

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

February 4, 1890 A meteor fell on the larger of the two Comanche peaks Friday night. It came on an incline of about forty-five degrees and struck the edge of the peak, knocking huge boulders into the valley. It came from the south. The celestial visitor bounded down the mountain side, barely missing Major Torrey's house at the foot of the peak. The Evening World, New York City

February 5, 1892 The most beautiful and imposing architectural sight in Granbury is the new court-house recently completed. It stands in the midst of the business part of town, a pile of almost snowy whiteness, surmounted by a splendid tower clock and enclosed by a neat iron fence. I have not seen a prettier public building in western Texas. It is built of hard white limestone, quarried almost within the corporate limits of the town. Fort Worth Star Telegram

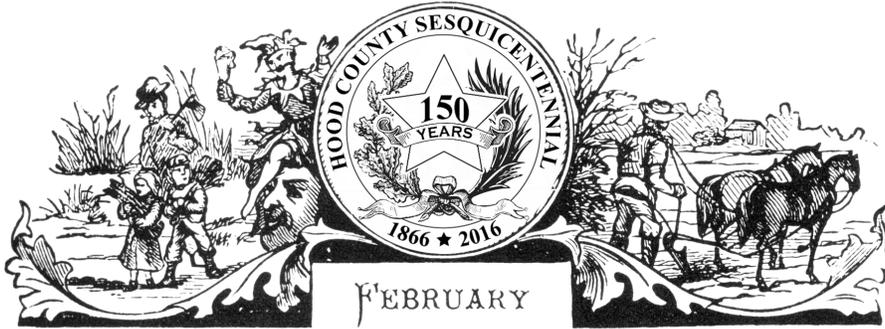
February 5, 1910 Special to the News. Granbury, Tex. One hundred and eighty-two bales of cotton were damaged about 50 percent by fire this afternoon about 5 o'clock on the platform of the Frisco at this place. The westbound passenger train was standing at the station when the fire was discovered and it is supposed that a spark from the engine set the cotton on fire as the train started. The cotton had just been delivered by A.P. Gordon to Bush & Witherspoon of Waco. Dallas Morning News

February 10, 1874 An agent of Milam County is at present in Hood County, looking after the school lands of Milam, which are located there. He finds many settlers upon these lands, and much of these lands improved, and is about instituting suits to recover rents, etc. This is the very trouble we warned the people to beware of, and we trust the Legislature will take hold of the question promptly; if it fails to do so, the evil will grow to be a very grave one indeed. Waco Daily Examiner

February 11, 1892 The Brazos Navigation Company's boat, Erie Number 5, arrived in the city of Waco from Granbury, Hood County. The boat has been out from Granbury about twenty-four days and had quite an eventful trip. The Waco Evening News

February 12, 1902 In July last year, Charles Hiner disappeared from Granbury, Hood County, and has not been heard from since. Foul play is suspected. The case is shrouded in deep mystery and has proved a puzzler to the officers who undertook to unravel it. Dallas Morning News

February 17, 1900 From an interview this morning with Dr. Lancaster it can safely be said that there are between fifty and sixty cases of measles in and within a mile of Granbury. He says



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this disease has prevailed for the last three weeks, and that the above number is a low estimate at present. Fort Worth Star Telegram

February 20, 1907 - The Commissioners' Court considered the matter of putting water closets in the Court House. The court, after carefully considering all bids, found the bid of Kane and Company the lowest. The contract was awarded to Kane and Company to build the water closets within thirty days from that date.

February 21, 1910 Commissioners' Court authorized the Frisco Ice and Light Company to wire and place sixteen lights in the interior of the Hood County Courthouse for the sum of \$46.00.

