Resourceful Oklahoma
Big Business Birds

Some of the fanciest birds outside a zoo can be found at the Thompson Game ranch, south of Bristow near Castle.

The ranch is sprinkled with birds such as pheasant, bantams, pigeons, quail, ducks and geese with such specific breeds as Egyptian geese, English Caller ducks, Swinhoe, Lady Amberst and Silver pheasants and Cochín bantams.

The Ted Thompson family went into the business five years ago and Thompson estimates he now has $17,000 invested. The exotic birds come high, some $75 a pair, and fencing this year alone has run $500.

There are 30 varieties of game birds on the ranch and Thompson's goal for this year is to raise 1,000 bantams, 1,000 quail and between 1,500 and 2,000 pheasants. A new addition this year were 100 white rabbits that Thompson bought to resell to a customer in Castle who wanted the rabbits for children's Easter presents.

Visitors are escorted around the ranch by Thompson, his wife or their 10-year-old daughter Teddy who, incidentally, knows all the answers about the birds. The family's business has increased rapidly as a result, they feel, of word-of-mouth advertising. They never refuse to show a person around the ranch whether he is interested in buying a bird or just wants to see the sights.

Several schools include the ranch in their official tours and the Thompsons welcome children as long as they close the gates and don't run the chickens.

As visitors enter the fenced yard, the first birds to greet them are two wild Egyptian geese. Also near the gate, but much shyer, are the wild wood ducks, an Asiatic breed that roosts in trees and are usually very wild. A federal permit must be obtained to keep and breed these ducks, which sell for about $40 a pair, and all eggs must be accounted for.

Thompson also has a few English Caller ducks, the type formerly used as decoys.

There are 10 varieties of pheasant on the ranch—all beautiful birds. The Reeves pheasant, with a tail that sometimes grows to six or seven feet in length, is a native of Asia usually found at an altitude of 9,000 feet.

Other pheasants on the ranch are Swinhoe, Lady Amberst, Golden, Silver, Meleagris Mutant, Standard Ringneck, English Blackneck, Mongolian and White.

Some are sold for commercial use, several in Bristow. Thompson recommends the English Blackneck as a good commercial bird since they usually dress out at three pounds.

Bantams, numerous on the ranch, have made a comeback in the past few years, Thompson said. Many professional men choose the birds to breed and to show as a hobby, he said, and the eggs can be eaten.

The Thompsons rarely enter their birds in shows because of the danger of contracting a disease. However they do some buying from shows, carefully picking healthy birds.

One exception to the contest rule is the champion Black-tailed Japanese bantam which has won 17 ribbons and once was named grand champion in Madison Square Garden.

New bantams on the ranch include the Bearded White Silikies that have black faces with two little bearded tufts on each side, white feathers that look and feel like fur, five toes on each foot and black skin.

Large Sand Vein Found At Guthrie

A new industry is scheduled to be started in Guthrie since the discovery of a 25 or 30 year supply of sand about 4 and one-half miles north of town.

The sand was discovered by Fred Carey as he core drilled his 160-acre farm to determine feasibility of irrigating it. While drilling, he found sand and water about five feet below the surface.

Carey called in Tommy Walker of the Ready Mix Concrete Co. who core drilled the entire farm, discovered a 20 foot vein of sand covering about 100 acres. Walker estimates the deposit is 25 or 30 years supply.

Walker plans to open a sand plant soon and sell both wholesale and retail. He will use part of it in his own company.

Costs to get everything ready for business operation, said Walker, will total about $30,000. The first pit will be about 300 by 200 feet.

Our Cover

The Wichita Mountains in Comanche county were the scene of our cover picture. The horse and rider are from Caterville park, Oklahoma's only dude ranch.

Le Roi Plant Expansion Slated

The Le Roi Co. of Tulsa, a subsidiary of the Westinghouse Air Brake Co., has increased its sales and is looking for a greater expansion in mind.

A new $150,000 office and plant building will be built with an eye to even greater expansion, said L. G. Valdes, manager of the petroleum industry sales and district manager of the firm. The immediate building, to be located on the 187-acre Greater Tulsa Industrial sites, will have 24,000 square feet of floor space and contain offices, warehousing, a parts department and shops.

"Our five-acre tract also will permit future expansion," Valdes pointed out. "And the present building is being designed with that in mind."

