

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.

# Robert Lee Observer

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Robert Lee, Coke County, Texas, Thursday, August 5, 1965

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## Large Crowd Sees FB Queen Contest

A large crowd of cheering spectators was present Tuesday night when Coke County Farm Bureau held its annual Queen and Talent-Find Contest.

Miss Brenda Scott of Bronte was selected by the judges as winner of the senior division of the contest and will represent Coke County in district competition, Aug. 26, at Seminole. She is the 16-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joe E. Scott and will be a junior this coming term in Bronte High School. Miss Scott was crowned by Miss Jan Wilkins, 1964 Coke County Farm Bureau Queen.

Crowned queen of the intermediate division was Miss Kay Roberts, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Artell Roberts. Queen of the junior division was Rosanna Boykin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Boykin.

Winner of the Talent-Find contest was Jerry Don Holcombe, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Hurley of Bronte. The young baritone will be a freshman this fall at Howard Payne College in Brownwood. First runners-up were

Bennie Carol Oglesby and Janet Lee and second runner-up was Rodney Mathers. Holcombe will represent Coke County in district talent competition.

Master of ceremonies for the Queen's Contest was Roddy Peoples of Midland, who conducts a popular daily agriculture program over the Voice of Southwest Agriculture Radio Network. Mrs. Jeff Dean emceed the Talent-Find part of the show. Ben Boykin, president of the Coke County Farm Bureau, opened the program and County Agent Sterling Lindsey gave the invocation.

Other entrants in the senior Queen Contest were Barbara Blaylock, Suzanne Burns, Ferrel Jean Fikes, and Kathy Preslar.

The other three entrants in the intermediate contest were Diane Baker, Martha Kinsey, and Verney Vaughan.

Six entrants in the junior contest other than the winner were Peppi Boykin, Carol Hamilton, Mandy Jo Harmon, Patti Lynn Ivey and Sally Richards.

Other entrants in the Talent-Find Contest, other than the three top places, were Kay Roberts, the Moody Sisters, the Maidens 3, Sheri Pitcock and Linda Blair, the Mistakes, Robbie Jane Smith and Sue Percifull, Kay Cole, and Doak Snead and Johnny Brown.

Directors for the Queen Contest were Mmes. J. D. Harmon, Garland Davis, Dolan Mackey and Dale Brown. In charge of the Talent Contest were Mrs. Mackey and Mrs. Dean.

## 11 Present for BCD Meeting

Eleven members of Robert Lee BCD were present for the noon luncheon and short business session held Tuesday at noon in the Rec Hall at the County Park.

Mayor Robert Vaughan gave a short talk on the possibilities of securing low cost housing in Robert Lee, and discussed legislation which has passed and is forthcoming that could have some effect on federal aid for low cost housing.

Commissioner Fern Havins has started some improvements on the strip of land recently acquired by the city which lies between the county park and Mountain Creek Lake.

Mr. and Mrs. Dorman Thomas of White Deer were in town over the weekend, visiting with friends. Mr. Thomas is the former Robert Lee School superintendent. He resigned in June to take a position at White Deer. The family moved in July and are now well settled in their new home.

## 2 More Teachers Hired to Complete Robert Lee Faculty

Four teachers have been employed by the Robert Lee School's board of trustees to fill vacancies caused by resignations. Two of the new teachers were hired during board meetings last month and one was hired earlier last spring.

In addition to the new superintendent, Jimmy Bickley, Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Wilson and Mrs. James Herford are new faculty members.

Wilson was employed several weeks ago, while his wife was hired July 29 and Mrs. Herford was hired July 17.

Wilson is a graduate of San Saba high school and has a B.S. degree from Southwest Texas State College at San Marcos. He has completed 21 semester hours of work toward his master's degree. Wilson was employed by Robert Lee School to serve as assistant coach, but he will also teach some academic subjects, Supt. Bickley said. He has had five years experience in the Rankin schools. He is attending a coaches clinic in Dallas this week.

