

THE NEWSPAPERS OF THE PANHANDLE OF OKLAHOMA, 1886-1940.

By Elsie Cady Gleason

When Texas (1845), New Mexico (1850), Kansas (1854), and Colorado (1861) decided upon their boundaries, cartographers discovered an oblong strip of unclaimed land remained. It was one hundred and sixty-six miles east and west, and thirty-four and one-half miles north and south, and has been known as No Man's Land, the Neutral Strip (the Strip), Beaver County of Oklahoma Territory, and, lastly, Cimarron, Texas, and Beaver counties of the sovereign state of Oklahoma.

The Indians used the tract for a hunting ground until they were restricted to reservations. About 1870 cattlemen from New Mexico, Texas and Kansas began to extend their ranges into it; and along the eastern part two highways were worn by hundreds of thousands of cattle on the march from Texas to Dodge City, known as the Tascosa-Dodge, and Jones-Plummer Trails.

In 1886, following a proclamation of President Cleveland that No Man's Land was open for squatters, a great immigration began which brought the population up to nearly 15,000. In 1889, when the unassigned lands to the east were opened to homesteaders, most of the newer residents left for them, so that not many more than two thousand remained.

At this time No Man's Land had three towns, Kenton in the northwest corner near the Colorado and New Mexico borders; Hardesty, a mile from the mouth of the Coldwater Creek, and Beaver on the Beaver River about thirty miles from the east line. The last named had a population of two hundred persons, while Kenton and Hardesty were much smaller.

Oklahoma Territory established (1890), a great rush of homesteaders began which was increased by the building of the Rock Island railroad from Liberal, Kansas, to Dalhart, Texas. The population grew from 3,169 (1902) to 35,677 (1907).¹

Newspapers, in numbers quite out of proportion to population needs, were established in many small towns which resulted from this invasion. These were all weekly publications of a four page issue. The print paper came to the various offices in the form of large sheets, which were folded once. The inside pages, 2 and 3, were ready printed with "patent" material—stories of national figures, reviews of news, a short story, a woman's column, and a long list of humorous anecdotes, with some advertising for which the paper company received pay.

The name of the paper and date line, local news, exchange comment, a few brief editorials, rarely exceeding five hundred words,

¹ *Oklahoma Territory, Governor's Reports (1902-1907)*.

and the local advertising covered pages 1 and 4. The *Hardesty Herald* carried a half column of cow brand pictures, with owners range, and, for a time, the *Beaver Herald* did the same.

After 1890, space was taken by final proof and contest notices, and the reports of county commissioner proceedings, which forced advertising to the front page. E. E. Brown says the cost of equipment of an office in No Man's Land was about two hundred to two hundred fifty dollars. Two dollars and fifty cents bought five hundred sheets of print paper for one issue, and "it was hard enough to find the cash each week."

The press used at Hardesty was the oldest one in No Man's Land and it is a museum piece for in the *American Dictionary of Printing and Bookmaking* was found a picture of an old Ramage press which coincided exactly with the remaining parts of the Guymon press . . . R. B. Quinn stated that when he got the press it bore a plate. The name as he remembered it was something like "Bronstrub." Seemingly this ruled out the supposition that it was a Ramage Press. But shortly afterward in the *American Dictionary of Printing and Bookmaking* the following paragraph was discovered: "Bronstrup Press. A Hand press formerly made by Frederick Bronstrup, the successor of Adam Ramage and having three sides. . . The material is chiefly wrought iron. . ."

Probably Bronstrup had some of Ramage's old wooden presses on hand and attached his name plate to them. There can be no doubt that the Guymon press is of the old Ramage type. Adam Ramage, the first press maker in America, began business in Philadelphia, 1800, and "was the only one of consequence in the country."² The Washington Press was the kind mostly used in the early days of No Man's Land though it was superseded by the Army Press in a few years. Both presses were operated by hand, printing one six-column page at a time.

When a man started a newspaper he was usually owner, editor and publisher. Many difficulties beset him. A heavy rain would cause the creeks to rise so the stage could not bring the print paper when it was expected. Repairs on the press were days away from the office and the subscription list was small, though almost everyone sent the paper "back home." An "ad" three columns square cost three to five dollars. "It was rare to have the advertising reach fifty dollars a month."³

A newspaper made a meager living for its editor and it is not surprising that the *South and West* advertised for "a few loads of chips" as payments on subscriptions and the *Beaver County Demo-*

² Kirke Mechem, "The Mystery of the Meeker Press," *Kansas Historical Quarterly* (1923).

³ Statement of E. E. Brown, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

erat (1893) offered the paper in exchange for feed, chickens, eggs or butter. Dick Quinn (*Hardesty Herald*) burst into verse:⁴

Have you found that \$ yet
Hand it in.
We need it, you can bet,
Hand it in.
We need it in our biz
To make this paper whiz,
It won't go less it iz,
Handed in.

On April 29 of the same year this item appeared in the same paper: "We were asked to change \$20.00 this week. Gentlemen, we are not a bank."

It is difficult to characterize a newspaper of this period. The editor's opinion, choice of news, politics and experience made the policy of the paper—the editor was the paper. Although politics played a small part before 1890, editorials were favorable to either of the two leading political parties. The *Hardesty Herald*, the *Beaver Herald* and those so labeled were always republican. The balance of the field was democratic. After Oklahoma Territory was established, a constant and frequently bitter bickering began between the paper which won the county printing and those which did not. The defense of the county commissioners kept the lucky paper busy. As the county seat was at Beaver, the printing was given to local papers there.

The *Cimarron News* (Kenton) kept out of these quarrels, but spoke for the rights of the cattlemen, believing it was a mistake to use the semi-arid land for small farms. "Kenton was always a stockman's town."⁵ The *Hardesty Herald* was a friend of the "cowmen," also, though Dick Quinn lived close enough to Beaver City to keep in touch with politics there. Always ready to criticize those practices of the county commissioners, which he believed harmful, he maintained a constant editorial argument between their defenders and himself. Each subscriber reached for his *Herald* with the comment, "Well, I wonder what Dick's up to now." His view of ranchers and ranchmen follows: "We who have lived in Beaver County since the early days believe God made this country for the cattleman, and it is little less than a crime to destroy the natural grasses by plowing up the sod. We have seen this belief demonstrated both by the success of the cattleman and the failure of the man who confined himself exclusively to farming."⁶

In the discussion of newspapers which follows, those which have not survived to 1940 will be completed when first mentioned. The last section will review the story of 1940 papers. It must be re-

⁴ *Hardesty Herald*, December 7, 1893.

⁵ Statement of R. Compton Tate, Kenton, Oklahoma.

⁶ *Kansas City Star*, January 24, 1902. Fred Bardo quotes Dick Quinn.

membered that frequently the early papers omitted the mast head which carried editor's and publisher's names. Therefore, changes in editors are recorded only as they are found in the mast heads of the papers filed at the Oklahoma Historical Society.

The newspapers of the Oklahoma Panhandle fall into three groups:

- (1) Early: (a) No Man's Land and (b) Beaver County to 1900.
- (2) Rock Island towns, 1900-1907.
- (3) Oklahoma, Cimarron, Texas, and Beaver Counties, 1907.
- (1) Early Newspapers—No Man's Land.

Four newspapers were established in No Man's Land, the *Beaver City Pioneer* (1886), the *Territorial Advocate* (1887), the *Benton County Banner*⁷ (1889), and the *Hardesty Times*⁸ (1889). The following can be listed as early papers, also; the *Beaver County Democrat* (1892), *South and West* (1894), and the *Cimarron News* (1898).