"The Le Roi Co. was the first industry to locate on the industrial sites being developed by Greater Tulsa, Inc., an organization formed by the Tulsa chamber of commerce. It manufactures industrial engines, heavy duty and portable air compressors and rock drills. The firm also has added a complete line of truck-mounted concrete mixers and front-end loaders, Valdes said.

The company handles petroleum industry sales on a nationwide basis and construction sales for the southwest.

Valdes said office space in the new building will be large enough to allow another Westinghouse subsidiary, the George E. Failing Co., Enid, to open a sales office in the building.
Second Phase
Of Industrial
Study Planned

The second phase of a report on Oklahoma's potentiality as a petrochemical manufacturing center will be made by the Blaw-Knox Co., Tulsa, within the near future.

Morton Harrison, chairman of the Oklahoma planning and resources board, said the board authorized the company to make a further study of the ethylene and chloritne industry possibilities.

The Blaw-Knox Co., an industrial survey firm, completed a report the first of this year listing 14 petrochemicals that can be economically produced in the state. Ethylene and chlorine were two of these.

The report will estimate plant investment cost, manufacturing cost, the raw materials and utilities required, availability of raw materials, the products' markets and plant locations.

Czar Langston, director of the industrial division of the planning board, said these two chemicals were picked for further study because raw materials for both are available in large quantities in Oklahoma, and they are the breeder type industry from which allied industries grow.

Long, Neat Nails Easy

A tiny (about 5 foot 2) brunette with probably the longest fingernails in Spiro has developed a product to make sure her nails stay just that way.

Rel-ong, pronounced real long, was developed by Mrs. Amelia Carter under the professional name of "Meche." A fingernail beautifier, Rel-ong promotes natural growth of nails and protects the cuticle.

The product, now being sold in Chickasha, Lawton, Oklahoma City and Tulsa and Fort Smith, Ark, recently passed the federal pure food and drug board. It was the result of seven years' experimenting by Mrs. Carter, or Meche, the name given her by friends.

"I've always been curious about care of the body," Mrs. Carter said. "Since there are so few things on the market for nails, I decided to try something in that direction."

She has been helped by Bill Remer, also of Spiro. Remer pointed out Rel-ong wasn't only for the use of women but could help men keep their fingernails and cuticles neat.

"I made it as simple as possible for the benefit of working people," said Mrs. Carter. The directions are simple: wash nails with soap and water using a soft brush. Dry thoroughly. Place one drop of Rel-ong on base of nail dry. Follow with any good oil or cream pushing cuticle back gently.

The application is continued twice daily for two weeks, once daily during the third and fourth week. Thereafter, it's used three times per week.

Results can be noticed within four weeks, Mrs. Carter said, and they're good results. She exhibited her own nails, a good fourth of an inch long "I type all the time, never break a nail."

Rel-ong will not irritate skin or nails and will not spot nor dull nail polish. Patent for the cosmetic is pending.

Company to Can Additional Goods

About 25 more permanent employees are scheduled to be hired at the Gardner Canning Co., Broken Arrow, since the company has arranged to can two more Duncan Hines brand products. The firm now employs between 60 and 100 persons throughout the year.

J. A. Gardner, president, said he had contracted with Hines-Park Foods, Inc., Ithica, N. Y., to can the additional goods. Canning will require additional equipment and personnel.

The new equipment will be used in boning chickens for Duncan Hines rice with chicken. The other new product to be canned is corned beef hash, Gardner said.

The company now packs Duncan Hines chili con carne, beef stew and tamales as well as a variety of vegetables. It also has held government contracts for canned meat.

Statue of Black Beaver, famous Delaware scout, will be the first to be placed in the Indian hall of fame at Anadarko. Sculptor was Keating R. Donahoo, Oklahoma City, and donor Logan Billingsly, New York, formerly of Enid and Anadarko. Statue was unveiled in the capitol rotunda.

Boiling Springs state park, in northwestern Oklahoma near Woodward, is the only wooded area within a hundred mile radius.

"Growing rocks" can be found at Turner Falls, near Davis. A rare mineral in the water, travertine, builds up the rocks instead of wearing them down.
Society Visits State Historic Sites

The Oklahoma Historical society in May celebrated its founding 61 years ago with a tour to historical and scenic points in the state.

Some 125 persons participated in the tour which has been held several times before and regularly for the past three years, said Miss Muriel Wright, assistant director of research for the society and associate editor of the "Chronicles of Oklahoma."