Mrs. Wilson, who will teach the fifth grade, is the former Melba (Suzie) Jameson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jahew Jameson of Silver. She is a graduate of Colorado City High School and also has a B.S. degree from Southwest Texas State College. She has completed 18 hours toward her master's degree. The Wilsons are parents of two young sons.

Mrs. Herford will be the new third grade teacher in Robert Lee Elementary School. She is a graduate of McMurry College in Abilene. She has been attending school this summer and completed eight hours of study in elementary education. She and her husband, who works for Sun Oil, make their home at Silver.

Bickley said Tuesday that he is well pleased with having completed the school faculty and that everything is being made ready for the opening of the 1965-66 school term.

## METHODIST SCHOOL TO HAVE OPEN HOUSE SUN. MORNING

The Methodist Church School which has been underway this week at Robert Lee Methodist Church, will close Friday, and an open house will be held Sunday morning from 9:30 to 11 o'clock in the educational building.

Everyone is invited to come by and view the results of the work the children have done this week. Classes have been held this week for children 4-12 years of age.

Mrs. Frank McCabe has returned from a four day trip to Andrews where she visited Mr. and Mrs. Truett McCabe and four little boys.

## Robert Lee School To Start Aug. 26

Supt. Jimmy Bickley said this week that classes in Robert Lee Schools will begin Aug. 26. The school calendar he released calls for a total of 177 days of instruction during the coming school year.

First activity of the new school term will be a general faculty meeting on Aug. 24. At that time plans will be completed for starting the year's work. High school students will register Aug. 25.

Only a few days after the beginning of classes, teachers and students will have their first holiday on Labor Day, Sept. 6. The next school holidays will be at Thanksgiving when school will be dismissed for the County Livestock Show on Nov. 24 and resume on Nov. 29.

Christmas holidays start Dec. 22 and classes will start again Jan. 3. Another holiday is scheduled for Jan. 10 when school will be dismissed for the County Livestock Show.

The next holiday will be either March 4 or 11, when school will turn out for the district meeting of the Texas State Teachers Association.

Final holidays of the school term begin April 7 when classes will be dismissed for Easter. The rest period will end April 12 unless no time has been lost from classes; if that is the case, an extra day will be taken.

Last day of classes will be May 19. Junior high graduation will be that same night, while high school graduation will be the night of May 20.

## Californians Not Injured in Wreck

Nine California Negroes were not seriously injured when their 1965 Dodge station wagon blew a tire and overturned Monday about 8 p.m. The accident occurred about 15 miles west of Robert Lee on the Sterling City highway.

The group was enroute from Richmond, Calif., to Port Arthur on a vacation trip.

The nine, composed of four men, two women and three children were traveling eastward when they had the accident. The women and children were admitted to West Coke Hospital, treated for minor injuries and released.

## City Audit Printed In This Newspaper

An audit of the books of the City of Robert Lee is being published in this week's issue of The Observer. City officials invite the attention of everyone who is interested in the city's business to the financial statement which appears on page three.

Law provides that city financial statements be published, in order to acquaint citizens with the manner in which their tax money is being spent and with the general financial condition of the city.

The City of Robert Lee has four funds, general, water department, sinking and social security. The statement which was run through March 31, 1965, shows a balance of \$17,506.83 in all four funds.

In addition to showing the financial condition of the four funds the statement shows bonded, contract and warranted indebtedness of the city.

Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Palmer of Brownwood visited in the homes of Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Brooks and Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Walker, last week. Mr. Palmer is a brother of Mrs. Brooks and Mrs. Walker.

## Rainbow Girls Sponsor Barbecue

Members of the Robert Lee Rainbow Assembly will sponsor a barbecue for the public Thursday night, Aug. 5 (tonight). Food will be served from 5:30 to 8 p.m. in the Rec Hall at Robert Lee County Park.

Prices for tickets are \$1.00 for adults and 50 cents for children under 12 years old.

