

DURANT WEEKLY NEWS

OFFICIAL PAPER OF BRYAN COUNTY

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TEXAS WRITER MAKING OBSERVATIONS IN THIS COUNTY

Mont Wyman of Farm and Ranch, is spending a few weeks in this vicinity gathering data for write-ups of the section for his publication.

Mr. Wyman paid the News office a visit this week and favored this paper with some of his views regarding Bryan county and the varied interests of the farmer citizens.

"Very candidly, the farmers of Bryan county do not know the value of their own agricultural advantages. I find in this county some of the best crops I have found any place in the State. Particularly can be emphasized the peanut crop, which looks fine, and which will prove one of the most profitable crops that can be raised in Southern Oklahoma and Eastern and Northern Texas. With the co-operation of the banks and the cotton oil mills, the peanut propaganda will have ample backing, and that means that hogs and dairy cattle will prove profitable additions on any farm."

Mont Wyman, formerly of Durant, and now advertising manager for the Farm and Ranch, at Dallas, Texas, expressed his opinion of the agricultural situation in Bryan county in the above manner, after spending several days among the farmers of the county and the merchants of this city. Continuing, he said:

"Peanuts, hogs and cattle go together. They are thoroughly allied, and hogs and dairy cattle are just as naturally a part of a peanut propaganda as creameries are a natural result of dairy cattle."

"There has been a disposition on the part of the Southern farmer to neglect natural grasses. It has been proven that Bermuda will grow on our wooded hillsides. In East Texas the people are very reluctantly coming to this conclusion, and right now you will find some of the finest Bermuda pastures in the world on some of those red Texas hillsides."

"I have visited several farms during the past few days and every one of them has proven beyond a doubt that Bermuda will grow. Here is solved one of the problems of this section, that of getting a real pasture. Surely within the next three or four years these Bryan County farms will know more of Bermuda, of Sudan, of Crimson Clover, and half a dozen other grasses that save the farmers' feed bill."

"Just a few years ago Texas was importing hay and feed stuff for horses and cattle. Today Texas is feeding itself and saving millions of dollars. Every county should learn to stand on its own bottom as far as its feed crop is concerned."

"Now, this section has also shown that it can raise hogs profitably. You are close to two good markets, in fact three, Kansas City, Oklahoma City, and Fort Worth. This should be one of the biggest hog-raising counties in the State. This county has splendid drainage, and hog raising should be easy. Imagine the difficulty of some of the breeders in the Texas and Oklahoma waxy black lands must confront—note the increased chances for cholera and other diseases where less perfect drainage is enjoyed."

"The farmers in every section of the United States were compelled to study their market problems and to study them closely, because in some instances the local merchant was not keeping posted on current market quotations, and knew nothing of market possibilities. Nearly every merchant knows something about the cotton market—he has been watching that for years. However, it is the merchant that knows the live stock market, who is able to buy poultry and eggs, paying the farmer as much absolutely as the market will stand, who is familiar with practically every farm product and its possibilities, that is the man that is of benefit to the farmer and to the community."

"Quite naturally the farmer prefers to sell his produce in the local market. If he produces in quantity this cannot be done. Merchants now days must co-operate with the farmer, else lose touch with him. If you want to keep your farmers' money in your home town, help him make it."

"In our office at Dallas we firmly believe that the day of Southern and Eastern Oklahoma and Northern and Eastern Texas has arrived. We say every day to the Eastern manufacturer that this will be the dairy country of the United States, that it will be the hog country of the United States. This, every man in our organization thoroughly believes. This is the territory which has always given up a living so easily that a profit was too little desired."

"It's different now. Farming must

one scientifically. The half-way is gone. The man's investigations will be of two or three weeks in the immediate section, and the results of his investigations will appear from time to time in Farm and Ranch."

HEAVY DEMOCRATIC VOTE IS RECORDED

Democrats of Bryan county have never turned out to the polls better than they did in the Tuesday primary, when the total vote, according to unofficial returns, aggregated close to 3100 out of a total registration of 3600 in the county. The large vote is due partly to unusual interest in several county races, and partly to clear weather and the fact that farmers are pretty well caught up with their work.

COOK - HARALSON

Tuesday of this week at Caddo was solemnized the wedding of Miss Myrtle Haralson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Haralson, to Mr. Guy Cook of Denison. The ceremony was performed at high noon, following which Mr. and Mrs. Cook took the northbound train for a wedding trip. Only relatives and close friends were present. The bride has lived in Durant for several years, where she has been associated with the First National Bank and while here acquired a large circle of warm friends. The groom lives in Denison and is a conductor in the employ of the M. K. & T. Railway Company. They will make their home in Denison.