First stop of the three day trip was at Tulsa where the society's annual banquet was held. Speakers were Gen. W. S. Key, president of the society; Dr. Charles Evans, former president of Tulsa university; Judge Edgar S. Vaught and R. G. Miller, Oklahoma City newspaper columnist.

Miss Wright said the tour was primarily for Historical society members who number some 2,500. The "Chronicles of Oklahoma," oldest historical magazine in continuous publication in the United States, goes each month to the society's members. The magazine was established May 26, 1893, the same time the society was formed by the Oklahoma Territorial Press association at Kingfisher.

Historical sites visited included Guthrie, first capital of Oklahoma; the Pioneer Woman statue, Ponca City; Osage Indian museum, Pawhuska; Gilcrease art museum, Tulsa; Salina, oldest white settlement in Oklahoma founded before 1800 by French traders; Union Mission, established in 1820.

Okay at the forks of three rivers; intersection of the Texas road, oldest and most important trail through Oklahoma; 114-year-old Biting Springs, east of Tahlequah; Sequoyah memorial, home of the inventor of the Cherokees' written language, near Sallisaw; Lake Tenkiller state park near Gore.

Final stop was at Prague where tour members watched street dances and festivities, held annually on the date of the Czechoslovakian community's founding.

First Phone at Fort
Remembered at Rites

A plaque commemorating installation of the first commercial telephone in Oklahoma at Fort Gibson stockade was presented in May to Morton Harrison, chairman of the Oklahoma planning and resources board. The plaque was to be erected on a post beside the highway.

The first telephone was installed in 1886 in John Scott's store across the street from Fort Gibson stockade. The line connected the fort with Muskogee and Tahlequah.

Presentation was made by L. D. Bushnell, district manager of Southwestern Bell at Muskogee, and General W. S. Key, chairman of the Historical society, participated in the presentation at Fort Gibson stockade.

Rare Bible Collection Shown

One of the country's most famous bible collections was displayed in Pryor the day the Historical Society tour visited the city.

Thomas J. Harrison, a pioneer Pryor citizen, allowed his collection of rare bibles to be shown for the first time and, Harrison added, perhaps for the first. Some of the earliest editions of the bible ever printed were displayed in the Graham community house in Pryor.

Harrison's list of books includes some of the world's rarest volumes and manuscripts, and virtually presents a complete story of the origin of the Bible. About 400 of Harrison's 600 bibles were shown.

Among the more famous was a facsimile of the Codex Sinaiticus, the original of which is in the British museum in London. Discovered on Mount Sinai in the 19th century by a Russian, it was purchased by England in 1833. It is believed to have originated about 500 BC and is one of the world's oldest manuscripts.

Several scrolls written by ancient Hebrew scholars were exhibited, as was one bible with a top leaf from the Gutenberg Bible, printed in 1450 or 1455. The Gutenberg Bible was probably the first complete book to be printed from movable type and is considered the most precious piece of printing in the world.

Also shown was the Erasmus Bible, printed in 1519.
New Water Plant

The $3,203,693 addition to the Lake Hefner water filtration plant, Oklahoma City, is called the “most modern in this country” by city water department officials.

The plant, officially opened May 7, is completely mechanized with push-button control of every phase of the filtration process. The engineering design exactly fits the Hefner plant’s operation to the Oklahoma City water supply, said Frank Taylor, assistant city water superintendent.

The new plant will use two extra basins to detain the water, principally for control of taste and odor. One basin is used for pre-treatment and requires a two-hour detention of the water. The second is used following clarification giving additional time for taste and odor work.

Additions to the plant include an electric generating plant, large enough to supply all plant needs except for water pumping.

Other additions are six new filter units, each with a capacity of 3½ million gallons per day, a new settling basin, a 5 million gallon covered clear well storage, a new sludge lagoon, installation of new pumping equipment to raise the water from Lake Hefner to the plant during low stages and send treated water into the city’s mains, and a 300,000 gallon surge tower.

Vacation By Boat

A Bristow man and boat enthusiast has an idea for vacation trips that should delight all families who like the outdoors as seen from the middle of a lake.

Paul Tibbens wants to organize a club to have two-day boat trips at regular intervals, probably once a month, on some of the big lakes such as Fort Gibson, Tenkiller, Bull Shoals and Norfolk.

