER CHILDREN IN 1916 or 1917

*Blanche, Edith, Ruth
Milton in front*

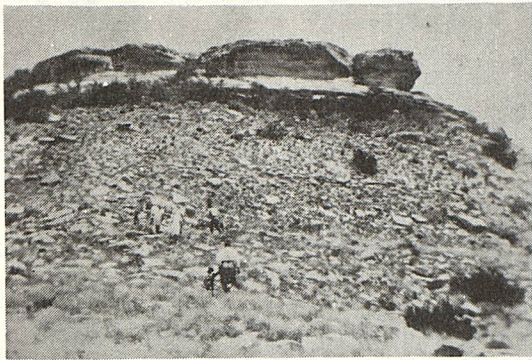
Note the lacy, fancy dresses.

The six children had a happy, carefree life growing up, their imaginations providing what they lacked in material things. They made their own recreation, roaming the fields, riding horses, killing snakes, making playhouses of the colorful rocks that lay everywhere and helping with ranch chores. There were 13 cows to be milked, hogs and chickens to feed and horses to work the cattle. The boys grew up to make names for themselves training and showing cutting horses. Milton received wide acclaim when he rode his horse, "Snooky" to a World Cutting Horse Championship in 1955 in The Cow Palace in San Francisco, California.

Supplies were bought once a month in Gail. Flour, sugar and potatoes were bought 100 pounds at a time. When there were bad weather conditions (one year they were snowed in all the



MR. AND MRS. BENNETT
*The house in 1930 with
flowers in the yard.*



THE FAMILY ON THE WAY UP
MUSHAWAY PEAK

home, she always had a flower garden which was kept in bloom with the family bath and wash water.

Today, the remnants of a windmill stands behind the house as a mute reminder of the tank that once watered thirsty stock. Drinking water had to be hauled five miles. A screened-in box outside the kitchen window held milk, butter and other perishables. Now and then a hungry coyote would come slinking up in the daytime to eye the chickens but a swift flapping of Mrs. Bennett's skirts and her shrill cries would scare him away.

At Christmas, the children hung their stockings on the mantel and were delighted the next morning to find apples, oranges and nuts stuffed in the toe. It would probably be the only oranges they would taste all year. In a prosperous year, their father would buy a whole stalk of bananas, the supreme luxury.

Everyone for miles around came to Gail for the community Christmas tree which all the children were privileged to trim. They made paper chains, strung popcorn and made shiny ornaments out of the tinfoil that merchants had saved all year from the tobacco they sold. Wax candles were the only illumination and the highlight of one Christmas was the time Santa's whiskers caught fire. Every child received a gift.

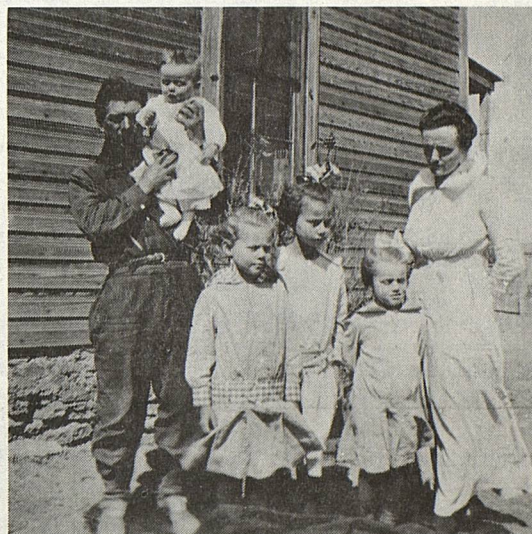
The house was heated from a wood burning cook stove in the kitchen and a fireplace in the living room, still the main focus of life in the house today. The fireplace was cut from native

stone and draws so well that a visitor commented that a cat would have to have its tail nailed to the wall to keep it from being pulled up the chimney. Blanche recalls how often she stood before the fire with her shins baking and back freezing.

