

Since 1889, newspapers have served Coke County beginning with the Coke County Rustler. In the 1980s, the Bronte Enterprise and the Robert Lee Observer combined to become The Observer/Enterprise. The history told in these publications is fascinating and we want to share it with our readers of today.

THE BRONTE ENTERPRISE

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OUR BOY—"WHISTLING JOE"

(Editor's note: The lines below are the pulsating echoes of of an aged mother's heart for her baby boy. "Whistling Joe," the subject of the verses, is the baby son of Mr. and Mrs. D. Larkin. He was born and reared in the Bronte section of country. He is known as "whistling Joe" because he whistles a great deal. "Joe" and his wife reside in San Angelo. He is now training in the Navy at Norfolk, Virginia.)

It was in the year, nineteen-forty two,
We had to see you go,
But, Uncle Sam needed you,
Our own dear boy—"Whistling Joe."

"Dad" and mother are lonely without you,
But, since you are needed so!
We won't complain, but wait
And wait for your return—our "Whistling Joe."

You've not been gone long, dear,
But it seems a year to us, you know,
Yet, our country needs brave men,
Like you, our "Whistling Joe."

We want you to write us, dear,
As the days come and go—
Please don't forget to send a line
To us, from our own "Whistling Joe."

We are so proud of you, dear boy!
And so is Uncle Sam, we know—
For, who could fail to love a brave man,
Like our own dear "Whistling Joe?."

When our country called, you said:
"I must surely go,
There's a work to be done for 'Uncle Sam,'
By your boy, "Whistling Joe."

And since you have gone away,
No matter wherever you go,
I pray that God will protect,
And guide our own dear boy—"Whistling Joe."

His mother,
—Mrs. D. Larkin.

Coke County's Red Cross Quota is Set at \$1,650.

Chairman H. A. Springer and War Fund Chairman, W. H. Maxwell, Jr., for Coke County Chapter, American Red Cross, announced Thursday that the National goal for the American Red Cross has been set at \$125,000,000 and that Coke County Chapter's quota has been set at \$1,650.

Chairman Springer stated that this is the estimated amount that will be needed to carry on local, national and international services of the Red Cross, during the coming year. He further stated that a large majority of this money will be spent on services to the "Armed Forces," as Red Cross' direct contribution towards winning the war.

W. H. Maxwell, Jr., who has been appointed as the War Fund Chairman of the Coke County Chapter, stated it was the purpose of his committee to contact every individual in Coke County and ask them to give liberally to this most worthy cause.

Opening date of the campaign has been set as March 1, 1943. Citizens of Coke county have always done their share and more for every worthwhile cause of this kind, and it is believed that in this instance, our people will do their part in this campaign. So, come on, citizens of Coke county, lets get behind this campaign and put Coke County "OVER THE TOP."

Fisher to Work For Strike Ban During War

O. C. Fisher, new Congressman from Texas, on being assigned to membership on the House Labor Committee, said in Washington that he would personally do all in his power to have bills reported out of that 22-man committee that would prevent strikes in war production for the duration. He referred to the coal strike as "a shameful example of a strike which seriously interfered with the war effort."

"The coal strike started", Fisher pointed out, "when John L. Lewis undertook to exact heavier union dues from the miners' pay checks. The miners objected to this arbitrary scheme. Yet it seems that Lewis had the sanction of the existing law in thus levying tribute on the workers."

"Mining coal", the Congressman continued, "is so essential to the war effort, that deferment is granted many miners from military service. Yet they quit work and jeopardize the lives of our fighting men who depend on equipment made where coal is used for fuel. In cases like this, why not induct the inciters and let them see for themselves, as fighting men, what it means to have vital war industries crippled and war materials held up?"

In addition to the committee on Labor, Congressman Fisher has been placed on a number of other important committees, including Immigration and Naturalization, Rivers and Harbors, Roads, and Flood Control.

Make us both "feel good"—pay your subscription. Thanks.

dear good friends of many years requesting that The Enterprise be sent them there, has been received.

BOY SCOUTS MEAN BUSINESS



Scouting's Job in '43
TOUGHEN UP
BUCKLE DOWN
Carry on to Victory

BOY SCOUT WEEK

February 6-12

"Toughen up, Buckle down, and Carry on to Victory", is the Boy Scout major task this year. Their 1,570,000 members are in the conflict to the hilt on the home front, doing everything boys of Scout age can do to help win the war speedily and a just peace permanently.

