

CURIOS & Antiques

By FERDIE DEERING

OLD PICTURES have a way of carrying one back into the past. Somer Jones showed us a bunch of photographs taken about the time the Frisco depot was built—John Scales brought them up from Durant and gave them to him. Pull up that easy chair and let's glance through them. Here's one of the depot. It used to be one of the scenic spots of the town—and look at that note: "Ada's \$25,000 concrete Frisco depot." . . . Isn't that Andy Chapman looking the part of a dignified clerk in that shoe store? . . . and this one is a picture of the Coffman Hardware store and the old bunch. That's Bill Coffman right there. Guess he's telling H. B. Roach a big fishing yarn. That's Lewis Rock right behind him and back there by the big base burner is Bob Duncan and Tobe Wardlow. Can't seem to recognize any of those others. . . . Look at this picture of the First National Bank building. Main street wasn't paved then and the only vehicle in sight is a forlorn horse and buggy hitched to the metal-strapped telephone pole. . . . You remember this—it's the old concrete First Baptist church building; now that really was one of the show-places of Ada then. . . . That young man there with the starched collar is J. B. Emory—guess this must be a picture of the Surprise store. Yep, there's Percy Simpson there in the peg-legged breeches straightening up the necktie stock. . . . That's the Oklahoma State Bank you see behind that big mudhole on Townsend avenue. And that's the post-office there on the corner of Twelfth and Townsend; the county courthouse was up-av's—they really had some court sessions back in those days. Notice all those horses and wagons hitched along Twelfth street—not an automobile in sight. That paving there still stands, without a doubt the best ever put down in these parts. That big building up there where the Aldridge hotel now stands was W. C. Rollo's warehouse. . . . This is the old Merchants & Planters Bank that was down there where the Corner Drug is now. . . . Horrors! Is that a slot machine there on the counter of the town's leading cafe? Notice that marble counter and square-designed linoleum. . . . This was taken at a banquet R. W. Simpson gave his employees; let's see now—there's Mr. Simpson and that's Mrs. Simpson at the far end of the table, that lady there is Mrs. Clyde Allen and the next one is Mrs. L. B. Kee, then there's Mr. and Mrs. Joe Biles and Ollie Davidson and Charley Floyd. The

wide-eyed youngster in Mr. Simpson's lap must be R. W. jr. Over there is Durwood Hayes and a Mr. Baker. The nice looking young lady by Mr. Simpson is Mrs. Byrd, who teaches at the high school. . . . This is the home of Adam Beck where Somer Jones now lives. . . . And look at this one, wouldja? A picnic in the park! You remember that old fountain that used to be out in Glenwood? There's H. P. Suggs, Byron Norrell, Ben Epperson and Ed Granger—and six young ladies in immaculate white dresses—all dabbling their hands in the lily pond. W. F. Schulte was also present and C. J. Warren is the man who took the snapshot that the picture was made from. . . . Well, that's all! Isn't it lotsa fun to glance through a bunch of old pictures like this? Come over some time and we'll show you the family album.

There's more ballyhoo than fighting to that East African war. Why, a medium-sized flood in China would take more lives any day—and who can say that an Ethiopian is more important than a Chinaman?

A STRATFORD barber shop advertises: City Barber Shop, Corley Brothers, barbers; Front chair, haircuts 25c, shave 20c; Back chair, haircuts 25c, shave 15c.

Fire Chief Ed Haley isn't worried about his firemen becoming too literary but he is considering installing a slide pole in the new public library over the fire station—just in case.

THE CITY HALL was a fine building when it was put up back in 1909. Workmen uncovered a "skeleton in the closet" last week, however, when they were remodeling the second floor into a library reading room. When they tried to cut a gas pipe electric sparks flew from the saw. Investigation disclosed that the wiring was grounded onto the stove and that wires merely were strung along the beams without benefit of conduit. Thus the home of the Ada fire department was revealed as one of the town's fire hazards. That has all been fixed now, however, and Ada taxpayers can forget it.

Wonder if the Republicans have thought of using the increase in postage from two to three cents as a pry pole in their attempt to dislodge the Democrats next year.

MISS KATE KNIGHT cheers her mathematical ego by telling us she never heard of a system of arithmetical progression we worked out. Our next problem is to figure out some use for the system.