

- WOODUL: Well, you can thank Mrs. Clearence Rice for this chore.
- BURROUGHS: I noticed Georgeanna Cooper before they began to form lines for the dinner. Trying to get all of thoses ladies in line for a picture. She had them turned first one way and then another in order to get a good light. There are at least twenty-five in that group and costumes that vary all the way from the real old authentic dresses to the reproductions made to a similar pattern. Those ladies are parading around and they are now in line for their picture. Did the committe ever decide who had the best costume?
- WOODUL: No, that was as you have noticed a difficult chore and it is impossible . If we could just get the men to wear a few more of the old costumes as the women do, we would have something to look forward to next year.
- BURROUGHS: You would every year because it does create a great deal of merriment to see what they look like.
- WOODUL: By the way, did you notice one thing different this year from last year's pioneer day? We felt we took too much time last year in our serving line. We only had two lines last year, did you notice we had four this year? We had two sets of tables. We got them through muchmore quickly. We can thank Mrs. Virgil Blakely who is chairman or chairwoman of our serving committee this year for coming up and

doing a real fine job of serving the food.

BURROUGHS: I talked to her earlier when the Woman's Club members were busing around putting all of this on . I think the old timers bring their own dish and the Woman's Club furnishes the bread and the drink and sets it all up, so they all can be served.

WOODUL: Yes, this is true. By the way, these people work very close to each other just as you mentioned here. The serving committee along with the foods committee worked hand in glove to be sure the thing was put together so it would work real good this year.

BURROUGHS: I think the time element is so important because these people are not used to standing. Many of them have canes and they don't want to take a long time being served. It is expedient to hasten them along.

WOODUL: By the way you mentioned all these costumes. Mrs Georganna Cooper who was chairman of our publicity committee, did quite a bit to get these ladies out. She at least had published as you noticed, in the News Tribune last years winners of the costume, and I'm sure that this had something to do with it. Mrs. Cooper as I mentioned was the chairman of that group. Now the nominating committee was Foy Jones, a past president by the way, of the organization, has nominated today and we have elected today as you saw , at the business meeting the officers for next year. I wanted

to mention the fact the incoming president will be Truett Hilliard, for next year and the vice-president elected at this meeting who will be the president in 1974 will be Bob Tomlinson. He will be the new one. Then our old <sup>perennial</sup> friend Mrs. Pete Jones will continue as secretary-treasurer for which we are most happy.

BURROUGHS: I should think that should leave the continuity of record.

WOODUL: Now this one thing that I think we should mention, and that is we feel like we have so many of these meetings that we don't want to become stereotyped. Because of this sort of thing we were wondering if we shouldn't make some changes for next year. We are not waiting until the fair next year to decide what to do for the Pioneer Day, We are going to meet this year, 1972 and start preparing for 1973. This thing of food was one of the problems we have and we think we should be able to simplify this. Another area that needs a lot of help, and you noticed that today, and Mr. Livingston has mentioned it and each president has had this trouble but the pioneers visit so much and they are so hard to quieten down, we feel like maybe that we might have this meeting in a convention, we might even go to Memorial Building next year and not have it in connection with the fair and have it at the fair time but not at the National Guard Armory for it is so hard to hear. So we are going to make some changes I'm sure so don't be surprised with what we come

up with next year. We hope it is different.

BURROUGHS: I think it might be a little comfortable, more comfortable in the Memorial Building for the old people but again it would reduce the attendance at the fair I would imagine.

WOODUL: Well you notice. . .yes this is true. A real big problem, of course, and this is our main problem, a real big problem is to be able to hear. The P. A. System has been terrible. It looks like we continue it and this must be changed.

BURROUGHS: I think that for the comfort and well being of the old timers it is well to change if you can.

WOODUL: Jean, I have enjoyed talking to you today about the Pioneer Day. As I say I think you will be in for a surprise next year.

BURROUGHS: Well, thank you that is great. Now here is the secretary of the Pioneer association, all dressed up in a long skirt and calico blouse, Mrs. Hazel or Mrs Pete Jones as she is known. Good afternoon Hazel. Are you still breathless from that dancing you were doing?

H. JONES: I don't feel I was doing that well.

BURROUGHS: Well, you and your husband were really gaily waltzing. He has on a straw hat and a vest, an authentic costume. Where did you get those things Mr. Jones?

JONES: My wife made everything but the straw hat.

BURROUGHS: Well it certainly is very attractive. Was the straw hat left over from other days?

JONES: From the year before.

BURROUGHS: I understand that you are third generation living in Roosevelt County. Can you tell me something about your grandparents, their name and where they came from?

JONES: Franklin S. Jones was my grandfather and he came from Bowie, Texas out here. Originally from Kentucky to Bowie, Texas then on out to New Mexico. He came out here in 1903.

BURROUGHS: And he homesteaded?

JONES: He homesteaded, well its fourteen miles West and a half south of Portales where they homesteaded.

BURROUGHS: Did your father?

JONES: They came at the same time.