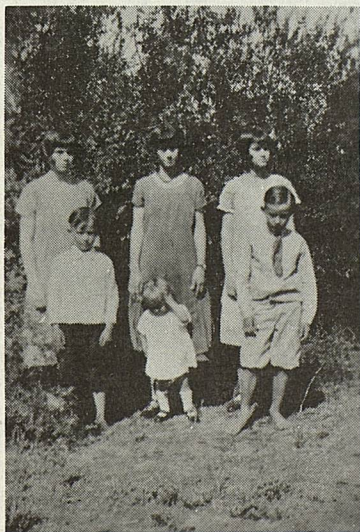
The family enjoyed one of the few bathtubs in the county. In the winter it was moved to the pantry off the kitchen and in the summer, in between ablutions, Mrs. Bennett used it to store her quilts. The claw-footed relic was removed in favor of a more modern shower when the house was renovated.

The original fireplace is still in use and is thought to have been built by John Henry Smoot, an early settler who lived over by the Peak. He was the only stonemason in the area at that time and, subsequently, made all the tombstones, cisterns and chimneys, even to building the jail in Gail.

A State law was enacted in 1916-17 which sounded the death-knell for prairie dogs which were ruining vast acres of land.

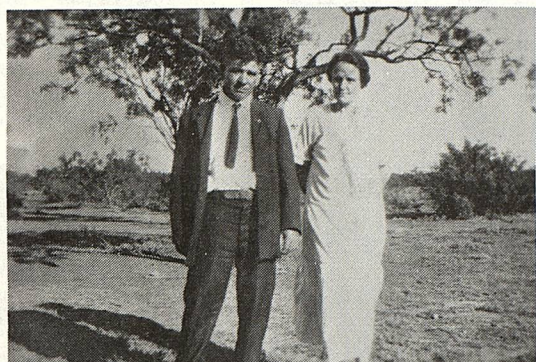


MR. BENNETT HOLDING MILTON, EDITH,
RUTH, BLANCHE AND MRS. BENNETT
AT THE SIDE OF THE HOUSE



THE SIX BENNETT CHILDREN
Ruth, Edith and Blanche
Willis, Marie and Milton

Their deep burrows were a constant menace to horses which could break a leg by stepping in one of the holes and the prairie was dotted by the piles of dirt that marked each borrow. The law decreed the prairie dog must be exterminated and it was up to each landowner to get rid of the pests on his own land. A contract was put out by a big rancher to poison 250 sections of land that included the Munger.



Jack Phinizy, whose ranch now borders the Munger, is now 84 years old but he remembers well when he was hired to work on the poinoning crew. The contractor paid \$25.00 per section and the crew, mostly young boys, was paid \$1.00 a day each. Since Phinizy could "fry meat". as he described it, he was also hired as cook for \$2.00 a day. They used three wagons - a chuck wagon, grain wagon and poison wagon. The poison used was a mixture of maize and cyanide with oil of anise added for a tempting aroma. They were to put a dose of the poison in each burrow they could find over the equivalent of 16,000 acres. The job took them about three months.

Phinizy describes the prairie dogs as "innocent little things, but destructive. They had to go." Some old-timers today blame the demise of the prairie dog for the excessive growth of underbrush and mesquite that so plagues ranchers today. The little rodents ate the seeds and roots that kept undesirable growth under control.

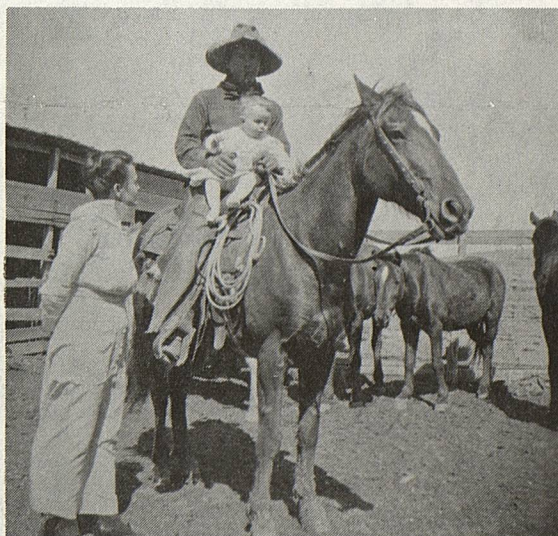
A small prairie dog town on display in Snyder, Texas, now serves as a reminder of the once prevalent little creatures. When visitors approach, they sit erect on their hind feet emitting squeaks of displeasure. (EDITOR'S NOTE: There have been several outbreaks of prairie dogs in the West Texas area. Some in Gaines, Terry, Lynn and Dawson Counties. We hope they will not spread.)

