

# THE HYDRO REVIEW

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AROUND and  
ABOUT . . .

Harvesting goes on apace. The big rush isn't over yet, by a long shot. The wheat is still coming in in big trucks and trailers, day and night. Cars are scarce and hard to get, but Joe Owen is staying right in there and getting our share, and all that can be had are filled every day.

The local flood has been augmented by streams of big trucks, coming from Hinton and Bridgeport where storage facilities were inadequate and not enough shipping could be had. The local elevators are doing the best they can with the congestion. All week long lines of waiting trucks and trailers have stood sometimes from 10 a.m. till 7 or 8 p.m., waiting for cars. Some drivers left their trailers standing and went back for more. The lines often reached from the west bridge at the entrance to town to the north end of the Davidson and Case Lumber yard on both sides of the street, while all the open space near the elevators was filled.

The Hydro Seed and Grain Company besides loading all the cars available, shipped out an enormous amount in 500 to 700 bushel trucks and then dumped from 15,000 to 20,000 bushels on the ground.

One reason why transportation facilities are short is because the Oklahoma crop was not expected to be half as large as it is and provisions for the enormous flood of grain were not made in time. Even after the rain finally came it was thought too late to help. But all at once the wheat heads began to swell and the grains are bigger and yellower than they have been for years. The hot sun after the rain saw to that.

Nobody can truthfully say he can't get a job now. Every man, woman and child is working hard. Farmers are helping each other valiantly. As fast as they get their own crops out and their land plowed, they rush to help someone else.

At the elevators, Sid Thomas and Bob Stockton have stood like the boy on the burning deck, day and night. Sid didn't even

## MANY DEAD AFTER HIGHWAY FLOOD

### El Reno Man Will Open New Bakery Here

Johnny A. Baughn, of El Reno, bought the Chapman Laundry building on North Broadway from C. G. Kern, of Cordell, Tuesday, and expects to open a bakery there the first of next month. He already has most of his equipment and will move into the building as soon as it can be vacated. Mr. Chapman will move the laundry equipment to his present location on West Main.

Mr. Baughn owned and operated a bakery at Clinton for some time and sold it to Bills Bakery in which he afterward was employed. He has had 16 years experience as a baker.

He is married and has four children, two of whom are of school age. He and Mrs. Baughn are members of the Church of Christ.

The building was sold to Mr. Baughn through John Blevins, former owner, who owned and operated the Hydro Hatchery several years. The two men were here Tuesday, the former looking over the building and the business prospects.

### W. E. Millwee Dies At Carnegie

W. E. Millwee, Carnegie, died at the Carnegie hospital Thursday, following a long illness. Three of his daughters, Mrs. Othie Smith, Mrs. Orville Hansen and Mrs. J. M. Sharry, Hydro, had been with him three weeks.

Funeral services were held Friday afternoon at the First Baptist Church at Carnegie.

Rev. Clyde N. Price, the pastor, assisted by Rev. P. D. Mann, officiating.

Burial was in the Carnegie cemetery.

Mr. Millwee is survived by his wife and 9 children, Mrs. Floyd Mason, Carnegie; Mrs. Clay

### Neel's Operation Surprises Doctors

B. D. Neel underwent an operation at the Elk City hospital Thursday, and what the doctors found as the cause of the trouble was as much a surprise to them as it was to the patient.

Mr. Neel had suffered intense pain in his stomach at intervals for months and for three weeks had been unable to take any nourishment except liquids. At the time he was taken to the hospital not even a drop of water would pass through his stomach. X-ray pictures revealed a large lump at the entrance to the small intestine which was found to be completely closed.

When the operation was performed, it was found that the lump, which the doctors had thought was a growth and feared was malignant, turned out to be an accumulation of persimmon skins that could not digest, and had finally grown large enough to completely fill the opening between the stomach and the intestine. The lump had not grown fast, but there was no space whatever between it and the walls of the tube.

Mr. Neel is recovering rapidly and will soon be able to come home.

