



## Hood County Sesquicentennial Almanac - A Digest of News Items from Around the Country

**January 1, 1909** Special to the News. The year 1909 was ushered in at Granbury in a very melodious as well as noisy circumstances. Just as the clock was striking 12, church bells began to ring, the different steam whistles of town began to blow and the whistle of a passing locomotive coupled with the hideous sound of the fire whistle as the year 1908 passed into history. Dallas Morning News

**January 6, 1876** From Texas, written December 23, 1875, by J.N. McCutcheon, Esq.: (writing about a trip through North Texas, from Dallas to Brown County and back) We reached Brazos River after a ride of 70 miles, and were surprised to find so fine a stream. Water very clear; gravelly bottom—the most home like stream we've seen in Texas. We now enter Hood County. Granbury is the county site, with a population of about 500 inhabitants, and is rather an interesting town for such a county. Leaving Granbury, we find a lonely country, thickly set with many varieties of scrubby timber for about 80 miles, but such timber as is scarcely fit to build a hen coop. This county is very mountainous and badly broken—as much so as any you ever saw and presents the most gloomy appearance imaginable. It is rendered doubly so from the scarcity of settlers; and when you do reach a house you see but little appearance of a comfortable home. Hood County is too poor to be settled soon. It is too poor, except in the creek bottoms, for settlement; and the creeks are not numerous. It may do for stock, but a poor county for agriculture, except in the creek valleys. Settlers have houses of the most trifling kind; a good many without doors, and no windows at all, yet many of them seem contented. The Home Journal, Winchester, Tennessee

**January 7, 1892** Henry Kerr's new scenery has been received and placed in position, which greatly improves the appearance and convenience of the Opera Hall. The Granbury News

**January 9, 1926** The First National Bank of Lipan was robbed Friday afternoon by six unmasked men after the officials had been covered with pistols and guns by the robbers and about \$3,000 in money was taken. Justice of the Peace Bud Blair, who entered the bank while the robbers were looting it, fired at one of them and one of the men returned the fire with a shotgun, slightly wounding him. It is believed one of the bandits was hit also. Backing out of the bank with drawn guns, the men got into a large waiting automobile and fled towards Stephenville. Dallas Morning News

**January 11, 1887** Granbury College was burned a 2:30 yesterday morning. The fire originated in the Collegian printing office. Total loss, \$15,000; insurance \$2,500. Nothing was



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saved. Citizens will rebuild it at once. The school is being temporarily held in the Methodist Church and adjacent buildings. Dallas Weekly Herald

**January 11, 1907** Special to the News. Granbury, Tex. Fire broke out in the Catts cotton yard here this afternoon and about 1,200 bales of cotton were burned. A big percentage of the cotton had been delivered to the railroad company for shipment. The estimated loss is \$90,000. Origin of the fire is supposed to have been a spark from a freight engine. Dallas Morning News

**January 11, 1951** Improvements on the Hood County jail are underway at this time. The Commissioners Court, after inspecting the building, approved the repairs. It was found that the sills under the floor in some of the rooms had completely rotted out and that the floors were resting on the ground: The flooring too had rotted out in spots and the building was in a bad state of repair throughout.

**January 16, 1909** A fire occurred in the second story of the two-story stone building occupied by I.C. Tinnon as a grocery store. The fire spread to the adjoining two-story building causing losses to the I.O.O.F, the Knights of Pythias lodge, the Redmen, W.O.W., the Rebeccas, and the T. Rainwater photograph gallery. The office furniture and fixtures and library of Dr. A. Carmichael suffered severe damage. There was a strong wind blowing from the north and but for the excellent work of the fire department the whole north side of the square would have been a total loss. Origin of fire was unknown. At the same time the fire was raging in Granbury, a telephone message was received from Thorp Spring, announcing the college building was on fire, which resulted in merely a damage of \$25 or \$50. Origin of that fire was an ash bucket. Fort Worth Star Telegram

**January 19, 1919** Granbury is suffering her severest stroke from epidemic of influenza, the death toll running from two to six a day. School is now again closed for two weeks. There has been reported as high as 250 cases at one time. Fort Worth Star Telegram

**January 19, 1893** The members of the Acton Masonic Lodge offer a reward of \$150 for the arrest and conviction of the party of parties who robbed the cornerstone of their lodge building last November. The Granbury News

**January 20, 1923** Forty-two rattlesnakes ranging in length from 1 ½ to 6 feet, were killed on the Jerry Jackson farm, twelve miles south of Granbury, on Thursday. Several of the snakes were more than ten inches in circumference. Dallas Morning News



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**January 22, 1924** Special to the News. Granbury, Hood Co., Tex. Fire originating in a barber shop destroyed one frame mercantile building and badly damaged another on the north side of the square here Tuesday. The loss was estimated at \$3,000. Persistent work by the fire department kept the flames from spreading to adjoining buildings. The stock of groceries and feed belonging to J.H. Perry was almost destroyed. Dallas Morning News 1/23/1924

**January 25, 1900** The Thrash Opera Hall advertised that the Louise Brehany Ballad and Opera Concerts would provide a great musical entertainment on February 3, 1900. The Granbury News

**January 29, 1877** State News: Hood County. Correspondence of Fort Worth Democrat: We started from your city (Fort Worth) in one of those new and commodious four-horse stages, on the Fort Concho line, Thursday morning at 8 o'clock for the West. The scenery along our route was very beautiful. The rolling prairie, with here and there a clump of trees, a farm-house with garden spot enclosed, flocks and herds feeding from the broad acres of nature's planting, stringing bushes which indicate the meanderings of some creek or brook stretches out for miles in all directions. We met load after load of hides and cotton on their way to Fort Worth market, which indicates a vast amount of trade between Fort Worth and frontier. After a drive of six hours over hillocks, through ravines, across the beautiful prairie, we came in sight of the most beautiful scenery of all, the winding Brazos Break and Peak Comanche, which tell us Granbury is near and Fort Worth forty miles distant. We cross the river and soon draw up in front of Hightower House, where we find such comfort as is always very welcome to the hungry traveler. Granbury is a place of about 400 inhabitants. There are three churches, one school, a fine stone court-house, a large, substantial stone hotel, one ably edited weekly paper, and several business firms, all doing a fair business. The land along the Brazos is a red, sandy loam, while that further from the river is a black sandy loam, supported by clay and limestone. This soil produces from a half to two-thirds of a bale of cotton, forty bushels of corn, and twenty of wheat per acre. Galveston Weekly News