Mr. Phinizy says the prairie dog was pretty smart. He had heard that cottontails, rattlesnakes and prairie dogs would all live together in one burrow but he vouches that he has seen snakes go into a hole and the prairie dogs would use their noses to quickly shove dirt over the hole and bury the snake.

This story would not be complete without an allusion to the ever-present rattlesnakes. A one-time resident of the Munger place was an old bachelor by the name of "Red" Ransom. He loved snakes and was known as a snake hunter. He skinned them and sold the reptile hides. At that time, many snakes lived under the house, finding a cool respite from the summer heat next to the rock foundation and a warm denning place in winter under the heated floors. There was, and still is, a hole under the floor of one of the rooms and "Red" claimed there was one snake that would come to that hole and buzz and he would feed it.

A sizable snake skin resting on the top of a closet in the old house is said to be the remains of a snake killed on the back porch by some of the guests a few years ago.

Doubtless, the old house has many more tales it could tell but the end is not yet in sight. Things are still lively at the Munger place and visitors who come are impressed by the homey, simple charm of the place, belied by the weatherbeaten exterior. They leave with happy memories and eager for an invitation to return.



MR. AND MRS. BENNETT
AND THE HORSES

"The Munger Place" was written by Mrs. Donna Worthington. Donna lives most of the year in Kentucky where she and her husband are interested in writing, photography and breeding, raising and training fine hunting dogs. Each winter, for the last several years, the Worthingtons have brought their dogs to the Munger place to spend some time. While at the Munger place they have spent their time training the dogs, hunting and getting to know more about Borden County and West Texas. While here, they became interested in the history of the house and after visiting with Edna Miller, invited Edna and Blanche Hamilton to the place for lunch and the article is the result. THE BORDEN CITIZEN thanks Donna for her interest in our County and for the excellent article. We would also like to thank Blanche for the pictures.

In the article, "The Munger Place" it is stated that it is the oldest house in Borden County. Do any of you readers know of a house in the County that is older? Please send us the history of the house if you do know of one. We would also like to have the history of any old houses in the County and the people who lived in them, they do not have to be older.

JAMES WHALEY PETTY, 69, passed away September 19, 1980. He was born in Gail Jan. 10, 1911. Rev. and Mrs. J. A. Petty, and Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Whaley Newby were his Grandparents. He attended school in Gail and moved to Abilene in 1928. Survivors include his wife; two brothers, John Steve Petty of Eugene, Oregon and Archie Petty of Clyde; three sisters, Mrs. Della Hollar, Mrs. Russell (Geneva) Adams of Abilene and Mrs. Ray Lee Wilson of Hereford. A brother L. L. Petty preceded him in death in 1976.

SARAH ELLEN DAVIDSON, 86, of Snyder died January 7, 1981. She was a Borden County native. The former Sarah Ellen Johnson married Creed Davidson on April 15, 1915 in Gail. He died in 1916. Survivors include a sister, Pearl Cathey Keen of Snyder; a brother, John T. Johnson of Crosbyton; and several neices and nephews. Burial was in Gail Cemetery.

LUCILLE SMITH TURNER, 61, passed away March 8, 1981 in Arrey, New Mexico. She grew up in the Mesquite Community, which is now known as the Plains. Among her survivors is Irene Creighton of the Plains Community of Borden County.

JIMMY PROCTOR, 32, of Little River, Texas drowned in January in a lake near Belton. He grew up in O'Donnell and was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy A. Proctor of Big Spring, former residents of Gail.

HOUSTON BISHOP, 70, of Gail, passed away in February, 1981 in a hospital in Snyder. He lived in Gail and had recently retired from the Borden County Independent School District where he was a maintenance man. He is survived by his wife of Gail and son of Snyder.