### Mrs. Lake Makes Smoking Room Tour

Mrs. Bert Lake arrived home Tuesday from Yukon where she visited her daughter, Mrs. Ed Veneck, and Mr. Veneck.

She brought home with her her granddaughter, for a visit. While she was at Yukon she accompanied the Veneck family on R. G. Miller's tour of the Wichitas as planned in the "Smoking Room."

Visitors from every county in the state and from half a dozen other states joined the trek, making it doubly interesting, Mrs. Lake said.

The weather was pleasant,

### Local Squad Drops Pair To Oklahoma City

The Hydro softball club donned their long white whiskers last Friday night at the park diamond and played Santa Claus to the Ritz Meat Co., team from Oklahoma City.

The locals were in such a benevolent mood that they right merrily presented the visitors with one seven inning game, 6 to 3; Then joyously came back in the nightcap to send the City boys back home laden with a 5 to 2 gift.

The Hydros had the first game all sacked up in the fourth when they scored two runs on a hit and two errors to put them out in front of a 3-2 count.

But in the Ritz half of the fifth the Hydros put on their red suits; complete with beard; trimmed the tree gorgeously and started to make with the presents.

When the presentation was over the Ritz team had four runs on three walks, three errors and a single.

The Hydros tightened up in the sixth and seventh but the fat was in the fire; they went down in order in the last three frames of the game.

Following this game a second five-inning affair was played which found most of the customers wending their way homeward in huge bunches.

The locals tried hard in this one with Baker stretching a long single and an error into a home run and Verlin Long scored after getting aboard on a bunt; advanced on an error and a hit by Russell and scored. Billy Hume hit safely, but Sayre flied out to end the inning and the Hydros went down in order in the fifth.

The Ritz squad scored two runs in the second on an error and a walk and two hits; Then came back in the top half of the fifth to score three runs on two hits and an error and a fielder's

### Planted Peanut Acreage Is Now Being Measured

The 1948 planted peanut acreage is now being measured in Caddo County. This work is being done under the supervision of the local AAA office, D. C. Nixon Chairman of the County Committee said today.

The following men are doing the field work in connection with the peanut measurements: Marvin Karns, Hinton; Guy H. Oglesby, Jr. and Jack S. Shelton, Eakly; Sanley Cox, Spring Creek; S. D. Winchester and Floyd Anthony, Cogar; Roy Gregory and Hubert Britton, Binger; J. H. Propps and Helmer Kamm, Lone Mound township; Orval Whitworth, Carnegie; H. H. Mason, Ft. Cobb; Joe Jones, Oney; W. L. Slemp, Gracemont; Chris Jensen, Cement; and Bernard Roberts, Apache.

The majority of these men have just begun their work and to date around 125 farms have been measured. It is hoped that if suitable weather prevails during the remainder of June, approximately 40 percent of the work will be completed by July 1st.

Mr. Nixon points out that there are a large number of farms that have peanuts planted this year which have not grown peanuts during the past few years. He urges farm operators who have peanuts for the first time for 3 years to notify the county office of the approximate number of acres and the location so the men working in the field can visit the farm and get the accurate acreage. It is important to measure all the peanuts as the acreage measurements will be used in setting up peanut allotments for 1949 and future years. Cooperation on the part of the farm operators in helping the men in the field will be greatly appreciated. This will enable the men to do the work faster and more accurately, Nixon said.

Russell Farrell

### 11 Drown As Water Covers Large Area

The worst catastrophe that has befallen Hydro since the tornadoes in 1908 and 1912 struck this community Tuesday night when 18½ inches of rain fell during a storm that raged almost constantly for 8 hours. Nine persons were drowned and several others are missing, caught in the flood resulting from the torrential downpour that flooded Deer Creek and broke dams in lakes and ponds on both sides of highway 66, pouring floods of water onto the highway until it stood at least 15 feet deep in the low places.

Nine bodies had been recovered Wednesday night and it was believed that there were at least two missing. Several stranded cars are as yet unclaimed, highway patrolmen said.