The girls promise everyone who attends plenty of delicious barbe-

cue with all the trimmings. They hope to make the barbecue an annual fund raising affair, and will use the money to carry out worthwhile projects of the organization.

Tickets may be obtained from any girl who is a member of the Rainbow Assembly or purchased at the door. The ticket salesmen are giving each other keen competition in selling the ducats, since the girl who sells the most will

be given a free trip to the Grand Assembly of the Order of the Rainbow to be held next year at Corpus Christi. An interested individual has agreed to foot the bill on the trip for the winner.

The Robert Lee Rainbow chapter is made up of 29 girls, from Robert Lee and Bronte. Linda Jacoby is worthy advisor of the organization.

## 1948 RL Seniors Have Reunion

The 1948 senior class of Robert Lee high school held their reunion Saturday evening, July 24, with 34 persons in attendance. The group, which included members of the class with their families, met at 5:30 for a visiting session. This was followed by a dinner served at 7:30 p.m. Arrangements for the meal were made by Arlyn Simpson, assisted by Mmes. Dale, Brown, Arlyn Simpson, J. W. Service, Jr., Vaughan Davis, and Ray Shandley.

Officers are elected biennially. Elected for the 1965-67 term are: Bill Lassiter, president; Paul Burns, vice president; Mrs. Ray Shandley, secretary-treasurer.

Out-going officers were Arlyn Simpson, president; Dale Brown, vice president; and Mrs. Howard Varnadore, secretary-treasurer.

Traveling the longest way to attend was Preston Ross of Midland, accompanied by his wife and son. Mrs. Ross is a grade-school teacher in Midland. Her principal is Manny Landers, a former Robert Lee high school teacher.

An interesting letter from Everett Hale of Oregon was read. He sent his regrets at not being able to attend, stating that "the arrival of a new daughter in his home the previous week made it mandatory that he stay home, cut the wood and milk the cows."

Class members in attendance were: Dale Brown, Paul Burns, Vaughan Davis, Mrs. J. W. (Ida Belle Eaton) Service Jr., James James Jackson, Bill Lassiter, James Jackson, Arlyn Simpson and Mrs. Ray (Doris Hamilton) Shandley. Also in attendance was one invited guest, Mrs. Bryan Yarbrough.

One class member, L. C. Day, met accidental death in a plane crash in Alaska since the 1963 reunion.

Members of the class expressed regret that so many members were unable to attend. Next reunion was set for July 1967. Adjournment was at 11 p.m.

## Edith Homecoming Set for August 15

The annual homecoming at Edith will be held Sunday, Aug. 15. The homecoming will consist of visiting, a program and a lunch to be spread at the noon hour.

No details of the program were available to the Observer at press time, but it is hoped that a complete lineup of the program can be published in next week's paper.

The Edith homecoming is a big event each year for residents of the west side of Coke County and for many visitors who come from near and far to attend.

The homecoming has been held for many years.

## 4-Hers Going to Dist. Dress Revue

By Mrs. FAY C. ROE

Kay Roberts and Rebecca Walker will represent Coke County 4-H clubs in the District Dress Revue Thursday, Aug. 5 in Abilene. Kaye will enter the senior division and Rebecca, the junior division.

Judging of senior garments will begin at 9:30 a.m. in the Starlight Motel. Following the judging, instructions for modeling will be given. Juniors will have similar schedules.

The noon luncheon and dress revue will be sponsored by West Texas Utilities Company of Abilene. Awards will be presented to the 4-H members and recognition will be given adult leaders. High scoring senior girls will represent the district in the state Dress Revue in October.

Expected to attend the Abilene event are Kaye and Rebecca, Mrs. D. J. Walker, Jr., Mrs. Artell Roberts and Mrs. E. E. Eldred, all of Robert Lee.

Mrs. J. O. McGinley and children returned home Monday after spending three days with her daughters, Edith and Mrs. Bill Mundell, in Houston.