On June 19, 1886, the *Beaver City Pioneer* was launched at "Beaver, Neutral Strip," by E. E. Henley, who published the *Fowler Graphic* at Fowler,⁹ Kansas, a town about thirty miles north of Beaver City. The mechanical work on the *Pioneer* was done there. In the first issue Mr. Henley challenged the townspeople to support the paper for he had started it because he thought the town needed it.

In the account of the life of the paper the writer has been unable to find data to prove who represented the *Pioneer* at Beaver. The "brain food" was furnished by a stranger to local people. He showered attentions on the town girls so successfully that a rivalry sprang up between him and the cowboys. This was fanned into a flame when the crowd "hit the lumber with the leather" for the girls liked to dance with the new man and there were never enough girls to go around anyway. The cowboys vowed revenge and one night succeeded in getting the *Pioneer* man very drunk, when his face was painted in green stripes and his bald head, red. Then he was rolled in a "green" cowhide, hauled through the streets and tied to a hitching post before his rooming house.¹⁰ The newspaper ceased to be delivered thereafter.

E. E. Eldridge established the *Territorial Advocate* at Beaver City in June, 1887, sold it three months later to E. E. Brown¹¹ and

⁷ Became *Beaver City Journal*, 1890.

⁸ Became *Hardesty Herald*, 1890.

⁹ Information from Lela Barnes of the Kansas State Historical Society.

¹⁰ *The Wichita Eagle*. Interview of Tom Braidwood, Beaver. Copied in *Beaver Herald*, June 14, 1908.

¹¹ E. E. Brown, with J. J. Burke bought and consolidated the *Times* and the *Journal* at Oklahoma City (1889). Brown was Clerk of the Territorial Senate; Editor and manager *Guthrie Observer*; Postmaster, Oklahoma City (1907-1912); Chamber of Commerce (1913-1915); fifty years with *Times-Journal Publishing Company*, Oklahoma City (June 1939); President, 1940.

George F. Payne¹² to be used for Boomer publicity. They changed the name to *Beaver Advocate*, editing it until 1899 when Mr. Brown moved to Oklahoma City. The first issues were printed on a Washington Press in a sod house.¹³ Mr. Payne spent much of his time cleaning up type cases since a tornado had taken off the roof of the office just before it changed hands. Many people "stopped in" to read the exchanges, the most popular of which was the Juneau (Alaska) *Free Press*.¹⁴

In 1892, Mr. Payne sold the *Advocate* to J. C. Hodge¹⁵ who sold to C. R. Wright in 1895. The name was changed to the *Beaver Herald* by Wright. The first women to edit a Panhandle newspaper were the misses Dolly and Lily Wright,¹⁶ daughters of C. R. Wright, who issued their first paper February 7, 1895. It was the best looking sheet which had appeared in Beaver County. W. I. Drummond¹⁷ bought the *Herald* June 30, 1896, at which time he was assisted editorially by his father, I. S. Drummond.¹⁸ W. I. (Pete) Drummond bought the *Enid Sun* and sold the *Herald* to Noah Daves,¹⁹ Feb-

¹² George F. Payne came to Beaver from Paola, Kansas. He was an experienced printer. His health was poor after he left the paper. He died in 1892. E.E.B.

¹³ Oklahoma Historical Society, Barde Collection. Letter of E. E. Brown to Anton Classen, December 27, 1914.

¹⁴ Statement of E. E. Brown, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

¹⁵ J. C. Hodge was a merchant at Beaver for many years. He died March 6, 1920.

¹⁶ The Misses Wright moved to Hutchinson, Kansas, to continue in newspaper work.

¹⁷ Wilbert I. Drummond was born October 10, 1874, at Sigourney, Iowa. He lived in Kansas 1881-1891; Beaver County, Oklahoma, 1891; Educated in the public schools with special courses later in journalism, economics, agriculture; associated with the *Beaver Herald*, 1896-1898; *Enid Weekly Sun*, 1898; combined *Enid Weekly Eagle* (1899) under *Eagle* name after 1900; founded the *Enid Daily Eagle*, 1901-1912; Chairman of the Board of Governors of the International Dry Farming Congress (International Farm Congress), 1913-1924; Editor of farm publications, 1916-1924; magazine articles, 1920-1934; devoted part time to farming until 1930; moved to Kansas City, Missouri, 1920; since 1932 engaged in development of land and water resources. In 1924, at the invitation of President Coolidge, he organized agricultural section of the Republican National Committee and directed campaign; married Mary E. Peckham, 1898; Presbyterian; resides in Kansas City, Missouri. Mr. Drummond was called "Pete," during the period of his newspaper work in Oklahoma. W.I.D.

¹⁸ I. S. Drummond was born in Jefferson County, Ohio, April 28, 1836. His parents died when he was very young, so he was apprenticed to learn printing at Belmont, Ohio. In 1860 he married Rebecca White; a soldier during the Civil War. Later he worked in printing offices in Iowa, Kansas, Texas, and Oklahoma. His seven children all learned the printing business. Three sons, W. L., Franz S., and George edited papers. I. S. Drummond spent the last years of his life at Beaver, Oklahoma, in the home of his daughter, Clara Weller. He died in May, 1912. Thoburn, *Oklahoma: A History*, 1916, vol. 5, and W.I.D.

¹⁹ Noah Daves was county superintendent of schools at the time he bought the *Herald*. He continued as an educator.

ruary 17, 1898, who sold it to Franz S. Drummond²⁰ on December 29, 1898.

One of the ghost towns of Oklahoma, Benton was the home of the *Benton County Banner*, established by Extus Leroy Gay²¹ in 1886. Under the title ran the line "Benton, the Gem City of the Neutral Strip." The running line carried "Benton, Benton County, Indian Territory. It is sure to be the county seat because it is the exact center of the county." This is the one paper which recognized the Cimarron Territory organization in its set up. In fifteen months Mr. Gay sold to J. B. Nicholas and ——. Kirtley who moved the paper to Beaver where it was named the *Beaver City Tribune*, January, 1890. Nicholas was sole owner before the first territorial legislature assembled. E. E. Brown assumed it died about that time for both men were interested in political affairs at Guthrie.

A party of men from Liberal, Kansas, visited Hardesty in May, 1889, to form a townsite. One of the party was Lambert Willstaedt, editor of the *Liberal Leader*. Dick Quinn²² persuaded him to start a paper and was employed to "get out" the *Hardesty Times*. The name was changed to the *Hardesty Herald* when it was taken over for back pay in about a year's time. This was probably the most widely read paper in Beaver County during its existence. The *Beaver Herald*, May 3, 1895, stated, "The *Hardesty Herald*, the oldest paper published in Beaver County, started on its fifth year last week." This must have caused a new thought, for shortly the *Beaver Herald*, assumed the volume number of its predecessor, *The Advocate*, and thereafter advertised as "the oldest paper in the county." Dick Quinn published his paper until May, 1900, except for a period of a year and a half when George Drummond²³ was owner, but

²⁰ Franz Seigel Drummond was born April 1, 1862, at Brighton, Iowa. He came to Oklahoma in early days; editor of the *Beaver Herald*, 1898-1902; moved to Gig Harbor, Washington, editing the *Bay Island News*, 1918-1924; appointed postmaster for several terms during which the post office was named district office and two new buildings were erected. Married Frances Louella Faidley, May 14, 1887, at Mankato, Kansas. Mrs. Drummond's home town was Burr Oak where her father had the first store and post office. Franz S. Drummond died August 23, 1933. Mr. Drummond was an accomplished musician and did much to develop an interest in it in his community. F.F.S.