BIG SUBMARINE LEAVES ON THE RETURN TRIP TO GERMANY

The German merchant sub., The Deutchland, which arrived safely in the Baltimore harbor recently with a valuable cargo from Germany and which succeeded in eluding the vigilant Allied vessels on its trip across the Atlantic, left Tuesday evening on its return trip to Germany. The captain expressed the utmost confidence in his ability to elude his enemies a second time. However, it will be a difficult matter to accomplish, for the reason that when the submarine approaches the three-mile maritime boundary of safety the water is not deep enough for the submersible to sink deep enough to go under the hulls of the many vessels of the Allies that are on the lookout, and will have to submerge as much as possible and then go between them. The captain and crew express the sincerest gratitude for the fair play they have met with in this country.

\$1,000,000 FOR NON-PRODUCING LEASES

A check for \$1,000,000 Wednesday passed between A. P. Crockett, president of the Fortune Oil Company and an official of the Roxana Petroleum Company of Tulsa in payment for oil leases upon 480 acres of oil land near Yale, Oklahoma. Oil has not been discovered on any of the property, and the price is the highest yet paid for non-producing acreage in the State. The original price of the leases, about eight months ago, was \$400. The Fortune Company retains about 800 acres of holdings adjoining the acreage sold. The Roxana Company is now constructing a large refinery at Cushing, and also is building a pipe line between Cushing and Healdton.

MOE PEACE TALK

Peace talk is rife in all the warring countries, according to reports in the metropolitan newspapers. Premier Asquith of Great Britain says that the entente allies are waging war as a unity and can consider peace only with the restoration of Belgium and Serbia. In Germany, it is reported that peace meetings are being held in many places, and the populace is crying enough of war. It is not believed Germany would consent to peace on the basis of giving up her conquered territory, and it is on this point, statesmen say, that peace movements will fail.

CORN BURNING UP

Many complaints are being heard over the county that corn is being badly damaged for want of rain; while the bottom corn is not hurt much as yet, but soon will be if rain does not come. E. E. Rollins, in from Wade Wednesday, said that his corn is not hurt any to speak of, while farmers west of Calera, on the prairie, say their corn is ruined. Cotton is not hurt much, but is needing rain.

LEECRAFT CAME HOME TO VOTE

Honorable Arthur N. Leecraft, member of the State Board of Public Affairs at Oklahoma City, was here Wednesday for a short time, he having come to his home at Colbert to vote in the primary election. He returned to Oklahoma City Thursday of this week.

TUESDAY'S WAS AN ELECTION OF MANY LARGE MAJORITIES

FINNEY FOR COUNTY CLERK HAS LARGEST LEAD, BEING 864 VOTES AHEAD OF NEAREST COMPETITOR.—NEXT IS BEATY, WITH LEAD OF 848, PHILLIPS 807, AND JONES WITH A MAJORITY OF 726. — OTHER FIGURES ON RESULT.

Tuesday's Democratic primary was an election of big majorities, and hence one of big surprises. When unofficial returns announced that John Finney for county clerk had outdistanced Henry Deaton, his nearest competitor, by 864 votes, and had piled up a majority of 339 votes over both of his opponents, spectators who swarmed the streets in front of the bulletin board fairly gasped, for the county clerk's race had been regarded as a close one.

The race for treasurer between Carl Beaty and John Spell was regarded with uneasiness by both sides, but the returns quickly proclaimed young Beaty the victor, and by the large majority of 848 votes.

Likewise came as a surprise the termination of the scrap between John Phillips for re-election as sheriff and Jeff Early. Many men said that the race would be hard and close and that it was a toss-up for a winner. But the returns gave Phillips a majority of 807 votes.

A distinct surprise was the county judge's race. It was known that Lewis Paullin, former editor of the News, had a big following, but that he would defeat Rappolee was never for a moment anticipated by the old heads and political dopesters. The unofficial returns give Paullin 402 votes more than Rappolee. Election day morning Paullin told some friends that he had the race won by 400 votes. Pretty close guessing!

The county attorney's race between Chas. Abbott and Claude Smith was closer. Unofficial returns

gave Abbott a majority of 249, and official returns will not alter this to any appreciable extent. The result of this race was in doubt all during the night as the returns kept pouring in.

W. H. Yeats came off victor for county assessor over Wallace Gates and C. A. Woodward with a plurality of 291 votes. Varner Stinson beat J. E. Davis for county surveyor by 391 votes, and W. E. Utterback polled 1536 votes for State central committeeman to C. C. Hatchett's 1096.

For county commissioner, district one, Ed Spears comes in with so many votes that his three opponents were never in the running.

In the second commissioner's district it was nip and tuck between Ben Hultman and R. B. Lemon, the latter winning with nine votes to spare.

In the third district Gray Nickels was beaten by J. W. Jones by 70 votes out of a total of \$90 cast for both candidates.

