



Mr. and Mrs. C.R. Smith

Smith took over as manager of the Escarbada.

After spending many lonely days at a cow camp some 40 miles from Hereford, Smith welcomed an invitation to come to town with a friend. They visited in the Vanderburg home, where C.R. met his future wife. The friendship grew as Zula Vanderburg went with the E.F. Connells to witness a round-up at the Escarbada.

Miss Vanderburg became Mrs. C.R. Smith in the home of her parents. Mr. and Mrs. Emmett Vanderburg, on Aug. 22, 1906. The couple moved into their new home at 410 Jowell St., where they lived until his death March 14, 1959.

Following their marriage, Smith left the XIT. He leased land north-east of Hereford and bought cattle to run on it. He also worked for the government quarantine and later served as deputy sheriff for several years.

In 1925 Smith sold his cattle and went into the real estate business. He liked to recall having helped to survey the first three sections of XIT land sold in Deaf Smith County.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Smith were active members of the First Christian Church. He served as deacon and as a member of the church board. At that time the Christian Church was meeting in a frame building across the street north of the present City Hall. C.R. served on the school and hospital boards and as a member of the draft board in World War I. She was a charter member of the Music Study Club, and both were active in many phases of the civic and cultural development of Hereford.

The Smiths were parents of: C.R., Jr., who died as the result of an accident when he was a young man; Roy V., a partner with his father in the real estate business for years and continuing in that business here; and Ruth (Mrs. Jack) Wilson, also of Hereford. — PATTERSON HISTORY

Clarence Smith

The special Rock Island passenger train slowed as it neared the end of the new line. There was a festive air among its passengers; they were going to witness the birth of another Panhandle city — Adrian. Among them were members of the Hereford Concert Band, decked out in their colorful new uniforms. When they alighted from the train, they found themselves surrounded by ... nothing! Just prairie. The railroad had not yet reached the townsite; so the band members shouldered their instruments and trudged the four

miles to the Adrian townsite. Not a grumble was heard from the members, though, for they had been hired to play for the opening.

Among the band members were three Smith boys, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Smith — Leslie, Bill, and Ralph, as musical a trio as has ever walked Hereford streets.

Leslie Smith became quite noted when he traveled and gave concerts with John Phillip Sousa during World War I. Ralph Smith, after doing his stint in the army, made music his career for most of his life. Bill Smith was a postal employee before entering the army during World War I and was a filling station operator and oil dealer, with music continuing as a hobby. The Smith boys attended Hereford public schools.



Hereford Concert Band — 1908

Ralph Smith "went professional" after the war and toured with Harley Sadler's tent show five years. He sang, played in the band and orchestra, and did bit parts in the plays when necessary. In 1925 he came back to Hereford as director of the school band — one of the first high school bands in the region and the only one to participate in the Amarillo Music Festival in 1926. His Hereford High School bands won top ratings consistently. After his retirement from teaching, he was Veterans' Service Officer and was serving his third term as county clerk at the time of his death April 17, 1960.

Ralph was born Oct. 18, 1896, in Modena, Mo., and came with his parents to Deaf Smith County in 1905. He married Lurline White November 27, 1922, in Stamford. They were the parents of Glenn, director of the high school band at Dimmitt; Gerald, director of bands at Panhandle; and Joan (Mrs. J.R.) Euler of Hereford.

Leslie Smith returned to Hereford after the war and married Bessie Sanders. He died here in 1929. They were the parents of Wanda Jean (Mrs. J.P.) Jones, Hereford.

W.J. (Bill) Smith also returned to Hereford and married Gladys Walters.

Clarence Smith — perhaps best known as father of the Smith boys — was Hereford's third postmaster. The Smiths were active in the First Methodist Church. He continued to make his home in Hereford but died on a visit to the Bill Smiths who were living in California in 1944. Mrs. Clarence Smith died here in July of 1935. — PATTERSON HISTORY

George C. Smith

George C. Smith was a man of German heritage. Because of the extreme cold in Michigan, he and a son, Frank, came to the Hereford area on an excursion train in 1908 to check on the feasibility of settling in Deaf Smith County.

They bought a half-section of land 18 miles north on 25-Mile Avenue and three miles east.

The family came on an "immigrant train" to Hereford. They broke out one-half of this farm with horses which they had brought in a boxcar on the train along with wagons, tools and household goods. They attended Sunday School in the Day Community.