Six of the victims were drowned together in their car. They were identified as Mrs. Harvey Friesen and her two children, Jimmy and Carol and her brother-in-law, Wilson Friesen, all of Corn, and the latter's sister, Mrs. Lucille Ragolsky and her son, Lowell Dean, of Oklahoma City. Harvey Friesen, driver of the car, escaped after breaking a window and climbing through. He was badly cut by the broken window and is being treated in the Weatherford Emergency hospital.

Others tentatively identified were Mrs. Ethel Sacrett, Amarillo, Ellis B. Birks, Henryetta, and James Dunn, negro, a passenger on a bus. Missing were D. C. Bates, Oklahoma City, driver of a Yellow Transit truck, and Gary Friesen, one-year-old son of Mrs. Harvey Friesen whose body was not found with the others.

The body of a man believed to be Kirks was recovered late Wednesday and taken to an El Reno funeral home. Mrs. Scarlett's body was found a short time later.

At least fifty automobiles, a Greyhound bus, and two large trucks were trapped by the flood and marooned for the night. Kirks' automobile was found at the flood scene, and his trousers, containing a billfold with identification papers were found hanging on a nearby tree. Patrolmen believed he had climbed the tree and then at-

bear their weight and their feet dangled in the water all night. They said only a miracle kept the limbs from breaking and letting them fall into water 15 feet deep. Mrs. Means said she looked back and saw her car floating in the current.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Woodburn and their three small children, 4, 3, and 1½ years old, Mrs. Richard Maplesden, and Ed Steffy, Chicago, ran in-

can't get a job now. Every man, woman and child is working hard. Farmers are helping each other valiantly. As fast as they get their own crops out and their land plowed, they rush to help someone else.

At the elevators, Sid Thomas and Bob Stockton have stood like the boy on the burning deck, day and night. Sid didn't even go home for three days and two nights, but ate standing up and took catnaps infrequently on the cement floor near the scales.

Frosty and Helen Staples, Harold Rigsby and Loyn Marvel were drafted from among the townspeople to help at the elevators and Marion West and Avery Oakes came in from the farms to help. Harold got up at 5 a.m., did his cleaning and pressing at the City Cleaners and then rushed to the elevator to help unload until 12:30 or 1:30 a.m.

The farmers were patient and uncomplaining through their long vigils and they were thankful that Willard Kidd and Bing Phipps kept the Hydro Cash Grocery open at night so they could get something to eat and bottles of pop while they waited.

Joe Owen was like a hen with one chicken, working overtime and fighting for cars, and he got 'em too, if they could be had at all.

The prettiest sight of all was the Cantrell Brothers' five combines at night with their lights on, all slicing on a field at once like cutting a big cheese. One night four of them cut 85 acres in 3 hours.

The biggest yield we have heard of so far was 100 acres near Bridgeport belonging to Ray Yount. The entire 100 acres averaged 35 bushels, Mr. Yount said.

The lowest average we know about is 10 bushels, and very few fields had that small a yield.

A large amount of wheat in this area is yet uncut on account of being too green, but since it is in spotted sections there is no way to estimate how much. Some fields north of town and some in the Bethel area are still waiting.

#### HARRY WESLEY COX IS GRADUATE OF SUB-SCHOOL

Harry Wesley Cox, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Cox, of El Reno, and a grandson of Mrs. Florence Gresson, Hydro was graduated from a submarine school at New London, Connecticut, last week.

He will leave soon for Honolulu, where he will be stationed two years, Mrs. Gresson said.

Funeral services were held Friday afternoon at the First Baptist Church at Carnegie.

Rev. Clyde N. Price, the pastor, assisted by Rev. P. D. Mann, officiating.

Burial was in the Carnegie cemetery.