²¹ Extus Leroy Gay was born in 1862 in Ohio; schooling in Ohio and at Valparaiso Normal, Indiana; edited papers at Benton, El Reno, Shawnee and the *Pawhuska (Osage) Journal*; City Clerk, Beaver (1890); active in first legislature; married Alice Cramer; died in Pawhuska, 1929.

²² R. B. (Dick) Quinn was born March 31, 1868, in Missouri; schooling in same state. Went to No Man's Land in 1887; editor *Hardesty Times*, 1889-1890; *Hardesty Herald*, 1890-1900; *Guymon Herald*, 1900-1907; *Guymon Tribune*, 1921-1926; U. S. Marshal, 1926-1933. Married Cleo Luikart, 1900. Two children, Robert and Florence (Mrs. P. P. Gibbons). Died June 10, 1939. Odd Fellow. Mason. C. L. A.

²³ George Drummond moved to the Pacific Coast where he has been active in the mechanical phase of newspaper work. Now lives at Glendale, Oregon. W.I.D.

he returned to the business world and Mr. Quinn resumed his work as editor of the "most unique"²⁴ paper of Oklahoma Territory.²⁵

Early Newspapers—Beaver County, 1890-1900

When No Man's Land became Beaver County there was an ever increasing number of homestead entries which made final proof and contest notices a valuable asset to a paper. Frequently an editor's politics changed over night at the prospect of having these notices or the county printing. Land commissioners who owned papers prospered, and as they were appointed at Washington, it was not unusual to find a flourishing republican paper in democrat territory.

In the hurry and scramble of organizing pioneer communities, with their lack of individual responsibility, Oklahoma newspapers were conducted too often as a purely commercial enterprise; one being established by a political adventurer, another by a townsite promoter, and still another by what Oklahoma "hill billies" have learned to call "the special interests."²⁶

The *Beaver County Democrat* was started by Joe D. Carter in March, 1892. Two years later, February 22, 1894, Dr. J. R. Lindley bought it because he "had the county printing." In a few months C. F. Jenkins was employed as editor but he had some trouble with the land office at Woodward and left the country. Mrs. Jenkins left September 17, 1894, for Philadelphia to make her home with relatives. In August the *Advocate* announced it was the only paper being published at Beaver City, so the *Democrat* must have died in late July.

South and West was another political adventure of Dr. Lindley. It was purchased by the *Beaver Herald*, May 13, 1897, after it had run from September 20, 1895.

Louis A. Wikoff,²⁷ who had been editor and publisher of the Springfield (Colorado) *Herald*, established the *Cimarron News Au-*

²⁴ Mrs. Tom B. Ferguson, *They Carried the Torch* (Kansas City, Missouri: Burton Publishing Company, 1937), 53.

²⁵ Careful check up with settlers who know Hardesty's complete history proves there was no other paper published there. Ayer, *Newspaper Bibliography*, states there was a Hardesty *Kicker*. Dates indicate they placed the Hennessey *Kicker* to Hardesty's credit as well as its own town.

²⁶ *Sturm's Oklahoma Magazine*, February 1910. "Oklahoma Newspapers," by Fred S. Barde. (Mr. Barde was Oklahoma representative of Kansas City *Star*, 1898-1910.)

²⁷ L. A. Wikoff, b. April 4, 1855, near Buena Vista, Ohio. Attended school in New York. Worked on paper, Anthony, Kansas. Filed on claim Baca County, Colorado, 1887, and established the *Minneapolis Chico*, Springfield *Herald*, 1891, 1898; *Cimarron News*, 1898-1910. Moved to Clayton, New Mexico. Started Pioneer Auto Company. Moved business to Raton, N. M. Married Sarah Ellen Raney of Parsons, Kansas. One child, J. Allen who continues auto business. Died March 20, 1930. Mr. and Mrs. Wikoff assisted in founding the first church in west Beaver County—Methodist. When they left Kenton they gave the dressed stone newspaper office to the church to be used for a new structure. J.A.W.

gust 11, 1898 at Kenton and continued its career until March 24, 1910. W. E. (Billy) Bolton of the Woodward *News* and of the *Livestock Inspector* said that no one but Dick Quinn could print a paper at a place like Hardesty and "make a go of it." But Mr. Wikoff was printing a paper four days' travel from the county seat—if the weather was good—yet he kept alive an interest in affairs at Beaver and in Oklahoma, most praiseworthy since Kenton was a town almost "forgotten" by the politicians at Beaver City.

Franz S. Drummond who bought the Beaver *Herald* had for his assistant Maud O. Thomas, who purchased the paper February 17, 1902, thereby becoming the Panhandle's third woman editor.

Rock Island Towns, 1900-1907

When the Rock Island railway company decided to build southwest from Liberal, Kansas, the center of population of Beaver County shifted to a diagonal line along the railroad. New towns were located: Tyrone moved a few miles west to become a prospective county seat town; Guymon was platted by Liberal men; Hooker was a Chicago Townsite company's "boom town," and Texhoma was platted by J. A. Robertson who had homesteaded it. The railroad ran excursions every other week in the early 1900's to bring home seekers to look over the country, and the growth of the towns and population was rapid.

Guymon had the first newspaper. In 1900 it became known the Rock Island would not build through Hardesty. Early in May Dick Quinn loaded his printing office and equipment on five wagons and drove to a switching point on the railroad called Sanford. Here he set up his press to print the Sanford *Herald*. After a few weeks had passed the railroad asked to have the name of the town changed. Guymon, to honor E. T. Guymon of Liberal, one of the townsite organizers, became the permanent title for the earlier Sanford. The Guymon *Herald* flourished, for its editor was U. S. Court Commissioner, so the paper was crowded with final proof notices. In 1903, three to five pages were devoted to them, or contest filings. Hardesty and Hansford County ranchers transferred their subscriptions and allegiance as the *Herald's* editor became an influential politician. March 29, 1906, the paper had 1200 paid up subscriptions, and by June 21 of the same year, 1300. Warren Zimmerman,²⁸ who had

²⁸ Warren Zimmerman. B. at Portia, Kansas, January 8, 1880. Son of B.F.G. and Phoebe Higgs (Smiley) Zimmerman. Edu. Kansas Wesleyan Univ. In U. S. Postal service, Portia, Kansas, 1901; in newspaper work *Osborne County Farmer*, 1901-1903; editor *Osborne County News*, 1903-1905; part owner, editor, manager Chandler (Okla.) *News*, 1905-1907; owner-editor Guymon *Herald*, 1907-1916. *Liberal News*, 1916-1935. Member Southwest Kansas Editorial Association; Blue Lodge, Mason, Shrine. Clubs: Lions, Republican. Methodist Episcopal Church. Married Martha Edgemon, Ft. Worth, Texas, Jan. 22, 1906. One child: Richard Grush. Elected president Southwest Editorial Assoc., 1929. Part owner with Richard Zimmerman of the Kansas Color Press, Lawrence, Kansas, at present time. (Taken from *Who's Who in Central States*, 1929.)

been manager of the Chandler *News* bought the Guymon *Herald* March 14, 1907. It continued to grow under his direction and was regarded as the best business success of any paper in the Panhandle. Mr. Zimmerman sold the paper, December 15, 1915, to own and publish the Liberal (Kansas) *News*.