They sold this farm in 1918, just before the youngest son, Otto, entered the Army for service during World War I. The family moved to the Progressive community, then to the Ford Community.

Later they lived in the Daniel community where Mrs. Smith became ill and died in 1928. Mr. Smith remained there two years alone, then moved to his children's homes. He died in 1945.

In this family were seven children. Two daughters remained in Michigan; one son stayed in Texas a year then went back to Michigan. Another son, Frank, never married, and journeyed back and forth between Texas and Michigan.

Two sons, Lewis Allen and Otto George, married and raised their families here. The daughter, Faith Loyce, married H.A. O'Dell and raised her family of five children in the Summerfield community. They later resided in Borger.

Lewis married Bessie Miller while living in the Day community. They married in Hereford in 1913. Their first home was near Garcia Lake on G.W. Conkwright's ranch, where they raised sheep and cattle. Lewis helped build the Progressive schoolhouse.

Lewis' and Bessie's oldest daughter was five years old when they took up residence in the Dawn area. She drove a horse to a buggy the four miles to Dawn School. Four other daughters in this family were Syble, Ella, Sarah and Doris.

This family was civic minded, and Lewis was Sunday School superintendent in the Dawn school building for 17 years. Mr. and Mrs. Smith were active in Literary Society and P-TA and Lewis was a school trustee many years. They were instrumental in initiating singing schools in the community.

In 1942 they bought the Slagle farm between Hereford and Dawn where the only successful hand-dug irrigation well remained in operation.

Lois married Norman Miller and lived in the Dawn area. Their four children all graduated from Hereford High School. Lois now lives in Friona.

Syble married Oscar Hewitt. She also lives in Friona. Ella, who married Harold Wester, raised two children. They now live in Borger. Sarah and her husband, J.C. Poe live in Amarillo. They had three children.

Doris married Leroy Johnson Sr. and they live in the Dawn area as do their three sons, all of whom graduated from Hereford High. — DORIS JOHNSON

Ralph Smith

Ralph Smith was born October 18, 1896 in Modena, Missouri. He came to Hereford with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Smith, two brothers, Leslie and Bill in 1905. His first jobs were selling papers and shining shoes in barber shops.

He became a member of the Hereford Concert Band which was organized in 1902. He attended Hereford schools, West Texas

Ralph Smith



The Ralph Smith family

Normal College, was veteran of WWI serving in the Army as a mechanic. Ralph went professional after the war and toured with Harley Sadler's tent show for five years. He sang, played in the band, orchestra and did bit parts in plays. On tour he met and married Lurline White of Avoca, Texas.

Lurline was born June 5, 1904 in Avoca, parents were H.D. and Pearl Tunnell White. She attended school there and married November 26, 1922. They toured with Harley Sadler until 1925, when they and small son returned to Hereford.

Ralph became director of Hereford High School Band, one of the first school bands in the region and the only one to participate in Amarillo Music Festival in 1926. The Whiteface Band consistently won high ratings in area contests. In a day when formality reigned in most schools, Smith was "Ralph" to his students, yet discipline did not suffer.

After his retirement in 1945, he became Deaf Smith County Veteran's Service Officer, a position he continued to hold after his election as county clerk. At the time of his death in 1960 he was serving a third term as clerk. Lurline was appointed by the commissioner's court to finish the term.

In 1905 Ralph became a member of First Methodist Church, which he served many years. He assisted in organizing and building Wesley Methodist Church. He was a member of the IOOF Lodge, American Legion and the "40&8." Ralph and Lurline are the parents of Ralph Glenn, Gerald David, Joan, and Martha Jane, who died November 22, 1944.

Ralph Glenn was born October 15, 1923 in Slaton, attended schools in Hereford, graduating from West Texas State College. He married Avis Harbour and they reside in Dimmitt, where he is band director and Avis teaches in high school. They are parents of Steven, a petroleum engineer in Midland, who married Karron Flynt and has a son, Taran Scott. Richard Alan died July 6, 1969.

Gerald was born August 5, 1926 in Hereford, graduated from high school here, and attended West Texas State College. He married Mary Smith, they reside in Panhandle; he is band director of the public schools. Their daughter, Debra, lives in Memphis, Texas.