Mr. Millwee is survived by his wife and 9 children, Mrs. Floyd Mason, Carnegie; Mrs. Clay Searcy, Carnegie; Mrs. Albert Daws, Plainview, Texas; Mrs. Othia Smith, Mrs. J. M. Sharry and Mrs. Orville Hansen, Hydro; Herman, Jess and S. N. Millwee, Carnegie; and Mrs. Fin Harkins, Plainview.

#### Dr. Stafford Dies After Long Illness

Dr. T. S. Stafford died Tuesday morning at the Clinton hospital, where he had been since he became critically ill two weeks ago. He had been in a serious condition several months.

Funeral services were held at the Weatherford Methodist Church Thursday morning, Rev. George Baker, the pastor, officiating.

Burial was in Greenwood cemetery at Weatherford.

Dr. Stafford had practiced dentistry in Weatherford 20 years and was recognized as one of the leading men in his profession. He was well known and had a great many friends and customers in Hydro.

He is survived by his wife and one son, Thomas jr.

#### Goodwin Attends National Meeting

Rev. L. G. Goodwin is spending the week in St. Louis, Missouri, attending the General Assembly of the Church of the Nazarene.

Mrs. Goodwin and her daughter Patsy, visited relatives at Sayre during his absence.

Mrs. Fred Bright and her son Earl arrived home Sunday, after spending two weeks with her eldest son Wayne and his wife, in San Antonio, Texas.

They were away during harvest and missed the work and the stress and strain, which was quite a relief, Mrs. Bright said.

Johnny Messimer left Wednesday for his home at Inglewood, California, after spending ten days here visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Messimer.

Betty Jo and Opal Shipp accompanied him on the trip and went to Oakland.

Mr. and Mrs. Claude Hafer, Oklahoma City, were week-end guests of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Homer Hafer.

While she was at Yukon she accompanied the Veneck family on R. G. Miller's tour of the Wichitas as planned in the "Smoking Room."

Visitors from every county in the state and from half a dozen other states joined the trek, making it doubly interesting, Mrs. Lake said.

The weather was pleasant, bright sunshine alternating with showers and even some hail, and there were clouds enough to subdue the heat, Mrs. Lake said. State Highway patrol cars were in evidence all along the tour and nobody could miss the way.

The Venecks and Mrs. Lake made all the tour except going to the top of Mount Scott. They had just started up when the hail descended and they decided not to get any nearer to it.

They saw Lake Lawtonka and spent some time in the amusement park at Craterville and watched the Kiowa and Comanche Indians dance. Most of the visitors went to the top of Mount Scott, 2,455 feet up, over wide, winding, hard-surfaced roads. They saw 500 varieties of wild flowers, took pictures of scores of scenic places, and enjoyed the beauty of mountains, valleys and streams as beautiful as those of Colorado or California.

Mrs. Lake said she was proud of Oklahoma that day. "Nobody needs to go out of the state for a vacation. There is as much beauty in Oklahoma as there is anywhere, and Oklahomans should see Oklahoma first", she said.

#### Whittemore Wins Glidden Contest

John Whittemore, local manager for the Davidson and Case Lumber Company, won the district championship in the Glidden Paint contest, selling the most Glidden paint this year.

For first prize he received a lifetime chrome cigaret lighter with his name and the Glidden Paint emblem engraved on it.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Lynch and the latter's mother, Mrs. Earl Elder, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, left for their home Friday, after spending their vacation here with Mr. Lynch's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lynch.

Mrs. Vesta Vassar, Oklahoma City, Mrs. Vera Beeson, Los Angeles, and Mrs. Anna Peters, Pomona, California, left for their homes Monday, after having been here two weeks visiting their brother, Nona Roman and his family.

Harold Rigsby visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Rigsby, at Thomas.

advanced on an error and a hit by Russell and scored. Billy Hume hit safely, but Sayre fled out to end the inning and the Hydros went down in order in the fifth.

The Ritz squad scored two runs in the second on an error and a walk and two hits; Then came back in the top half of the fifth to score three runs on two hits, an error and a fielder's choice.

