

CURIOS & ANTIQUES

BY FERGIE DEERING

WE HOPE that Coal county gets an oil field. That is what the people down at Coalgate are waiting and wishing for, too. In the early days of this section Coalgate was a booming town with its coal mines. Then came the natural gas fields and the demand for coal became so small it all but stopped operations in Coal county. There probably is more coal there now than ever will be mined. Coalgate has remained loyal to the field and the town isn't even piped for gas but the coal used by 2,000 persons doesn't create a big demand for miners—especially this hot weather. Well, when coal mining slackened, the people turned to farming in one or more of its various diversifications. Then came the drouth and injured that. The result is that the people, many of them, are just waiting for an oil field. As one Coalgate man expressed it: "About three-fourths of the people here think they're going to leave if the oil field fails but they won't. They're just like I am. They're going to stay here from now on but that doesn't keep us from wanting an oil field."

An Ada man thinks that the Ada Junior Chamber of Commerce should cease trying to build an airport and try to get Tishomingo to build one. His theory is that the airports usually are built so far from the cities they serve that Tishomingo would build one closer to Ada than the Ada group would.

BURTON GRINDSTAFF of Hugo basks in reflected glory and inscribes the following epistle: "Now that Lyle Boren is entitled to append Hon. to his name and his presence will lend dignity to all occasions, I must resort to that worn phrase, 'I knew him when.' Lyle's ascendancy to the upper realms of politics reminds me of the way time has of dealing with college classmates. Not that Lyle and I were ever more than casual friends whom chance threw together in a few classes. Legend now will creep up about this boy we all knew, this chap who came into the East Central Journal office at college with his sentimental poems and provoked a knowing smile, this super-eloquent speech student who, we all thought, carried his oratory a little too far. The purpose of this discourse is to say that Lyle, the boy, will not

change appreciably as a result of new-found glory. But our ideas of him will change. We will build legend around him. We will place a new and too significant importance to his every little deed and word in the years that follow. And we who knew him when, no matter how casual the acquaintance, will swell with pride when we are able to boast that we number ourselves among his intimates. Among the manifold tasks that now confront our young congressman is the important one of keeping his head, doing his work calmly and sanely, and retaining the few close friends that are essential to happiness. This I believe Lyle will be able to do in spite of the glamor, the \$10,000 a year salary and the increased social and political prestige that are now his. If we were once his friends, let us be more so now by refusing to seek anything at his bequest except the same warm hearted friendship we have always known. The people believed in his integrity. Should not his friends do likewise?"

The trouble with a lot of cowboy singers is that they have no range.

MISS FLOYD WILSON, Grindstaff & Laves steno, used to be a West Texas newspaper and job printing operator. She used to sell the jobs, do the press work, feed paper for a single-sheet newspaper press and wash the ink from the rollers. She didn't tell us the name of the paper but we found out it was the "Hereford Brand", a weekly out near Amarillo.

Ad Similes: As goofy as a radio sketch.

AROUND THE COURTHOUSE there are two men who have a little difficulty keeping their names straight. They are Harvey J. Lambert, district court reporter, and Harve Lambert, undersheriff. They are not related. Undersheriff Lambert is an old timer of this section. Reporter Lambert has been in and around Ada for a long time, too, although he is considerably younger. He has a yen for fine dogs and is a brother of Bukey Lambert, who used to provide lots of thrills on local gridirons for the fans.

L. A. Henry of Ada, who has bought and is living in old Gov. Byrd mansion at Prisco, tells us that it took 100 gallons of white paint to cover the huge frame house.

A DIVORCE PETITION filed in district court here involved a man living in another state. When he was asked to sign he agreed to the property settlement clause by writing on the printed form: "I will sign but I sign on this condition that I will pay her nothing."

Casual inquiry around Ada indicates that paid vacations are as defunct as: (1) the dodo; (2) the NRA; (3) Main street hitching posts; (4) etc., ad infinitum.