

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

Vol. 53 (Old Vol. No. 66), No. 14

Bronte, Texas (76933), April 2, 1971

Price 10c

In Three Elections

Citizens to Vote Saturday

Funeral Service Friday For L. T. Youngblood

Funeral services for L. T. Youngblood, 84, will be held at 3 p.m. today (Friday) in the First Baptist Church in Bronte. The pastor, the Rev. Harry K. Morris, and pastor of Tennyson Baptist Church, the Rev. C. R. Blake, will officiate. Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery under direction of Newby Funeral Home.

Mr. Youngblood, Bronte banker for 48 years, died at 8:10 p.m. Wednesday in Bronte Hospital after a brief illness. His death was attributed to a stroke.

He was born in Milam County on Nov. 18, 1886, lived for a time as a child at Bastrop and moved with his parents in 1890 to Hylton in Nolan County. He graduated from high school there and went to a business college in Waco. He operated a barber shop in Sweetwater and Blackwell prior to his banking career. He was married to Alma Mahaffey at Mt. Vernon, Tex., Nov. 27, 1913.

He began his banking career in 1909 as a bookkeeper for First State Bank at Blackwell and advanced to cashier and president of the firm before it was consolidated with the Bronte bank. During this time he attended Texas A&M College for one year.

He took over as president of the First National Bank in Bronte in 1922, and continued to be associated with the Blackwell bank. He moved his family from Blackwell to Bronte in 1927 when the Bronte and Blackwell banks were consolidated. He has been actively associated with the bank until the time of his death, serving as president and, for the last several years, as chairman of the board of directors.

Besides his banking and civic

interests, Mr. Youngblood has long been associated with solving water problems in this area and West Texas. He was appointed a member of the Upper Colorado River Authority in 1936 and has served on that board continuously since that time. He served as vice chairman for nine years and in 1945 was named chairman. He headed the water board until 1964, and has served as a member since. His position made it possible for him to be a prime force in providing water systems for Bronte, Robert Lee and other communities served by the UCRA.

He has been an active member of First Baptist Church and taught the Men's Bible Class there until last year, when he retired after more than 37 years' service.

He was a member of the Masonic Lodge and was a Shriner, and a member of the Noon Lions Club. Mr. Youngblood was honored in 1968 by his fellow townsmen when the mayor of Bronte proclaimed "L. T. Youngblood Day" in recognition of his countless hours of work in serving the city and the citizens of Bronte.

Survivors include his wife; two daughters, Mrs. E. F. (Mary) Glenn and Mrs. Charlie (Virginia) Boecking, both of Bronte; four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers will be Jesse Parker, Edward Cumble, Clark Glenn, Floyd Fancher, E. L. Caperton, Leonard Fletcher, Robert Forman and J. B. Mackey. The entire membership of the Men's Bible Class will be honorary pallbearers.



L. T. Youngblood

Trackmen Third In Angelo Relays

Bronte High School tracksters placed third in Division IV of the San Angelo Relays last weekend. The locals had 26 points and followed Sonora with 65 and Kress with 32.

Danny Cooper won first in the high jump with a leap of 5-9 1/2. He also placed third in the 120 yard high hurdles. The 440 yard relay team placed fifth with a time of 46.0, and the 880 yard relay team was third. Bobby Skelton of Bronte was fifth in the broad jump with a distance of 20-11 1/2.

The team will participate in a meet at Robert Lee this Saturday with the district meet scheduled for April 16 in Ballinger.

Three separate elections will be held in Bronte Saturday, with balloting in all three in designated areas of the Bronte City Hall. To be voted on are three trustees for Bronte Independent School District and three trustees for the county school board;

two aldermen for the Bronte City Council; and two directors for the East Coke County Hospital District.

A voting box for the school election will also be set up at Green's Store at Tennyson.

No contests developed in any of the elections. Wayne Arrott, James Arnold Tidwell and Bobby E. Wrinkle are on the ballot for school trustee. Arrott and Tidwell are incumbents. Wrinkle's name was filed for the place being vacated by Dale Thompson, whose term expires this year.

In the county trustee election, D. K. Glenn's name is on the ballot for trustee-at-large; Royce Lee's for trustee from Precinct 2, and C. E. Arrott from Precinct 4. Arrott and Glenn are presently serving on the county board while Noah Pruitt Sr. is retiring as trustee for Precinct 2.

Jerry Parker and Bill Thomas are on the ballot for the City Council. Both are presently serving on that city board.

In the hospital district election, the names of E. F. Glenn and C. E. Bruton will be on the ballot. Glenn is present treasurer of the board. Bruton's name was filed for the vacancy created when Matthew Caperton did not file for reelection.

Election judges include Noah Pruitt Sr., hospital election; Mrs. Otis Smith, Bronte, and Mrs. Tom Green, Tennyson, school election; and Don Bailey, city election.