Bing Phipps twirled the opener for the locals and gave up six hits and donated five free passes. Verlin Long on the mound in the nightcap was nicked for four safe bingles and three walks.

The Hydros got two hits off Killian in the first game; a triple by Marion West and a single by Phipps. In the second game with Jones pitching they fared a little better with four safeties, and two walks.

Claude Riley and Herb Bohannon of Eakly assisted Noel Black in umpiring the games. A good crowd was in attendance in spite of the harvest rush and cold drinks and candy were being sold by Mrs. Horace Long and a group of Girl Scouts.

#### Cpl. Wells Awarded Skilled Rating

Ogden Air Materiel Area, Hill Air Force Base, Ogden, Utah — Cpl. Willis L. Wells, son of Mrs. George Wells of Hydro was awarded a skilled rating as an Air Forces control tower operator by Headquarters 187th Airways and Air Communications Service Squadron, Hill Air Force Base, Ogden, Utah.

Corporal Wells graduated from Weatherford High School prior to enlisting in the Air Forces February 29, 1944, and spent approximately two years in the Asiatic Pacific Theatre of Operations.

He is now stationed at Wendover AFB, Utah and has been training in the AACs control tower on that base. Because of interest shown, adaptability, and acquired proficiency of operation, Willis was awarded this skilled rating.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Klaasen, of Weatherford, gave a picnic supper on the lawn Sunday evening, honoring their dads on Father's Day.

Those present were Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Karlin, Hydro, Wayne and Elmer McCain, Oklahoma City, and Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Klaasen and their daughter, Lydia, of Weatherford.

Guests of Mrs. Laura Hafer Sunday were Mr. and Mrs. John Johannes, of Robinson, Kansas. Mrs. Johannes is Mrs. Hafer's great-niece.

will be used in setting up peanut allotments for 1949 and future years. Cooperation on the part of the farm operators in helping the men in the field will be greatly appreciated. This will enable the men to do the work faster and more accurately, Nixon said.

#### Russell Farrell Dies Unexpectedly

Russell Farrell died suddenly from a heart attack at his home at Weatherford Saturday morning. He had had several attacks within the past few months, but had been better recently and his death was entirely unexpected.

Mr. Farrell is survived by his wife and two daughters, Mrs. Norman Rockhold, of Custer City and Mrs. Virgil Smith, Oklahoma City.

His parents died when he was a child and he came to Hydro to live with his uncle, R. L. Farrell, when he was 14 years old. The elder Farrell had homesteaded a claim in the Cedar district and the family lived there until his wife's death when he moved to town. Russell then farmed the place until a few years ago.

Funeral services were held at the Federated church at Weatherford, Monday afternoon, Rev. Harry Hubbard, minister of the Frederick Christian church, assisted by Rev. Lorie Snodgrass, the Weatherford pastor, officiating. Bearers were H. L. Wright, Oscar Wallace, Earl Barnes, C. L. Lydia, and John Randoll, Weatherford, and Herbert Hatfield, Hydro.

Burial was in Greenwood cemetery, Weatherford.

#### Park Fund Growing Total Is \$165.96

The park improvement fund has grown to \$165.96 in a week.

Latest contributors are Mrs. R. S. Stockton, \$1.00; Bill Schantz, \$2.00; Mrs. Howard Cloninger, \$1.00; Frank R. Miller, \$1.00; Don Baldwin, Anadarko, \$5.00; Mrs. Ray Murphy, \$1.00; Herbert Niehues, \$2.00; Lewis Horn, \$2.00; J. W. Glass, \$5.00; and Mrs. John Lubinus, \$1.00.

Guests of Mr. and Mrs. Iva Klinder Saturday night and Sunday were Mr. and Mrs. Harold Larson and their daughter Diana, of Los Angeles; Mr. and Mrs. Roy Pitzer and Mr. and Mrs. Barney King and their family.

Mrs. Stella Alsop, of Gotebo, was here on business and visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Gifford, Thursday.

