

GARWOOD EXPRESS

CHAS. MRAZEK, Editor and Publisher.

Entered as second-class matter September 7, 1911, at the postoffice at Garwood, Texas, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

Published at Garwood, Colorado County, Texas, every Friday morning.

Subscription Rates . . . \$1.00 Per Year. Advertising Rates Upon Application.

Friday Morning, April 24, 1914.

Judge Mansfield Explains a Tax Method for Rebuilding Bridges.

Columbus, Texas, April 5, 1914. Mr. B. W. McCarty, Editor Eagle Lake Headlight. Complying with your request, I submit the following with respect to the proposed road and bridge tax, in particular, and other matters in general:

As is well known, we have three bridges that were partially destroyed by the unprecedented flood of last December. That a of these bridges remain- sider to be worth at estimate, \$65,000.

The north bridge at Columbus entirely out of commission, ferry boat is now in opera- an expense of \$50 per

The Altair bridge is in condition, but as yet, no as been provided, though ublic has been greatly in need. The Columbus

at bridge is in very good shape temporary use, the citizens umbus having provided the for the purpose. It will not stand another overflow, and on account of the present course

of the stream, it becomes neces- sary that the eastern approach be widened with a 100 foot span foundations, before smaller spans can come badly damaged or

ruined. All three of the bridges must be repaired and placed in commission, or else be permitted to stand as they are and go to destruction. If they are not to be repaired, we lose the cost and value of them, to say nothing of the great inconvenience to the public. If they are to be repaired, it will require money, and the only way to raise the money is by taxation.

The logical and most economic plan is by a bond issue, as in that way the necessary funds can be obtained at five per cent whereas, by other means we must of necessity pay a higher rate of interest. We also have the assurance that our bonds at five per cent be readily sold at par in Chicago or Cleveland. But there is a certain degree of odium attaching to the word "bond," and it seems that the people would prefer to pay a higher rate of interest upon a paper that goes under some other name.

The bridge companies with whom we have heretofore dealt,

propose to take our county warrants bearing six per cent interest, payable at any time within 20 years. This is nearly as good a proposition as a bond issue, and is far less troublesome, and, for the purpose of being placed upon the market, less expensive. By this means we not only save the cost of lithographing, and making sale of bonds, but we also avoid the trouble and expense of many yards of red tape with the authorities at Austin in securing approval and registration. If need be, the Commissioners' Court can erect the bridges without any increase of taxation above the rate levied for road and bridge purposes for the past thirteen years, but in order to do so it would become necessary to curtail the general road work in other sections of the county correspondingly, and might necessitate the selling of the mules and stopping road work altogether for a few years. Rather than do this without an instruction from the tax payers, we have decided to put the matter squarely up to them for an expression of their will.

The constitution provides that taxation for road and bridge purposes shall not exceed 15 cts. upon the \$100, unless by vote of the tax-payers it may be increased to 20 cts. In the year 1900 the voters of this county at an election held for the purpose, decided to increase the tax to 25 cts on the \$100, and the question now submitted is, whether or not the other five cents shall be added.

Our taxable values last year were \$13,579,737. A tax of five cents will produce annually, the net sum of \$6900. One half this will pay the cost of the three bridges (including the interest) in less than fourteen years, while the other half would be divided equally among the four Commissioners' Precincts for general road work, and increase the amount of such work to that extent. This would give to each precinct \$750 more than it is receiving now, while a failure to vote the tax would give to each precinct \$750 less than it is receiving now—a difference of \$1500 per annum to each Commissioners' Precinct; provided of course, that we take it for granted the bridges are to be repaired any way. If the bridges are not repaired, and it should become necessary to establish ferries, then the cost of maintaining the ferries will exceed the cost of the interest and sinking fund necessary for rebuilding the bridges.

Such briefly, is the status of the case as clearly as I can express it. The members of the Commissioners Court have no interest in the matter except in common with other citizens of the county. It is simply up to the people to do as they wish. If the tax is increased, they assume the responsibility. If it is not increased, the consequences are also theirs.

Very Respectfully,
J. J. Mansfield,
County Judge,
Eagle Lake Headlight.

Key to Success

If any young man desires to carry a key to success—a key that will unlock the door to any good position—if he will call at our bank he can secure one gratis. He has only to deposit one dollar which will be given back to him when called for. This only true key to success consists of one of our neat little bank books. A deposit of one dollar will get one. Every successful business man will tell you he opened the door to success with this key. We have one waiting for you.

GARWOOD STATE BANK

Garwood, Texas.

J. J. PINCHBACK, Pres't. W. S. GRIFFITHS, 1st Vice-Pres't.
J. L. CHAPMAN, Cashier. FRANK ARNOLD, 2nd Vice-Pres't.

Just Arrived, A Nice Line Of New Spring Goods. MILLINERY.

Notions, Hosiery, Novelties, Fancy Goods. McCall's Patterns 10c and 15c. Men's Furnishings.
J. B. SMITH, - - Garwood, Texas.

Sunset Saloon

J. G. Cooper, Proprietor.

Fine Wines, Liquors and Cigars

Fresh Draught Beer
Always on Tap

A share of your patronage solicited and will be appreciated

.. Riverside Livery Stable ..

H. G. WARD, Proprietor

Special Attention Given Homeseekers and Traveling Men

Nothing but first-class rigs and good teams sent out.

Your patronage will be appreciated. Horses boarded by the day or week.

GEO. REDFORD

MERCHANT TAILOR

Fit, Style and Workmanship Guaranteed

Main Street.