The Guymon *Democrat* was started under the leadership of M. G. Wiley, an attorney, January 17, 1907, "to pick plums for the democrats."²⁹ Mr. Wiley and J. Porter Wright were joint editors until February 6 when the latter sold his interest to Mr. Wiley and C. B. Baxter³⁰ became manager. The paper was purchased by E. N. Faris in 1910 and was sold to Rev. R. A.³¹ and Miss Mildred Baird³² February 1, 1912. Mr. Baxter bought from them November 26, 1913, and was publisher until February 13, 1919, when J. I. Denny of Guymon *Herald* consolidated the two papers under the *Herald* title. During the period from April 1, 1918 to February 13, 1919, D. J. Murr had an interest in the *Democrat*, though he worked on the Goodwell *News* at the same time. For a time in 1915 J. C. McConnell assisted Mr. Baxter.

The Hooker *Advance* began publication February 19, 1904, under the direction of Jesse S. Moffitt. It was started as a "boom" paper for a "boom" town, carrying a double column, half page section, titled: "Tell the Truth about Hooker." J. Henry Shields³³ acted as editor in Mr. Moffitt's absence. May 10, 1906, the paper became republican. July 6, 1906, the editor was appointed U. S. Court Commissioner for Hooker. The building and press were destroyed by fire June 7, 1908, at an estimated loss of two thousand dollars. In 1906 the paper claimed a circulation of one thousand.

²⁹ Hooker *Advance*, January 25, 1907.

³⁰ Charles B. Baxter, b. Missouri, November 5, 1868. Started newspaper career at Bolivar, Missouri, "behind an old reliable Washington hand press and 13 em stick and rule and somewhat 'bottled' Burjoice type." Rush Springs, Kans., 1900. Dalhart *Tribune*; mechanical part of Guymon *Democrat* for E. N. Faris, Baird, Guymon *Democrat*, 1913-1919. Moved to California 1923, now resides at Fullerton. Married Ida Newport, August 21, 1901. Five children. C.B.B.

³¹ Robert A. Baird, b. Chatfield, Texas, Nov. 14, 1871. Father and grandfather were pioneer Methodist ministers in Texas; the grandfather took a grant when Texas was a Republic. Robert worked on papers: Santa Anna (Texas) *News*, and Comanche (Texas) *Chief*. Moved to Okla. 1902 and served in churches at Ryan, Temple, Lindsey, Pauls Valley and Guymon (1910). Admitted to bar 1913, establishing himself at Healdton. City attorney at time of his death, October 1, 1921.

³² Mildred Baird, b. Chatfield, Texas, Apr. 7, 1874. Taught in rural schools, worked in banks. Deputy Tax assessor and deputy treas. (Guymon). Bookkeeper City National Bank. Guymon *Democrat* (1912-1913). Moved to Hugoton 1915. Married Mr. Jim Parsons, Dec. 17, 1916. Resides at Hugoton, Kansas.

³³ J. Henry Shields, b. Jan. 6, 1887, Russellville, Arkansas. Came to Oklahoma 1895. Owner and publisher Hooker *Advance* 1916-. In 1909 edited *The Farmer's Voice*,^a or *The Farmer's Educational and Co-operative Union of America of Texas County*.^b

^a Beaver *Herald*, Jan. 14, 1909, ^b Tyrone *Observer*, Jan. 15, 1909.

During the period when the greatest number of homeseekers was coming into the Rock Island area, the *Hooker Advance* was outspoken as the settler's defender and protector against the cattlemen. A spirited exchange of editorials between the *Advance* and the *Guymon Herald* lasted for several years, for the latter believed the cattlemen, as first comers, should have consideration, as well as the settlers. Not the *Hooker Advance*! It aided in the organization of a "New Settler's Convention," an independent political organization, anti-cattlemen in spirit, but which wanted county offices for its members, also. The movement died down when the homesteaders became so numerous that ranching was impossible.

The *Hooker Republican* was established by H. P. Fluhart in 1906, but the *Advance* changed to the same party that year, so it is probable the newer newspaper was short-lived.

H. W. Hill³⁴ founded the *Tyrone Observer* May 5, 1904, consolidating with the *Tyrone Leader*, whose editor was G. W. Griffith, March 15, 1905, and gave it the name *Observer-Leader*. J. F. Carter purchased it two days later and sold it to W. V. Goforth, August 31, 1906. Mr. Carter continued to manage the paper for Mr. Goforth and for Mrs. Frank Belle Healy³⁵ when she purchased the *Tyrone Observer*, as it was again called, August 31, 1906. J. S. Maynard,³⁶ who was to purchase the paper three times and sell it twice, bought it in November 1910 for the first time.

Two newspapers have been published in Texhoma; the *Texhoma Times* which was established in September 1904 by J. E. Kerr, and the *Texhoma Argus* founded in January 1907 by Joe L. Buckley. The *Argus*, under the editorships of V. M. Grant and T. H. Davison, ceased publication December 3, 1914. The *Texhoma Times* was sold to J. W. Seroogins, a Texan, who edited it for about two

³⁴Mr. Hill and Mr. Moffatt were friends in Nebraska. The *Beaver County Republican* had as editor Feb. 2, 1906, H. W. Hill, who homesteaded near Boyd (ghost town of Oklahoma).

³⁵Mrs. F. B. nee Dow, Healy, b. Liberty, Maine, Nov. 10, 1860. Married F. D. Healy of Boston (1884) when they went to Okla. to engage in cattle business with father and brothers. Mr. Healy served as Deputy U. S. Marshal and as sheriff for Beaver County, was appointed Register of the U. S. Land Office at Woodward by President McKinley. After his death (1904) Mrs. Healy was appointed U. S. Commissioner at Tyrone, where she was postmaster. In 1910 she moved to Claremont until the World War when she lived at Cambridge, Mass., while her three sons were in service. In 1926 she returned to Claremont to reside with Frank Dale Healy. She died July 14, 1938. She was active in the D.A.R., art and women's clubs. She had three sons: W. H. Healy, Charles H. Healy, and Frank D. Healy.

³⁶James Shadrack Maynard, son of James Carson and Mary Frances Maynard. B. Bower Mills, Lawrence County, Missouri, Sept. 22, 1880. Schooled in Lawrence and Jasper counties, Mo. *Red Rock Valley News*, 1900. Helped "get out" the first issue of *Beaver County Democrat*. *Meade County News*. Worked for Mrs. Healy, 1907. Bought and sold *Tyrone Observer* three times, the last 1928—. Married Frankie May Williams, Nov. 18, 1918. Four children: Cornelia Frances, Ida Lieu, James Robert and John Porter. Baptist, deacon of church. Never held public office. J.S.M.

years, when the U. S. Court Commissioner, J. S. Fisher³⁷ became its owner, August 30, 1907. Under his management the *Times* made a splendid growth and was widely quoted.

The *Optima Optimist*, C. E. Brown editor, appeared October 29, 1905, and continued under his direction until May 4, 1917, when H. M. Holman succeeded him. The paper ceased publication November 9, 1918.

