

**MR. JOHN DODD GIVEN A  
SURPRISE BIRTHDAY  
PARTY.**

Last Saturday evening, Mr. John Dodd of Beat Five was honored with a surprise birthday party. The program had been planned for some two weeks before by his wife, children and neighbors, and was carried out successfully and without him even getting a hint as to such a happening going to take place until late that afternoon. He had been induced to go to Dime Box Saturday afternoon when the final touches of preparing the many chickens and arranging for a bountiful spread took place and when he arrived home late that afternoon he was somewhat amazed to learn that he was remembered on his 63rd birthday and shortly the crowd began to arrive. It was indeed a pleasure to him to know that he had been remembered in such a way. Although he was not feeling very well that night, having suffered all day with a headache which continued to hang on that night still it was a pleasure for him to go to the table and though at first he felt like he did not care for anything to eat, his appetite developed a stage that he could not resist trying a few of the many good things to eat. A long table which extended across the hall was literally covered with good things to eat, such as fried and baked chicken all kinds of salads, jellies, pies, cakes, sweet and sour pickles, and goodness only knows what else, and believe the story when it's told, that those eats were good, for the writer and wife were asked to come out that night for the occasion and when he was told they were going to have some good eats, it did not take him long to say, "I'll be there," and though could insist on the wife going also, and by the way she as about as anxious as he was to go when she was told about the "good eats" for she had heard him speak of being out in there before and getting so much fried chicken, cake etc. So we both were there. He knows she enjoyed being with those good people, and it would make her blush to say she enjoyed the "good eats" but nevertheless she did, for she said so, and then he knows when she does, but she did not enjoy it like he did, for the reason she didn't eat as much, and believe this statement would be good for anyone else there, not only of his assertion, but

not only of his assertion, but think any and all there would say the same. Well it was a time such as in years gone by was a frequent happening, but of late years it seems people are so busy that it and many other of the good old times are being forgotten. It was enough to make Mr. Dodd almost forget his headache, when he realized that all of his children, with their husbands and wives and their children were there, all to wish him many more years of which they could continue to hold him in the high esteem as they have and now do. Mr. Dodd is one of the older settlers of that community and one who has done much for the betterment of it in many ways. He has raised a large family, and now they have all married and living pretty closely around the old homestead, one daughter living at Giddings, is the farthest away. Mr. Dodd by hard work and devoting his attention to his own interests, has accumulated enough that he gave all of his children a start in life and he still retains the old home place. Before dividing up his land among his children he was known as one of the largest, if not the largest farmer, in that community. He retained enough land after giving each child a home that he may enjoy life in comfort and now he does it. Mr. Dodd has been a leader in his community and has spared neither time nor money for the betterment of schools, churches, etc. In former years he took quite an active interest in politics but of late years he feels the younger ones can look after such. He has now reach-

ed the stage where home life is more appealing to him than to mingle with affairs that can and should be look after by the younger generation. It was indeed a pleasure for him and Mrs. Dodd to have so many to be with them on such an occasion and at a late hour the many departed after assuring Mr. and Mrs. Dodd that the evening with them had been most enjoyably spent, and wishing him many more birthdays when is is hoped such may be spent as pleasantly and enjoyably as was his 63rd.