At least fifty automobiles, a Greyhound bus, and two large trucks were trapped by the flood and marooned for the night. Kirks' automobile was found at the flood scene, and his trousers, containing a billfold with identification papers were found hanging on a nearby tree. Patrolmen believed he had climbed the tree and then attempted to swim to safety.

The Yellow Transit truck, which Bates had driven from Oklahoma City, was also found washed off the highway.

Mrs. Scarlett was a passenger in an automobile driven by Don L. Walters, of Amarillo. He said that when their car was stranded the two climbed to the top of a bridge railing, but both were swept off. He said he grabbed a telephone pole and held on all night, but did not see Mrs. Scarlett after the two were swept off the bridge.

Heroic rescue work by J. W. Jones, Amarillo, driver of the Greyhound bus, saved the lives of his 43 passengers.

The water lifted the bus completely off the pavement and set it neatly between two highway posts, after turning it completely around.

Water quickly reached the top of the bus windows and filled the bus with 6 inches of mud.

Jones began swimming the passengers to safety on higher ground, making round trips till everyone was out of the bus. He was assisted by Harry Partis, driver of the following bus, who had stopped on higher ground.

A negro passenger apparently jumped from the bus and made an unsuccessful attempt to swim. His body was found buried under the sand with only his hands protruding Wednesday morning.

The passengers swam about 25 feet to shallower water and then walked to Brewers' Filling station.

Mrs. Frank Campbell, her daughter Patty Lou and Thelma Barlett were driving from Joplin, Mo. to California. When the surge of water came they climbed to the top of their stalled car, but were swept off. The two younger women could swim and Mrs. Bartlett held to their dresses until they floated into a tree where they stayed until morning.

Bill Riggs, former Hydro man, now of Clinton, and Mrs. Bess Means, Weatherford were in cars near each other and abandoned them at the same time. They floated to a small tree near the bridge and clung there for 12 hours. They were tossed back and forth by the wind and pelted by hail until their bodies were severely bruised and scratched. The tree limbs were so small, they could scarcely

dangled in the water all night. They said only a miracle kept the limbs from breaking and letting them fall into water 15 feet deep. Mrs. Means said she looked back and saw her car floating in the current.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Woodburn and their three small children, 4, 3, and 1½ years old, Mrs. Richard Maplesden, and Ed Steffy, Chicago, ran into the heavy rain at 6 p.m., when their motor stalled. They started again and were blocked by a stalled truck. When the water rose to the windows they got out and started walking but were swept off their feet and washed into a clump of small trees. All seven lodged in one tree, where they clung all night three of the adults holding the babies in their arms.

Their tree was tall but the limbs were short and small and they did not expect them to hold from one gust of wind to the other. They could see and hear other people in trees all around them. "We all called to each other and screamed for help all night. We had to do something to keep up our morale", Mrs. Woodburn said.

They had enough heavy baby blankets to cover all their heads, but their bodies were pelted by the hail and bruised by the lashing tree branches. "It was almost impossible to hang on. It seemed that every minute we would lose our holds in spite of all we could do", Mr. Woodburn said.

Seven or eight men and one woman were on top of a truck part of the night, but were finally swept off and clung to two trees till they were rescued. Pete and Melvin Horton, Hydro, returning from Oklahoma City, were caught in the flood, but when they saw how fast the water was rising they abandoned their car and walked out. They went back and pleaded with the people in 25 or more cars to go out with them and most of the occupants followed them and reached safety before the peak of the flood arrived. The Horton brothers afterward aided in the rescue work and in salvaging many of the cars.

Mr. and Mrs. George Clark, Hydro, on the way home from Sickles, were stopped by the long line of stalled cars ½ mile of Hatfield's station, about 6:30 p.m. The water then was knee deep and was rising rapidly. When Pete and Melvin Horton came along and advised them to leave their car they quickly followed them out and walked to the Hatfield Station. From there they could hear the screams of the flood victims, but the storm was then at its height and there was nothing they

(Continued on page five)