

EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT.

Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Arnold of Lissie Celebrate Sixtieth Wedding Anniversary.



On Monday evening of last week at Lissie, Mrs. O. E. Sinclair, ably assisted by Mrs. Ray Arnold, entertained a few of the many friends of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Arnold, the occasion being their sixtieth wedding anniversary. The Arnold-Sinclair home is one of the most hospitable in the little town of Lissie and all welcome the

chance to be its guests. The evening passed very pleasantly and at a late hour, two courses of dainty refreshments were passed, after which the guests parted with many hearty wishes for Mother and Father Arnold. The above picture of Mr. and Mrs. Arnold was taken at their home on their sixtieth wedding anniversary day.

Improvements During 1911

More substantial improvements were executed and still more planned, during the year just passed than in any year in the last ten. This is true not only of the city of Eagle Lake, but also of the surrounding farming territory.

On "Satsuma Ridge," Messrs. Kolberg and Anderson have demonstrated that the fig culture is a commercial success and that with intelligent care, this industry will yield results so large that many now skeptical must, in a few years, sit up and take notice. The potato crop was the largest and most profitable ever produced in this vicinity—the effect being that land values have almost doubled. Furthermore, the new citizens attracted here by this industry are of the very highest type of American manhood—educated gentlemen who have learned and are practicing the theory that labor and close attention to business, coupled with sobriety and clean living, make a combination which surely wins. Many of them are taking a lively interest in the general welfare of our community.

Though for two years previous, the price of rice was so low as to be almost prohibitive, the 1911 crop was so satisfactory in both yield and price, that the entire status from planter to rice mill stock owner, has materially and noticeably improved.

In the town proper one of the most important accomplishments was the organization of a live Business League which is going to survive and be of untold value to the future. Already it has agitated and is actively behind a sidewalk campaign and a stock law. The establishment of a creamery and an oil mill are among the more important industries it is attempting to secure.

Nearly fifty of our most prominent business men are enrolled as members, and as soon as the others realize that the League has for its sole purpose the building up and improvement of our town and community, and that it is not a mere "club" for any real estate scheme, or other selfish personal aims, undoubtedly all will come in and help push.

The reconstruction of our electric lighting and water supply system just now completed gives Eagle Lake a plant superior to those in many towns' double its size, and affords an abundance of water unsurpassed in purity.

No less than fifteen residence and business buildings are now under construction or contract, and the year 1912 promises to show the best growth in the history of the town.

The fact of our having two of the best rice mills and one of the best sugar refineries in the South here, has helped very materially in our development. But we should have other factories. We have the shipping facilities second to none of the smaller cities. Raw products, cotton and cotton seed could be utilized to the advantage of our city and surrounding country. We should by all means have the creamery, even if started on a small plan. The opportunity is before us, to start a tanning proposition in a small, conservative and paying plan. And the farming element can and should support a business dealing in poultry, eggs, etc.

The development is but a fore-runner of what should and can be done. During the next five or ten years, this community should show greater development than during the past fifteen years. Farming will show greater improvement without question. Crops and livestock will be raised to help out in the payment of living expenses. Good roads will come as a necessity, and this not only means less expense in getting crops to the railroad, but even more, means good drainage for lands in cultivation. The city with progressive management and a determined effort in getting for Eagle Lake and its inhabitants such improvements as are necessary in making this city in every sense, is bound to grow to a

population of 10,000 people at least in the next ten years.

During the last two years the potato industry has grown in this vicinity by leaps and bounds. It is only four years since potatoes have been grown here, but in that time the acreage has increased until potatoes are one of the leading crops.

Less than 1,500 acres were planted to potatoes, and the crop from this area amounted to about 500 cars. The yield last year was considerably above the average, and prices fairly good, so planting this year is on a bigger scale. The list given below foots up 3723 acres, which is more than double that of a year ago. This is as close an estimate as can be made at the present time, because all the farmers are still planting, and the list is not complete.

Most of the potatoes have been planted in well prepared ground with plenty of moisture, so that the crop is starting out with favorable chances.