HENRY MILTON BENNETT, 64, of Fort Worth passed away February 17, 1981. He was the Milton Bennett of "The Munger Place" article in this issue of THE BORDEN CITIZEN. He was born on the Munger place and is survived by his wife; two sons, Ronnie of Lubbock, Wayne of Cleburne; and one daughter, Sue Short of Albuquerque, New Mexico, 5 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. Also survived by three sisters, Blanche Hamilton of Lamesa, Edith Clark of Big Spring and Marie Elliott of Hobbs, New Mexico. His sister, Ruth Elliott and brother, Willis Bennett preceded him in death.

JACK ROGERS, 78, of Fort Worth passed away the last part of February, 1981. He was born in Borden County and went to school at the Grape Creek School in the south part of the county. He is survived by his wife, one son and a daughter. Among his survivors is a brother, Aubrey Rogers of Gail.

WALTER DEWEY EVERETT, 82, was claimed in death in a tragic accident Friday, March 13, 1981 in Gail. The accident causing the death occurred when a butane truck overturned into Flint Construction office where Mr. Everett was visiting. Mr. Everett, or "Dewey" as everyone called him, touched many lives in Borden County with his benevolence and support of the County. He was born April 24, 1898 to J. Y. and Lucy Manning Everett in Coryell County and moved to Borden County in 1906. After serving in the navy, during World War I, Dewey returned to Borden County and his first love, the land. He married Faye Reeder, a Borden County resident, on April 14, 1923. "Best trade he ever made," he said. The Everetts moved to Snyder in 1937 so the children could attend school. He drove each day to Borden County to attend his ranch and dirt contractor duties. Mr. Everett loved the earth, and from it he made his living. He also loved his family, his community and Borden County. He is survived by his wife, Faye; a daughter, Dewey Faye Miller of Borden County; three sons, W. D. "Dub" Everett, Jr., Jess Everett and Donnie Everett, all of Snyder; a foster son, Roland Hamilton of Lamesa; one sister, Flossie Johnson of Crosbyton; two brothers, Roy Everett of O'Donnell and Glynn Everett of Ocean Side, Cal.; eight grand-children and six great-grandchildren.

JOYCE HILL, 45, of Sweetwater died January 24, 1981. Among her survivors are her parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Vaughn of Gail, four sons of Sweetwater, a daughter, of Sweetwater, a sister, and five brothers including Clifford and Charles of Gail. She was buried in Gail Cemetery.

TRAVIS RINEHART, 50, passed away January 20, 1981 in Dallas. Among his survivors are his mother, Ellen Burney of Snyder and a brother, Edward Rinehart of Gail. He was buried in the Snyder Cemetery.



WALTER DEWEY EVERETT

MEMORIAL DONATIONS TO THE MUSEUM

IN MEMORY OF LUCILLE SMITH TURNER

by Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Creighton
Borden County, Texas

IN MEMORY OF JACK ROGERS

by Sterling and Gladys Williams
Snyder, Texas
by Dorothy Browne
Gail, Texas

IN MEMORY OF DEWEY EVERETT

by Dorothy and Bert Dennis
Lisa Dennis Mahler
Steve and Joel Dennis
Gail, Texas
by Betty and Warren Beaver
Gail, Texas
by Willie and Billie Marie Miller
Rapid City, South Dakota
by Mr. and Mrs. P. C. Mitchell
Lubbock, Texas
by Bo, Whiz, Quint and Cristy Greighton
Paris, Texas

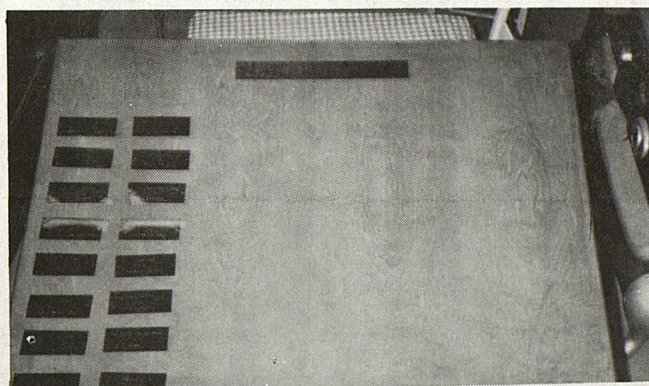
IN MEMORY OF DEWEY EVERETT

by Dorothy Browne
Gail, Texas
by Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Cotten, Jr.
Lubbock, Texas
by Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Hassell
Seagraves, Texas
by Mr. and Mrs. Bob Laird
Willcox, Arizona
by Mr. and Mrs. Joe York
Snyder, Texas
Earl and Blanche Wilson
Snyder, Texas
by Frances J. Stockton
Big Spring, Texas
by Sterling and Gladys Williams
Snyder, Texas
by Comelle and Roger Williams & Family
Gail, Texas

