

## Letters from Brazos County – 1911-1922

Compiled by Bill Page

*From an adult:*

[Endorsement for Cardui, The Woman's Tonic]:

After 18 months of suffering and the most excruciating pain that any one ever suffered, I am now enjoying the best of health, as a result of taking Cardui, the woman's tonic. Everybody thinks my cure one of the most remarkable ever made; so many physicians said I could not get well without an operation. Since taking Cardui, the lump in my side, that has given me so much trouble and anxiety, has disappeared and I have not had a symptom of its return. Mrs. M.J. Scott, Wellborn, Texas.

**Charlotte Daily Observer** (Charlotte, NC), 29 September 1911, page 9

*From an adult:*

Questions and Answers ...

To the News: Some one has asked for the author of the poem beginning, "Oh for one hour of youthful joy!" The poem is by Oliver Wendell Holmes and occurs in his "Autocrat of the Breakfast Table." Mrs. Julie Wipprecht, Bryan, Tex.

**Dallas Morning News**, 30 November 1913, section 2, page 10

*From an adult:*

Bryan, Tex., Sept. 13, 1917 – Dear Sir: I am writing you as I would like to no if you no of any R.R. Co. and Mfg. that are in need for colored labors. I want to bring a bunch of race men out of the south we want work some whear north if we can git passe any whear across the Mason & Dickson. please let me hear from you at once if you can git passes for 10 or 12 men. send at once. I beg to remain.

"More Letters of Negro Migrants of 1916-1918," **The Journal of Negro History**, 4 (4):441 (Oct.1919)

*From an adult:*

To The News: On behalf of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas and its branch institutions, I wish to congratulate you on this occasion, the thirty-fourth anniversary of *The Dallas Morning News*. The *News*, as well as the other Belo publications, has served well the higher purposes of journalism and in doing so has rendered this State and Nation an invaluable service. I trust the growth and success you have enjoyed in the past will be only a foretaste of what the future will bring forth. Sincerely yours, W.B. Bizzell, President A.& M. College of Texas, College Station, Texas.

**Dallas Morning News**, 5 October 1919, page 4

*From an adult:*

To the News: I want to commend you for the splendid article in your issue of July 2 in respect to haste in legislation. When the present Constitution was adopted, in 1876, Texas had only 700,000 inhabitants, five institutions and about \$500,000 to appropriate. A sixty days' legislative session met the needs. Now the State has 5,000,000 inhabitants, thirty-five State institutions and \$30,000,000 to appropriate. The legislative action in sixty days becomes impossible, so far as deliberation is concerned. The business of the State has

grown too large and unwieldy and unless the people of Texas see this on July 23 I fear a legislative maelstrom in the future. The Legislature will be no longer a deliberative body, as the fathers intended it to be. When the Legislature meets in Austin the newspapers begin to cry, "Adjourn and go home," and the stampede begins. In 1876 there were few railways, no cities and few public utilities to deal with. I thank you for your good, level-headed and patriotic article. Lee J. Rountree, Bryan, Texas.

**Dallas Morning News**, 8 July 1921, page 12

*From an adult:*

To the News: Bryan, Texas, Aug 28 – I regret that Representative Ray Hardin of Kaufman County, in *The News* of Aug. 20, takes the position that the power of Rome and Greece in ancient times was not due to their triumphs in education, the law, science, art and all the professions. Mr. Hardin is not a real student of history and has not probably personally visited these countries and studied their rise and fall. If Mr. Hardin had in his possession the real knowledge in the cases cited by me in my communication in *The News* I am sure he would not argue for the abandonment of higher education in Texas. I am sure of another thing, that he would not agree to the statements made in the Legislature that Texas did not need a university and an A. & M. College of the first class in this crisis in the world's crisis.

Mr. Hardin's vision for the future is not a clear one or he would not for a moment argue that our great educational institutions could live and endure if they were not of the first class as contemplated by the forefathers when they drafted the Texas constitution in 1876 and enacted the laws so declaring for all the ages. If our institutions are not to be so the ... have them at all? Our boys and girls would be forced after spending years in college in Texas to go to other States to secure the education they need to meet life's duties. Then why waste their time and money on securing an education that does not meet the issues? Mr. Hardin may hug a delusion that any kind of education will endure, but he is mistaken and leaves this to his better judgment.

The article of Mr. Hardin proves to me more conclusively that Texas must take her educational institutions out of the mire of ignorance, political passion and rapid changes. Mr. Hardin does not realize that education is not the question of the hour, but is the question of the ages – which means the preservation and perpetuity of our civilization and government for all time.

After Mr. Hardin had written the article attacking my defense of our university, colleges and normals and the very day it appeared in *The News*, he changed his attitude in the Legislature and voted for the educational bill on the ground that it was higher than the defeated bill. This was a most remarkable statement. He voted as I did for what he termed a more extravagant bill. There are some things that are mysterious and I shall pass this and urge Mr. Hardin to in the future remember that communities, States and Nations should look well to education. It is the best money ever spent. And in changing his attitude and voting with me I point him to the quotation under which he can find refuge: "Consistency thou are a jewel which some men do not possess." And in this case I might repeat: "That as long as the light holds out to burn the sinner may return." I welcome Mr. Hardin to his new place in the Legislature, despite all of his protests. Lee J. Rountree, Representative

22<sup>nd</sup> District.

**Dallas Morning News**, 30 August 1921, page 12

*From an adult:*

To the News: Your editorial in *The News* of Monday regarding “The University’s Hobbles,” is timely, but like so many other splendid protests does not go far enough. I proposed in the Thirty Seventh Legislature a plan to remedy the dangers that are crippling our State educational and business situation – a constitutional convention – and I had hoped to have the support of *The News*. Complaints do no remedy conditions. There must be a definite purpose to meet the demands, and without it all the protests that can be filed will not meet the issues. Dr. R.E. Vinson, president of the Texas University; the board of regents and others interested would do well to consider a definite stand for reformation, which must come before the shackles are stricken from our institutions so that they can grow and expand to meet the demands and take a higher place in the educational system of the Nation. Texas schools should have and must have schools and colleges that place her in the forefront or she will fall in place. I am in favor of a constitutional convention as the only adequate remedy at this time. If any plan better than this can be offered I shall favor that plan. But in the meantime why wait and discuss the troubles we have? They need attention and need it now. Texas needs a new program because the business plans laid down fifty years ago do not meet the present demands. Lee J. Rountree, Representative 22<sup>nd</sup> District, Bryan, Texas, Jan. 22.

**Dallas Morning News**, 28 January 1922, section 1, page 12

Radio Questions and Answers ...

How much efficiency would be lost if a peanut tube was used in place of a standard six-volt type of tube? If I changed tubes would I greatly decrease the distance that I am now able to cover? Would be able to get the Texas stations consistently with a peanut tube? – A.N.D., Bryan, Texas.

To determine the efficiency of the peanut tube set, the research division of The Dallas News has conducted a number of experiments. In each of these experiments the peanut tube hook-up covered as much distance as the standard tube and in a large number of cases the peanut tube gave better results, as a large amount of the noise was entirely eliminated. For all practical purposes the hook-ups being the same, the peanut tube will cover more distance than the standard tube. If you are now able to get the Texas stations with a standard tube, the peanut tube inserted in the same hook-up will enable you to continue to pick up the Texas stations.

**Dallas Morning News**, 8 October 1922, section 3, page 8