The following list is as complete as possible for the Eagle Lake district, though probably a few growers have been omitted:

Helmer Bros. 150
Mentor Northington 40
Henry Heine 40
P. H. Brown & Sons 40
F. L. Dierker 225
Fred Wagner 30
A. E. Mitchell 10
N. W. Callison 30
E. B. Silvers 25
M. G. Womack 40
McCall 25
B. H. Wilkins 150
J. W. Duncan 40
Harry Terrell 40
J. W. Burns 40
Terrell Bros. 220
Brielsch & Terrell 220
Rogers Bros. 40
J. G. Frazer 50
Ford Frazer 50
Z. Williams 40
C. M. Womack 100
C. F. Weldon 50
W. M. Womack 100
W. H. Atkinson 25
Wilson 10
Joe Force 40
Albion 10
F. Bright & O. Miller 10
E. E. Laven 10
Lissie Partles 25
W. H. Hanch 25
Wm. Schlemmer 50
Total 3,723

Eagle Lake's Wonderful Growth

To anyone not having kept close tab on the development of the Eagle Lake district, who knew this section when the prospectors first settled on the prairie lands east of town, now visiting Eagle Lake, would find a remarkable change as to the town, surrounding country and conditions as a whole. And it is no doubt true, that many of the inhabitants of Eagle Lake even, do not appreciate what has been done.

Eighteen years ago this coming month, the first party of prospectors visited Eagle Lake. These parties had been told of the beautiful prairie lands ready for settlement and which were apparently as valuable as a great percentage of the prairie country in what is termed the corn-growing States. These people were offered lands at prices ranging from \$6 to \$7 an acre, and during the first year a considerable acreage was sold along what is known as West Bernard creek. A great many of the people coming in were people who had never had experience in a new country, and as a result their stay in this section was limited to the amount of money they brought with them. While the natural drainage is better than in the most of the Texas Coast Country, without roads

or some work in draining their fields, their crops were not a success. People were coming and going, and while a goodly number received some profit from their investment, we had not yet the class of settlers who develop a country.

About twelve years ago a change took place. Capt. Duvovent proved to his own satisfaction, and to that of the prairie lands would produce rice the equal of any country.

After his first experiment, Mr. John Linderholm put in the first well proposition west of Houston, this plant being installed on the county line, joining Chesterville. With the discovery of the splendid strata of water bearing gravel found in this section, it was only a matter of a short time until others took advantage of the same. Other sections

learned of the discovery, and the first well proposition was operated. Chesterville had many visitors from other points in the Coast Country, who wanted to see for themselves what was being done, that they might experiment along same lines in their own section. This was the beginning of a change and of development of Eagle Lake and surrounding country. If figures would show the volume of trade that has come to Eagle Lake from this prairie, it would stagger the minds of us all. The many who said that all the prairie was good for was to feed cattle, who said that one would starve if they depended on crop raising, have lived to see the day when the gross receipts from this land, acre for acre, are greater than is being received from any field crop in the North, where values are holding at from \$70 to \$250 an acre.

The prairie is not alone in development. Our first prospectors were told that the bottom lands were not for a Northern people. Fever and ague would be their lot, if they settled in the bottoms. This belief held forth for a long time. But finally, one by one, farms have been occupied by people coming from other sections of this as well as other States, and with their coming, the production of other crops than corn, cotton and cane. Even with the production of immense crops of the above mentioned staples, values were low and practically remained at a low valuation until it was demonstrated that Irish potatoes could be grown at a profit. Even no longer than some four years since bottom lands close to Eagle Lake were sold at \$32 an acre. During the past 30 days a cash offer of \$100 an acre has been refused for part of this land. The two crops, rice and potatoes, are not alone in adding to the wealth of this community, even though profits have been large. The farmers are giving more and more attention to the cultivation of the soils. Better methods are used. Modern machinery, instead of the 6 or 7-inch plow and small sweep, are in vogue. And with the increase in values, our people began to notice the advantages and appreciate them and take advantage of them, and this creates the spirit necessary in putting any section to the front.

