

THE GAZETTE,

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MURDER IS RIFE.

The reign of the six shooter is again on in Texas. There were four attempts at killing in two days last week. Captain William Christian, an old and honored citizen of Houston, was shot at in his home, but by the merest chance, was not fatally injured. A young farmer by the name of Sauer was also shot in Houston. An attempt was made to assassinate Mr. W. T. Eldridge at Eagle Lake, and a telegraph operator was shot and killed at Yorktown for the purpose of robbery. It is the opinion of the GAZETTE that this reckless disregard of law and human life is the natural result of the lax administration of the law. No matter how foul a murder is committed, if the perpetrator has money and a few influential friends he is almost sure to come scot free.

"There needs no ghost come from the grave" to tell you that the GAZETTE is not for Mr. Meitzen.

Mr. Bryan's platform tree in the last issue of the Commoner is a strong argument for the Kansas City platform.

The Japs have already given 3500 lives in their effort to capture Fort Arthur, and are prepared to give twice that many more.

In the excitement of the political campaign, don't overlook the brave little Japs over in Manchuria, fighting for their national existence.

The date for the sailing of Russia's Baltic fleet has been deferred so often that it is now not expected to sail until after the close of the war.

The wisecracks all predicted that when the fighting on land commenced, the Japs would not be able to stand against the Russians, but the contrary has been the case. The Russians have been defeated in every important land engagement that has taken place so far. They have been both out-generaled and out-fought.

For the benefit of Mr. Meitzen, who sets himself up as the only man with brains enough to understand the Terrell election law, we quote the following section from that law: It would be a violation of the law "For any newspaper man to receive any money or thing of value as a consideration for advocating or opposing the election or appointment of any one to an office in editorial article or articles." Mr. Meitzen expects to receive the office of county judge by opposing Judge Gray.

E. O. Meitzen, the self-appointed candidate for county judge of Lavaca county, was in Shiner several days a few weeks ago, distributing literature abusive of his opponent, Judge C. J. Gray. Mr. Meitzen does not seem to rely much on his own fitness for the place, his main efforts being made to pull down Judge Gray. But Mr. Meitzen's efforts now, as in the past, will prove futile. The democracy of Lavaca county is not yet prepared to elevate Mr. Meitzen to so important a position. The Shiner box can be relied upon to give Judge Gray a majority of at least 2 to 1.

Presidential Delegates.

At the mass meeting held at Hallettsville on June 4th, the following delegates were appointed to attend the State Convention to be held at San Antonio on June 21st, some being known as the presidential convention:

B. P. Stephenson, Marcus Schwartz, F. Jansk, Theodore Golsch, D. A. Paulus, J. C. Habermacher, M. G. Ranney, Joseph Christen, R. L. Eschenburg, J. M. Little, Theo. Smoot, J. C. Lamkin, E. J. Motis, J. M. Holub, Frank Matula, Dr. J. G. Guenther, J. A. Fowlkes, H. P. Smith, J. C. Blum, Louis Tetschick, O. F. Knapp, William Blakeslee, T. J. Brown of Hallettsville, J. S. Airheart and John Kloppenburg. The report was approved with the following delegates added: W. R. McCutchan, W. R. Beaumier, O. C. Searry and S. J. Townsend.

Hon. A. Haidueck of La Grange and Hon. J. C. Lamkin of Hallettsville were endorsed as delegates from this district to the National Convention.

The delegates will go unimpaired for the presidential choice to the convention, though the sentiment seemed to be strongly Parker.

Mr. Meitzen's great (?) manifesto has now tumbled to pieces like a house built of cards.

The price of cotton has dropped some, but middling is still quoted at 12 cents in Galveston.

Judge Gray's reply to Mr. Meitzen's circular was a crusher. Now, Mr. Meitzen, be right good.

The GAZETTE has received a copy of Judge Gray's reply to Mr. E. O. Meitzen's circular, but for lack of space, cannot publish it this week, but will give it next week in full. Judge Gray's reply is conclusive and shows the utter falsity of Mr. Meitzen's charges.

The corn and cotton crops around Shiner are in better condition now than for many years past. The boll weevil, however, are showing up in pretty good force. Some farmers are gathering up and burning the squares. There is very little poisoning being done around Shiner.

The City Bakery will furnish you nice fresh bread every day, delivered free. Fresh yeast twice a week.
CHAS. SCHINDLER, Prop.