BURROUGHS: They came at the same time. How old was your father then?

JONES: About twenty one or two years old.

BURROUGHS: He was a grown boy then?

JONES: Yes he was married.

BURROUGHS: I see. What was your father's name?

JONES: Lee Jones [indistinct]

BURROUGHS: What all members of the family came?

JONES: Well, my uncle Rydel came out a year before they did.

BURROUGHS: That was in 1902

JONES: 1902.

BURROUGHS: So he was the first settler?

JONES: Well, Dad and he came out together and look the land over

and Uncle Rydel came out and tried and they came out the next year. I believe that is what it is.

BURROUGHS: Did they come. . . .

JONES: Let's see, my mother, dad and older brother. My older brother was born in Bowie.

BURROUGHS: So did they come in a covered wagon?

JONES: No, they shipped in by the train.

BURROUGHS: That was certainly an advantage and much easier wasn't it?

JONES: Well, yes I guess it was. However, they left here in a covered wagon and came back here in a covered wagon. They left in 1910 and came back in 15.

BURROUGHS: Now why did they leave in 1910?

JONES: Well, on count of mother's health.

BURROUGHS: They moved back to Texas?

JONES: Yes.

BURROUGHS: Well now when did you come into the picture? Your father was twenty-one when he came, he was married.

JONES: Yes, I was born here in 1906.

BURROUGHS: In Portales?

JONES: No, in Roosevelt County. I was born out at Fly<sup>6</sup>od.

BURROUGHS: So there are three generations in the community. How long did your father and grandfather live?

JONES: Grandfather passed away in 1906.

BURROUGHS: The year you were born?

JONES: That is right, before I was born. He and grandmother both passed away. He died one night before twelve and she died the next morning about four. Pneumonia, the both of them, and of course They are both buried at Floyd.

BURROUGHS: And then your father and mother?

JONES: Mother passed away in 58..59.

BURROUGHS: And your father?

JONES: In 62.

BURROUGHS: So they lived a good long time in the county then?

JONES: With the exception of a very few years they lived in New Mexico.

BURROUGHS: Who were your brother and sisters?

JONES: My older brother,

BURROUGHS: Oh, the one that dances? I saw him waltzing around a while ago.

JONES: Leona Withers is my sister that is younger than I and lives in Denver. [indistinct]

BURROUGHS: You and are the only ones still in the county?

JONES: No, I am the only one in the county , Edgar lives at

BURROUGHS: Yes, I recall that I talked to him at the Floyd reunion. He told me just a few minutes ago that when I lived here long enough to be an old times, he was going to waltz with me. So, I won't forget that. Hazel can you tell us something about this organization? You have the secretaries records, when

was it formed?

H. JONES: Well the Pioneer Association, Roosevelt Pioneer Association was formed during the third week in September of 1952.

BURROUGHS: That would be twenty years ago?

H. JONES: Yes. The place they met was over here in the Jr. High Building and we all carried our basket dinner. My mother was living then and she was there that day with us. Senator and Mrs. Dennis Chaves were the honored guests for the day and they both stood up before the commission and he made a talk. After dinner they called a little business meeting together and the organization was formed.

BURROUGHS: Can you tell me who called the group together? Whose idea was it?

H. JONES: Well, it was just common talk I think among several people. They just worked it out. They felt like they ought to keep the old days alive. So they went and organized this and elected the late Arthur S. Jones who was our president that year and Mrs. J.B. Priddy who also has passed on now, was our vice-president and our secretary was Mrs. Ray Bonner and our treasurer was Mrs. Sidney Stone who was the daughter of the pioneer doctor of Portales, Dr. J. S. Pierce.

BURROUGHS: Yes, I have talked to Mrs. Thomas the other daughter, Marge. You mentioned you mother, now, were your parents also homesteaders?

H. Jones: Yes ma'm, we homesteaded inthe southern part of the county near Garrison in 1907, 1909 it was.

BURROUGHS: Just a little later than Mr. Jones.

H. JONES: Yes.

BURROUGHS: Who were your family?

H. JONES: They were Mr. and Mrs D. A. Gordon. When they passed away we lived at Floyd, and had lived there for a number of years. When we came here we came in a covered wagon and lived in a half dugout, until he built us a house.

BURROUGHS: That was the excepted mode of travel and abode, wasn't it?

H. JONES: Yes it was.

BURROUGHS: Who were your brothers and sisters?

H. JONES: Well, I have two sisters and two brothers. My sister  
W. B. Rice of Amarillo, Texas.

BURROUGHS: She was dancing a while ago with Parker Woodul wasn't she?

H. JONES: No, she didn't dance but she was with my husband in the couples march.

BURROUGHS: Yes, that was it.

H. JONES: She had a real pretty dress and they won first for the couples due to her pretty dress I told my husband.

BURROUGHS: Maybe it was that straw hat and vest too.