"If everyone would practice the habit of cheerfulness and courage, bravely meeting the hardships of life, instead of giving up to useless worry that never helps any one or anything, he would stand good chances of living twenty-five years longer than the one who is always fretting and worrying."

"I have had my share of trouble and reverses in life, but I never allowed them to get me down. Sometimes it has been hard work to keep from it, but I did it."

"When I was a little chap my father and mother used to always say that we must make the best of everything that came, whether good or bad, and never allow ourselves to worry and fret over unfortunate things. If they came through our carelessness or neglect, we must make that a lesson to profit by in the future; but nothing was to be gained by worrying over them, and we must never go out of our way to borrow trouble. That advice, followed out, has been worth a mine of gold to me."

"My parents lived to a good old age, and I attribute that and my good health at ninety largely to the fact that they always kept cheerful front and did not use up their strength worrying, and I have done the same."

Now, this wise old philosopher was quite right. Worry does shorten one's life, and so does anger, impatience and fear of what may happen in the future. It is a well known fact that indulgence in any one of these generates a poisonous substance in the blood that materially affects the healthy growth and action of the physical side of our nature—no less than the mental and spiritual side—inasmuch as they all tend to impair the digestive organs, causing loss of sleep and including serious troubles that weaken the entire system and make it more susceptible to disease, thus shortening one's life.

On the other hand, habitual, unwavering cheerfulness promotes health by aiding digestion and nutrition and thus enriching the blood. It brings brightness to the eye, color to the cheek and elasticity to the step, gives one confidence to meet the problems of life bravely and resolutely, and is one of the most valuable assets in home or business life that one can possess.

Cheerfulness and a determined courage keep one mentally alert, and consequently in touch with those matters that are of interest in the world at large; creates enthusiasm; keeps the heart open to the pleasantness of life, because the cheerful, courageous man and woman, no matter what their years may be, invariably draw around them a circle of young friends whose interests become theirs and whose young life, as they enter heartily into it, renews their youth. Today's Magazine.

THE HIT DOG HOWLS.

Two lawyers recently became engaged in a wrangle in court. At last, Jones, losing control of his emotions, shouted:

"You are the biggest ass that I ever had the misfortune to set eyes upon!"

Order! Order! shouted the judge, "you seem to forget that I am in the room."

"If one does not guard himself

very carefully he is apt to fall into the habit of worrying over the trials of the present and the prospective trials of the future, many of which never come to him.

"It is like other diseases. If it is not promptly eradicated it will become chronic and in the end will become fatal by materially shortening life."

"If everyone would practice the habit of cheerfulness and courage, bravely meeting the hardships of life, instead of giving up to useless worry that never helps any one or anything, he would stand good chances of living twenty-five years longer than the one who is always fretting and worrying."