The GAZETTE has been asked to give its views as to the outcome of the race for county judge between C. J. Gray and E. O. Meitzen, and we predict the following result: Judge Gray will carry Hallettsville, Yoakum, Shiner, Moplon, Hope and New Sweet Home. We also believe he will carry Moravia, but are not certain on that point. Mr. Meitzen will probably carry Scharlottenburg, Worthing and perhaps Witting; also Hardy Sandies and Fuller's school house. Those last two boxes only poll about 25 votes each.

The City Bakery
Chas. Schindler, prop. Fresh Bread, Rolls, Cakes, Etc., every day. Bread delivered daily. Cakes to order.

Address by Prof. F. E. Guenther.

Prof. F. E. Guenther, county superintendent of schools of Lavaca county, will be in Shiner on Monday June 20th, and address the citizens on the subject of education and the special school tax. The address will be given at night at 8.30 o'clock at the opera house, and everybody, young and old, are invited to be present and hear him.

Schultze & Seydler, Druggists, sell Dr. Mendenhall's Liver Regulator for 25c a bottle, and if it is not the best medicine you have ever used for Biliousness, Constipation, Dyspepsia and all diseases of the Liver and Stomach, they pay the money back.

Mr. McChesne, brother of R. V. F. L. McChesne, was here during the past week on a visit.

Make Hay While the Sun Shines

If you are on the list for a new Mowing Machine and Rake now is the time to buy. We have the

McCormick

The best and lightest running machine on the market today, with all the latest improvements, roller bearing and vertical lift. It will pay you to examine the McCormick machine and rake before buying elsewhere. Ask your neighbor about the good points of the McCormick Mower, who has just bought one, and be convinced.

WOLTERS BROTHERS,

shiner, - - - Texas.

SOLE AGENTS,

The Public School Question.

(By Prof. F. P. Guenther)

The public educational question of today is no longer to convince the public of the blessings, the benefits, the necessity of good public schools in every community, but the problem before us is, how to secure and maintain them. Not even the liberal public state and county school funds, corps of conscientious and competent teachers, with the harmonious co-operation of home and school, assisted by the moral support of the entire community can accomplish this, but the material and liberal financial support in dollars and cents by everybody in the community is almost essential to build up and keep up good public schools.

The old saying, "Money makes the mare go," is as true in public school affairs as in any other concern. If you expect a good school in your town you have to contribute your share to pay for it. But, alas! as a rule, the public does not look at it from this point of view. People figure on and prepare to meet all kind of expenses necessary to provide for the comforts, pleasure and general welfare of their families during the year. We willingly pay heavy taxes for roads, insignificant jails and court houses—just stop to think the property of all the schools in Lavaca county represents about 42 per cent of the value of the court house and jail! People look upon it as a matter of fact to be taxed for all kinds of public improvements—they even contribute liberally to such affairs as—harbours, levees, etc. The sad fact that some places even in this country, boast magnificent buildings erected by the community for the purposes of dancing, lodge meetings, pleasure resorts, etc., while by the side of them are old dilapidated shanties, entirely unfit for human habitation and, those are the public schools! Just think of the amount of money that every town yearly sends away from home for support of outside institutions. But alas! for the home public school, the stronghold of morality and enlightenment in the community, the very core, the vitality of the nation's prosperity, not a cent for tribute! It is entirely dependent upon the government for support which is wholly inadequate.

I do believe the fact, that the state of Texas more liberally provides for public education than any other state in the union, does about as much harm as good to our public free schools. Statistics prove that those states having the least public school funds have the best public schools. For the simple reason, that in those states the parents do not rely upon the government to educate their children, but they take this most sacred duty upon themselves. They are the actual financial stockholders in their schools. The state merely encourages and assists them. It is a well known fact that we never realize the value and fully appreciate that which comes to us without having to pay for it. People are most interested in that for which they have to go down into their own pockets and pay for.

You people of Shiner, know all over the state for your enterprise and prosperity, you who can justly be proud of your little city, progressive, up to date in every respect, intellectually, socially and materially, but I beseech you must admit your public school is not in line

with the general prosperity of your town, its financial outlook is not in the least promising.

Your scholastic census rolls for 1904-1905 show 154 pupils. Now suppose a tax rate of about \$5.15 this will make the apportionment \$783.10 for the ensuing term, that will hardly give you a term of 4 months free school. Any one with a sound mind will admit that under such conditions Shiner can not possibly have an efficient public school. In the first place you can not expect to secure the services of an able corps of teachers, and the best and most earnest workers can not do justice to your children, though you supplement the free school term by "pay school."