In addition to the newspapers established in the Rock Island area, five were started in the vicinity of Beaver. George H. Healy³⁸ and John W. Savage³⁹ started the *Beaver Journal* in 1904, but for some reason their names did not appear on the mast head until July 1, 1904.⁴⁰ A revived ("reincarnated") *Beaver Advocate* appeared about the same time, edited by H. E. G. Putnam⁴¹ and J. W. Culwell.⁴² It looked "as tho' there was a plan on foot to get the county printing."⁴³ The *Advocate* and the *Journal* were purchased by W. L. Beardsley⁴⁴ January 20, 1905. The united papers were issued as the *Beaver Journal*. Mr. Culwell was sole editor November 14, 1905, with a "Republican paper qualified to do legal work." J. C. Fisher bought the *Journal* the same year but was succeeded by

³⁷ J. S. Fischer. Owned the *Beaver Journal* which he sold to W. T. Quinn, and the *Gate City Journal* which W. L. Beardsley bought. *Texhoma Times* 1907-1911, 1912-1912. Mr. Fischer built up a strong paper and aided in locating the A. and M. College at Goodwell, being the first editor to suggest it. Republican. Secretary first state Republican Convention, Tulsa, 1907. Moved to Boise, Idaho, 1912-1927, engaged in real estate business. Amarillo, Texas, 1927—, manager of abstract company. Clubs: Lions, Elks, Spanish War Veterans. Methodist. Married Georgia Caperton, a Texas County pioneer who had lived in Alabama, 1908. Two sons: Jack and Leigh who have attained high scholastic honors. Jack was a Rhodes Scholar and Leigh is an attorney in Texas. J.S.F.

³⁸ George H. Healy, b. Maine, 1857. Schooling at Boston. Cowpuncher on Padre Island, near Corpus Christi (1875). Never voted until 35 years of age because he lived in No Man's Land (1880). Owner of K K ranch with Frank D. Healy. Had a fur and hide business, sending goods to Dodge City. 1886 blizzard wrecked the cattle range business—sold out, started a mercantile business at Alpine (ghost town of Oklahoma). Admitted to bar 1900. Candidate on Republican ticket for governor, 1924.

³⁹ John W. Savage, b. Virginia, Illinois, 1874. Moved to Englewood (Kans.), 1886, Oklahoma 1887. Married Jennie Maple 1907. One son. Held several county offices. Farm loans at time of death April 7, 1912.

⁴⁰ *Hooker Advance*, July 1, 1904. *Ibid.*, May 27, 1904.

⁴¹ H. E. G. Putnam, b. Jasper County, Iowa, Jan. 15, 1859. Came to Oklahoma 1891, ranch near Beaver. Guymon 1907. Married Electa F. Allison. County Commissioner, County Treasurer of Beaver and Texas counties. County Judge Texas County. Chairman Democratic County Committee. (Died 1936.) Harlow, *Makers of Government in Oklahoma*, 1930.

⁴² J. W. Culwell, attorney at Beaver for many years.

⁴³ *Ibid.*, footnote 40.

⁴⁴ W. L. Beardsley, b. Rock Island, Illinois, 1860. Came to Woods County (Okla.) 1897. Board of Education eight years. U. S. Court Commissioner, Beaver County 1890-1907. *Beaver Journal*, 1905. With J. S. Fischer, *Gate Valley Star*, 1906-1907. City Clerk, Forgan. Opened up Forgan, Oklahoma, 1912. Resides at Arnett, Oklahoma. L.L.B.

W. T. Quinn⁴⁵ with C. M. Parr and E. B. Quinn as assistants, in 1906. They built up a good business when a fire destroyed the office, fixtures and all subscription and account books, valued at \$2,000, in 1909. The good will was sold to the Beaver *Herald*.

J. S. Fischer and W. L. Beardsley began the *Gate Valley Star* the second week of April, 1905. Miss Edna S. Beardsley⁴⁶ moved over from Beaver to do the editorial work. Mr. Fischer was sole owner June 3, 1907, but L. L. Beardsley⁴⁷ took over the paper November 20, 1907. For a time (May 23—September 11) the newspaper was printed by F. S. Nipper, owner and publisher of the Englewood (Kansas) *Tribune*, on the *Tribune* press. In an early editorial Mr. Nipper wrote he would buy a new press for the *Star*, but Mr. L. L. Beardsley resumed management September 11, 1908, on the old press. His father, W. L. Beardsley, was in charge April 9, 1909. No copies of the paper are available dated later than this. The paper was published for a time by one of the Beaver papers. The editors during that period were Pearl Holliday, Bernidine Wiles and Arthur J. Stevens. A fire destroyed the *Star* plant in July, 1923, but Mr. Stevens was urged by the citizens of Gate to install a new press.⁴⁸ The Beaver *Democrat* absorbed it, however.

The *Beaver County Democrat*, "the only democratic paper in the county," was founded by W. B. Newman, July 7, 1906. Until L. B. Tooker⁴⁹ became owner June 18, 1908, there were a number of owners; A. J. R. Smith, with Bob Dickson, editor, October 1, 1907; F. C. Tracy and W. H. Willhour, joint owners, January 16, 1908. Mr. Tooker began to build up a strong newspaper by purchasing a number of small town publications which had been started in places where there were not enough people to support them; the *Forgan Enterprise*, *La Kemp* (or *Lakemp*), *Mirror*, and *Ivanhoe*

⁴⁵ W. T. Quinn, b. Pulaska County, Indiana, Jan. 16, 1870. Lived in Missouri, 1884-1887. Arrived at Beaver, March, 1887. Taught school 1894-1903, in winter, worked on range in summer. Deputy U. S. Court Clerk 1903-1907. *Beaver Journal* 1906-1909. Insurance business 1920—. Married Ada C. Weir. Five children. Mr. Quinn is next to the oldest of ten children, all living. He was an intimate friend of R. B. Quinn, though they are not related. W.T.Q.

⁴⁶ Miss Edna Beardsley is Mrs. W. T. Rogers, San Francisco, Calif.

⁴⁷ L. L. Beardsley established *Forgan Eagle*, 1914-1918. Odell (Texas) *Enterprise*, 1910. *Fargo Statesman*, 1934. Moved it to Arnett, naming it *Ellis County Statesman*. Sold it to W. W. Denson who moved it to Gate as the *Republican*. Active as Republican county organizer. L.L.B.

⁴⁸ *Beaver Democrat*, July 26, 1923.

⁴⁹ L. B. Tooker, b. McHenry County, Illinois, July 12, 1888. Schooling in McHenry Co. University of Illinois (1908). Came to Oklahoma 1907. Teacher in Beaver County. Principal of schools of Beaver, 1910-1911. *Beaver Democrat*, 1908-1920. Thoburn, *History of Oklahoma*, 1916, vol. V. (Mr. Tooker and family left in December, 1920, for California to live.)

News. A. L. Kimball⁵⁰ and A. W. Cox bought the newspaper September 30, 1920, after which date it was known as the *Beaver Democrat*. Three years later Mr. Kimball, then sole owner, purchased the *Beaver Herald* and consolidated the *Ivanhoe Independent*, the *Beaver County Republican*, *Farmer's News* (Knowles) to form the *Herald Democrat* August 1, 1923. H. H. Hubbart bought the paper, May 17, 1928, and continues to publish it, and the *Forgan Advocate* today (1940).