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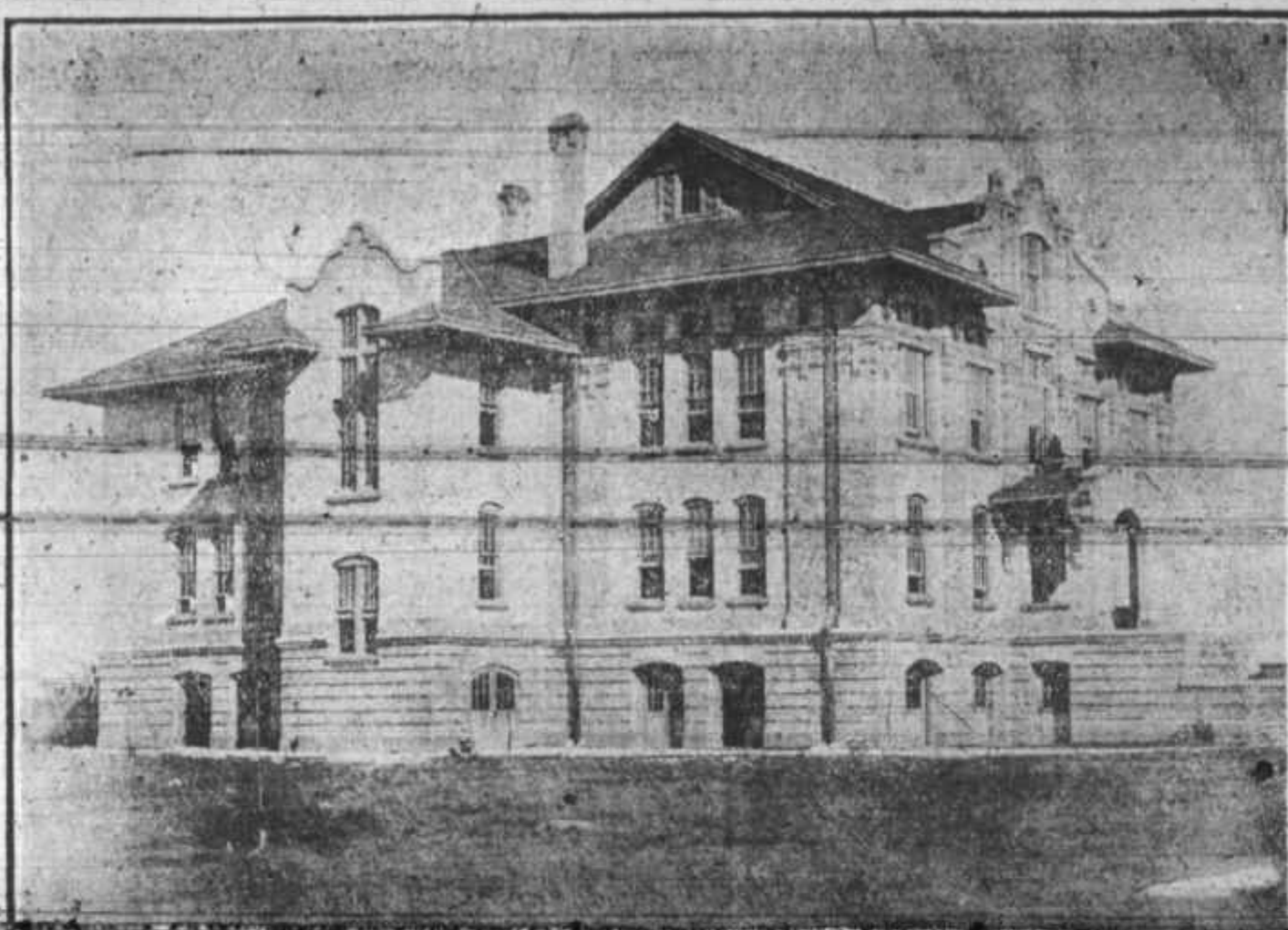
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Eagle Lake's Handsome \$22,000 School Building, completed last year. Cut furnished The Headlight by courtesy of The Galveston Daily News.

Eagle Lake's Schools.

Believing that there is nothing that can take the place of a sincere desire for good schools, of a fair knowledge of what good schools are and what will make them, of a public spirit and a moral sense on the part of the people, which are spontaneous or can be applied to with confidence, I came into your midst and found the interest which the people have in their children large and the anxiety of the community for public welfare great.

This alone, however, would not have been sufficient when taking the proper measures for the administration of our schools had your representatives, the School Board, not have been so ready and able to carry

out their plans and act upon every suggestion for the betterment of the system as a whole.

The building had been provided but the slogan, "THE BEST IS NOT TOO GOOD FOR EAGLE LAKE," caused them to use every means possible in providing a school of which we may well be proud.

Their first step was to prevent poor teaching by selecting suitable teachers and then providing them with an equipment second to none in the State. Their belief being that instruction is inefficient and abnormally expensive unless put upon a scientific basis.

If we are proud of our schools we are equally proud of our School Board, for where is the community

that can show the results that they have accomplished?