Bronte High School Banquets Seniors Junior Class of

Thursday night, January 28, the junior class of the Bronte school entertained the senior class with a banquet, which was an occasion of mirth and merrymaking by the members of both classes.

The "Senior Class History of 1943" was read, and also the "Senior Class Will to the Juniors." These two readings appear below. The Enterprise regrets that we were not furnished the names of the writers of both. We will give the names of those who prepared the two readings next week. Miss Ruth Stevens prepared and read the "Prophecy of the 1943 Senior Class." But, the manuscript did not reach The Enterprise office in time to appear in this issue—but, it will appear next week.

SENIOR CLASS HISTORY OF 1943

No one could think of words fitting to describe this industrious class so please bear with us while we attempt a description of this up standing class. In fact it is so up standing I imagine Matthew is up standing now trying to grab an extra dessert. Snookey—if you will please put your shoes back on we will begin.

First we will begin with the blushing belle of the first grade and the pride of the Juniper District, Billie Jean Duncan, and closely followed by the representative of the Maze District, our beloved Katherine Rawlings. By the way that extra two inches on Katherine's neck is from trying to see Miss Nell Lowery from the back seat looking over Morgan's shoulders. Next we see our tall, dark, and hungry friends—Matthew Caperton, shyly dragging out the remains of Dwain Wrinkle's lunch. By the way you

would not believe it but Dwain had freckles and the biggest feet in the first grade. The next thing we encountered was an obnoxious bundle which looked more like a sack of sausage than human. We finally gave up and cried, what is it? Imagine our surprise when the straw hat was lifted and there was Snookie Bell. Next we came upon the meat ration-nightmare, Jerry Lasswell. She was the first evidence of a zoo in Fort Chadbourne.

The next year this group of seven pupils went to the second grade together. Here we were under Miss Vera Thomas. At this time we met the shy and bashful air rifle outlaw of the South End—Hollis Stevens.

We did not meet anyone in the third grade worth mentioning but Lucy Bird Warner, and her story comes under separate cover, so we go on to the fourth grade.

We see the gentleman and scholar of the fourth grade—Jonnie, whose reputation is spotless.

This year we thought we were a bit smarter than anyone else because we had several teachers. In the fifth grade our year was spent with experimenting with salt, flour, mud, and Waldo Fletcher.

The next year there were no additions to our class and all went on as usual. But, in the seventh grade our beloved Mrs. Hull took us in hand and prepared us for the hard struggles of our high school career. This year was quiet a milestone, for it marked our advancement from grammar school to high school.

How light the hearts of the class were in high school. This year we picked up all of Tennyson and a couple of out-casts across the track. The Tennyson addition included the disappointed blonde with dimples—Billie Alexander, the baby of the class; the lovely brown eyed Louteen Cornelius, and the shy bashful Raymond Ditmore; last but not least, Mary Helen Clark. Plus the last addition of Fort Chadbourne—Conda Richards, there were no new members added to

(Continued on last page)

PTA Executive Committee Meets; Transacts Business

February 2, 1943, the executive committee of the Bronte Parent - Teachers Association meet in the office of Superintendent B. F. Kirk.

A nominating committee to nominate officers for the PTA next year was appointed. The nominating committee is composed of Mrs. Geo. Thomas, Mrs. C. E. Arrott and Mrs. O. R. McQueen.

Congressman O. C. Fisher orders The Enterprise to come to him at Washington, D. C. where he is now representing the people of this district in the National Congress. "Keep your eye on that 'boy'"—for, he is going to get some things done up there, soon as he "gets his bearings." And he is going to keep in touch with the folks back at home and seek to learn from them as their representative—their servant, if you please—what legislation they want enacted. Then, "the fur's goin' to fly," until he gets action. "Old scout," here's hoping.

Box Supper at Tennyson for School Benefit

There will be a box supper at the Tennyson school house, Friday night of next week, February 12. The supper proceeds are for the benefit of the school. The young ladies of Tennyson promise boxes, "heaped up, shaken down and running over" with delectable viands. And believe this editor, those Tennyson young women are pastmasters of the culinary art. Everybody is cordially invited to attend. There will be other features of entertainment aside from the box sales.

Miss Edna Hogan is principal and Mrs. Lutie Dunn is the assistant of the Tennyson school. And some fine reports have come to The Enterprise of the progress the school is making, from patrons of the school.

Remember the date and attend—those of you of that and other nearby communities.

Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Hayley of Norton have moved to Roscoe to make their home. A beautiful letter of friendship from these