The following were associated with *The Beaver County Democrat*:

W. B. Newman ⁵¹	June 7, 1906
A. J. R. Smith ⁵²	}
Bob Dickson,		
F. C. Tracy ⁵³	}
W. H. Willhour ⁵⁴		
L. B. Tooker	June 18, 1908
A. L. Kimball	}
A. W. Cox ⁵⁵		
A. L. Kimball	<i>Herald-Democrat</i> August 1, 1923
H. H. Hubbart ⁵⁶	May 17, 1928-

When the *Beaver Herald* was purchased by Mr. Hubbart to form the *Herald-Democrat*, its long career as a republican paper came to an end. Since Mr. Hubbart left the name *Herald* first in the title, the writer has carried the *Beaver Herald* in the last section, when doubtless the *Democrat* should be there, instead.

⁵⁰ A. L. Kimball, b. Minneapolis, Kansas, 1879. Apprentice on newspapers in Winchester, Tenn., 1892-1898. 1st Tenn. Vol. Inf. Spanish-Amer. War and Philippines. Discharged in Philippines, worked on newspapers there, instructed in printing office in Dept. of Education. Returned to U. S. in 1904, worked in printing offices in New York City, Kansas City, Chicago, Columbus, Ohio, and during World War with J. B. Miller of Liberal (Kans.) *Democrat*. *Forgan Eagle*, 1920. *Beaver Democrat*, 1920. Bought *Beaver Herald* to issue *Herald-Democrat* to 1928. Associated with son Roy, publishing *DeQueen Bee* (weekly) and *DeQueen Daily Citizen* at DeQueen, Arkansas. A.L.K.

⁵¹ Died at Cherokee, Okla., Nov. 26, 1908.

⁵² Moved to Beaver from Woodward, Okla.

⁵³ Fred C. Tracy, b. Rochester, Ill., Jan. 17, 1868. Came to Okla. 1885. Grade schools. Married Ora Thomas. Four children. Postmaster, County Clerk. Constitutional Convention. Board of Education. Town Council. (Harlow, *Makers of Government in Oklahoma*, 1930.)

⁵⁴ Resides at Tulsa, Okla. Has retired from police force.

⁵⁵ A. W. Cox came from Columbus, Ohio, to edit the *Democrat* at Beaver. Returned to Ohio when he sold his share in the *Democrat* to A. L. Kimball.

⁵⁶ H. H. Hubbart, b. Sarcoxie, Missouri, 1880. Spent boyhood there. Parents homesteaded in Grant County, opening of Cherokee Strip. Educated public schools of Oklahoma. Moved to a farm at Lawton, 1901, in few years moved to Butler, Pond Creek *Herald*. *Beaver Herald-Democrat*, 1929—. *Forgan Advocate*, 1929—. Pres. Beaver Chamber of Commerce. Town council. Active for public and private improvements via civic affairs. Married. Seven children. H.H.H.

Part 3. Cimarron County 1907-

When Oklahoma became a state, Beaver County was divided into three almost equal parts. The new names with their county seats were: Cimarron (Kenton); Texas (Guymon); Beaver (Beaver).

Kenton, located in the most northwesterly part of Cimarron County, accepted the general opinion that a county seat must be in the center of the county, "sat back to see what would happen."⁵⁷

Soon, seven towns organized more on paper than elsewhere, began a race for the prize, making one of the unique county seat fights in the history of the United States . . . and which sent two men to the penitentiary. The surest way to reach the voters was through the newspapers, though some of the villages of a handfull of small homes were too poor to buy any. The towns which did were Jurgensen, Hurley, Cimarron, Doby (Adobe Wind Mill), and Boise City.

Jurgensen's *Cimarron Courier*, with J. F. Carter⁵⁸ and J. Q. Denny, owners and editors, started the contest March 7, 1907. After three months Mr. Carter withdrew and Jurgensen's chance passed away for the Union Townsite Company, promoters for Cimarron, purchased the paper, changed the name to *Cimarron Citizen* and set up with Roy Rudolph, editor.

Then, J. F. Carter began (or reestablished) the *Courier* at Doby early in December where it had to be sorted for mailing twelve miles away as Doby had no post office. The *Courier* remained at Doby until it was apparent the county seat would be located elsewhere. The plant remained idle until it was moved to Boise City where it died in a few months. In September 1909 all the equipment was loaded in wagons and moved to Inka, Kansas, where Mr. Carter would start a new paper in a new town.

Hurley's paper was started October 11, 1907, by F. M. McKinney,⁵⁹ J. S. Fischer and W. E. Krieger.⁶⁰ After statehood J. Q. Denny purchased the plant and moved it to Boise City where he was U. S. Court Commissioner for Cimarron County. The paper, renamed the *Boise City Tribune*, July 31, 1908, was sold to R. C. Thomas to be absorbed by the *Cimarron News* (at Boise City), June 8, 1911.

Mr. Wikoff sold the *Cimarron News* to Roscoe C. Thomas who moved it to Boise City, the successful county seat aspirant on March 24, 1910. Ten years later it was sold to S. M. Koukel and F. S. Graves of the Springfield (Colo.) *Herald-Democrat*. Mr. Koukel remained in Colorado and Mr. Graves edited the *News*. H. W. Kes-

⁵⁷ *Cimarron News* (Kenton), Dec. 12, 1907.

⁵⁸ J. F. Carter, b. 1868, Kansas City, Missouri. Worked on newspapers Des Moines, Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Worked on *Tyrone Observer*, 1905-1907. Was manager for W. V. Colofort and Mrs. F. B. Healy.

⁵⁹ Died, Dalhart, Texas, January 20, 1930.

⁶⁰ Brother of Fred Krieger of *Cimarron News*, half brother of Roy Butterbaugh. Had experience on southern Oklahoma and Texas papers.

ler and V. H. Shumway bought the paper April 7, 1921. J. S. Miller bought the interest of the last named March 9, 1922. Mr. Kesler was sole owner a year later and continued to edit the paper until Roy Butterbaugh⁶¹ and Fred Krieger bought it February 15, 1926. They operated as partnership until January 15, 1927, when Mr. Butterbaugh became sole owner.

The name of the *News* was changed to *Boise City News* July 25, 1930.

The following were associated with this paper:

W. A. Wikoff	August 11, 1898. (Kenton)
Roscoe Thomas ⁶² }	March 24, 1910. Moved to Boise City.
W. I. Cleeton }	
S. M. Konkel }	1920
F. S. Graves }	
H. W. Kesler }	April 6, 1921
V. H. Shumway }	
(J. S. Miller)	March 9, 1922
H. W. Kesler	1923
Roy Butterbaugh }	February 15, 1926
Fred Krieger ⁶³ }	
Roy Butterbaugh	January 15, 1927-
	Boise City <i>News</i> , July 15, 1927

There were four other newspapers started in Cimarron County which Mr. Roy Butterbaugh has summarized as follows: The *Boise City Enterprise* was born March 27, 1922 and died December 20, 1922. The three others were short-lived: the *Keyes Advocate*, *Felt Enterprise*, and the *Ramsey Rig and Reel*.

After building of the Santa Fe railroad from Elkhart to Felt through Keyes and Boise City, a paper known during its short life as the *Keyes Advocate* was established by Arthur Godown May 4, 1927. Having no plant, Godown had the mechanical work done by the *Cimarron News*. This arrangement was not satisfactory to the supporters of the paper, however, and after a few months the Keyes Chamber of Commerce acquired enough equipment to produce the paper at home. The *News* kept the paper alive until the commercial

⁶¹ Roy Butterbaugh, b. Duncan, Indian Territory, Nov. 1, 1898. Public schools Duncan and West Texas. Panhandle Agri. Inst. at Goodwell and Clarendon College (Texas). Learned type cases on Duncan *Eagle*, and *Banner*. "Devil," *Texhoma Times*. Marlow *Review* and Waurika *News-Democrat*. Printed and taught music, San Pedro (Calif.) School of Arts. Led town bands in Okla. and Texas. Married Ophelia Fincher (Denton, Texas), 1925. One child, Norma Gene. Owned and edited *Boise City News* 1927—. R.B.

