

# Carroll County Democrat

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## THREE DEEP TEST WELLS TO GO DOWN

### Some Hot Dope About Memphis and St. Louis People Securing Leases

A staff representative of the Oil and Gas Ledger, Bowling Green, Ky., gives out the following hot dope about the oil situation in Carroll county:

"Three deep test wells, one of which will thoroughly test all of the possible oil-bearing horizons of this region down to the limestone below the Devonian black shale, will be drilled in Carroll county during the next few months by operators new to this section. During the past few months Memphis and St. Louis parties have had men in here taking leases and it is reported that at this time a total of 20,000 acres have been acquired in different sections of the county.

"This acreage has been taken in three blocks, one northeast of the city close to the Henry county line, another to the south between this city and Henderson county and the third to the south and west down toward Gibson and Madison counties. It is probable that the first well, which will go below the Devonian shale, will be drilled on the block to the north of Huntingdon, which covers an area of 7,000 acres.

"A well drilled near here recently went to some depth without favorable results, but it is now believed that this hole was drilled slightly off structure. The Tennessee State Geological Survey has defined one or two structures running down through this area, but the county needs a great deal of additional geological work before its various structures can be determined.

"The Tertiary and Cretaceous sediments of this area are very similar to those in which the big production of the El Dorado field in Arkansas has been found and it is believed that a thorough campaign of the test wells will develop considerable oil pools. The people who have recently taken this big acreage are said to be well financed and this insures the kind of drilling which the area needs.

### Irby Edwards Dead

Irby Edwards died at his home near Rice's store last Sunday morning at 6 o'clock. He had been in bad health for several years with tuberculosis, but was confined to his bed only a short time. During his illness he professed religion, but had never identified himself with any church. He was 35 years old, and is survived by his wife. In June 1912 he was married to Miss Vergie Bridges. He is also survived by his father, Emerson Edwards, two brothers Carl and Daniel Edwards and two sisters, Mrs. Walter Perritt and Miss Essie Edwards. The funeral services were conducted at Chapel Hill Monday by Rev. Pinson. Many flowers, tokens of love and friendship, covered the new made mound. The bereaved have the sympathy of many friends.

### Founder of Mail

J. B. Gilbert, of Huntingdon, publisher of the Carroll County Democrat, visited the Press office this week. Mr. Gilbert founded the Martin Mail here on January, 1885 and after conducting the paper for a year and a half induced T. L. Turner to come here and take his interest. Mr. Gilbert was here attending the trustee's meeting at Hall-Moody.—Weekly County Press.

### Mrs. Bostick Passes Away

On May 22, Mrs. Julia Bostick answered the summons to come up higher. Mrs. Bostick was 81 years old and had been in poor health for some time, having come to Merkel about a year ago hoping to regain her health. She was in the home of her granddaughter, Mrs. Sanders, where, attended by her daughter, Mrs. Morgan, she had received every attention that loving hands could provide.

Mrs. Bostick was born in Tennessee and early in life became a Christian, uniting with the Baptist church at the age of sixteen, and for sixty five years had led a consistent Christian life. Of her seven

children only one survives her mother. But besides her daughter, Mrs. Morgan, who was with her to the end, she leaves four grand-children and five great-grand-children.

Funeral services were conducted at the Sanders home at 2:30 p. m. Monday by Ira L. Parrack pastor of the Baptist church.

Those who knew her best loved her most and she had made quite a number of friends in Merkel. She never tired of speaking of the kind friends she had found here. May this be an inspiration to all of us to try to do more for the aged or for the shut-in or for the stranger in our midst.—Merkel Mail.

### Very Much Alive

The following was taken from a recent issue of the Commercial Appeal, and the young man referred to is a grand son of Mrs. Mary Prince, a sister of Mrs. W. L. Noell:

Ben S. Prince, salesman with the O'Donnell-McCormick Company, yesterday received a communication from the British war office inquiring whether he was dead or alive. Mr. Prince served with the British forces during the world war.

According to the letter from the British War Department the body of a dead soldier wearing Prince's identification tag has been found. Prince replied that he was very much alive and enjoying himself in Memphis, U. S. A.