Tibbens’ plan calls for a pilot boat to take the lead with private boats following, and a trouble-shooter bringing up the tail to help stragglers in case of trouble. At night, the groups would camp on the shores of the lake. The trip would be dutch treat, no dues, with each family taking just what they need.

Floating Cabins

New cabins that allow a fisherman to fish and doze at the same time—and in the height of comfort—are being built on Grand Lake, four and one-half miles north of Gore.

The cabins are on the lake itself and each one has a 12-foot by 6-foot fishing hole inside, situated so a fisherman can snooze on a divan while he’s fishing.

Called Blue Bluff Harbor, the resort is being built by Sam Williams, owner of the nearby Tiff City, Mo., bait farm. It will include 10 cabins, a combination office, tackle shop and snack shop, a 125-foot long foot bridge over a finger of the lake, two indoor fishing docks, a large outdoor fishing dock and a boat dock to accommodate 10 boats.

The floating cabins are 16 by 26 feet with a four-foot porch around the outside. Each cabin has two divans that make into double beds, two bunks, a kitchen area with an electric refrigerator, range, sink and cabinet, an oil stove, a bathroom and dressing room.

The rocking resort is the “coming thing,” said Williams. “In the event of low water, we can shift them around.”

The operator also plans a fleet of motor-powered skiffs, 12 by 18 feet, to accommodate a party of six fishermen with sleeping accommodations under cover.

Sunshine brings the boats to Lake Murray state park, near Ardmore.
Hospitality doesn't come any finer than at Craterville in the Wichita Mountains where Frank Rush and his family hold open house every day.

In fact, Craterville has become a park and dude ranch simply because Frank Rush Sr. was too kind-hearted to turn people away from his ranch.

Mrs. Rush, now 76 years old, said the 2,700 acres of land in the heart of the Wichita Mountains originally were the Rush ranch. But there were so many overnight campers that a large part of the ranch was worthless for cattle raising.

So Frank Sr. cleared some ground and installed picnic tables. Then he built a dam across the sparkling stream that the Indians called Big Spring, and opened a swimming pool.

After that, Craterville was on its way. The park, Oklahoma's only dude ranch, is the kind of place where every member of the family can have a great time.

There are 14 rides in the amusement park including a ferris wheel, little cars for the small children, Shetland ponies and a miniature train.

For older children and adults, there's the Rush's 65 riding horses and a swimming pool, a cafeteria (Rush-Inn) with excellent food, and 15 modern cabins with capacity of 75 persons.

The park was converted from a full time ranch in 1921 by Frank Sr. The show really got on the road in 1923 when Rush held his first rodeo. That was in the days when almost any man in southwestern Oklahoma could bust a bronc, and local competition gave the events a spice that present day professional cowboys have trouble imitating.

A skating rink was built in 1926 and the last of the six original cabins were completed.

Another thing that drew the crowds,
said Mrs. Rush Sr., was the Indian fair.

"We used to have from 2,000 to 3,000 Indians each year," Mrs. Rush said. "They entered displays of beadwork and other handicraft just as present day needlework in county fairs."

The fairs were discontinued with Rush's death in 1933. Frank Jr. was only 17 then and Mrs. Rush had to run the whole park alone. The fairs were a full time job in themselves, she pointed out.

But the rodeos continued and Frank learned to ride like the rest of the cowhands in Comanche county. His wife, too, was "quite a horsewoman." The rodeos were stopped in 1945 because of gas rationing but by this time the Rushes had the "knack and know-how" of handling horses.

They also knew something about show business. They built an arena where shows appear regularly. "We have a show every weekend," Rush said. Trapeze artist, trick riders, shows of all kinds include Craterville in their circuit.

Another thing to see at Craterville—for the whole family—is the museum and zoo, among the most complete in the southwest. Frank Sr. started collecting Indian relics and western mementoes many years before Craterville became a dude ranch.

One of the biggest museum pieces, an old stage coach, is a thrill for the children who swarm on it to have their pictures taken.

Something special is always going on at Craterville. About once a month, Rush gives away a horse. Latest was a palomino pony given away in May.

The "Indian Trails" camp for boys is held the second and third weeks of June. Boys eight to fourteen years actually round up and work the calves from the 200 head of cattle on the ranch.

During the fourth week in June, the Rush family sponsor their own summer band camp which is growing in size and popularity each year. This summer will be the fifth year for the band camp.

Youngsters in organized groups stay at the two bunkhouses which can hold 400 boys and girls.