Joan was born September 8, 1928 in Hereford, graduated high school and attended West Texas State College. She married J.R. Euler, they reside on a farm west of Summerfield, are parents of David, employed with Southwestern Public Service in Amarillo, married Jayne Kent, have two children, Cheri and Christi; Kay Ann, married to Wayne Barber, district manager for Browning Manufacturing in El Toro, California, parents of Shea; and Lesley, who resides in Hereford and is music teacher at Tierra Blanca Elementary school. — LURLINE KENDALL

my uncle
W.J. (Bill) Smith

Bill Smith came to Hereford with his parents, Clarence and Minnie Crews Smith and brothers, Leslie and Ralph in 1905. He was born August 2, 1891 in Princeton, Missouri, married Gladys Walters January 25, 1918. Bill was a veteran of World War I, served as trombonist with the 357th Infantry Band in France. Returning to Hereford, he found jobs were hard to find so he joined Brunk Comedian tent show, playing trombone. After one year he returned to Hereford to farm.

He was Magnolia Wholesale agent for eleven years, operated the first motel (Smith Motel) in Hereford. He and Gladys moved to Ruidoso, New Mexico for awhile, worked with International Harvester Company for ten years, operated the Red Mill Motel in El Paso for ten years. They returned to Hereford February 1, 1967.

Bill was a charter member of Hereford Lions Club, member of the American Legion "40 and 8," Veterans of Foreign Wars, Masonic Order, Scottish Rite, Hereford Riders Club, and the First Methodist Church.

Bill and Gladys are parents of William F. (wife, Elsy Wilkins) of Deseanso, California; Virginia Cocanougher of Hereford; Dea Turner (husband, Howard) died March 19, 1976. — GLADYS SMITH

W.T. Smith

He could plow the straightest furrow,
She could sew the straightest seam,
He could sing the loudest,
She could sing the sweetest,
Together, they made beautiful music!!



Mr. and Mrs. W.T. Smith and daughter, E. Dora, 1920

William Theophilus (Red) Smith, born in Carroll County, Huntingdon, Tennessee, 1873, with his wife, Easter Womble Smith, born in Chatham County, Greensboro, North Carolina, 1874, and son, Guy, eight years old, and a daughter, Essie, four years old, came to Hereford in February, 1900, from Huntingdon, Tennessee. They planned to locate near Easter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J.C. Womble, and family, who came to Deaf Smith County in 1891, from Huntingdon.

Red (a nickname because of his red hair) built their home on what is now called Kibbe Street. It was only the fourth residence west of Main Street, the other three belonged to Troy Womble, R.H. Norton, and a Mr.

Moreman.

Mr. Smith and partner, Bill Womble, ran two dray wagons here, for seven years, hauling freight and supplies for others. During this time, the first movie house had ordered a new grand piano, but when Mr. Smith delivered it, from the depot on his wagon, it was too big to get through the door, so Red bought it and took it home. The family kept it and enjoyed it as long as the Smiths' both lived. Another one like it is in the Black Historical Home now.

Mr. Smith did carpenter work for a few years, then he ran a service car (taxi) for five years, in the meantime, he served as deputy sheriff.

All of her adult life, Easter did dressmaking for people and also was a "mid-wife."

After they came to Hereford, two more children were born to them, Corene Doty and Easter Dora (E. Dora) Clark, Lomita, California, the latter is the only surviving child. She has one daughter, Georgina Roney, Long Beach, California. Loy Smith and Wilma Curtsinger, Guy's children, still live in Hereford. Essie Renfro's daughter, Rena Rae Newton, lives in Hixson, Tennessee.

After the three oldest children married and left home, the Smiths moved to a farm east of town. He was a successful grower of farm crops adaptable to this locality. Many people said that he could plow the straightest rows in a field they had ever seen. He also taught singing schools, sometimes driving miles at night, in a buckboard, to teach classes. He learned to read music in his boyhood. He had a wonderful tenor voice (and a loud one), he often lead the choir in the First Baptist Church, of Hereford. Easter sang alto, Guy played the guitar and harmonica, E.Dora played piano, so the Smith home was always a "musical" home.