In the city W. S. Archibald and Scott Shannon were nominated for justices of the peace, the former leading the ticket by a large vote. Mr. Shannon asked a second term. Other candidates were Lon Wilkerson, J. E. Simmons and R. C. Apple. For constable Uncle Zack Serner led the field by a neck, and W. A. Dickerson was winner of the second place by 7 votes. Tom Tabor, who had been looked upon as a winner for days, barely lost out, and L. P. Johnson ran fourth.

PERSONNEL OF REPRESENTATIVES IN DOUBT

As indicated by unofficial returns from 24 of the 42 boxes of the county, Bryan county's representatives in the Legislature will be Messrs. W. A. Durant and Porter Newman. Durant led the field, with Newman second. However, persons particularly interested in the race for representative, claiming to have unofficial returns from 38 boxes, claim second place in the representative contest for G. A. Ramsay, of Colbert. It is evident that second place in this race will be fairly close, and the until the official returns are given out, one may not be definitely known by the county election board.

ALL QUESTIONS LOSE IN BRYAN COUNTY

While no returns have been tabulated from the county in the several State questions, sufficient information has been received by Secretary Benson of the County Election board to warrant the statement that all State questions have lost in the county, some of them by a heavy majority. The famous Section 12a of the Constitution, which if carried in the State will result in the bankrupting of eighteen school districts in the county, was on the ballot stated negatively. The question, as presented, was for or against the amendment, and persons voting NO thereby voted for the amendment. It is believed that the majority against this proposition, and hence for the amendment, has been heavy in this county.

Were the voters informed of the real meaning of the simultaneous proposition they would undoubtedly have quashed it here, where it will do the most harm. The trouble is that the rank and file do not take the time and pains to inform themselves on such matters, and vote on everything that comes up, believing they are voting against it.

THE NEWS GIVES THE RETURNS

On another page of this issue of the News will be found a table giving the vote each candidate for county office has received in the various boxes. The information was secured in a hurry over the telephone and otherwise, and while pretty apt to be correct in most instances, barring errors in calculation, it is not official. The official returns, upon which results are announced and certificates of nomination awarded, are issued by the county election board. As soon as this board, now in session, has canvassed the votes, the official returns for each box will be given in the News. Attention this week has only been paid to the county offices, as it is there that the chief interest lies. As soon as figures are available the detailed vote for various precinct officials, State officials, and State questions, will be printed in these columns.

ing the News office, has at last received its just desserts and been relegated to the kindling pile. Workmen finished the process of demolition this week. It is reported that a local capitalist will erect a modern business house on the ground.

POST OFFICE APPOINTMENT EXPECTED

Appointment of a postmaster for Durant to succeed C. W. Early, whose commission has expired, is momentarily expected now, and Congressman Carter, upon whose recommendation the appointment will be made by President Wilson, is expected here to look over the situation almost any day. The four applicants for the position are Dial Curran, Sam Swinney, James Yarbrough, and J. H. Downing.

NOTE RECEIVED IN MEXICO

Washington, Aug. 3.—Official's of the de facto government of Mexico have been favorably impressed, according to information reaching the State Department, by Acting Secretary Polk's note accepting the suggestion for a joint international commission to consider border problems, but no definite indication has come as to when General Carranza's reply may be expected.

At the Mexican embassy it was said that the reply might be received today, although officials would not disclose upon what information the statement was based.

At neither the State Department nor the embassy would any official predict what position the de facto authorities would take in regard to the American proposal that the commission be authorized to discuss other matters than the military situation on the border. It was made clear by administration officials that the suggestion did not contemplate discussion of acquisition of territory, of claims of one government against the other arising out of the losses suffered by Americans in Mexico, on the one hand, or damage resulting from the occupation of Mexican territory by American troops on the other, or the processes which have brought the de facto government into power.

STATE COMMITTEE MEETS ON AUGUST 14TH

The State Democratic Committee will meet at Oklahoma City on the 14th of August to arrange for the statewide campaign to be instituted in behalf of the nominees of the party.

IS BILL MURRAY BEATEN

Reports from Ada, headquarters for Judge Tom McKeown, indicate from almost complete returns that McKeown has defeated Murray for Congress from that district, although the race is so close that the result will not be assured until the official returns are in. There has been a great opposition to Murray developing in that district, and the opposition picked Judge McKeown as the logical man with whom to retire the sage of Tishomingo.

OFF ON VACATION

W. K. Gilstrap of the Durant National Bank, and wife and son have gone to Fort Worth for a two weeks visit where they will spend the time with relatives of Mrs. Gilstrap.

BACK FROM THE EAST

Buck McKinney of the Durant National Bank returned this week from a week's business trip in New York and Washington, D. C. He visited in Chicago with his sisters, Miss Alice and Miss Hallie McKinney, who are taking some special work here this summer.