February 22, 1906 Grandma Barnard died at her home near Fort Spunky last week, aged about 80 years. She was a native of Mexico, with a most thrilling early history, and had lived in western Texas since early childhood. The Granbury News

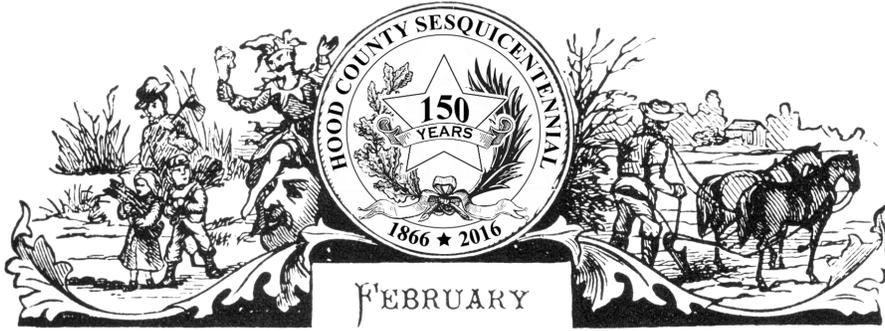
February 23, 1905 Granbury is to have a new depot. Mr. Fickinger, in response to the petition sent him, writes Earl Cogdell that he has ordered the material and as soon as the weather will permit he will have erected here a modern passenger and freight depot, which will be a credit to the town. The Granbury News

February 24, 1939 The hitching chains which were removed from around the courthouse lawn when work began on square, were replaced last week by the City on the vacant lots off the northwest corner of the square back of the Estes building. Another hitching place will be fixed as soon as arrangements can be made for the use of a lot. The Granbury News

February 25, 1892 The band boys were hastily summoned together last Saturday to play "Dixie" and other appropriate tunes for the benefit of the old Confederates, and acquitted themselves with much credit, considering the short time they have been practicing. The boy's say they will take pleasure in complying with such requests, but say they like to be notified a day or two in advance, in order to get all the members together and have an understanding as to the tunes to be played. The Granbury News

February 26, 1861 Comanche Peak Post Office, Johnson County, Texas (later named Acton, in Hood County, Texas). David P. McWhorter wrote a letter to his brother, William D. McWhorter.

Dear Brother,



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I take pen in hand to drop you a few lines to let you know that we are all well, and hope that those few lines may find you and family well. This will inform you that we have left Arkansas, our crop being cut off in or by the drought. We concluded to rent our farm and look at Texas again. We left Ark., about the first of October. We find times hard here but not so much as in Ark., I don't think: (A person can get plenty of beef in this country.) Bread stuff is scarce yet we get a little. I have traveled until my money is quite slim. We have some stock and land, but little money. I am trying to fix my matters so I can wagon some this summer. I haven't got my wagon yet, if I can find that I can stand to wagon and make money like some say that I can, I want to swap it for about a six horse wagon which is worth about \$200.00 in this country. A set of wheels for a wagon made out of Bois D' Arc wood is worth \$40.00. A wagon large enough for five or six yoke of oxen is worth from \$195.00 to \$200.00, carpenter work in proportion.

Everything in this country demands a fine price, goods and groceries, labor and produce. Some portions of Texas are quite lively or has been heretofore. Texas seems to be laid off in three distinct portions. One for cotton and cane, another for wheat, oats, barley, and rye, the third for range. The two first mentioned will bring corn. But in this part of Texas it is almost too dry. This country will produce wheat, oats, rye, barley and sometimes corn. The corn is a very uncertain crop.

Bread, meat and coffee in the winter time in this country is what people live on. some have milk. Vegetables in this country are very scarce. William, I commenced this February 25th, and this is March 9th.

We have been living with William J. Ellis this winter. His wife has been sick all winter. We have lived together so Martha could wait on her sister. She lived until March 7th. She left three children, two girls and one boy. The least one is over four years old. We are all well today. Write to me as soon as you can.

Your brother in love, David P. McWhorter

(Contributed to the Hood County News, September 23, 1971- Centennial Edition by Mrs. Zelma Bennett, granddaughter)