After Mr. Smith's death, in 1928, Mrs. Smith, and E.Dora, moved back to the family home in Hereford. Easter did dressmaking again, for the public, and "mid-wifing." She helped to deliver nearly one hundred babies in her lifetime. She died in 1935. She was a charter member of the W.M.U., of the Hereford Baptist Church. — E. DORA CLARK

Joe Stagner

Joe Stagner, a native of Alabama, and Jennie (Easter) Stagner came to Castro County with three daughters, Donnie, Lottie and Della in 1905 from Itasca, Texas with the W.F. Easter family. W.F. had purchased land about 12 miles south of Hereford and given a labor of land to each of his children — including Jennie Stagner.

The men folk of these families built a two room house just east of the Easter Grain Corporation, hauling supplies from Hereford. The Stagners farmed, raised some cattle and added Owen, Olive and Price to the family.

A school was organized at Easter and the girls attended school there until the school funds were exhausted and the family moved to a rent house for more room for the family, more land to farm and so the children could attend school at Frio. Fred, Pat, and Earl were born while the family lived here.

With a family of this size there was always plenty of work for everyone, and one had to be especially skillful if he avoided doing his share. However, there were fun times as well, and a few big events that furnished pleasure

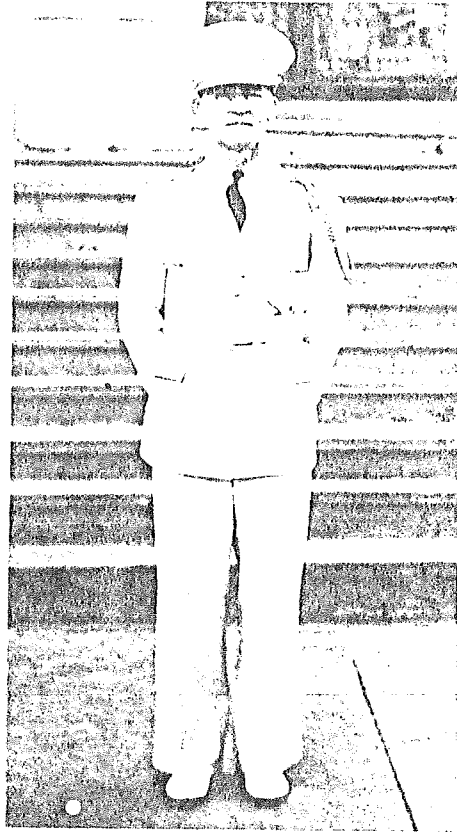
In Memoriam

OUR BAND DIRECTOR

Ralph Smith came to Hereford High School in 1925 as director of one of the first high school bands in the region. For the eighteen years he served, his bands always maintained high ratings in competition, and he was a highly respected director and musician. He taught concert band, orchestra and marching in high school. We began our instruction, however, at Central School where Ralph had his beginners band. Starting in the 4th Grade we learned to play and march together and almost as a family we continued our years in band all through high school.

Ralph had no assistant, but somehow he worked with us individually, repaired our instruments, sold us supplies at cost, arranged our music much of the time and took great pride in our accomplishments.

We remember the many trips to contests, parades all over the area, the Tri-State Fairs with Ralph driving the bus and endeavoring to keep order at the same time. Our annual trip to the Boy Scout Camp near El Porvenir in New

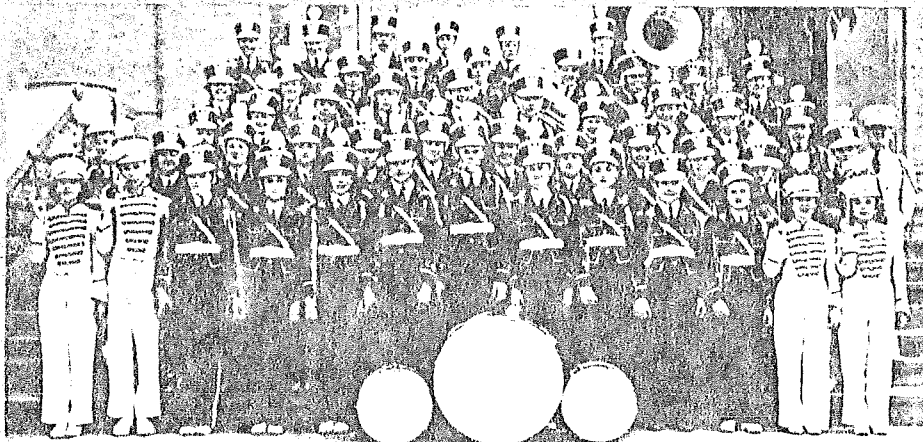


Mexico during the summer vacation was the highlight of our year together. What fun we had! our Band mothers helped with projects to finance those trips and several came along to help out. Also, Arlie Dean loaded his truck with our camping gear and made the trip almost every year.