BORDEN COUNTY PIONEERS MEMORIAL PLAQUE

The Memorial Plaque honoring the Borden County Pioneers is finally beginning to take shape. It will be hanging in the Museum in the not too distant future. The 3' by 4' board is the home for several new names. Memorials have been donated for the following:

JOHN GILMER DAVIS
SID REEDER
J. S. MITCHELL
BILLIE MITCHELL
J. R. AND VESTA JENKINS
W. P. AND MARGIE COATES
JOHN K. AND ELIZA MITCHELL
SAM AND ELIZA WILSON
J. B. COTTEN
MISS MAGGIE WILLIAMS
CHARLIE J. ENGLE
WAVE AND NETTIE COATES
MR. AND MRS. A. B. SPEARS
GEORGE A. AND LUDIE LOCKLEAR CLARK
Wm. AND JULIA BILLS CLARK



THE MEMORIAL PLAQUE

These names and donors are being engraved at the present time and will be exhibited at the Borden County Museum soon.

The Memorial Committee is very pleased with the interest shown in this project. Every pioneer should be remembered on this plaque, so if there is someone who has been missed so far, please send their names and your donations to Barbara York, Box 157, Gail, Texas 79738. (NOTE: See the last issue of THE BORDEN CITIZEN for more information.)

Memorials which have already been engraved are:

JOE AND ELLA ROPER
CATHERINE AND JOSEPH S. YORK
MINNIE AND HIRAM DRUM
MR. AND MRS. JOHN HENRY SMOOT
ALEX AND BELL MURPHY
T. V. (THAD) AND JOSIE B. HOOD
ELMER LONG
FRANK MILLER

JOHN AND BELL (KINCAID) CLARK
SICILY AND C. E. DOC REEDER
EDWIN LOVE
J. N. (JIM) AND KATIE WILLIS YORK
W. H. (BILLY) AND ALICE HOOD ASKINS
MR. R. L. GRAY
CHARLIE MILLER
MR. AND MRS. W. K. CLARK

These sixteen names with donors are available for viewing at the Museum in Gail. For further information on the Memorial project, please contact Barbara York at the above address or call (915) 856-4402 during the day or (915) 573-4410 after 4:00 P. M. or weekends.

MUSEUM NEWS

Ten ladies from the Lamesa Garden Club visited our Museum on the 9th of April. They were on a tour of this area looking at wild flowers. They reported the wild flowers in bloom along each and every fench row between here and Lamesa and everywhere else they had been. The flowers have been beautiful this year with the pastures a mixture of beautiful colors. They were pleased to include the Museum in their tour and they complimented the Museum. Many of our displays reminded them of the days of yesteryear.

LETTERS FROM THE PENS OF OUR READERS

Thanks for the interesting Fall 1980 issue of the BORDEN CITIZEN. Mrs. D. F. Eaton, Lubbock, Tx.

I think my subscription is paid up until sometime during the summer; however, I do not want to miss one copy of THE BORDEN CITIZEN. In case anyone feels he is losing his mind trying to make the location in my husband's story of the Storm (Fall 1980 Issue), "northwest corner of Borden County" make sense, that location should have been South west. The error was his. I enjoyed the story of "The Titanic" very much. Best wishes for future issues. I can hardly wait.

