

# The Clovis News

VOL. 7. NO. 36.

CLOVIS, CURRY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO, FEBRUARY 19, 1914

\$1.00 PER YEAR

## BIG CROWDS ATTEND FARMERS DAY MEETING

Not in Four Years Have the Farming Interests of Curry County Been So Well Represented as Last Saturday.

Saturday was a gala day in Clovis and the big event of the last three or four years, as far as the farmers of Curry County are concerned. It was a splendid day and the weather brought out the best representation of actual "tillers" of the soil that have been seen on the streets of Clovis in three or four years. It even exceeded in attendance the county fair of the last three years. The Lyceum theatre was secured for the meeting and here a large crowd of farmers, stock raisers and poultry growers listened attentively to the addresses made by those who have had experience and training on the subjects they covered.

The meeting was called to order by President, B. D. Oldham of the Clovis Chamber of Commerce who presided and who introduced the speakers:

Victor L. Cory of the Texas state agricultural farm at Lubbock told the farmers about the new forage crop called Soudan Grass which he has grown successfully near Lubbock and which is considered one of the best dry farm forage crop yet discovered as it makes three crops of good hay in ordinary seasons and is especially a drouth resisting crop, particularly adapted to this very country.

C. L. Johnson, assistant demonstrator of the Santa Fe agricultural department, who came in the absence of H. M. Bainer, spoke on the subject of soil preparation and the conservation of moisture. He advocated deep fall plowing for spring planting and deep spring plowing for fall planting. He is an experienced agriculturalist and gave the farmers some good pointers in the matter of the preparation of the soil and conservation of moisture in the semi-arid sections of the country.

Will H. Pattison, proprietor of the Clovis Creamery and Produce Company, spoke on the subject of poultry and exhibited some thoroughbred leghorn and white orphington chickens.

Alex Shipley who has had a life time experience in the stock raising business, gave some facts and figures regarding the industry in Curry county. He explained all the details of the care and profit in the animal from a calf to the beef ready for the slaughter house. His argument was convincing.

J. D. Fleming, sometimes called "Farmer Fleming," gave his experience and observation of the silo, which he tested for the first time this fall and winter. He expressed himself as being well pleased with his silo experience and thinks no Curry county farmer should be without one. He will double the capacity of his silo this fall.

One of the most interesting talks of the meeting was made by a boy, who, although never before having spoken in public,

made a splendid address on the subject of dairying. It was Forrest Pattison, son of Will H. Pattison, who has just returned from Stillwell Oklahoma, where he has been attending an agricultural college. Many farmers did not attend the meeting, but preferred to remain out in the glorious sunshine bidding at the auction sales and witnessing the basket ball games.

Soudan grass seed was given the first hundred farmers, who registered at the office of Chas. E. Dennis. The fortunate ones were:

Messrs. Ohr, Varner, Weis, Payne, Helm, Farris, Roach, Rees, Phillips, Flinn, Moore, Storm, Ross, Ambrose, Stanford, Dunlap, Starkweather, Hyatt, Wilkinson, Looper, Isham, Mulhair, Anery, Hahn, Moore, Patton, Dickey, VanDorn, Harper, Cawthorn, Farris, Collins, Turner, Crow, Marks, Rogers, McGee, Hall, Boorman, Cox, Tate, Miller, Cherry, Houston, Buie, King, Miller, Fenwick, Nelson, Nelson, Huntzinger, Thomas, Gilhan, Cratt, Rambo, Moye, Curry, Hewitt, Rose, Kennedy, Bradshaw, Kos, Humphry, Grissom, Stephens, Magee, Willman, Abbey, Vinyard, Eshleman, Heinz, Grissom, Westfall, Wicks, Mott, Brashear, Rogers, Locker, Kritzberg, Reed, Westfall, Huffman, Westfall, Herrin, Palmater, Tracy, Quiggles, Curry, Byrnes, Rambo, Rogers, Dean, Moore, Landon, Stephens, Curry, Herrin and Farris.

The seed distribution is not confined alone to farmers near Clovis but is liberally distributed throughout the county.

### New Probate Judge.

J. Simpson Morgan of Texico has been appointed probate judge of Curry county, vice A. W. Hockenull resigned, last week. Mr. Hockenull's resignation was made necessary by reason of his appointment as assistant district attorney thus filling the position recently vacated by James A. Hall of Portales. The NEWS is informed that Mr. Morgan accepted the appointment on the condition that no obligation strings were attached to it and that he do his duty without fear or favor. Mr. Morgan was U. S. Commissioner at Texico and was recently admitted to practice as attorney before the courts of the state. He is an ambitious young man of good habits and has many friends in this county.

Dr. W. R. Lovelace, of Albuquerque, and Dr. Smith, of Vegas, were in the city Tuesday, en route to Roswell to appear as witness in the \$20,000 damage suit of Clara Zimmerman of Ricardo vs A. T. & S. F. railway. The case grew out of the shooting of Miss Zimmerman by S. F. employe.

## COURT NEWS

District court for Curry county convened Monday of last week, with Judge John McClure presiding. No important criminal cases were docketed for the term and the time of the grand jury was confined largely, it is said, to an investigation of the affairs of the county officers. The jury reported Friday night with seven true and five no bills. The indictments returned are against John Doe Curtis, assault; Robert Andrews, Dewitt Palmer and Charles Palmer, Larceny; R. N. Williams, removal from office as justice of peace of Texico precinct; A. J. Nichols, insulting a female; Roy D. Elder, Criminal libel and Roy D. Elder, Criminal libel, (2 cases).

The no bills reported are against John Foster, Harry Springfield, Dee McDaniel, Tom Hughes, W. H. Duckworth, Leland Chapman, W. L. Mansfield and Sam Byars.