During those depression years there was very little money in the budget. Remember the traveling minstrel show we had for several years? The parents starred in the show and we played the accompaniment. We gave performances at school auditoriums in the towns of the area and had a great time while raising funds for uniforms, instruments and trips.

The members of Ralph Smith's "Maroon & White" Band remember him with deep affection as a friend and dedicated teacher. With great patience he instilled in us the love of music, the desire for excellence and the discipline necessary to obtain our goals. We are happy to have this opportunity to honor his memory.

RALPH SMITH



The Hereford High School Band of 1941

Lincoln type--rode a mule in the parade down Main Street. Always busy in civic affairs, Judge Slaton served the chamber of commerce twice as president. He was a leader, also, in working for the building of an adequate hospital here.

An active member of the First Methodist Church, Judge Slaton served on the State Board of Missions of the Northwest Texas Conference of the Methodist Church from 1922 to 1926. He also worked for the building of the church building.

John P. Slaton was born Oct. 25, 1868, at Zebulon, Georgia, and died at Hereford on Dec. 4, 1947. He attended schools at Decatur, Tex., Southwestern University, Gerogetown, and the University of Texas, where he studied law. He has one daughter, Velma (Mrs. J.L.) Parvin, Fort Worth, Tex. After the death of his first wife, he was married to Mrs. Nettie Price, widow of a pioneer Hereford doctor.

CLARENCE SMITH, 1905

Brought Music To Town

The special Rock Island passenger train slowed as it neared the end of the new line. There was a festive air among its passengers; they were going to witness the birth of another Panhandle city--Adrian. Among them were members of the Hereford Concert Band, decked out in their colorful new uniforms. When they alighted from the train, they found themselves surrounded by... nothing! Just prairie. The railroad had not yet reached the townsite; so the band members shouldered their instruments and trudged the four miles to the Adrian townsite. Not a grumble was heard from the members, though, for they had been hired to play for the opening.

Among the band members were three Smith boys, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Smith--Leslie, Bill, and Ralph, as musical a trio as has ever walked Hereford streets. The town band had been organized in 1902 when C.E. Strain came from Lancaster to teach music; he was described as "an expert cornetist and band teacher." In 1909, the arrival of new uniforms for the band was reported, "They are swell affairs and add a commendable military aire to the company of young men."

The band was called on frequently to help in public ceremony, formal or informal. They gave concerts in the concert stand gracing the court house grounds. They led the parade of triumph when bonds for the new court house were voted in 1909.

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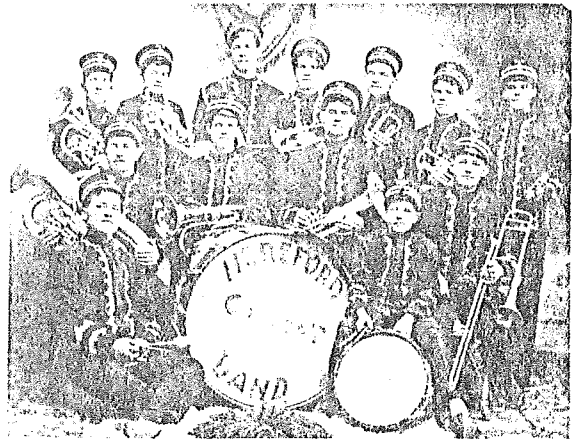
Ralph Smith, youngest of the boys, was born Oct. 18, 1896, in Modena, Mo., and came with his parents to Deaf Smith County from there in 1905. He was married to Miss Lurline White on November 27, 1922, in Stamford.

They were the parents of Glenn, director of the high school band at Dimmitt; Gerald, director of bands at Panhandle; and Joan (Mrs. J.R.) Euler of Hereford.

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W. J. (Bill) Smith also returned to Hereford and was married to Miss Gladys Walters. They now live in Amarillo and have one son, William F. Smith, Brawley, Calif., and one daughter, Dea (Mrs. Howard) Turner, Roswell, N.M.