H. JONES: It might have been. My other sister lives here in Portales She is Leda Smith. Our oldest brother passed away, Grant Gordon. Everyone of the old timers will recall him being a prospective young businessman. He had the store at Floyd

and his wife has continued on out there with the children.

BURROUGHS: Now is that Dolly Gordon?

H. JONES: Yes, that's Dolly.

BURROUGHS: Now she is also the postmistress isn't she?

H. JONES: Yes. My youngest brother lives in ,California.

BURROUGHS: So you had a big family?

H. JONES: My parents when they came here had five little ones in that covered wagon bringing us out here. Our father came from Scotland so when he heard about this land being opened to the public he was determined that this would be a way that he could get some land of his own. He came and filed and proved up.

Burroughs: Now he didn't come direct from Scotland?

H. JONES: He came direct from Scotland to Marlin, Texas where he met my mother.

BURROUGHS: And then they heard about this land?

H. JONES: They moved to Oklahoma and I was born. Pete and I often comment that we were both born in territories. I was born in the territory of Oklahoma and he was born in the territory of New Mexico.

BURROUGHS: Yes, and they came in as states fairly close together too. Do you mind stating the year of your birth?

H. JONES: I was born in 1907. I was eighteen months old when we came.

BURROUGHS: Just a little younger than your husband then?

H. JONES: Yes, just a little bit.

BURROUGHS: Will you comment some more about the Pioneer Association because I know you have kept ~~exclusive~~<sup>ensive</sup> records.

H. JONES: Well, the Association has met every year since it was organized. We haven't missed a yearly meeting. Every year except the first one we have met in the National Guard Building. It is just adjacent to the Roosevelt County Fair Grounds and this provides a day that the old timers can also go to the fair. This was a real help back when we had some real, real old timers. Most old timers now are like us, the second generation. of course, we can still go to the fair.

BURROUGHS: Still active.

H. JONES: Yes, In that time these older people sure appreciated that we were that near the fair.

BURROUGHS: Well, that's interesting. Have very many of the real old timers passed away now? Are there many left?

H. JONES: Yes, I would say so because during the years 56-60 we had as many as 600 or more to registrar and now our registration has gone down to around 350. This has a lot to do with the fact that so many have passed away.

BURROUGHS: When the original parent dies the children sort of drift away too don't they?

H. JONES: Yes. So many of the children have homes else where but I do feel that we have a pretty good representation of the second generation that are still here cause we have had a count of hands of the number that was born in the county

last year, I don't think we did this year, but last year we had sixty or more that were born in the county.

BURROUGHS: Now that is very interesting. I think that from the faces of the old timers and the hum of conversation they certainly are having a good time visiting. What do they talk about Mrs. Jones? What is their favorite memory?

H. JONES: Well, I believe I would have to say that they have forgotten the hardships of the days and most of them don't look back on them as the good old days and would like to have them days return, but on the other hand I think that everyone of us are really proud of our parents and the hardships they withstood and still made entertainment for us and it was all self-made entertainment. In those days back as early as 1914 and maybe earlier, I wasn't very old in those days, we had our rural community fairs. Then, we brought all of these things to Portales. The winning things to Portales. Then it was carried on to the state fair.

BURROUGHS: So you began in the farm communities itself?

H. JONES: Yes. My memories of it I guess it was about 1913 or 14. My mother decorated a cake with a cone she made out of a brown paper sack and she won first place.

BURROUGHS: Well, that was certainly an achievement.

H. JONES: I believe at the meeting now the greatest thing they like to do, they enjoy the old time music and they like to watch the couples waltz, but I believe the best part about it for the

most of them is the exchanging eras, swapping yarns of the early days and they are always comical. You never hear sad stories at all.

BURROUGHS: I have noticed that. When they talk about their hardships and their lack of water and they having to eat beans and jackrabbits, many people just laugh.

H. JONES: It wasn't so funny then but in retrospect it doesn't seem so hard to them. I think it is the pride we all have in our parents.

BURROUGHS: And they had great faith in the help that comes from above too.

H. JONES: That is right. Churches were organized and they weren't churches, they were community services in the schoolhouses. My first teacher was Mrs. Stratton, Mrs. Earl Stratton. She has a son Wayne Stratton and Alice Cissell still lived here and she was my first teacher and we held our school in a half dugout. And that is where I started to school.

BURROUGHS: Where was that located?

H. JONES: It was about four miles west of Garrison. A little school called Doyle. I still take my children and my grandchildren and I will take my great-grandchildren down to see those old dents where our dugouts were, there are still there.

BURROUGHS: Just a hollowed out place in the ground? I guess they can't believe that a home was really built there.

H. JONES: No, I'm sure they can't.

BURROUGHS: But I have heard that they are comfortable.

H. JONES: Warm.

BURROUGHS: And it certainly speaks for the resourcefulness <sup>they</sup> who used what was available.

H. JONES: Well that is the thing I think we are all proud of.

BURROUGHS: Well, thank you so much Mrs. Jones. I know you enjoy being secretary of this fine organization.

H. JONES: It was a pleasure.