It will no longer be necessary to send our students away from home that they may prepare to enter our higher institutions of learning. The full four years of High school work is offered in Mathematics, Science, History, English, Latin, Domestic Science, Domestic Art, Manual Training, Mechanical Drawing and Agriculture. Others will be added when the demand justifies the same.

Our building a cut of which appears in this issue (also a cut of the old building which gave way to the present one) has fourteen rooms and an auditorium, yet the rapid increase in the enrollment has caused us to consider the question of caring for the pupils of a greater Eagle Lake.

Our general equipment consists of Relief, Political and Historical Maps, Full Mounted, Tellurian and Stated Globes, Book Cases, Reference and Other Books, Multigraph, Dictionaries, Sanitary Drinking Fountains, Laboratory, Geometrical Appliances, Electric Gongs, etc.

Our kitchen is fitted with white enamel Domestic Science Tables of the latest design, sixteen Clark Jewel Individual Gas Stoves, one Clark Jewel Gas Range, with three Porcelain Lined Ovens, one Glass Door, Warming Oven and four Surface Burners, one Instantaneous Water Heater, Kitchen Cabinet, Porcelain Lined Refrigerator, Fireless Cooker, Steam Cooker, Sink, and a complete general as well as individual equipment of utensils, etc.

Here the girls from the sixth to the eleventh grades inclusive are given an eighty minute period each week in Cooking while adjoining this is the Sewing and Lecture Department where the girls also spend an eighty minute period each week.

The boys of the same grades have an eighty minutes period each week in Manual Training, which for the first consists of Mechanical Drawing and Carpentering or Sloyd. This department is equipped with Adjustable Cabinet Benches with two Vices, Drafting Tables and Boards and complete sets of the best tools.

On the same floor we have a Physical, Chemical and Agricultural Laboratory fitted with the best of apparatus, where the Science Students spend eighty minutes each week in verifying the Laws of Nature.

A seventy-five light gasoline gas system of the Detroit Heating and Lighting Co. furnishes the gas for the Laboratory and the cooking, lighting and heating in the Domestic Science Department.

The auditorium is seated with five hundred and one persons, and is used for general entertainment as well as moving pictures of

an educational nature and lectures by men of eminence upon various subjects including the Agricultural.

Our Agricultural Course extends over the four years of High School and is almost as popular with the girls as with the boys. Five acres near the school is being used as a demonstration plot. Some of the pupils will have home gardens while one of the boys will have fifteen acres under his supervision.

The earnestness with which the pupils have been working under the guidance of faithful and efficient teachers has enabled us to greatly improve the quality of the work throughout the grades. Weak places have and will continue to be strengthened. We ask the co-operation in seeing that every pupil has the opportunity TO DO HOME WORK, without which there can be little or no possibility of their meeting the requirements for advancement.

The more the parents are interested in the school, the more the pupils will be able to support depends the efficiency of the school.

Yours for Eagle Lake,
J. H. Morgan.

Prizes to be Given For Best Products by The Texas Industrial Congress.

The Texas Industrial Congress announces to the farmers of Texas its offer of \$10,000 in gold for the largest yields of certain crops raised in the State during 1912, as follows:

For the largest combined yields of merchantable crops, cost of production considered, raised on ten acres, divided into four, two, one, and one-half-acre plots; on the first plot corn to be grown, and to be plowed under when matured, the rental of the ground, the cost of the seed and of cultivation to be refunded to the prize winning contestants; on the second plot, Kafir corn or milo maize; on the third plot, cotton; on the fourth plot, Indian corn; first prize, \$1,000; second prize, \$750; third prize, 500; fourth prize, \$250; for the twenty-five next best results, \$100 each; twenty-nine prizes in all amounting to \$5,000.

The crops mentioned must be grown in the order named on the respective plots, and these must together constitute one solid tract or body of land containing ten acres.

When the pea crop is at its best and on the day it is to be plowed under, each contestant, with the assistance of two neighbors, shall cut a plot ten feet square, that is a fair average of the two and one-half acres. He shall weigh the product of this plot and make a report of it, as the number of pounds of peas and vine actually plowed under will be considered in the production of the ten acres. This contest is open to everybody.