### Miss Josie Shuford

Miss Josie Shuford, 40, died at her home near Whitthorne, last Saturday, after a brief illness. She is survived by one sister, Mrs. Anna Taylor, one brother, John Shuford. Funeral services were conducted Sunday by Rev. Underwood, of Kentucky. Burial followed in the family lot in Providence cemetery.

### Mr. Newbill Improving

Mr. Neal Newbill, an aged citizen of the Nineteenth district, who recently fell from a shed and badly injuring his shoulder, is improving slowly. Mr. Newbill is about 70 years old and his age operates against his rapid recovery.

## PROPOSE CITY PARK REBUILDING PLANS

### Trezevant Starts Well in Planning a Better and More Attractive Town

The spirit of enterprise and progress, which has always characterized the good citizens of Trezevant, was not destroyed by the big fire of last week. It begins to look now like that even a better and more attractive Trezevant will spring up from the ashes of the old.

A plan is being worked out for the raising of funds and purchasing the building lots on Front street, where the buildings owned by W. H. Galloway, A. J. Smith and Montgomery & Argo were burned, and donate them to the city authorities for a city park.

This is a commendable undertaking and one which will add much to the appearance and attractiveness of the business section of the town. Citizens are donating liberally to the proposition, and it is believed it will be a success.

Those who lost property are perfecting plans for the rebuilding of the devastated section, but work will not begin in real earnest until final settlement of the insurance claims. There will be much building by early fall.

O. C. Sloan will very likely reopen his brick-making yard soon and burn brick for the rebuilding of the business section of the town.

### Atwood School

A special from Milan says that Prof. A. L. Davis, of Milan, has been elected superintendent of the Atwood High School. He is a fine school man and an educator of note, and the patrons will be highly pleased with his manner of discipline. His wife has been chosen as one of the teachers. She is a lady of wide experience. The school board was very fortunate in securing their services for next term.

## COTTON NOW NEEDS RAIN AND SUNSHINE

### Plant Usually Small but Chopping and Cultivation are Making Headway

The Commercial Appeal reports on the cotton crop condition on May 25, at 68.4 per cent of a normal compared with 65.4 per cent at same date 1920, and a ten-year average of 76.7 per cent.

In some states there is much complaint of dry weather. Most sections would now be benefited by showers, but continued warmth and plenty of sunshine are necessary.

Stands are poor to only fair. Chopping and cultivation is making headway, but plant is small.

The report as to conditions in Tennessee is very much better than last year, but not as good as the ten-year average. Stands are only fair and at this time rains are needed.

### Girl Wife Suicide

A recent special from Paris says: From Mansfield, Henry county, comes the report that Mrs. Ernest Simmons, of that section, aged 16 years, committed suicide by shooting herself through the heart, death resulting instantaneously. She was formerly Miss Grace Cook. While details are meager, it is said that a child of her husband by a former wife, had a bearing on the events leading up to her tragic end.

### Census Figures

Tennessee's 1920 population of 2,337,885 was composed of 1,885,993 whites, 451,758 negroes and 134 natives of other races, the census bureau announced. Since 1910, the white population increased 10.2 per cent while the negro population decreased by 4.5 per cent.

### Big Road Meet

Several hundred visitors are expected in Jackson on June 15, when representatives from every town in this section which is lo-

ated on the Bristol-to-Memphis highway will be invited to attend a conference. The announcement that the meeting would be called was contained in a letter from T. B. King, manager of the highway department, to the Association of Commerce at Jackson.

The meeting will be in the nature of a conference with the highway officials and much good is expected to result in definitely locating the highway, also the letting of contracts for grading and construction.

### McCord—Spencer

A beautiful home wedding occurred in Huntingdon Wednesday afternoon at 4 o'clock when Miss Ruth Spencer became the bride of Mr. F. M. McCord. The home was artistically decorated with ferns, roses and sweet peas.