But the most important thing at Craterville is the string of horses. Rush guides riders through the colorful Wichita Mountains, rich in Indian lore and history.

The park is at the main south entrance to the 65,000 acre Wichita Mountains Wildlife refuge where herds of buffalo, longhorns, elk and deer roam at will. A wealth of scenery and mountain lakes lure thousands of campers and fishermen to the refuge each year.

Also near the park is towering Mount Scott, elevation 2,465. The Holy City, site of the Wichita Mountains Easter pageant, is near the foot of Mount Scott.

Craterville lies in the midst of these natural attractions. As Frank Sr. used to say, "This is nature's own. Man will never be able to do as much."

But the Rushes have added something to nature—hospitality and a warm welcome to guests at Craterville.
Business Not Screwy

Manufacturing parts for about every type product "from muscle vibrators to fishing reels" are fashioned by the Tulsa Screw Products, according to salesman J. G. Daniel.

Owners Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Bewstrung started the business after the war in the garage of their home with one screw machine and one bolt threader.

They now have nine screw machines, four bolt threaders, 10,000 square feet of floor space and 30 employees.

The firm fabricates carbon and alloy steel, non-ferrous materials, Daniel said. Most work is done for other manufacturers, both in and out of state. However the firm manufactures thread stud bolts, for use in refineries and chemical plants, direct to consumers and supply stores, said Daniel.

Airlines Gone - - Airfield Stays

When Transcontinental Western Airlines halted flight stops at Waynoka 12 years ago, at least one farmer refused to let bygones be bygones.

J. B. Kelsey, whose farm was across the road from the airfield, marked off a 2,100-foot grass strip for a landing field. And not only Kelsey and his son Jack, but 20 other Waynokans and sundry pilots looking for a landing place, use the airfield.

When a visiting pilot lands on the Kelsey's rural runway, J. B. and Jack greet the visitor, tie down his plane and drive him to town. If the men are away, Mrs. Kelsey handles the operation.

TWA abandoned Waynoka in 1929 when night flying became practical, and sold its $100,000 airport to farmers who plowed up the runways and converted the tract to farm land. That's when Kelsey's airport got underway.

The farmer opened his farm to flying activity and 20 businessmen, farmers and railroad employees jointly purchased a plane and hired a flying instructor. Kelsey and his three sons learned to fly and three hangars eventually were built.

Now the Waynokan finds his knowledge handy in his business. A five-minute flight will take Kelsey to his ranch, 21 miles west of Waynoka. Another 45 minutes allows him to check ponds, windmills and fences, and cattle can be fed in less than two hours, a job that took most of the day before the Kelseys took to the airways.

More than once a stray calf has been spotted from the air and the life of a newborn calf or mother cow has been saved when the birth was noted at low-level flying.

Very Important Product

A Collinsville farmer needed something to keep the engines and crankcases of his farm machinery clean, so six or seven years ago he began "fooling around" with some chemicals.

The farmer, Harry Heinrichs, came up with a product that greatly improved the performance of his machinery. His neighbors wanted some so he mixed up several batches.

That's the way VIP, Very Important Product was started.

Now Heinrichs and his wife operate VIP Laboratories, Inc., and the product is retailed in the Tulsa area.

A cleaner and preserver for engines, VIP precipitates the oil into the engine, carrying the oil into tight spaces so that friction is reduced and the parts are more thoroughly lubricated. The Collinsville product also counteracts and reduces the accumulation of acid in the crankcase and the acid condition in fuel.

Besides being used in farm machinery and automobiles, VIP can be used in outboard motor boats, lawn mower engines and airplanes. Heinrichs said it is especially good in airplanes because it prevents the props feathering, the propellers stopping.

The Collinsville man said one airplane line started using VIP and found the acid content was reduced 60%, the sledge content 70%.

"VIP releases friction strictly by better lubrication," Heinrichs pointed out. "Mixed in greases, it keeps shackle bolts from freezing if they are greased at reasonable intervals."

Heinrichs mixes his chemicals in a new building at his farm and his wife helps him bottle and package it.

"We're still working on it," Heinrichs grinned. "We may get something better." In addition to making VIP and farming, Heinrichs is night foreman for the Orbit Valve Co., Tulsa.
The Wichita Mountains spread below the highest peak, Mount Scott.

**For $15, Vets Get Homesites**

For a veteran who wants room to plant a garden, raise some trees, fish, and has $15 to invest, the town of Wilburton has the answer.