Class B, for boys' and girls' corn clubs; for the largest yield of merchantable Indian corn grown on one acre, cost of production considered; first prize, \$250; second prize, \$125; third prize, \$50; for the forty next best results, \$25 each; forty-four prizes in all, amounting to \$1,500.

This contest is open only to boys and girls under 20 years of age on January 1.

Class C, for boys' and girls' cotton clubs: For the largest yield of middling cotton grown on one acre, cost of production considered; first prize, \$250; second prize, \$125; third prize, \$75; fourth prize, \$50; for the forty next best results, \$25 each; forty-four prizes in all, amounting to \$1,500.

If any contestant shall enter in both Class B and Class C and shall win the first prizes in each class, a special prize of \$100 will be awarded.

Class D, forage crops: For the largest yield of merchantable grain, to be weighed in the head and cost of production considered, from two acres of Kafir corn or milo maize, first prize, \$300; second prize, \$200; for the ten next best results, \$50 each; twelve prizes in all, amounting to \$1,000.

The crops in all of the above classes must be grown without irrigation.

Class E, forage crops, irrigated: For the largest yield of merchantable grain, to be weighed in the head and cost of production considered, from two acres of Kafir corn or milo maize, first prize, \$300; second prize, \$200; for the ten next best results, \$50 each; twelve prizes in all, amounting to \$1,000.

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This contest is open to everybody.

The crops in each of the above classes must be grown on one plot or tract of land of the required acreage, on the same farm under one management, and without irrigation, except in class E.

Competition in each class is open to men, women, boys and girls, except in classes B and C, which are for young people.

A contestant is not required to do all the work himself necessary to produce his crop, but he must have control and exercise personal supervision over it.

Full and regular crop reports, on blanks to be made to the congress by each contestant on the first of each month from March to October, inclusive, and failure to make reports for two months in succession will be considered as notice that the contestant has withdrawn. A careful record must be kept of seed, rental, labor, fertilizer (if any) and every other item of expense incurred in making it. The contestant's personal labor must be calculated at the rate of 10 cents per hour, the labor of each horse used at 5 cents per hour and each two-horse load of stable manure at \$2.

The land upon which the crop is grown must be measured in such a way as to be approximately correct. The measurement of the land and the crop yield in each class must be proven by the affidavits of the contestants and two disinterested witnesses, upon blanks to be furnished for that purpose.

No application to enter any of the contests will be received after April 1, 1912.

Every contestant must agree not to appeal from the decision of the committee on awards, but to accept its judgment in every case as final.

The Texas Industrial Congress makes this prize offer because it believes that the necessity for the conservation of the soil and the adoption of better cultural methods is so vital to the agricultural, commercial and industrial interests of the State that every possible effort should be made to teach scientific cultivation of crops and the maintenance of the soil's fertility.

The prizes offered are free, and there are no fees or charges of any kind to be paid by contestants, the sole object being to help the farmers to help themselves, realizing that as they prosper the whole State necessarily prospers, as well.

Old Jake La Rue was a very crusty man, full of gouty aches due to age and overeating. He lost patience with his physician one day because the latter did not make enough fuss over the pain his patient suffered.

"Doctor," he thundered, "you don't understand! You don't seem to grasp the case! You talk as though there were nothing the matter with me, whereas I am suffering the torments of the damned!"

"What, already?" queried the doctor, in apparent amazement.—Lippincott's.

The Stranger: Is there a good criminal lawyer in your town?
The Mother: Well, there isn't any real estate scheme, or other selfish personal aims, undoubtedly all will come in and help push.

PIANOS

If you contemplate purchasing a Piano, Player Piano or Organ, I shall be pleased to show you my line of INSTRUMENTS, and am in a position to make you prices and terms of payment to please you. Can sell good Pianos from \$250.00 up. Baldwin, Ellington, Howard, Price and Teeple, Chase, Mathuseck, and others. Call or write.

Mont. G. Calvert

Eagle Lake, Texas.