

SUBSTITUTE COLUMN

By FERDIE DEERING

WHY NOT DO IT IN OIL?—

The next time Beau Billingsley, local oil man, goes out to get a lease or deed signed he will take a supply of ink with him. A few days ago he was contracting for some land in the neighborhood of the Pitts field and was ready for farmer to sign the necessary papers. But there was no ink in the house. Well, the farmer had two sons, one a school teacher and the other a preacher. Surely, one of them would have some ink. They went to the school teacher's house and the best that could be found was a lead pencil. The preacher's home also failed to yield any writing fluid. A neighbor, who had a daughter home from East Central for the week-end, was next but the student had left her ink in Ada. A random search throughout the neighborhood was fruitless. An offer of a bottle of bluing by one woman had to be refused because there was no writing pen available. Finally, Billingsley and the farmer gave up the hunt, drove 12 miles into Stowewall and drew up the papers.

Maytag Bob, KADA artist, received two proposals for marriage (by mail) in one day last week and Joe Lee is jealous. Each of the "proposers" asked Bob to sing a certain song if he was interested. Joe says Bob sang both of them and added: "I have been out there five months and haven't had an offer yet."

PURELY IMPERSONAL—The safe in the office of J. W. Shipp, First Baptist church secretary, bears an inscription which tells its own story: "U. S. Post Office, Ada, I. T." . . . Fred Hunt, the Johnston county sheriff who was appointed warden of the Granite reformatory, has been compelled by prison regulations to replace his cowboy hat and high-heeled boots with more business-like attire. . . . Guess every job has its unpleasant side. . . . J. Kent Smith's full name is Jason Kenton Smith. . . . In the office of Justice Sherwood W. Hill is a sign reading: "No Loafing Unless on Business." . . . The cages formerly occupied by the "zoo" at East Central State Teachers college are now on the hillside east of the college and are used to house bird dogs. . . . The war-time uprising across the Canadian, which was quelled by a posse under the leadership of the late Bob Duncan, was called the Green Corn rebellion. . . . It took its name from the fact a bunch of the rebels camped on a hilltop and feasted on green corn and other delicacies until Bob Duncan showed up.

The local chapter of the VIA (Veterans of Industry of America, if you must know) is an up-and-coming organization, giving due consideration to all matters of importance. Last Monday night the members spent some two or three hours in heated debate over whom they should endorse for appointment as Pontotoc county FERA director to fill the place left vacant by the death of B. E. Hennigan. While they were in session, Charley W. Floyd was at home resting up from his trip to Oklahoma City. He had already been appointed, sworn into office and was ready to take charge early the next morning.

How many know what a flageolet is? . . . They don't use 'em any more but Jeff Laird has one. . . . T. G. Kelly is perpetually smiling. . . . L. A. Ellison is one of the town's heartiest laughers . . . but A. S. Kilpatrick is another who can often be heard enjoying a good story somewhere along Main street. . . . G. J. Morton spends his Sundays on the farm puttering with the horses, mules and cattle . . . and gets a big kick out of it. . . . O. A. Bayless and Henry Reich may not be the world's best golfers but they probably enjoy their almost daily twosome as much as anybody anywhere. . . . Charley Thompson and Bernard Howard say they expect to double their business this year. . . . Raymond Cain's favorite pastime is attending conventions. . . . Bob Klepper says he worked with the famous Lassies White as a negro minstrel for two years . . .

Not long ago when the city jail was being moved, one of the "regular customers" found it easy to break out, due to the fact the new structure was not completed. After he had been returned twice to the steel-barred rooms after breaks, he got out again. He went to a downtown cafe and telephoned the officers: "I broke out again. I thought I'd tell you. I don't want you to get mad at me."

Rollo W. Brown, author and former Harvard university professor, who visited here recently on a lecture tour, appreciates Oklahoma's mild winters. He commented: "It is hard to believe this weather. When I left Massachusetts a few days ago there was two feet of snow on the ground and a temperature of five degrees below zero."

A week or so ago when the East Central Tigers played the Northwestern Rangers at Alva, the largest and smallest men in the Oklahoma collegiate conference were the scoring aces for their respective teams. Mickey McDaniels, slightly more than five feet tall, counted 9 points for the Tigers while "Firpo" Patterson, six-foot-nine-inch Ranger center, picked off six field goals and a few free throws to lead his team.