Clarence Smith--perhaps best known as father of the Smith boys--was Hereford's third postmaster. After leaving the postoffice, he farmed in the Hereford area. The Smiths were active in the First Methodist Church. He continued to make his home in Hereford but died on a visit to the Bill Smiths who were living in California in 1944. Mrs. Clarence Smith died here in July of 1935.



Members of Hereford's 1908 Municipal Band: bottom row, left to right, Eagle Henderson and Ralph Smith; second row, Orville Brunk, Glenn and Presley Dyer; top row, W. J. (Bill) Smith, Charles Brunk, Edgar Inmon, Sam Brunk, Leslie Smith and Lewis Hubbard.

JOE A. STAGNER, 1905

Watched Area Grow

Participating in the development of the area, especially in farming, were Mr. and Mrs. Joe A. Stagner, who came to this county from Hill County, Tex., in 1905. They were members of the Baptist Church.

Joe A. Stagner was born April 20, 1873, in Alabama and was married to Miss Jennie Lee Easter in Hill County on Dec. 17, 1899. She was born in Hill County on April 29, 1881 and was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Easter who came to this area in 1905. She died here on March 22, 1952 and he on Dec. 26, 1959.

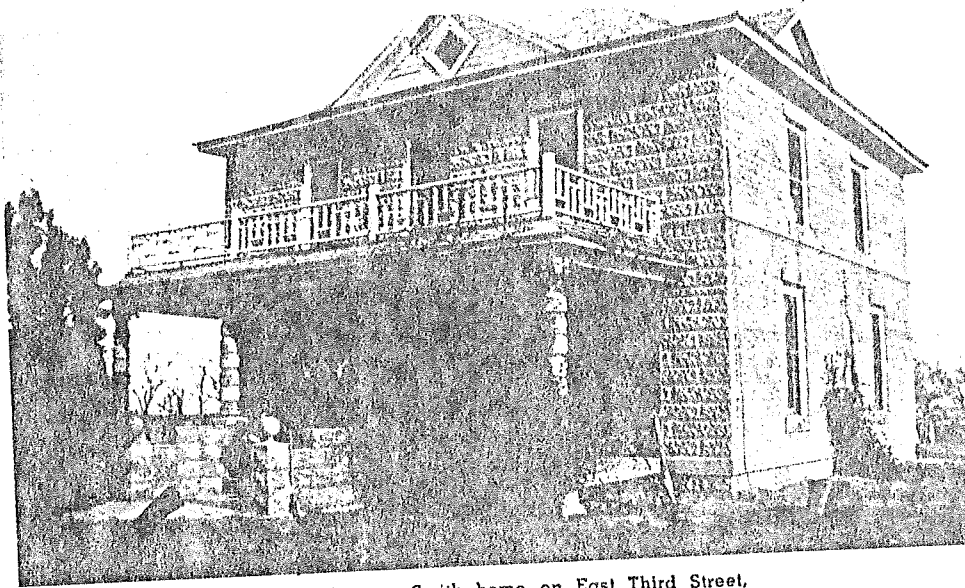
G. M. SUGGS, 1905

Wrote Early Abstracts

On Nov. 5, 1905, G. M. Suggs arrived in Hereford for the purpose of going into the abstract business. His home had been in Gatesville. His partner was to be G. W. Barcus, an attorney who had arrived in town a few days earlier. On the day after his arrival, Suggs began a copy of the records of abstract for Deaf Smith County for their files, a task which took eight months at that time.

Three years later Barcus sold his interest in the firm to A. M. Jones, and the firm name was changed to Suggs and Jones. That association continued until Suggs sold

CLARENCE SMITH, 1905



The Clarence Smith home on East Third Street, Hereford.

Clarence Smith - perhaps best known as father of the Smith boys - was Hereford's third postmaster. After leaving the post office, he farmed in the Hereford area. The Smiths were active in the Methodist Church. Mrs. Smith died in July of 1935 and Mr. Smith died in 1944.

