

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

**December 1, 1938** Yes, the old courthouse chain is gone. Workmen were busy the first of the week taking down the chain and pulling up the posts. The old hitching rack around the courthouse is an old landmark. It was put there in 1890, the year the courthouse was built. We believe the majority of the people will agree that the courthouse lawn will take on a hundred percent improvement with the chain and posts down. The Hood County Tablet

**December 9, 1907** Curtis Mason, charged with the shooting of his mother, brother and sister-in-law, at Cleburne Saturday night, was arrested in bed at his father's home near Granbury at daylight Monday by Sheriff J.G. Swafford, who brought him to Fort Worth upon hearing that a mob was gathering at Cleburne prepared to take the law into their own hands upon Swafford's arrival there with the prisoner. Fort Worth Star Telegram

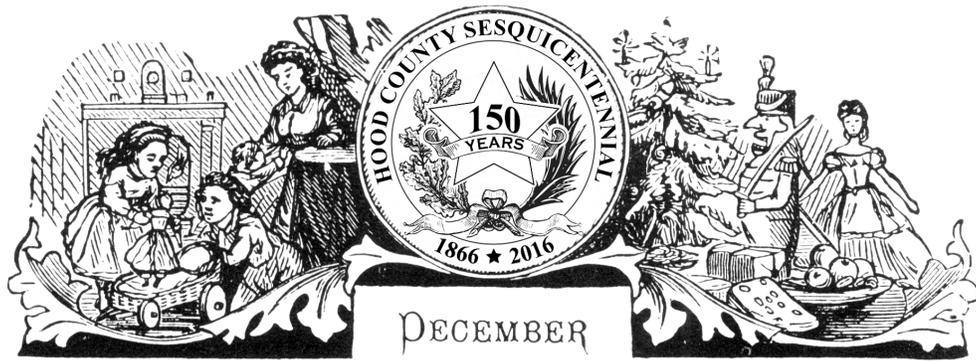
**December 17, 1909** Granbury, Tex. The dry goods store of Stringfellow & Pate was robbed and set on fire last night about 12 o'clock, the back door being forced in. The fire was started in some velvets and silks and was discovered by the telephone office upstairs and was extinguished with possibly \$100 damage to the stock. Dallas Morning News

**December 19, 1914** Three buildings were destroyed by fire in Granbury on the west side of the public square. The blaze started in the store of Stringfellow & Pate, the Southwestern Telegraph and Telephone Company occupying the second story. Fire cut off escape by the stairway and the girl operators saved themselves by crawling through a window to the adjoining roof. Fort Worth Star Telegram

**December 20, 1960** Granbury, Tex. Associated Press. An early morning fire damaged the steeple of the Hood County Courthouse today. The blaze was discovered at 5:30 AM and firemen brought it under control 45 minutes later. Avalanche Journal

**December 25, 1910** Hood County outlaw Bill Mitchell found guilty of killing J.M. Truitt in Shelby County, Texas, in 1886. His trial took place in Rusk, Texas. The killing was the result of a feud of longstanding in the death of three of the Truitts and of Mitchell's father. The feud began in Hood County in the 1870's. Mitchell was sentenced to life imprisonment. Fort Worth Star Telegram

**December 28, 1907** Special to the News. Tolar, Tx. The most disastrous fire that has occurred here since Tolar has been a town broke out this morning about 6:30 o'clock causing the loss of \$15,000 or \$20,000. The origin is unknown, but it is supposed to have been caused by an



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acetylene plant in the rear of McIlroy Bros.' dry goods store. When the flames were discovered scarcely any one was stirring at that hour. When the alarm was given the building and contents were in flames. The fire quickly spread to adjoining buildings and despite the heroic work of hundreds of men, women, boys and girls, the entire row of building for more than a block in length were burned. The opposite row of buildings were in immediate danger, but the hard work of the people with blankets, buckets, etc. saved them from burning, but all stocks and buildings were more or less damaged. The fire burned for more than two hours before put under control. An attempt to wreck some of the buildings with dynamite and thus check the flames proved fruitless. The morning was still, scarcely any air stirring, which fact aided much in saving the rest of the town. Dallas Morning News 12/29/07