Eagle Lake, Texas.

Self Government.

The political situation in Colorado County, doubtless in others, is heavily handicapped and so narrowed that freedom of complete political expression can not catch a full long breath. You see an outsider has little chance of much influence unless he has first become popular with the ruling influence on the inside and this influence has conditions in fact to the utmost limits of the county. If you do not as a candidate meet the requirements of "machine politics" there is not much need to apply for it is a waste of time and money. If you can get "approved" on the inside then your success is more assured for now days the "centers" of government are growing stronger than the popular will. How do I know? By watching how things turn out. Cotton seed planted brings cotton, corn planted brings corn and the same candidates re-elected always brings no government to a people.

Cut and dried arrangements and dates are already made for delivery and you will be "reined" all right and you neither attend nor obey.

Self government with a vengeance.

If a small minority elects your candidates and you had neither chance nor choice you have no complaint coming, why did you not attend and vote any way? it would at least create no disturbance.

Prospective candidates on the outside will be in better luck if first they get in harmony with the "inside"—"learn how things are run" then go to the people for support and your race will be short and successful.

If the people knew politicians as well as politicians know the people they would govern themselves. It is wonderful, when in doubt, how the "old time politician" keeps tab on the political pulse beat of every man in the county and they know his "trade value" to a finish.

The out side candidate hits a rip saw and is split to pieces when he runs across "a gentleman's agreement" organized. The whole trouble lies in the neglect of the people using the easy powers of self government.

"In this 20th century of enlightenment a man is a fool or a fraud if he teaches a man to be contented in unjust conditions."

"Mules work, like the deuce, for a handful of oats, But mules haven't brains and mules haven't votes.

The people have votes and the people have brains And doesn't use either—just kicks and complains.

So it's hard to work out as a general rule

Where the people have much on the stupid old mule."

J. B. Gay.

Columbus, Texas.

Seed Rice For Sale.

Shinriki seed rice, first year from imported seed, raised on sod. See me before buying.

F. W. Goodell.

Wife Finds Husband Dead.

Weimar, Texas, April 14.—Alfred C. Buske, a prominent young man of this city, son of G. Buske and son-in-law of Postmaster Heyer, was found dead at his residence today at noon, by his wife, upon her return home from duty at the postoffice, where she works. An inquest was held by Judge W. A. VanAlstyne, and the verdict was that deceased came to his death by strychnine poisoning. Mr. Buske was greatly distressed over the recent death of his mother, and it is believed by many that his constant brooding over her death caused his mind to become uninged. He leaves a widow and little daughter. He was a member of the Hermann Sons and the Odd Fellows, and these orders will have charge of the funeral at the Odd Fellows cemetery tomorrow.

Funeral of E. S. Middlebrook.

Columbus, Texas, 4 16.—The funeral of Earl S. Middlebrook was held at Odd Fellows Rest from the home of Dr. C. A. Williamson at 11 o'clock this morning, the services conducted by Rev. B. B. Hunt of the Baptist church, and by the Caladonia lodge of Masons. Mr. Middlebrook died at a hospital in Galveston Wednesday morning. He was born in Columbus 45 years ago and lived most of his life here. For several years he managed a department of a lumber mill at Nona, Texas. He married Miss Daisy Williamson of Columbus, who with a son, survives him. His other immediate relatives are his mother, Mrs. I. W. Middlebrook; two brothers, R. M. and Percy Middlebrook of San Antonio; Mrs. Ibbie Lee of Houston and Mrs. Ray Coffin of Columbus.

Mrs. Artie Towell, aged 83, was stricken while going to the midday meal, dying immediately. The funeral will be held tomorrow from the residence of her daughter, Mrs. W. R. Walker. Mrs. E. A. Ory of San Antonio is another daughter of Mrs. Towell.

COLUMBUS.—County Judge J. J. Mansfield convened the County Court Monday morning and a case was tried and disposed of before the noon hour. The jury was empaneled at the afternoon session. Another case is on trial, and that part of the jury not taken on the case was discharged for the week.

For fine, thirst-quenching soft drinks go to Schultz & Cito.

POSITIVELY NO MORE CREDIT IN FEED DEPARTMENT

Owing to shortage of money and being unable to collect what we have on our books, we are not able to sell feed on credit hereafter. We thank you for past favors and hope to merit your valued business in the future.

Grain, Feed & Furniture Co.

J. R. PINCHBACK, Manager.

FITZGERALD'S SANITARIUM

EAGLE LAKE, TEXAS.

High-Class Accommodations. X-Ray Examination

A thoroughly equipped institution for the scientific treatment of chronic diseases with electricity, vibratory, hot air, mineral and high frequency electrical baths. Prepared to care for surgical, obstetrical, medical cases.

Sanitarium Phone 117. Residence Phone 133.

Singer Sewing Machine

THE BEST SEWING MACHINE ON THE MARKET

Three Types
Vibrating Shuttle, 66-1 and Singer Rotary.

For prices and terms, address —

J. A. CHEW, EAGLE LAKE, TEXAS.

DO YOU EVER GET SICK?

Do you get your prescriptions filled where you get pure, fresh, clean drugs? Our prescription department is always in care of a competent druggist and we assure you that you will at all times get "just what the doctor ordered."

Complete Line of Toilet Articles, Perfumes, Combs, Brushes, Etc.

A Fresh Stock of Patent Medicines, Stock Remedies, Etc.

Garwood Drug Co.

Express Ads. Bring Results.