The only case of the term that has been tried that has attracted more than ordinary attention was that of A. J. Nichols in which it was alleged that he had offered indignities or insults to a 14 year old girl named Birdie Burkhardt, while she was in his shoe store some time between the 10th and 20th of December of last year. It was brought out in the case that the father of the girl had offered to settle the alleged damages in the case for a consideration of \$150.00. A number of character witnesses were examined and the case went to the jury Tuesday evening. After deliberating all night the jury returned a verdict about ten o'clock Wednesday morning of "Not Guilty."

In the criminal libel cases of Roy D. Elder of St Vrain, who is one of the county commissioners, the court overruled a motion to quash the indictments and sustained a demurrer, it being announced by the state that the matter would be taken to the supreme court to test the validity of the criminal libel acts. In the meantime, Mr. Elder remains under bond to await the decision of the upper court to determine whether or not he will be brought to trial.

Action was taken on the following cases:

State vs Earnest Parks and Edison Hayes, plea of guilty, sentenced 90 days and costs, sentence suspended during good behavior.

O. Thompson vs Dora Gaines, judgement for \$135, favor plaintiff.

Divorce granted Ollie May Sheffield from her husband, Jos. Sheffield.

In the cases of the state vs Noel B. Pond, M. Boyle and L. West, Nos. 172, 173 and 175 respectively, indictments were quashed upon the motion of district attorney. These were the defendants in the American Bank and Trust Company cases.

## TRAINS OVER THE NEW ROAD ON MARCH FIRST

Regular Passenger Trains to Lubbock and Return and Local Freight to Slaton. R. R. Business Increasing.

Case against Wm. Ogg, charged with assault with deadly weapon, was dropped upon motion of district attorney with privilege to reinstate.

Mrs. M. L. Morgan vs W. A. Foyil, judgement favor defendant.

W. B. Mersfelder vs J. M. Varner, trespass case, judgement favor defendant of \$4.00.

W. F. Braswell vs A. E. Seigner, trespass case, judgement favor plaintiff of \$4.00, plaintiff paying costs.

The cases of the state vs J. M. Cran, L. C. Coplen and H. L. Ellison of selling liquor to minors, were dismissed.

The following divorce cases have been filed and docketed: Pete McDaniel vs Dora McDaniel, John Rambo vs Alice Rambo, Vera Stevens vs P. E. Stevens, C. V. Steed vs Eoline Steed, Myrtle Myers vs William Myers.

### Commissioner Elder Indicted

Roy D. Elder, chairman of the board of county commissioners of Curry county, was indicted by the grand jury recently on two separate counts for libeling, Arthur E. Curren, of the Clovis News, in two issues of his pamphlet called the St Vrain Journal. He was arrested by sheriff Moye and brought to Clovis in an auto Saturday and his bond in one of the cases was fixed at \$750.00, which he raised and was released from the custody of the sheriff.

His attorney, Jas Hall, argued a motion to quash the indictments before the court Tuesday, alleging that the act of the legislature of 1905 in reinstating the old criminal libel law of 1889 was invalid because it was never signed by the governor or the presiding officers of the legislature and submitted what purported to be a certified copy of the act received from the secretary of the state with the omissions of the signatures as above given. The district attorney opposed the motion and argued that the indictments were good and stated a sufficient cause of action. He then wired the secretary of the state of ascertain if the engrossed bills were really signed by the proper officers and immediately received a reply that they were, whereupon the court overruled the motion to quash the indictments. Attorney Halls next move was then to file a demurrer which was submitted without argument, which the judge sustained. The district attorney filed a motion and order for appeal to the supreme court to test the validity or constitutionality of the acts of 1889 and 1905 and to find out definitely to what extent the criminal libel law of New Mexico applies as modified by the constitution. In the meantime Elder remains under bond to await the further action of the court after decision is made by the supreme court.

The NEWS is informed by railroad employes that regular traffic over the new Galveston-Pacific railroad will be inaugurated on the first of March and that a regular passenger train will leave Clovis at seven in the morning returning at six in the evening. It will make connection with both north and south bound trains at Lubbock and a local freight will be installed which will make the entire division run to Slaton, Tex. Through traffic from the Gulf to the Pacific will not be arranged until later in the season, possibly not until July. The completion of this transcontinental line into Clovis will mean additional prosperity and already property values are increasing and business is taking on new life. More train crews will make their home in Clovis and it is announced that five traveling men will bring their families here and make this their headquarters as they can now work out from here, east, west, south and southeast. The completion of this new line makes Clovis the greatest railroad center in New Mexico. The Santa Fe has just signed a contract to deliver 18,000 cars of California fruit and is receiving new contracts daily. At the rate of 200 cars a day it will take them 90 days to complete this contract alone. The ice plant will immediately open to its full capacity of 75 tons a day. This plant employs about forty people. The shop machinery is in bad order and more men are being now added to the force to put it in repair for the heavy work expected to come soon. Summing up the business outlook at Clovis, one can truthfully say that it is better than it has been for four years.

### Railroad Officials Here

Traveling in a special train with four private cars, which came over the new Galveston-Pacific railroad, a party of Santa Fe railroad officials made Clovis a visit Monday evening, going west from here to Belen. The party included W. B. Story, Vice President; G. C. Starkweather, General superintendent; F. C. Fox, general manager, western lines; and Dan Elliott, superintendent of the plains division. It is said that no special significance is attached to the visit of the distinguished party at this time and that they are merely on a tour of inspection of the lines, especially to inspect the new cut off from the gulf which will be open to regular traffic into Clovis on the first.

Hon. Nathan Jaffa of Roswell was in the city Sunday en route home from Denver, where he was cononeted a thirtythree degree mason. He was accompanied by Sol Jaffa and son Arthur, of Trinidad.