Mrs. C. N. (Lottie Bell) Cosby, Canyon, Texas

ASSOCIATED AUTHORS AND EDITORS, LUBBOCK, TEXAS - Mrs. Georgia Mae Erickson recently brought to our attention an article featured in THE BORDEN CITIZEN entitled "The Titantic". My firm, Associated Authors and Editors, is currently preparing the Spring issue of the RANCH RECORD published by The Ranching Heritage Association of Lubbock, and we would like to summarize and excerpt from the introduction and the article by L. Q. C. Taylor. May we have a copy of the Fall 1980, Volume XVI, Number 1, BORDEN CITIZEN? May we also have permission to use parts of the article in the RANCH RECORD? We would of course give full credits to your publication, to L.Q.C. Taylor, and to the publication where his article originally appeared.

The Slaughter family has special importance for the Tanching Heritage Association, and this might prove an interesting aside. We would also appreciate any other information that you might have about the branch of the family involved with the Titantic episode or other ideas that might make family connections more clear. We would also like to subscribe to the BORDEN CITIZEN.

Elizabeth Orem, Editor & Consultant.

(EDITOR'S NOTE) Permission was given to Elizabeth Orem and The Associated Authors and Editors to use parts of the article in their RANCH RECORD. We do not have any information about the branch of the Slaughter family mentioned but would be glad to have it if any of you know.

We were so glad to get the BORDEN CITIZEN again. It is very interesting. Thank you and best wishes to all.

James and Alma Prince,

Don and I remember paying Doris Taylor Rudd several years subscription to the BORDEN CITIZEN when she attended one of the Hollar reunions at Brownwood, Texas, but that was several years back.. Since we enjoy reading all the news, especially Don hearing about people he remembers, and me because I am a history buff about the settling of Texas, we decided we had better renew our subscription..

Mrs. Don (Penny) Hollar, Gadsden, Ala.

I received the newsletter yesterday and I do not know when I paid any dues. Glad you did not mark me off.

Mays Jenkins, Roswell, New Mexico

Enclosed is our check.... please keep the BORDEN CITIZEN coming. Seems we have missed a few issues, can not keep up with when it is due. Pinck and Mary Mitchell, Lubbock, Texas

I have received the last issue of THE BORDEN CITIZEN and I enjoy them very much. I have never lived in Borden County but my Dad did. My Dad was Jim "Dogie" Patterson and he was a cowboy on The Square and Pompass, The Jumbo and later The Fish Ranch at Cedar Lake. He started working on these ranches at the age of fourteen and this is where he acquired the nick name of "Dogie", after a Dogie calf. He carried this name the rest of his life.

I was through Gail several years ago and we stopped in the Museum, my wife, son and I. Our son was real impressed as, at that time you had several old pictures on the wall and my Dad was in several of them. I subscribed for THE BORDEN CITIZEN at that time and I am sure I owe you some more money, therefore I am sending you a check...

I have quite a few old pictures that my Dad had and I am sure lots of them were made there. I will try to bring them down some time and see if I can get some of them identified. I am enclosing a photo copy of four of them, one of which you used on the front page of Vol. IV, No. 4, June, 1969. You may find some one that knows who they are.

I am also interested in having my Dad's name placed on the plaque. I am sure he contributed in some way to the development and growth of Borden County. He was in the ribbon war, broke horses, and was a pretty good cowboy and I have heard that he made it a happier place for the young ladies in Gail.

Thad Patterson, Seagraves, Texas

Enclosed please find my check for a years subscription to the paper. Mrs. HUGH Taylor, Snyder. Just finished reading again, an earlier edition of THE BORDEN CITIZEN published by the Borden County Historical Society. Have always felt a part of earlier days in West Texas Counties, especially Kent, Borden and Scurry. Please find enclosed a check for subscription to the BORDEN CITIZEN and keep sending them to the same address. Billy Boren, Clovis, New Mexico.

NEEDED: Letters from our readers. NEEDED: Stories of family histories written by our readers. NEEDED: Subscriptions from our readers and any others interested.

We are very glad that we are able to keep publishing THE BORDEN CITIZEN but we do need your continued help and support. We have several articles written and have several articles planned but the paper will be much more interesting with your continued help.

Send your correspondence to Mrs. Edna Miller, Fluvanna, Texas 79517, Mrs. Pauline Clark, Gail, Texas 79738 or Mrs. Dorothy Browne, Gail, Texas 79738.