Upon arrival the guests were greeted by Misses Lillie Noles and Tessie Mebane, and were served a delicious punch. Misses Dorothy Hilliard and Lessie Lifsey presiding. Miss Mary Spencer, sister of the bride, served as candle lighter. Miss Frances Freeman sang, "At Dawning" and "O Promise Me," with Miss Nannie Payne as accompanist, after which came the ceremony by Rev. T. K. Harper.

The bride was becomingly gowned in her traveling suit of blue tricotine with accessories to match and carried a shower bouquet, while her sister and girls of the bridal party wore corsages of sweet peas.

The bridal couple left on the afternoon train for Nashville and Chattanooga and after the 10th will be at home in Knoxville. The groom was reared at Camden, saw service in the recent world war, and will enter school in the University of Tennessee. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Spencer, an attractive young lady with a beautiful personality.

Mrs. J. L. Richards, who has been visiting friends in Trezevant for the past several weeks, is a guest of Hotel Olive. She was accompanied by Miss Carolyn Blanks.

## WARE MUST SERVE A TWO-YEAR TERM

### Supreme Court Rejects Defendant's Plea for the Killing of Ben Birdwell

The conviction of R. E. Ware, of Huntingdon, for homicide was affirmed by the supreme court of Tennessee at the capitol last Saturday. The court reporters made the following report of the case for the press:

"R. E. Ware, of Huntingdon, was convicted for the killing of Ben Birdwell and was sentenced to the penitentiary for a term of not less than two years nor more than 10 years for voluntary manslaughter. Ware is the owner of and operates a public garage at Huntingdon. The killing of Birdwell, which occurred about 8 o'clock on the night of September 14, 1920, followed an afternoon craps game in which Ware and Birdwell participated, during which both had become drunk. At the conclusion of the game Birdwell at the point of a knife forced Ware to turn over to him \$250 of the money which had been won in the game, which was in Ware's possession when the game ended.

"Birdwell having then started to his home, near Yuma, was followed by Ware, who had armed himself with a pistol and a shotgun, and was overtaken at a point on the public road about five or six miles south of Huntingdon.

"It was Ware's contention that when he overtook Birdwell and demanded the return of his money, which had been taken from him, Birdwell made an assault upon him with a car jack, which he had taken from his automobile, and that he was forced to shoot Birdwell in self-defense to repel the attack. While there were no eyewitnesses to the homicide except a negro employe, who undertook to corroborate Ware, the court found that the weight of the evidence, supported especially by a number of physical facts, overthrew Ware's contention and substantiated the verdict.

"The record showed that the car jack with which Ware claimed that Birdwell was assaulting him was not found at the scene of the homicide, nor at the automobile.

"Birdwell received two bullet wounds from Ware's pistol in his left side and the court found that the location of these wounds, together with their range through his body, was wholly inconsistent with Ware's contention that he fired at Birdwell when the latter was advancing on him with the car jack. The opinion of the court in this case was delivered by Justice McKinney."

Mr. Ware accepts his defeat before the supreme court in a sensible way and is determined to make the best possible of the situation.

Mrs. Ware, J. T. Peeler and Marshall Priest accompanied him to Nashville when he appeared before the supreme court.

### Neal Pickett Dead

News was received here last Saturday of the death of Neal A. Pickett at his home in Arkansas City, Kansas, on the night of May 23. Mr. Pickett had been in bad health several months, but death came following a severe attack of heart trouble. Mr. Pickett, about 29 years ago married Miss Annetta Johnson, daughter of the late William Johnson of Huntingdon. His wife and one daughter, Miss Vera Pickett, survive him. Miss Vera was a student at Ward-Belmont, Nashville, Tenn., and would have graduated on June 3, but on receipt of message announcing her father's death, left immediately for her Kansas home. Mr. Pickett was 66 years old and an active member of the Presbyterian church.

### Beverly Vaughn

Beverly Vaughn, 65, died last week of infirmities of age at the home of her son near Whitthorne. He was a member of the Missionary Baptist church and is survived by three daughters, Mrs. Lucy Dewitt, Mrs. Pattie Chandler and Mrs. Chandler of Texas, and two sons, Bob and Dempse Vaughn. After funeral services burial was in Shiloh Camp Ground cemetery.

## The Grand Leader

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