For $15, a pensioned veteran of World War I or II can buy a tax-free one-acre homesite in the rustic 800-acre Spanish war veterans colonization project in the Winding Stair mountains of southeastern Oklahoma. The area was opened recently to veterans of all wars.

The colonization project has been going on for 20 years, but the ranks of Spanish war veterans has thinned and there are plenty of homesites available.

Prospective buyers must build their own homes and must have sufficient income to provide for their families. Little income can be derived from the tracts, said Jack Metcalf, colony custodian.

If a veteran doesn't wish to build, there are several vacant homes in the $550 to $4,000 price range that can be bought, Metcalf said.

At present, 40 families including two or three World War I veterans, live in the colony. In a radius of 20 miles from the area, there are 20 fishing streams and plenty of game. Scenic SH 2 passes through the colony, intersecting US 270 at Wilburton on the north and US 271 at Clayton, a few miles south.

If a man is tired of pressure and fast living and is attracted by a little land of his own and time to enjoy it, he could find a wonderful home near Wilburton.

**Giants' Highway**

A 500-foot wide span of limestone blocks near Beggs in Okmulgee county resembles nothing so much as a planned, intentionally constructed highway. And James R. Adams, a former stone mason in Beggs, thinks that's just what the formation is—a highway built by a group of prehistoric giants.

The heavy stones, averaging two feet thick, lie in a close-fitting checkerboard pattern. They run in a northeast-southwest direction and a car can be driven over parts. Similar formations are located on the Arkansas river near Tulsa and, Adams has been told, in the Arbuckle mountains near Ardmore, in Texas, in Mexico and as far north as Pennsylvania.

Geologists say the highway-like formations are a freak of nature.

"But Adams says the rocks are part of a long highway built by a race of giants who lived longer ago than we have record."

"There are no seams in the rock," Adams points out. "They couldn't have been split from one big formation by sub-surface forces or they would have been irregular and jagged. These long slabs measure the same at one end as they do at the other."

The stones are fitted together in such a way that no mortar was used. "Those joints could not have been fitted into such a close geometrical pattern unless the stones were sawed," Adams added.

The stone mason also adds Bible verses to support his argument. He says there are many references to highways in the Bible.

Beggs first saw the formation 65 years ago when he played on the flat bed that was used as a ford across the Arkansas river near Tulsa. In 1898 as a member of a railroad survey party, he spotted the "highway" again in Okmulgee county. Then he moved to Beggs, examining the stones as often as possible.

Later Adams studied the Egyptian pyramids whose method of construction still is a mystery.

All these things plus Biblical references added up for Adams. Now he's waging a one-man campaign to promote the area as a tourist attraction. The whole world should know about Beggs' prehistoric highway, Adams feels, and he'll do his best to tell it.
**History Made Interesting**

How can teachers interest 9th grade pupils, usually 15 or 16 years old, in the history of Oklahoma?

Mrs. Nann Roark, a teacher at Taft Junior high, Oklahoma City, for the past 13 years, apparently has the answer.

Each year for the past five years Mrs. Roark has held a contest for each of her 9th grade social studies classes on the subject of Oklahoma history.

Each of the pupils take a subject, collects data and presents his report orally. Then the reports are collected, typed by two of the class members and incorporated into the book.

This year's winning book, entitled "Cavalcade of Oklahoma", is about two inches thick. And each report is typed on onion skin, which shows how much information it contains.

The winning class was given a one-day trip to Fort Gibson, Sequoyah's home near Tahlequah and Dwight Mission. They also visited Lake Tenkiller state park.

The book is a "co-operative project," says Mrs. Roark. Credit is given by the typing teacher for typing done on the book and the woodwork teacher credits the pupil who does the book's cover.

"Cavalcade of Oklahoma" was the winner from Mrs. Roark's three 9th grade social studies classes. Judging was done by three teachers who have none of the participating pupils in their classes.

Subjects covered in the book include forts, Indians, agriculture, government, state parks, interesting points, famous men, churches, wildlife and education besides maps that the pupils drew and colored, pictures sketched of the men, Indians, costumes, cattle, etc.

The cover was made by Phil Bowman. He burned the title into the dark wood, painted the state flag onto the cover and glued a wood cut-out of the Pioneer Woman beside the flag. The book was tied with leather and hinged.