⁶² Roscoe C. Thomas, b. Feb. 22, 1883, Wilson County, Tennessee. Came to Oklahoma in 1904. At the 101 Ranch for a year. Real estate, Guymon. In 1907 organized the Cimarron Town Company. Went to Boise City 1908. *Cimarron News* 1910, absorbed *Boise City Tribune* 1911. Married June 29, 1910 to Miss Ruby Allison. One son.

⁶³ Fred Krieger. Band leader at Guymon. Wrote column "Human Interest" for *Panhandle Herald* 1938-1939.

body put its plant in operation. Their editor, a Mr. Campbell, began slipping after a few months and the plant was then sold to Graves and Kesler (formerly *Cimarron News*). After operating the paper about a year this management suspended publication.

After the oil strike in Cimarron County in 1927 by Ramsey brothers, and subsequent laying out of the townsite of Ramsey, ten miles north of Boise City, a paper called the *Ramsey Rig and Reel* was established by R. B. McDermott of Las Animas, Colorado. Graves later became connected with it but no equipment was ever moved in, the mechanical work being done at Las Animas, Boise City and Stratford, Texas. When the potential oil field failed to develop, publication of the paper was suspended.

The other was called the *Felt Enterprise*, established at Felt in 1930. The founder, A. E. Clark, inaugurated a whirlwind circulation contest with his first issue, published two issues and disappeared. The postal department called the action "use of the mails to defraud" and his "reward" was five years in Leavenworth. The *Enterprise* was not revived.

Texas County.

Texas County, also, had a number of papers which did not last very long. Goodwell had the *News*, the *Independent* and the *Farmer*. Mr. H. E. Scholl writes that, during the Guymon-Goodwell contest for the A. & M. school, the *Goodwell News* was about to die for lack of support. He was persuaded to buy the paper, although he had "worked for a few months as solicitor and writer for the *Guymon Herald*. Jethro Scroggin, an itinerant newspaper worker was hired at a wage of eighteen dollars per week and his wages took all and more of the cash receipts for the first year, then I found it compulsory to get along without his help. I put the business on a paying basis and sold to a Mr. Hickey, another itinerant newspaper man who sold to V. W. Grant." Mr. Scholl⁶⁴ was editor from June 18, 1908 to December 3, 1910. J. Q. Denny absorbed the paper when he consolidated the *Guymon Herald*, *Guymon Democrat*, and the *Goodwell News* March 1, 1919. The *Goodwell Independent* was published by the *Guymon Democrat* and was absorbed by the *Panhandle Herald* January 6, 1927. Mr. Scholl states that V. W. Grant acted as publisher for a longer term than any other editor.

R. B. Quinn returned to the newspaper business with the *Guymon Tribune* in September 1921, which he published until the end of 1926 from the old *Herald* office. It contained many No Man's Land experiences and a series of sketches of "old B. C." and his wife Matty. Mr. Quinn was appointed U. S. Marshal in the spring of 1926 and left for Oklahoma City, placing his daughter, Florence,

⁶⁴ H. E. Scholl, b. Ladoga, Montgomery County, Indiana, Jan. 18, 1867. Moved to Wellsville, Kansas, 1879, where he was educated. Managed Farmers' Co-Op. Store at Wellsville. Oklahoma Panhandle, Nov. 1907. Worked on *Guymon Herald* as solicitor and writing articles. Persuaded to buy *Goodwell News*, which was absorbed by *Guymon Herald*. Returned to Wellsville where he now resides.

in charge of the newspaper. It was sold to Giles E. Miller to be absorbed by the *Panhandle Herald*.

The following were associated with this paper:

R. B. Quinn	May, 1900
Warren Zimmerman	March 14, 1907
J. Q. Denny ⁶⁵	January 6, 1916
Consolidated Guymon <i>Democrat</i> } Goodwell <i>News</i> } Giles E. Miller ⁶⁶	August 7, 1919
Consolidated Guymon } <i>Tribune, Herald,</i> } Goodwell <i>Independent,</i> } Goodwell <i>Farmer.</i> }	<i>Panhandle Herald</i> , January 6, 1927 A daily November 16, 1933
Harry Wacker ⁶⁷	January 2, 1939
Peyton Reavis ⁶⁸	July 12, 1939
Dick Reavis ⁶⁹	August 19, 1939
Tom Dalhausen ⁷⁰	December 4, 1939.

⁶⁵ John Quincy Denny was born Nov. 6, 1876, at Lorraine, Missouri. At the age of eight his parents moved to Kansas, where, at eleven, he was apprenticed to a printer to learn the trade and go to school. After an apprenticeship on the small town paper, he went to the *Winfield Daily Courier*, where he remained until the run into Oklahoma in '89. Here he was employed by Frank Greer and helped with the first edition of the *Guthrie Daily State Capital*. This was a rather exciting experience as the printing plant was dumped at the side of the track, a tent thrown over all and the printers went to work. He also made the race into the Cherokee Strip in '93, settling in Blackwell, where he worked on the daily papers until '94 when he returned to Guthrie to play professional ball in the summer and in the winter worked on the *Capital*, during which time he learned the linotype, which had just been installed in the *Capital* office. He remained here until the outbreak of the Spanish-American War and a labor strike on the *Capital* when he went to the *Wichita Eagle*, later to the *Topeka Capital* and *Capper's Mail and Breeze*, then to the *Kansas City World*, *St. Louis Globe-Democrat*, *Terre Haute Evening Tribune* and *Morning Express*. In Chicago he worked on various dailies for the next six years when he went to the Panhandle, settling on a homestead in what, after statehood in 1907, became Cimarron County, where, in March of 1907, he established the *Panhandle Tribune*. In 1908 (July), before Boise City became county seat, he established the *Boise City Tribune*, which after election blotted out the Hurley, Doby and Jergensen papers. In 1911 the *Tribune* was sold to Roscoe Thomas and in 1914 he went to Guymon to help Warren Zimmerman with his new linotype, which he was unable to run, and in 1916 purchased the *Guymon Herald*. A year later the *Guymon Democrat* was added to or consolidated with the *Herald*. Mr. and Mrs. Denny are now living at 144 North Hillcrest Boulevard, Inglewood, California. H.M.D.

⁶⁶ Giles E. Miller, b. April 13, 1871, Neutral, Kansas. Apprenticed to the *News* there in 1883. Came from Hutchinson, Kansas, to Oklahoma, 1919; had been traveling for a number of years for Central Topeka Paper Company. Editor and part owner *Panhandle Herald* 1919-1938. Married. Three children. Mr. Miller printed the paper in the former *Democrat* office and the *Panhandle Herald* is printed there at present.

⁶⁷ Henry Wacker. Had worked for Giles Miller for ten years.

⁶⁸ Peyton Reavis. Had worked on a Guymon paper.

⁶⁹ Dick Reavis. Gave up work to go to school at A. & M.

⁷⁰ Tom Dalhausen. Came from San Diego, Calif., graduate of University of Calif., 1931. Worked on newspapers in San Francisco, Los Angeles, and New York.