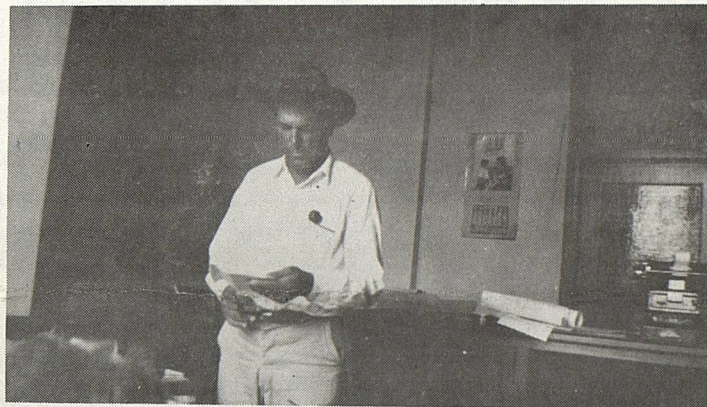
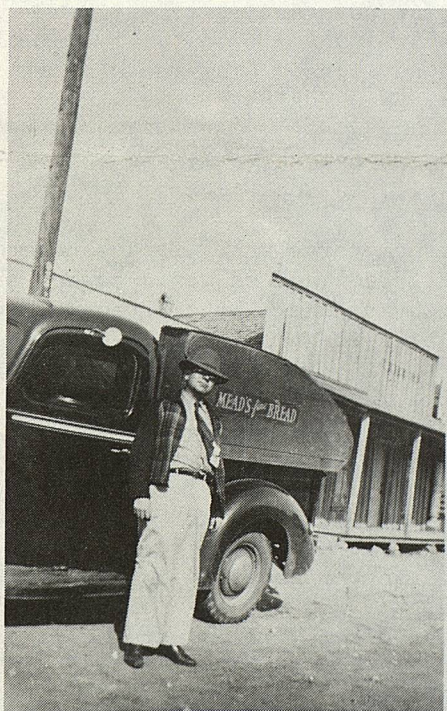
THE PERMIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Spring meeting of The Permian Historical Society was held Saturday, April 11, 1981 at The Permian Basin Petroleum Museum in Midland, Texas. Mrs. Edna Miller, Borden County Historical Committee Chairman attended this meeting. The program was arranged to tell the story of the railroad coming to West Texas. Along the route of the Texas and Pacific there have been many celebrations as it has been a hundred years since the railroad opened many parts of West Texas to settlement.

President Jim Colwell called the meeting to order and introduced Mr. Wayne Austerman who spoke on 'Giddings Station-aForgotten Crossing on the Pecos'. The Texas and Pacific in Mitchell County was given by Mrs. A. W. Rowe. Mr. Joe Pickle spoke on The Texas and Pacific in HOWard County, and Mrs. June Reid reported on The Texas and Pacific in Martin County. 'Boosterism in Frontier West Texas was then given by Dr. David Caffey. The Texas and Pacific in Midland County was given by Alisanne Toomey, The Texas and Pacific in Ector County by Dr. J. Tillapaugh, The Texas and Pacific in Ward County by Mrs. Ophelia Ratliff, The Texas and Pacific in Reeves County by Mrs. W. B. Bessent and to complete the way of the railroad across West Texas, The Texas and Pacific in Culberson County was given by Mrs. Rosalie Wylie and Mrs. Noble Smith.

Mrs. Miller reported a very enjoyable day. The Permian Historical Society is doing much to preserve the history of West Texas.

Plans are now being made to keep the Museum open each Saturday and Sunday afternoon. Work days are being scheduled to clean the West Texas Sand out again this year and to re-arrange the exhibits. If you are in Gail, be sure to stop and visit the Museum.



Do you know the men in these two pictures? They were very important in the lives of the people of Gail and Borden County several years ago. The man on the left is Earl Evans. He brought the mail to Gail for many years and also brought bread and other goods at the same time. Above is a picture of Sid Reeder in his Sheriff's Office in Gail. He was Sheriff of Borden County for many years.

If you have pictures of interest to readers of earlier times in Borden County, send them to us with a story, either long or short, of the meaning the pictures had to Borden County.

Borden Citizen.

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