Ruth Hill was editor of the book and Julia Dorr and Sara Spradling did the typing. Mrs. Roark said the classes spent about six weeks making the books.

The highest point in Oklahoma is Black Mesa in Cimarron county. Altitude is 4,978 feet. The mesa has a cap of basalt rock and rises 700 feet above the Cimarron river bed.

The home of Quanah Parker, last chief of the Comanches, can be seen near Cravertville park, Cache. His grave, and those of his mother and sister are at Post Oak Mission near Indiannahom.

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**Tulsa Pens Go Over Country**

The fountain pen you use for writing checks in your local bank may very likely come straight from Tulsa where W. K. Kerr has been making pens, vases and perpetual calendars for some 20 years.

Changepoint, Inc., sells both fountain and ball pens through dealers all over the nation and in some foreign countries.

Outstanding feature of Changepoint pens is the ease with which the fountain pen may be transformed into a ball point pen or vice versa.

The parts of each pen are interchangeable and "so simple in construction that anyone can take them apart and put them together again," said Kerr. "The point and the filling unit—the vulnerable parts of any fountain pen—are easily replaceable," he added.

The pens never need to be sent in for repairs, Kerr pointed out, because all parts are interchangeable and replaceable by the user.

The Changepoint firm molds and finishes the pen parts and holders, or vases. In addition, it makes perpetual calendars, desk sets and counter sets.

The Changepoint refills come in a short length for old-style dropper-filling pens and long for self-filling pens. Kerr said the long refills hold 3½ times more ink than any other refill on the market, and four times more than the average, while the short refills hold more than twice as much ink as the average.

The firm makes 10 styles of stainless steel points ranging from Super-fine to Broad Iridium.

Kerr, who started the business in his home, employs eight persons.

**Midwest Carbidet Opens New Plant**

Midwest Carbide Corporation's new $3,000,000 plant, opened recently near Pryor, will make calcium carbide from limestone produced at Sallisaw and from coke produced in Oklahoma, Kansas and Illinois, officials announced.

Calcium carbide is used in the production of acetylene which is used in the chemical industry and in oxy-acetylene welding and cutting.

The plant, employing about 50 persons, is a joint venture of the Shawinigan Products Corp., New York, and the National Cylinder Gas Co., Chicago.
Desiliter to Catch Sand, Silt, May Extend Reservoir Life

An Oklahoma City man has perfected a device that he believes will greatly extend the life of a reservoir, now good for 18 to 27 years.

Dr. George N. Russel, a former Yukon veterinarian, has developed a desiliter that eliminates almost all the sand and silt which normally flow into water reservoirs, causing them to fill with silt deposits.

Dr. Russel said the desiliter also will prevent siltation of river beds above the water reservoirs, and the device is self-cleaning.

A scale model has been tested at the hydraulic laboratory at Oklahoma A&M college by John H. Dawson, registered engineer and associate professor of civil engineering at the college.

Dawson reported the miniature desiliter caught 98% of the sand and 96% of the silt. A supply of water was allowed to flow onto a flat pan at the entrance of the desiliter. The flow was adjusted so that it was as nearly uniform as possible.

Sand and silt were placed on the inlet pan and washed into the desiliter, representing the conditions that would exist in a normal stream under different rates of flow.

"When a dam is placed in a stream," Dawson explained, "the natural balance of silt load, shape and flow is disturbed. The silt will be deposited progressively upstream, destroying valuable farm lands while downstream the clear waters may erode the river bottom, causing additional damage."

The sand and silt removed by Russel's desiliter would be carried through a conduit to the point where the silt and sand is to be washed downstream, normally at the bottom of the dam.

To be most effective, Russel said, the desiliter should be built at the same time as the dam so as to assure no damage to property. He said injury to land, erosion and deposition, are not evident until many years after completion of a dam.

Russel became interested in siltation in 1940 when he repeatedly crossed the North Canadian river. He noticed that silt was filling the river bed upstream from the Lake Ocholake reservoir in Oklahoma county.

When streams become filled with silt, said Russel, the bed of the stream is unable to carry flood waters and this causes heavy flood damage to lowlands along the river.

In addition to A&M engineers, Russel has discussed his desiliter with civil and hydraulic engineers at the University of Oklahoma, Texas A&M college, the University of Kansas, and with Leslie E. Hamilton, consulting engineer on several large dam projects including Bull Shoals, Fort Gibson and Denison dams.