Polls will be open from 8 a.m. until 7 p.m.

Hospital Board to Reorganize

The board of directors of East Coke County Hospital District will meet Tuesday night, April 13, to canvass the election returns and reorganize the board.

Lions Broom Sale Set for Saturday

Bronte Noon Lions Club will have their annual broom sale Saturday on the corner in front of First National Bank. A large assortment of merchandise will be available at the sale. Most local residents are acquainted with the merchandise, since the sale has been held annually for a number of years.

Lions will make a house to house canvass of the town and the Oak Creek Lake area, and buyers may make their purchases either at the van in town or wait at home for the Lions to call.

Dozens of items will be on sale, including all types of brooms, mops, brushes, ironing board covers, door mats, and many other useful items. An ad in this week's Enterprise lists the items for sale and customers are invited to check the list and decide what they need to purchase.

Proceeds will go to the blind persons who make the merchandise and to the Lions Club. The club will use the money for its projects which benefit the entire community.

The sale will open at 8 a.m. Saturday and continue until late afternoon.

HONOR ROLL CORRECTIONS

Some errors occurred when the school honor rolls were published last week. Randy Leigh, fifth grade, and Tim Scott, sixth grade, should have been included on the B honor roll. Becky Coalson should have been listed on the A, rather than the B honor roll.

AD-LIB-BEN

The unexpected death of L. T. Youngblood is a tragic loss to the Bronte community and to West Texas. His efficient and conscientious service and progressive ideas will be sorely missed by the business community, civic groups and his church. Most of all he will be missed by his family and friends.

Mr. Youngblood was the second man we met when we came to Bronte to see about buying the Bronte Enterprise. We had to meet the previous owner first, and then we had to see the banker about borrowing the money to make a down payment. It was on a Sunday morning almost 23 years ago. We went to the Youngblood home, after being warned to make it snappy because

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Bronte Girls District Volleyball Champions

Both Bronte junior girls and senior high girls won the district volleyball meet held here last Thursday. The high school girls will advance to the first round of regional play with Eola there Tuesday, April 6, at 7 p.m. Junior high teams do not compete beyond the district level.

Games as they unfolded here last week included:

Bronte Junior High vs. Blackwell. Bronte won 15-7. Scoring for the locals were Kim Arrott 5, Sherrie Coalson 4, Marla Thompson 3, Sharon Cooper 2, Tonja Hubbard 1. Scoring for Blackwell were Rebecca Clark 2, Marketa Sissom 2, Debra Hibbs 2, and Susan Ely 1.

In the second game between the teams, Bronte won 15-4. Scoring for Bronte were Julie Snead 3, Thompson 10, Coalson 2. Hibbs made 4 for Blackwell.

Bronte High School vs. Blackwell. Bronte topped the scoring 15-5. Local scorers were Dana Lee 4, Sallie Richards 3, Susan Cumble 4, Jolene Vaughn 1, Cathy Bryan 2, Melissa Lee 1. Blackwell scorers were Cindy Robertson 3, Hibbs 1, Romine 1.

In their second encounter Bronte defeated Blackwell 15-4. Making scores for Bronte were D. Lee 7, Richards 1, Cumble 1, Vaughn 3, and Bryan 3. Hamilton and Robertson scored 1 each for Blackwell and Finley made 2.

In the next group of games,

Sterling City Junior High beat Forsan Junior High in two games, 15-12 and 15-7. In the high school games, the Forsan girls came out on top of Sterling City, 15-8 and 15-2.

Bronte and Water Valley met in the next round of games.

Bronte Junior High won handily, 15-0 and 15-5. In the first game Cooper made 14 and Arrott 1 for Bronte. Scoring honors in the second game were divided with Cooper making 8, Arrott 1, Thompson 1, Leah Barbee 1, Rebecca Morris 2, and Rebecca Brown 2.

The senior high locals won two straight, 15-3 and 15-0, over Water Valley. Scoring for Bronte

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Methodists Plan Special Services

Pre-Easter Ecumenical Services will be held again this year at First United Methodist Church of Bronte. The series of meetings will begin next Tuesday night and continue through Friday night. All services begin at 7:30 p.m. and the public is cordially invited to attend, said the Rev. Fred Brown, pastor.

The speaking schedule includes: Tuesday, April 6, the Rev. Kevin Heyburn, pastor of St. Joseph's Catholic Church of Rowena; Wednesday, April 7, Paul Faulkner, minister and professor of New Testament at Abilene Christian College; Thursday, April 8, Dr. W. O. Beazley, administrative associate to the president of Hardin-Simmons University, Abilene; and Friday, April 9, the Rev. Walter C. Probst, pastor of St. John's Lutheran Church in Winters.

Title for the series of services is "From Passion to Good Friday."

Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Caperton have purchased the W. D. McDonald home on the San Angelo highway in south Bronte. They moved into their new home last weekend.