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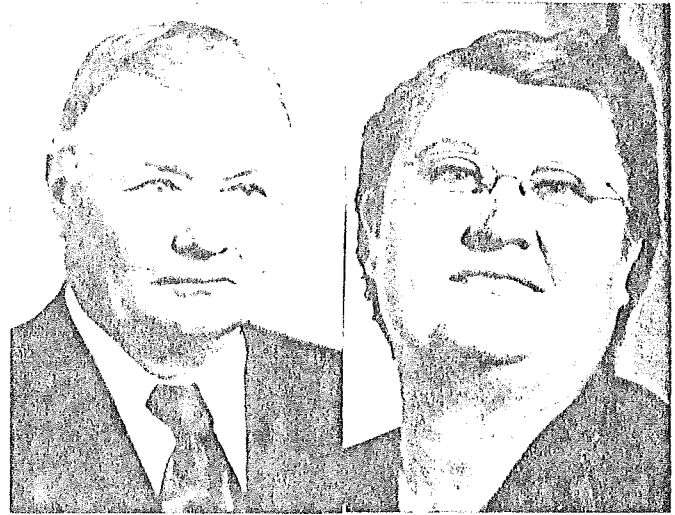
**In Memoriam
Our Husband and Father**



FRANK KNABE

Ethel Knabe — Wife
Joan Strafuss
Geraldine Schlabs

**A Loving Tribute to
Papa and Mama**



**FELIX HENRY
URBANCZYK**
(1886-1969)

**EUGENIA MOCZYGEMBA
URBANCZYK**
(1900-1967)

With Love:

Irene
Theresa
Conrad
Edna

Rosalie
Ethel
Leona
Tony

**In Memoriam
RALPH SMITH AND VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS**

As the end of WW II approached, the American people were very aware of the fact that the mobilization of her man power was probably the deciding factor in winning the war. From the sneak attack by the Japanese at Pearl Harbor, which almost destroyed the U.S. Navy, America has come back to almost having defeated that power and it required putting nearly 12 million men in uniform. There was no doubt but that the readjustment for all the veterans was going to be a serious task when the end of the war did come.

With this in mind, the G.I. Bill of Rights came into existence. The thought was to do everything possible to get the service man back into the mainstream of life. Some of the programs were mustering out pay program, assistance in job placement, assistance in continuing disrupted educational programs, assistance in loan programs for the purchase of homes or farms or reestablishment of business, and conversion of life insurance. Congress passed the law, but the administration of it was going to be a new experience.

The Texas Legislature established the Veterans Affairs Commission at this time and it became the blue print for many of the states in this rehabilitation program.

Here in Hereford, a WWI Army veteran, Ralph Smith, was considering retiring from the high school as band director. He was an outstanding man who had always demonstrated sincerity and community spirit.

On a voluntary basis, he began to assist veterans in their contacts with the Veterans Af-



Ralph Smith

fairs Commission and the execution of the necessary documentation as each case developed. The State legislature had in the mean time, passed a law and established guide lines for counties to set up county Veteran Service Offices and have individuals qualified as Service Officers.

On December 1945, the County Commissioners Court appointed Ralph Smith to be Deaf Smith County's first Veterans Service Officer. In the years to come, he set an example for a wide area,

as he assisted all veterans who came to him. He became known and respected by WWI and WW II veterans, as well as by the personnel at the Veterans Affairs Commission and the Veterans Hospitals in the area.

He was later elected Deaf Smith County Clerk and the Court appointed Cecil Parker, an army veteran to succeed him as Veterans Service Officer. The Korean War came to end, and thus more veterans were in need of this service. Later Cecil Wilkins, a U.S. Army veteran was appointed as Services Officer. He continued the sincere, thorough service that Ralph Smith had made common. After Cecil Wilkins' 10 years of service, Benny Womble, an Army Air Force veteran, was appointed to that position on April 1, 1968. His 10½ years of service spanned the longest term of service men being discharged and rehabilitated as the Viet Nam War continued.

On October 1, 1979, James Jesko, a U.S. Navy veteran, was appointed to succeed Benny Womble. The Veterans Service continues to assist veterans and their families in many ways. At the time it is estimated that there are 211 Spanish American War veterans, 651,000 WWI veterans, 12,000,000 WWII veterans, 5,750,000 Korean War veterans and 8,800,000 Viet Nam veterans.

It will always be the sincere hope of the Veterans Service Officers as well as the veteran organizations, that some day we will have such an extended term of peace in the world, that there will one day be no more war veterans, but until that day comes, we will hope America continues its concern for those men. — JAMES JESKO



BRUNK'S
NO. 3
COMEDIANS



STIRRATT & SHEARS
Photographers
Amarillo, Texas









HEREFORD
CONCERT
BAND