The files at the Historical Society have no issue which states the change to a "daily, except Sunday." On November 23, 1933, the mast head carried this information, and the number of the issue was changed to daily issue numbers.

The following men were associated with the newspapers listed below:

Hooker Advance

J. I. Moffitt	February, 1904
Southworth Hoole	August 27, 1909
Number of politicians purchased, J. M. Browning, ed.	August 12, 1910
Advocate Publishing Company	
A. L. Hiebert	August 22, 1913
W. C. Hawkins	October 2, 1914
R. W. Roddy	January 28, 1916
J. Henry Shields	November 3, 1916-

Tyrone Observer

H. W. Hill ⁷¹	September 1, 1904
Consolidated	
Tyrone Leader ⁷²	March 15, 1905
J. F. Carter	March 17, 1905
W. V. Goforth	August 18, 1905
Mrs. F. B. Healy	August 31, 1906
J. S. Maynard	1907
J. E. Peters	February 16, 1911
Harvey Allen	
J. S. Maynard	April 10, 1913
A. L. Hiebert ⁷³	May 3, 1917
Loyalty Publishing Co.	August 14, 1919
C. M. Mast	April 20, 1922
J. S. Maynard	May 17, 1928-

Texhoma Times

J. S. Fischer	August 30, 1907
S. R. Bartholemew	December 16, 1910
J. S. Fischer	January 5, 1912
W. E. Kreiger ⁷⁴	January 26, 1912
George Butterbaugh ⁷⁵	July 6, 1912
W. E. Kreiger	January 5, 1917
Roland Bush	March 30, 1917

⁷¹ H. W. Hill, began to edit *Beaver County Republican* at Ragsdale, February, 1906.

⁷² *Tyrone Leader* edited by G. W. Griffith at that date, who retired to his farm near Optima.

⁷³ A. L. Hiebert published *Hooker Advance*, 1913, for several months.

⁷⁴ W. E. Kreiger in newspaper work in California.

⁷⁵ George Butterbaugh. Has been operator of Texhoma Hotel for many years.

George Butterbaugh May 11, 1917
 I. S. Divine⁷⁶ November 7, 1924-

Beaver County.

Forgan, a new town, was started in Beaver County when the Santa Fe extended its line to Felt (1912). It has had the surplus of newspapers that came to many Oklahoma villages. The Forgan *Enterprise*, Forgan *Democrat* and the Forgan *Eagle* left the Forgan *Advocate* in control of the field.

The Forgan *Enterprise* was started by Leroy B. Tooker who began the movement of consolidation of newspapers of less strength, and the following were associated with it:

Leroy B. Tooker	}	July 11, 1912
E. J. Haworth			
Leroy B. Tooker		September 5, 1912
J. W. Bell		April 6, 1915
Forgan Enterprise	}	December 20, 1922
Company			
L. B. Tooker, President	}	On this date Mr. Tooker purchased the Beaver <i>Herald</i> . He had been owner of the Beaver <i>Democrat</i> (1908-1920).	

The Forgan *Eagle* was established by L. L. Beardsley in February 1927 and sold to Chauncey V. Rice in 1918 and absorbed by the *Advocate*.

The Forgan *Advocate* had the following editors:

Percy Torrey October 24, 1927
 W. Roy Brashear October 24, 1929
 H. H. Hubbart July 14, 1932

Mr. Hubbart had as editors from that date:

Marie Adams July 14, 1932
 Olive Adams June 23, 1933
 Mrs. Roy Cunningham January 10, 1934
 Mrs. H. M. Parks October 6, 1936-

Lakemp, now a ghost town, had two papers; the *Mirror* and the *Citizen*. The *Mirror* had the following men associated with it:

Williams and Hardy, publishers } June 14, 1909
 George W. Williams, editor }
 George Williams November 4, 1909
 Jesse W. Bell January 23, 1913
 W. F. P. Munsey, editor and lessee, April 24, 1913

⁷⁶ Ira Donnell Divine, b. March 11, 1882, Coles County, Illinois. Came to Oklahoma in 1900. Educated at Jennings Academy, Jennings, Okla., and Franklin Academy in Nebraska. Worked way through school. Came from Guthrie where he had worked on several papers, to Texhoma. Married May Galland who died October 1, 1913. Married Edith Johnson who died December 18, 1930. Two children: Forrest M., attorney at Hugo, Okla., and Louise Mitchell, Colorado Springs. Mr. Divine has acted as Town clerk at Texhoma and president of chamber of commerce.

It was consolidated with the *Beaver County Democrat* September 30, 1920

The *Lakemp Citizen* was published by P. F. Rayl⁷⁷ January, 1909, at Conroy, though the mast head carried the name *Conroy Citizen*. It was consolidated with the *Mirror* the week of June 26, 1910.

Two papers were published for a time at Ivanhoe, which has about disappeared from all maps, the *Independent* and the *News*. J. H. Holland founded the first, October 8, 1915, and consolidated it with the *Beaver County Democrat* September 30, 1920. Joe Alexander was owner and editor of the *News* which lasted from May 1913 until it was absorbed by the *Beaver Democrat*, 1916.

Knowles, another town without a press, had the *Farmer News* which was published at Sandy City from August 1, 1907, to September 30, 1920, when it was absorbed by the *Beaver County Democrat*, September 30, 1920. B. A. Humiston⁷⁸ was editor at the time.

The *Beaver Herald* has had the following men and women associated with it:

C. R. Wright, Publisher	}..... February 7, 1895
Dolly and Lily Wright, Editors	
W. I. Drummond	June 30, 1896
Noah Daves	February 17, 1898
Franz S. Drummond	December 29, 1898
M. O. Thomas ⁷⁹	February 17, 1902
A. L. Kimball	August 1, 1923

The *Beaver Herald-Democrat* has been edited by H. H. Hubbart since May 17, 1928.

In this brief summary of the Panhandle press it has been impossible to trace the improvements in size, form and general appearance that have followed the increase of business and circulation.

No attempt has been made to show the politics of each paper, although it is a fair assumption that they were democratic in policy unless otherwise stated. The *Beaver Herald* carried the slogan, "Republican for Principle," until it became a democrat sheet as the *Beaver Herald-Democrat*. The *Guymon Herald*, under the direction of R. B. Quinn and Warren Zimmerman, was vociferously republican.

Praise should be given those editors and publishers who were far-sighted enough to encourage the consolidation of the newspapers, to build ones of greater scope. There are enough papers in the Pan-

⁷⁷ Rayl and Rayl were merchants at Lakemp and Glazier, Texas.

⁷⁸ B. A. Humiston, b. Atchison, Kansas. Educated Mt. Ayr, Iowa. Owner and editor of *Sharon News*.

⁷⁹ Maud O. Thomas, b. Green Ridge, Missouri. Educated Beaver City schools, Oklahoma University. *Beaver Herald* 1902-1923. Lives at Beaver, Oklahoma. Has been active in women's organizations and has been widely known for her success in building up the *Beaver Herald*. Miss Thomas offered the *Herald* for sale in the September 5, 1918 issue. Her last edition was July 26, 1923.

handle today unless some unforeseen development in oil activities or in irrigation should come.

The editors and publishers of the westerly counties were true builders of their communities for they came to the Panhandle to grow up with the country, giving of their knowledge, courage and ability to voice the spirit of the people in the columns of their papers. And into those news-sheets was woven the fabric of life which makes the Oklahoma Panhandle.