This unfavorable status of your educational affairs can easily and permanently be remedied by levying a special school tax. It is an unfortunate fact that a strong prejudice exists against such taxation. Some time ago the question of levying a special school tax was agitated in a certain district in this county. One day a patron of said district came to my office infuriated, denouncing such proposition in the most scathing terms.

He closed his argument by: "I'm a poor and hard working man; my present burden of taxation is enough for me, besides I have to provide 4 children with school supplies." I asked him for the amount of his taxable property, it was \$900. I showed the gaud man that at 15 cents on the hundred, his school tax would amount to \$1.35 and said he would have increased the term in that district about 1 1/2 months. So he was fighting a proposition by which the paltry sum of \$1.35 would secure his 4 children 1 1/2 months more school and just at the time when it does them most good.

That you, the truly patriotic citizens of Shiner, you who really have the common wealth of your town at heart, that you take the right view of the situation and that you have a strong unbounded faith in the doctrine of public schools is shown by your action; despite of previous discouragements you again bring this vital question to an issue.

I do sincerely hope that your untiring efforts to do the right thing for your town this time will be crowned by success. As one who has the welfare of every school in the county at heart, I beg leave to appeal to the intelligence, the fair mindedness, to the loyalty as American citizens of the legal voters of the Shiner Independent School District, before you cast your ballot on the 21st. Consider well following facts: At the rate of 20 cents on the \$100 you can raise about \$600 special school tax; this will put your school on a sound basis and its financial affairs can permanently be managed according to a regulated business proposition.

In districts where the special school tax has been established, the people are well pleased, for the reason that it is the only effective means to maintain efficient schools. Within the 3 years last past, 6 districts in Lavaca county have levied a local school tax. Besides Shiner, 3 districts will vote on the tax in the near future and indications are entirely in favor of the tax. In several districts the movement is on foot to bring this question to an issue. I expect that at the end of the coming term between 15 and 20 districts will levy a local school tax. I do trust that the whole awake people of the Shiner Independent School will not be out done by rural districts, but

that after the 21st inst. Shiner will be included in the list of the progressive and prosperous school districts of Lavaca county.

With sincere wishes for success and confident that on June 21st, 1904, the special school tax overwhelmingly will be carried, I beg to remain most faithfully yours,
F. P. GUENTHER,
Co. Supt.

Notice to Creditors.

All persons having claims against the estate of Mrs. Anna Hohertz, deceased, will take notice that we, J. A. Wolters and Ad. Hohertz, Sr. were on Dec. 17, 1903, appointed executors of the said estate, by the Honorable County Court of Lavaca County; that all claims against said estate will have to be presented to us within the time prescribed by law; that our post-office address is Shiner, Lavaca county, Texas.

Witness our hand this 9th day of June, 1904.

J. A. WOLTERS,
AD. HOHERTZ, SR.,
Executors.

Now is the time to paint your houses, barns, etc. For the next 30 days I will sell all house paints at \$1.50 per gallon. I have a large stock on hand, lead oil and all colors, in pound and 2 pound cans; will be sold cheaper than ever offered before. Don't put off painting your houses when you can buy your paint at the above prices.

Respectfully,
O. L. WILLIAMS.

Mr. J. A. Wolters and daughter, Miss Otilie will leave today for St. Louis to see the sights of the World's Fair.

Butter Wanted.

We want to buy your butter, eggs and poultry. Nothing but spot cash paid.

S. A. CARRER & SON.

Facts From Farm and Ranch.

Continue fighting the boll weevil both by the use of Paris green and cultural methods.

Study soil and climate in your immediate vicinity and grow crops which conditions justify.

Farmers who look to ants to clear fields of insect pests are destined to meet disappointment. Even if ants did destroy boll weevils the condition of the planter would not be greatly improved with thousands of stinging ants swarming in the field. Who would undertake to pick the cotton? If pickers could be secured their shoes would have to be saturated with petroleum as a protection against the ants. Thrashing might be resorted to but then the grade of the staple would be reduced. Don't be led astray by advocates of such "heroic measures," or contemplate appealing to the legislature to protect ants.

Mr. Peck Welhausen returned home last week from College Station, where he had been attending the Agricultural and Mechanical College.

Mr. Frank Ellis of Alice, a member of the Alice Business Men's League, was in Shiner several days this week inspecting the Shiner water works plant.