GABE PARKER HERE

Gabe E. Parker, superintendent of the Muskogee Indian office, accompanied by Mrs. Parker, was here for a short time Monday, while Mr. Parker attended to some official business matters.

OFF FOR A VACATION

Several young ladies of the city leave next week for Sulphur, Okla., where they will spend a week or ten days on their vacations. The personnel of the party is to be, Misses Pearl Arnold, Ethel Whale, Eunice Phillips, and Faye Evans.

BRITISH TRAITOR EXECUTED

Sir Roger Casement, the Irish peer convicted of high treason in connection with the Irish rebellion, was executed in the Pentonville prison at London at nine o'clock Thursday morning.

STATE TICKET RETURNS

Meagre returns received at Oklahoma City from all over the State indicate that every amendment and State question presented to the voters at the Tuesday election has been defeated.

OLD FIRE-TRAP IS REMOVED

The old Harvey building which, ever since Durant was a budding village, has "adorned" the lot adjoin-

OKLAHOMA CROP CONDITIONS

Interesting Report as Announced by the Department of Agriculture of State of Oklahoma

The summary of crop conditions as prepared by the Board of Agriculture as of this date, is as follows: Growing condition of corn, 69 per cent.

Per cent of the acreage planted to corn that has been abandoned, 6 per cent.

Growing condition of cotton, 82 per cent.

Per cent of the acreage planted to cotton that has been abandoned, 8 per cent.

Growing conditions of the following crops: Kafir corn, 76 per cent; milo maize, 75 per cent; feterita, 76 per cent; alfalfa, 79 per cent; sorghum, 81 per cent; broom corn, 76 per cent; and peanuts, 82 per cent.

Acreage planted to the following crops compared to the acreage that was planted last year, 100 per cent representing the acreage: Kafir corn, 86 per cent; milo maize, 79 per cent; feterita, 73 per cent; sorghum, 89 per cent, and peanuts, 99 per cent.

Corn has a growing condition of 69 per cent. This is 17 per cent below the growing condition of one month ago, and 14 per cent below the condition of same date last year. Continued dry weather has caused considerable damage to the corn crop. However, some localities in the State received good rains during the latter part of July, and the early corn crop was practically assured where these rains fell. Six per cent of the acreage planted to corn has been abandoned on account of various causes, leaving 3,988,400 acres standing.

Cotton has a growing condition of 82 per cent. This is one per cent better than the condition of one month ago and 16 per cent better than on the condition on the same date last year. Cotton has not suffered from the dry weather as much as have the other crops. However, continued dryness will cause heavy damages. Eight per cent of the acreage planted to cotton has been abandoned on account of various causes.

Forage crops are in fair condition, having withstood the dry weather as well as could have been expected. The acreage planted to Kafir corn is 14 per cent less than last year's acreage. Milo maize 21 per cent less; feterita 27 per cent less, and sorghum 11 per cent less. All forage crops have a decrease in acreage this year, due principally to failures of crops in 1915, and increased acreages of other crops this year.

Peanuts have a growing condition of 82 per cent. The acreage planted this year is 1 per cent less than the acreage last year, making a total of 17,642 acres of growing peanuts.

Broom corn has a growing condition of 75 per cent. This is 9 per cent less than the condition of one month ago, and 5 per cent less than the condition on the same date last year. The acreage planted to broom corn this year amounts to 223,658 acres. The broom corn harvest is progressing nicely, and fancy prices are being paid. One contract price of 125 per ton has been reported at Lindsay, Oklahoma.

THREATENED TO DRIVE THE NEGROES OFF

The sheriff's office received a hurry call on the afternoon of election day from the home of Charley Bates at Nida, who said that a bunch of fellows were threatening violence to three negroes whom he had engaged to chop out his cotton. Officers McFarrige, Kiersey and Tom Bates got in Laudy Sauls' car and went out there, but nothing happened. Bates told the officers that a half dozen men had come up to his place that day and told him to get rid of his negroes by sundown.

EXCISE BOARD IN SESSION

The county excise board met Wednesday and approved the county ely and the city school levy for the ensuing fiscal year, and then recessed until Friday, when they will take up the various town, city, and school district levies for consideration and approval.

CAUGHT MAN FOR COALGATE

Deputies McFarrige and Wright arrested one Tom Christmas here on Wednesday on a warrant from Coalgate charging assault to kill. The prisoner was turned over to the Coal county officers later. He is a horse jockey and has been hanging around here for some time.

WILSON FOR WOMAN SUFFRAGE

President Wilson has announced that his position on the question of woman suffrage is unchanged. The President favors giving women the ballot without Federal action, in other words, each State handling the matter for itself.