"Every one of the engineers believes my desiliter will do the job," said Russel. Anyone interested in the device may write Russell at 11 South Walker, Oklahoma City.

Excursion Boat

The Southern Belle, deluxe excursion boat, opened the season this year with a trip down Honey creek on the Grand river for 120 students of Checotah highschool.

Cliff Stevens, secretary-treasurer of Honey Creek Enterprises, Inc., said the Southern Belle is in tip top condition, repainted from top to bottom and ready for the tourist season. Some 8,000 persons took excursions aboard the boat last year.

Eyes of Texas on Oklahoma Booth

The eyes of Texas were upon Oklahoma at the Southwest Travel and Sport show held recently at the fairgrounds in Dallas.

For the first time, Oklahoma's Tourist bureau, a division of the Oklahoma planning and resources board, was represented in an out-of-state travel exposition.

Jeff Griffin, in charge of Oklahoma's tourist bureau, said it was the consensus of a majority of the 160,000 persons who attended the show that Oklahoma's colorful 20-foot display was the most attractive at the exposition.

Receptionist at the state booth was Mrs. Dorothy Reid, a Cherokee Indian employed by the planning board. She was attired in Indian costume and promptly became an attraction herself, Griffin said.

The display exhibited large color transparencies of scenes of all of the state parks, illuminated by back-lighting.

Twenty-seven hundred persons, definitely interested in planning an Oklahoma vacation, registered at the booth, asking for additional information.

More questions were asked about Lake Murray state park, closest to Dallas, than on any other individual park, Griffin said, but the primary overall interest was shown over the number of lakes Oklahoma has as recreation areas.

Russel Pearson of the planning board designed and built the state's display.
Northwest Oklahoma, now a semi-arid region with the highest altitude in the state, once was a swampy land covered with tropical vegetation and sluggish waters.

Through this prehistoric paradise wandered the huge Brontosaurus excelsus, a heavy-bodied short-legged dinosaur that lived on the lush vegetation of the area.

And sometime during that period some 160 million years ago, scores of the giant beasts died, perhaps in a swamp, in the area that is now the northwest edge of the Oklahoma Panhandle.

To mark the site where the fossils were excavated, the Oklahoma planning and resources board and the Oklahoma highway department are working out plans to erect a life-size brontosaurus of re-inforced concrete and build a roadside park near Kenton.

The concrete brontosaurus would stand near the site of a pit where some 4,000 separate bones of brontosaurs and other dinosaurs have been found.

Ralph Shedd, director of the University of Oklahoma museum, said 11 or 12 pits in the area, within 12 miles of Black Mesa, were excavated from 1935 to 1941. The highway site was one of the largest digs.

The concrete brontosaurus would measure 60 feet long with his head and neck extending 22 feet, about 2 stories, into the air. Stretched out, the animal would be 70 feet long. The structure would be scaled to actual measurements of Brontosaurus skeletons and will be built by Dallas Meade, builder of the 5-story papier-mache oil driller at the last International Petroleum exposition, Tulsa.

Total weight of the animal would be 125,000 pounds with some 8,000 pounds of steel as a framework covered by 5 inches of concrete. The “skin” would have expansion joints at several locations.

The prehistoric monster would be constructed so as to support 10,000 pounds of weight at any point so visitors could climb onto the creature’s back or tail.

Bones of the animals were deposited in the Morrison shale of the Jurassic period and have produced the most complete dinosaur collection in the United States.

The giant animal had a thick heavy body, a long reptilian neck and tiny head, no larger than a bushel basket. His tail, long and heavy, dragged behind him or, more frequently, floated behind him since the animal spent much of his life in water.

Paleontologists think the vegetable-eating dinosaur had difficulty walking because his short legs were not sturdy enough to support his huge body. Tracks of the animal have been found, proving he could walk on dry land, but most of his life was spent in swampy regions. The nostrils were near the top of the skull, indicating the beast spent a good deal of time submerged in water.

The Age of Dinosaurs ended some 126 million years ago, possibly because of a change in climate to which the animal could not adjust.

Cimarron county at the western end of the Panhandle is bordered by four states, New Mexico, Colorado, Kansas and Texas.

The world’s largest shallow oil field, with more than 20,000 wells, is located near Nowata, in northeastern Oklahoma.

El Reno was first located on the north side of the Canadian river, but when a railroad connection was established on the other side, the people picked up their town and moved across the river.